

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 41: ISSUE 54

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2006

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Play, groups examine sexual assault

Post-performance panel searches for solutions

By KATHLEEN McDONNELL
News Writer

In the second of three post-performance panels, the student-organized production "Loyal Daughters" sparked a discussion about sexuality and assault at Notre Dame Tuesday.

History professor Gail Bederman moderated the discussion between anthropology professor James Bellis, Annie Envall from the S-O-S Rape Crisis Center, theology professor Robin Young and "Loyal Daughters" author Emily Weisbecker. About 50 people remained after the performance to hear and participate in the talk, which lasted for a little over an hour.

see PANEL/page 9



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Cast members of "Loyal Daughters" perform in the skit "Loyal Children," which describes episodes of sexual assault at Notre Dame.

New committee works to extend dialogue

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

When University President Father John Jenkins formed an ad hoc committee on gender relations last spring, he asked the group to foster a "wide-ranging discussion" on sexual assault within the Notre Dame community — a task widely viewed as necessary after "The Vagina Monologues" launched a campus-wide dialogue about rape and assault.

Six months later, the administrators, professors and students involved say they've continued to promote that dialogue, but they hope to do more.

"We've had a very good conversation among the whole

see AD HOC/page 6

University confirms dorm plans

Construction set to begin in March '07

By STEVE KERINS
News Writer

University officials announced earlier this year that planning is underway for the construction of four new residence halls, the first of which will be finished in time for the 2008-09 school year.

Jim Lyphout, Vice President of Business Operations, said last week that construction will begin on the first dorm in March 2007, and it will be ready to house students by August of the following year.

Lyphout said the dorm will be located between McGlenn Hall and Holy Cross Drive, in an area presently occupied by volleyball courts and field space. He added that the building is not expected to adversely affect students' opportunities for outdoor recreation.

"The only loss will be the volleyball courts, and they'll be replaced elsewhere," he said.

Lyphout said the first residence hall will house men, but others planned for the future will serve women.

"[Women's dorms] will be also part of the plan, but this is all very much fundraising-dependent," he said.

The planned residence hall will hold about 235 students, but Lyphout said the University does not intend to increase enrollment to fill it.

"It's part of a plan to reduce the density in existing residence halls and bring a few off-campus students back to campus,"

see DORMS/page 9

Sexual Assault Advisory Committee aims to increase resources, awareness

By KATE ANTONACCI
News Editor

Amidst the flurry of conversation about the student-organized play "Loyal Daughters," the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee has steadily worked off the stage and out of the spotlight to increase awareness and education about similar issues of assault and rape at the University.

"Sexual assault is a pressing issue on all college campuses, Notre Dame included," student body president Lizzi Shappell said. "We must give more attention to this issue."

And for the past six years, the committee has met to discuss ways to do just that.

Formed in the fall of 2000 by Associate Vice President for Residence Life and current co-chair Bill Kirk, the committee's goal is clear — to increase students' awareness of campus and community resources for victims of sexual assault.

The committee advises the Office of Student Affairs about sexual assault, rape education and prevention and "spearheads a variety of educational initiatives and programs," Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and co-chair Ann Firth said.

"It also assists Student Affairs in ensuring that University resources are in place for those who have been victimized," she said, adding that the facilitation of

"collaboration and communication" among those working to address sexual violence on this campus is a central goal.

And, following their Nov. 3 meeting—their first of the year—it became clear that much of this communication will now be done with the help of the newly-launched "Resources for Victims of Rape and Sexual Assault" Web site.

The committee hopes that this site, which can be accessed through the Student Affairs Web site, will be one of the biggest transmitters of information about sexual assault to the wider campus community.

The group is now focusing on critiquing and evaluating the Web site to make it as

accessible and informative as possible, Firth said.

Members will be carefully examining the Web site in coming weeks "to help us improve and expand it, so that it will truly be helpful to students," she said.

The creation of a Web site is an important step forward in terms of making the campus community aware of the many resources the University has in place to assist students, Firth said.

The informational site features emergency contact information — for everyone from Notre Dame Security/Police, University Health Services and the University Counseling Center

see ASSAULT/page 8

Bengal Bouts presents donation

Former organizer gives check, supports upcoming Baraka Bouts

By RYAN SYDLIK
News Writer

The \$52,000 check was the most valuable piece of paper Nathan Schroeder ever held before he presented it to Father Tom Smith Tuesday morning outside of Moreau Seminary.

The check was the total proceeds of last year's men's Bengal Bouts boxing tournament, and brought the annual charity event to full circle.

"We are really happy with the total that we got last year," Schroeder, a 2006 Notre Dame graduate and last year's presi-

see BOUTS/page 6



Courtesy of Father Bill Seetch

Clockwise from left, Andrew McGill, Father Bill Seetch, Nathan Schroeder, Erika Meyer and Father Tom Smith gather during the Bengal Bouts check presentation Tuesday morning.

'Tradition' shirt sales break all-time record

More than \$500,000 have been raised for charity

By PATRICK CASSIDY
News Writer

As the Irish ascend in the BCS rankings, a Notre Dame football tradition is finding success as well. As of Tuesday, more than 155,000 units of The Shirt had been purchased — its highest total ever.

The historic 2002 "Return to Glory" Shirt sold nearly 135,000 units.

Well over \$500,000 has been earned for The Shirt Charity Fund, putting the total earned since it was founded in 1990

more than \$4 million.

"The popularity of the shirt is reflective of the excitement surrounding the football program and their success," Sally Wiatrowski, director of retail operations at the Hammes Bookstore, said. "This is the best-selling shirt since its inception"

Rich Fox, president of The Shirt Project 2006, said he was "extremely happy about the nearly 50 percent increase over the last year," and was pleased to be able to play a role in mak-

see SHIRT/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Gone before I get going

I had it all planned. I was going to be Toby Ziegler, President Bartlet's Communications Director on "The West Wing." I was so certain. I would go to Notre Dame for undergrad, law school, gain entry jobs working in D.C. and then work my way up until I was the main speechwriter for the President, and then call it a career. The next 40 years of my life was all set.

Chris Hine

Sports Production Editor

I guess in previous years of my life I was too caught up in the idealistic nature of politics portrayed in "The West Wing" to really grasp what was going on in reality. The show showed government as a noble calling. Sure, there are people who are greedy and out to crush anybody who stands in their way, but you get that in every career. At the end of the day, principle trumped ambition and the good guys usually won.

Then along came this year's midterm elections.

I realize now that creator Aaron Sorkin was not reflecting the reality of government life; rather, he was showing what it could and should be like.

Since the show is now off the air, I have had to get my political drama from real life, and what I have seen has changed what I want to do with the rest of my life.

In the Congressional race between Joe Donnelly and Chris Chocola, both sides were slinging the mud back and forth in a campaign that focused more on tax filings than issues. When the ads actually focused on the issues, attacks were blown out of proportion.

Then, a few days before the election, John Kerry botched a joke in an attempt to insult President Bush's intelligence.

Many accused Kerry of insulting American troops with his misinterpreted remarks. It was bad enough that you had a former presidential candidate reducing himself to taking pot shots at the President, but what made it worse was the Bush administration's reaction to Kerry's remarks. Instead of accepting the fact that Kerry's words came out wrong and taking the high road in the process, Press Secretary Tony Snow and the President himself played into the perception that Kerry was insulting the troops. Their remarks in response to Kerry's comments deliberately tried to skew the truth in an attempt to score a few political points.

The whole snafu reminded me of a conversation between two characters on "The West Wing" over the political ramifications of the President disliking green beans. The staff was considering issuing an apology to Oregon, the nation's leading green bean producer.

C.J.: It's because everybody's dumb in an election year, Charlie.

Charlie: No, everyone just gets treated dumb in an election year. (conversation paraphrased.)

Everyone from the President on down, in both parties, insulted our intelligence this past election cycle, and they should be smarter than that. As for me, who knows? I still like studying the history of government, despite my disenchantment with today's politics. Maybe I'll teach. Yeah, I know the saying, "Those who can't do, teach," but the question is not whether I can "do" politics, rather, it is, why would I want to?

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS THE HOTTEST STUDENTS?



Bright Dike
sophomore O'Neill

"Maybe not Engineering, but definitely Arts and Letters."



Evelyn Hyder
senior Farley

"Arts and Letters, because of the Music Theory people alone."



Jarett DeAngelis
grad student off campus

"I wish they could all be Architecture girls."



Jesse Goliath
senior O'Neill

"First Year of Studies, because it's a change of scenery."



Kate Moder
sophomore McGlenn

"Business, because that's where the athletes are."



Katie Rooney
junior Howard

"Arts and Letters. I mean, is there really any contest?"



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA/The Observer

Hammes Bookstore employee Bridgette Verhaegen adjusts ornaments and lights on the Christmas tree in the bookstore's lobby. There are 40 days until Dec. 25.

IN BRIEF

There is an Armed Forces Blood Drive today from 1 to 6 p.m. in the Navy Wardroom in Pasquerilla Center. All blood collected supports military servicemen and women. The drive is sponsored by the Tri-Military ROTC Command at Notre Dame.

As part of the University's celebration of International Education Week, a Fairly-Traded Gifts Event will run today through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in LaFortune Student Center's Dooley Room. It features handcrafts, available for purchase, from developing countries and offers an opportunity to learn more about Fair Trade practices and the artisans who produce these goods.

The film "Nuremberg, Its Lessons for Today" will be shown tonight at 7 in the Browning Cinema at the DPAC. After the screening, Sandra Schulberg, film producer and daughter of "Nuremberg's" director, Stuart Schulberg, will discuss the controversies surrounding the film. This is a free but ticketed event.

Diego Abente Brun, former senator of Paraguay and Kellogg Institute Visiting Fellow, will give the lecture "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Dilemmas of Democracy in a Small South American Country" Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in C-103 Hesburgh Center.

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

OFFBEAT

California couple accused of airplane indecency

RALEIGH, N.C. — A California couple are facing federal charges after they refused to stop "overt sexual activity" during a flight to Raleigh, authorities said. Carl Warren Persing of Lakewood, Calif., and Dawn Elizabeth Sewell of Huntington Beach, Calif., are accused of interfering with flight crew members during a Sept. 15 Southwest Airlines flight from Los Angeles with a stop in Phoenix.

According to court documents, flight attendants saw Persing and Sewell kissing, embracing and "acting in a

manner that made other passengers uncomfortable" while the plane was stopped in Phoenix. Persing was observed kissing Sewell near her breast and was also observed with his face pressed against Sewell's lower body.

A flight attendant asked them to stop. They obeyed initially but resumed the behavior during the flight.

Ceramic deer no match for real counterpart

OOSTBURG, Wis. — A ceramic deer came out the loser when attacked by the real thing. Ruth Hesselink of the town of Holland reported

that the deer replica in her yard was destroyed in the attack that happened Sunday about 6:45 p.m., according to Capt. Dave Adams of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department.

Hesselink told authorities a buck took on its ceramic counterpart.

A deputy who went to the scene found "obvious track marks" that supported Hesselink's account, Adams said Monday.

Among the damage, the head of the ceramic deer was knocked off.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 48 LOW 37	HIGH 40 LOW 37	HIGH 43 LOW 30	HIGH 43 LOW 28	HIGH 40 LOW 30	HIGH 42 LOW 27

Steves expresses value of international experience

By JOE PIARULLI
Assistant News Editor

Rick Steves, PBS personality and syndicated columnist, has literally made the world his classroom, playing the roles of both student and teacher. He assumed the latter Tuesday in front of a large group of students and community members in the Jordan Auditorium.

University President Father John Jenkins introduced Steves, his brother-in-law, as a man who "made his passion and joy his work," and does so in a morally responsible way. "The Value of Travel in Shaping a Global Perspective" was Steves' second lecture of the week, the first held on Monday in McKenna Hall.

Before describing his travel experiences, Steves explained his own global perspective, especially with regard to politics.

"If it does take courage to speak out on something, that's all the more reason to speak out on it," he said. "As a society, we face some major challenges."

Steves said he believes the greatest risks to America are from the inside. As individuals, he said, we have a responsibility to try and do what's right.

"I don't believe there are innocent civilians," he said.

Steves spoke his mind on issues that he said are "healthy to address and fun to address," including military power and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, which he said should not discourage people from traveling.

Travel, Steves said, was an important part of what shaped his understanding of the world.

Steves first traveled to Europe with his family when he was 14-years-old. Initially skeptical of the idea, he soon embraced the experience and has traveled ever since.

"The quality of the travel experience can change you," he said.

Travel can provide completely new interpretations of the past and of cultures, according to Steves.

"History becomes a living thing," he said.

One aspect of travel Steves described as "fundamental" was the opportunity to meet a wide variety of individuals.

"I meet more people in a month in Europe than I do in a year at home," he said.

Steves said he enjoys how travel "messes up" his ethnocentricity. All over the world, heroic struggles are taking place, he said, and it would be dangerous for us to be mindless producers and consumers.

A man who has traveled from France to India to Japan, Steves celebrates diversity and encourages others to do the same.

Traveling, he said, has let him see the vast divisions between rich and poor, how other people view America and how they view government in general.

Some people, he said, feel scorned by McDonald's and Western values, but that does not mean they dislike Americans.

Steves said he supports Notre Dame's foreign study programs and the valuable, spontaneous experiences they can provide.

"This world is so surprising," he said.

Contact Joe Pirulli at
jpiarull@nd.edu

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group discusses budget, voting

By KATHLEEN
McDONNELL
News Writer

Members of the Council of Representatives (COR) discussed the upcoming budget reallocation and the plans to increase participation in student body elections during the group's Tuesday night meeting in LaFortune.

With student groups requesting over \$800,000 for last spring's annual budget allocation hearing despite \$481,243.06 available in total funds, "pretty much everyone is unhappy with the allocation," Student Union treasurer Steve Friend said.

Every year student groups have a chance to request additional funds, and the Financial Management Board (FMB) reviews each group's spending and allots any left over money in January as it sees fit.

As a result of conservative estimation for the number of students paying student activities fees, Friend said, \$41,037.80 is available for this January.

"We'd obviously like to reallocate the full amount, because we understand groups have made concessions in that regard," Friend said.

After Student Union Board (SUB) manager Pat Vassel drew attention to the lack of Student Union technology funds, Friend said one of his priorities is to replenish the nearly wiped out account.

"This year we had unforeseen needs, now it's basically tapped out," he explained. "Personally I think it would be a wise decision to put some funds in there."

After the budget discussion, Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow outlined her plans to increase voter participation this year. One new initiative includes an election committee to help assist with publicity as a means to increase involvement.

According to Kozlow, voter incentives are crucial to increasing participation.

"We've learned that if you give people free food, they'll do what you say," she noted.

With that in mind, the Council has plans to offer Krispy Kreme donuts and, possibly, Chipotle burritos to voters. Kozlow also said the Council is working with Anthony Travel to put together a free spring break trip for a few lucky participants.

Publicity and easy access are the other two important components to

increasing voter participation, Kozlow explained. Posters in each dorm will announce the election dates, as well as facts about each voting location.

Kozlow is also working to have computers available in Mendoza, DeBartolo and possibly LaFortune for students voting.

In other COR news

Continuing with Shappell's organization spotlight initiative, Friend gave a brief presentation on the composition of the FMB, calling it "a gathering of the CFOs [Chief Financial Officers] from all the big groups on campus."

He gave a rundown on FMB approvals, sources of funds, the annual allocation hearing and the aforementioned spending review process each January.

The council confirmed as Vice President Anthony Dayrit, as part of the Judicial Council.

Off-campus President Spencer Fenner is looking into non-students often filling the designated off-campus parking lot.

Contact Kathleen
McDonnell at
kmcdonn3@nd.edu



"Seeds of Change" A Musical Performance

Georgine Resick, soprano
Professor of Music

John Blacklow, piano
Assistant Professor of Music



11:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 18
Annenberg Auditorium
Snite Museum of Art

"Seeds of Change," a program of French music from the first half of the 19th century, includes works by Berlioz, Chopin, Liszt, Gounod, and Saint-Saëns, as well as spoken commentary drawing parallels between the music of the period and concurrent trends in literature, the visual arts, social history, and politics.



SATURDAY SCHOLAR SERIES

Fall 2006 Schedule

Experience an intimate discussion with Notre Dame's most engaging faculty speakers on some of the most pressing issues of our times.

- ☞ 9/9–Penn State "More Than a Movie? Assessing *The Da Vinci Code*" (101 DeBartolo Hall)
James Collins, *Professor of Film, Television, and Theatre*
Mary Rose D'Angelo, *Associate Professor of Theology*
Charles Barber, *Associate Professor of Art, Art History, and Design*
- ☞ 9/16–Michigan "The Impact of the Dead Sea Scrolls on Our Bible"
Eugene Ulrich, *Rev. John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology*
- ☞ 9/30–Purdue "Successful Aging"
Cindy Bergeman, *Chair and Professor of Psychology*
- ☞ 10/7–Stanford "The Bone Collector"
Susan Sheridan, *Associate Professor of Anthropology*
- ☞ 10/21–UCLA "Completing the Constitution: The 14th Amendment"
Michael Zuckert, *Nancy Reeves Dreux Professor of Political Science*
- ☞ 11/4–North Carolina "The Role of Religion in Peacebuilding"
R. Scott Appleby, *Professor of History, John M. Regan Jr. Director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies*
John Paul Lederach, *Professional Specialist, Kroc Institute*
A. Rashied Omar, *Assistant Professional Specialist, Kroc Institute*
- ☞ 11/18–Army "Seeds of Change" A Musical Performance
Georgine Resick, *Professor of Music*
John Blacklow, *Assistant Professor of Music*

3-1/2 hours before kickoff in the Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art (unless otherwise noted).

For more information, visit <http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

College of Arts & Letters

Alumna raises dogs to guide the blind

By LAURA WILCZEK
News Writer

Notre Dame law student Shanin Leeming's love for animals led her to a perfect — if not unique — job. She trains dogs for the blind.

Leeming has raised future guide dogs since the age of 12, seeing it as a fun mix of caring for an animal and serving the community.

Her job consists of caring for a seven to eight-week-old puppy and training it to be a guide dog, which includes, "housebreaking, socialization, house manners and basic commands," Leeming said.

Out of all the tasks, Leeming stressed socialization as the most important.

"A guide dog has to be comfortable in any place that a blind person would want to go. That is why I have to take them to class, on buses, boats, grocery stores and any other place I can think of," she said.

Leeming said she had been anticipating continuing her work with guide dogs as a sophomore at Notre Dame, and even garnered the support of her rector. Dorm rules, however, stood in the way, and the Office of Residence Life and Housing denied her request to raise a dog on campus on the grounds that dorm life, "would not be fair for the dog," Leeming said.

The University states in duLac that animals are explicitly prohibited in dorms. The University's policy frustrated Leeming because "it did not make sense that a rector could have a dog for a pet, but that a service animal in training would not be allowed," she said. Leeming said she wishes the University would reconsider its policy on animals in this unique case.

"[I] think it would be wonderful if Notre Dame decided to support the raising of guide dogs," she said.

Leeming also pointed out that she has "heard of schools who are very supportive and who have multiple people raising dogs on their campus."

Due to the lack of support, Leeming stopped raising guide dogs for the next three years while she lived on campus. After graduation, however, she resumed her training and is cur-

rently caring for her 11th puppy — a black lab named Skipper.

She and her husband Judah continue to work with an organization called Pets Connect, which according to Leeming, "pulls animals from shelters and puts them into foster homes until they can be adopted." The organization focus particularly on animals in danger of being put down. At the moment, Shanin Leeming and her husband are currently fostering a number of pets and take them to adoption events every weekend at PetSmart.

The couple became so personally involved with their work that when they got married in May on

Notre Dame's campus, Leeming's fifth guide dog, Muffin, and his owner were the ring bearers in their wedding.

For Leeming, the rewarding nature of her work is what keeps her going. Attending "graduation and seeing the dogs being given to their new owners is the best experience of the entire training," she said.

Leeming encourages those students who would like to get involved with raising guide dogs and who are currently living off-campus to visit the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind Web site.

Contact Laura Wilczek at lwilczek@nd.edu

"A guide dog has to be comfortable in any place that a blind person would want to go. That is why I have to take them to class, on buses, boats, grocery stores and any other place I can think of."

Shanin Leeming
guide dog trainer

Women engineers receive award

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

The Notre Dame Collegiate Section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE-ND) has a clear goal — to reverse the trend of women being exceedingly underrepresented in the engineering profession — and a recent prestigious national award is proof that its hard work toward that goal has paid off.

SWE-ND recently received the Outstanding Collegiate Section Award for its work in encouraging young women to pursue professions in the field of engineering.

The award honors Notre Dame's Society of Women Engineers as the best section of its size in the country. More than 100 sections were present from Oct. 10 to 14 at the National Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

Senior Katie Murphy, president of SWE-ND, wrote a report detailing the strides the club has made in recent years to recruit female engineering majors.

While the national average of female engineering majors hovers around 19 percent, Notre Dame's current average nears 24 percent.

The report emphasized the various activities and events that the club has held to support current students within the College of Engineering and to encourage young girls to begin thinking about pursuing an engineering career. Murphy and the core committee members of SWE-ND submitted this winning report at the National Conference.

"It was an annual report based on everything that we have done in the past year," she said.

The club also plans to submit a new and improved report summarizing its accomplishments for the current academic year to ensure that it stays competitive in next

year's contest.

"We plan to follow the guidelines of the national organization more closely," Murphy said.

The club will receive a cash reward of an unknown amount, which Murphy said will be applied toward future SWE-ND events.

Although SWE-ND has entered the National Conference in recent years, this is the first time the organization has been recognized for its efforts.

The Society of Women Engineers has 17,000 members nationally, and approximately 10,000 of those members are students, said Cathy Pieronek, director of Women's Programs in the College of Engineering and faculty advisor of SWE-ND. The remaining members are professionals.

Murphy said the club's recent increase in membership is evidence of its success as a major student group on campus.

"Five years ago, there were only 10 members [in the SWE-ND] who met a few times a year, and now there are 130 girls in our organization," Murphy said. "Our goal is to recruit women and keep them in engineering."

SWE-ND has experienced major growth over the past five years and, according to the 19-page report submitted by Murphy, "has become the most active and prominent engineering organization on campus."

In 2005, the Notre Dame Club Coordination Council awarded SWE-ND the "Overall Program of the Year Award."

"SWE does a great job of covering the social side and the academic side of life as an engineer,"

said senior Ann Verwilt, club treasurer.

The Society of Women Engineers is busy year-round planning events and activities for female engineering students. Some of these events include Halloween and Christmas parties and visitation days for prospective female students. The club also invites professional engineers to speak to undergraduate engineering students and runs meetings to help students find internships.

The group involves itself in the community as well. SWE participates in service work by holding toiletry drives for local women's shelters.

Murphy explained that building a support system for female students interested in engineering is essential to the organization's mission.

"The workload [for engineering majors] is so hard all of the time, so our group provides a support system for girls to meet in a more relaxed setting," Murphy said.

Verwilt said SWE-ND has helped her to get to know other engineering students.

"For me, SWE has been really helpful in getting advice from older girls about classes and internships. ... It has also helped me to form great friendships," she said.

After receiving this prestigious honor, Murphy hopes that this award will encourage more female students to consider engineering, knowing that Notre Dame has a unique support network for women in that college.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

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NOTRE DAME #12 MEN'S & #1 WOMEN'S SOCCER

NCAA TOURNAMENTS AT ALUMNI FIELD

WED. NOV. 15TH @ 7:00 PM

2ND ROUND OF NCAA TOURNAMENT

#12 MEN'S SOCCER VS. IL. CHICAGO



FRI. NOV. 17TH @ 7:30 PM

3RD ROUND OF NCAA TOURNAMENT

COME AFTER THE PEP RALLY!

#1 WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. COLORADO



* FIRST 100 ND, HCC & SMC STUDENTS TO EACH GAME RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION!

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Nuclear traces detected inside Iran

VIENNA, Austria — New traces of plutonium and enriched uranium — potential material for atomic warheads — have been found in a nuclear waste facility in Iran, a revelation that came Tuesday as the Iranian president boasted his country's nuclear fuel program will soon be completed.

The International Atomic Energy Agency report detailing the discovery also faulted Tehran for not cooperating with the U.N. watchdog's attempts to investigate other suspicious aspects of Iran's nuclear program.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in a two-hour news conference in Tehran, asserted the world has no choice but to "live with a nuclear Iran," although he conceded his country was "still in the first stages" of its uranium enrichment program.

So far, Tehran has been able to activate only two small experimental pilot enrichment plants that U.N. officials say have frequently broken down and have produced only small amounts of material suitable for nuclear fuel.

Gay marriage legislation criticized

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — South African lawmakers passed legislation recognizing gay marriages on Tuesday despite criticism from both traditionalists and gay activists.

The bill, unprecedented on a continent where homosexuality is taboo, was decried by gay activists for not going far enough and by opponents who warned it "was provoking God's anger."

Veterans of the governing African National Congress praised the Civil Union Bill for extending basic freedoms to everyone under the spirit of the country's first post-apartheid constitution, adopted a decade ago by framers determined to make discrimination a thing of the past.

NATIONAL NEWS

New majority party posts assigned

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats picked two women for senior posts Tuesday and appointed former U.S. Capitol police chief Terrance Gainer as sergeant at arms. Their choice as majority leader, Sen. Harry Reid, said a top priority is getting a new secretary of defense confirmed.

Reid told The Associated Press that he supports replacing Donald Rumsfeld with former CIA Director Robert Gates by year's end, as President Bush has urged.

"I hope we can move it forward quickly," Reid, of Nevada, told the Associated Press after the Democratic caucus in the Old Senate Chamber. "The sooner we can move it forward the sooner we can get rid of Rumsfeld," he said.

Jury interviews start for cage case

NORWALK, Ohio — Jury selection began Tuesday in the trial of a couple accused of abusing some of their 11 adopted special needs children by making them sleep in cages.

Michael and Sharen Gravelles are charged with 16 counts of felony child endangering and if convicted could face one to five years in prison and a maximum fine of \$10,000 for each count. They also each face eight misdemeanor child endangering charges.

The process of seating a jury in Huron County Common Pleas Court could take days, with 100 people being questioned. Earlier, about 350 potential jurors were sent questionnaires, and 250 were weeded out.

LOCAL NEWS

Farmland scoured after plane crash

ROLLING PRAIRIE, Ind. — Authorities searched a cornfield Tuesday for the remains of five people killed in the crash of a twin-engine plane that went down shortly after takeoff in foggy weather.

An Iowa marketing company had chartered the flight to take its co-founder and three employees from Ankeny, Iowa, to South Bend, in northern Indiana.

Crash investigators had not determined the cause of Monday night's crash, but the plane took off in poor weather, with limited visibility and fog.

"It was not a good night to fly," Deputy Coroner John Sullivan said.

IRAQ

50 abducted from research office

Kidnappers disguised themselves as government soldiers; Madhi Army suspected

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Suspected Shiite militiamen dressed as Interior Ministry commandos stormed a Higher Education Ministry office Tuesday and kidnapped dozens of people after clearing the area under the guise of providing security for what they claimed would be a visit by the U.S. ambassador.

Witnesses and authorities said the gunmen raced through all four stories of the building, forced men and women into separate rooms, handcuffed the men and loaded them aboard about 20 pickup trucks.

Shortly afterward, authorities arrested six senior police officers in connection with the abductions — the police chief and five top subordinates in the Karradah district, the central Baghdad region where the kidnappers struck, Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Jalil Khalaf said.

There were varying estimates of the number of people kidnapped, but it appeared that at least 50 were seized — one of the largest mass abductions in Iraq. Authorities said as many as 20 were later released, but said a broadcast report that most hostages were freed appeared to be false. The assault came on a day that saw at least 117 people die in the mounting disorder and violence gripping the country.

The abductions in broad daylight raised further questions about Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's commitment to wiping out the heavily armed Shiite militias of his prime political backers: the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, or SCIRI, and the Sadrist Movement of radical, anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Al-Maliki faces intense pressure from the United



Iraqi university students leave their building after an order from the education minister. Gunmen kidnapped at least 50 people from a Baghdad research institute on Tuesday.

States to disband and disarm the militias and their death squads, which are deeply involved in the country's sectarian slaughter and are believed to have thoroughly infiltrated the police and security forces.

U.S. Central Command chief Gen. John Abizaid sternly warned al-Maliki face-to-face on Monday that he must disband the militias and give the United States proof that they have been disarmed, according to senior Iraqi government officials with knowledge of what the men discussed.

So far, the prime minister has said the militias should not act illegally but has

taken no tough action against them.

Al-Maliki, who leads a Shiite-dominated Iraqi government, appeared to minimize the importance of Tuesday's kidnappings. The abductions were believed to be the work of the Mahdi Army, the heavily armed al-Sadr militia which controls the Karradah district.

"What is happening is not terrorism, but the result of disagreements and conflict between militias belonging to this side or that," al-Maliki said in televised remarks during a meeting with President Jalal Talabani.

That response was likely

to prompt deeper concerns among the U.S. military and the Bush administration. The Americans have struggled for 44 months to put in place a democratic and multi-sectarian and multi-ethnic government that would embrace the Sunni and Kurdish minorities, even if dominated by the Shiite majority.

Since taking office in May, al-Maliki has essentially refused to reach out to the Sunnis, who ran the country for decades under Saddam Hussein. The former Iraqi leader, toppled in the 2003 U.S. invasion, ordered the killing of hundreds of thousands of Shiites.

Bishops reinforce position on gays

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The nation's Roman Catholic bishops adopted new guidelines for gay outreach Tuesday that are meant to be welcoming, while also telling gays to be celibate since the church considers their sexuality "disordered."

Gay Catholic activists said the approach was so contorted and flawed that it would alienate the very people it was trying to reach.

The statement, "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination," was adopted by a 194-37 vote, with one abstention, at a meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The bishops also overwhelmingly

adopted separate statements encouraging Catholics to obey the church's widely ignored ban on artificial contraception, and directing parishioners to examine and directing parishioners to decide if they are worthy of receiving Holy Communion.

Anyone who knowingly persists in sinful behavior, such as gay sex or using artificial birth control, should refrain from taking Communion, the bishops said.

"To be a Catholic is a challenge," said Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the bishops' doctrine committee. "To be a Catholic requires a certain choice."

Presenting the meeting document at the meeting, Serratelli

acknowledged that gay and lesbian Catholics "have a difficult task in this world, but this task is necessary and good."

"The tone of the document is positive, pastoral and welcoming," Serratelli said. "Its starting point is the intrinsic human dignity of every person and God's love for every person."

But gay Catholic groups thought the bishops' approach was flat-out wrong. Francisco DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry, an independent outreach to Catholic gays that has run afoul of some church leaders, said the guidelines "do not reflect good science, good theology or human reality."

Ad Hoc

continued from page 1

group," said M. Cathleen Kaveny, a law school and theology professor who sits on the committee. "I think Father Jenkins has really proven himself very committed to having a conversation about gender issues and sexual violence issues. ... He has a real commitment."

An e-mail sent to the Notre Dame community last week identified three events planned by committee members: this week's "Loyal Daughters," as well as February's The Edith Stein Project conference and a "Sex in the City of God" panel discussion.

Those three events, said Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shavers, aren't necessarily "more worthy" than other campus initiatives targeting gender issues and sexual violence. Rather, they are "examples that present a range of perspectives on issues" — sexual assault in particular.

The range of perspectives is essential, said senior and committee member Gregory Floyd.

"Not everyone agrees with everything in all of these events, but this is a starting spot," Floyd said. "[The committee] is encouraging students to attend events that have already sprung up organically ... which I think is really helpful, because it's not top down, it's highlighting student initiatives."

Not all of the committee's members, however, agreed with giving all of the events official support. Margot O'Brien, professional specialist in the Mendoza College of Business, resigned from the committee due to disagreement over "Loyal Daughters."

"The committee's promotion of 'Loyal Daughters' elevates the play from something tolerated in the name of academic freedom, to an event commended as a proper way for Notre Dame, as a Catholic institution, to address illicit sexual activity and sexual violence," O'Brien wrote Tuesday in an e-mail to The Observer, also printed in today's Viewpoint section.

"It is one thing for an academic unit or a professor to present, as true, viewpoints in conflict with Church teaching, but it is quite another for the University itself, through an ad hoc committee created specifically to address issues of sexual assault and gender roles, to promote a play that presents illicit sexual behavior in a morally neutral way."

When asked whether others disagreed with the committee's decision to support "Loyal Daughters," O'Brien said she did "not feel comfortable speaking for other committee members on their viewpoints."

Shavers declined to comment, but said "there were conversations within the committee about that."

History professor and committee member Gail Bederman said "Loyal Daughters" did generate debate, but she did not think other members shared O'Brien's "profound disagreement" with identifying the production as in line with the committee's goals.

"I think there was disagreement on whether, was the committee going to sponsor this, [and] what does sponsorship mean," she said.

That question of sponsorship versus endorsement plagued those on both sides of the "Monologues" debate last spring, and it's resurfaced now, although to a lesser extent.

While the committee's e-mail was "a progress report" on its attempt to meet its goals, Kaveny said, it was not, however, an endorsement of the events.

"Nobody knows what endorsement means. ... The word is just too complicated," she said. "All these events are in University space, all are being called to the attention of the student body ... does that mean that every jot and tittle is approved by every member of the committee? No. But it means that we think this conversation needs to take place."

And the conversation won't be ending anytime soon. The committee's goal, Bederman said, hasn't changed. "Finding ways to promote dialogue — I think that's precisely what it is," she said. "I think we're not entirely sure what the committee is going to do next, but I think everybody currently on the committee is absolutely committed to ongoing discussions."

The idea behind next semester's "Sex in the City of God" panel discussion emerged from conversations within the committee, Bederman said, and future conversations could breed even more initiatives.

"Questions of sexuality are, if you will, points of concern, of division within the Church [and]

the culture of the time ... which is one of the reasons why I think most of us think this needs to be discussed at a Catholic university," she said.

Kaveny echoed the necessity of discussing sexuality within the context of a Catholic university — a context stressed by Jenkins last spring during the "Monologues" debate.

Events like "Sex in the City of God" can "bring Catholic teaching on sexual morality into a dialogue with contemporary culture," Kaveny said, "so people don't have to see Catholic sexual teaching in one box, and the rest of the world in another."

But while senior "Loyal Daughters" director and committee member Madi Liddy said she saw the value in dialogue and praised the "really great ideas" raised during meetings, she was "a little bit disappointed in the amount of actual action as a result of the committee."

"The committee has potential, but it'll take some time," she said.

For O'Brien, the committee's purpose should be educating the Notre Dame community "as to the reality of sexual assault, as well as making sure that students, faculty and staff all know and understand the University's policy on sexual assault."

"The University should also make sure that the Notre Dame community knows of the many resources available to help victims," she said.

But an ad hoc committee has its limits, Bederman said, and dialogue can only be so effective when the topic is as difficult as sexual violence.

"Is it going to stop sexual assault? I doubt it," she said. "It's to help people avoid various problems. But it's an entrenched problem."

Mary Kate Malone and Katie McDonnell contributed to this report.

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"Questions of sexuality are, if you will, points of concern, of division within the Church [and] the culture of the time ... which is one of the reasons why I think most of us think this needs to be discussed at a Catholic university."

Gail Bederman
Ad hoc committee member

"The committee's promotion of 'Loyal Daughters' elevates the play from something tolerated in the name of academic freedom, to an event commended as a proper way for Notre Dame, as a Catholic institution, to address illicit sexual activity and sexual violence."

Margot O'Brien
former member
Ad hoc committee

Bouts

continued from page 1

dent of Bengal Bouts, said. "Fifty-two thousand dollars net is really good."

Through the funds raised since its inception, its purpose remains the same. For 77 years, proceeds from Bengal Bouts have benefited the Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh. The funds collected are used to provide medical care, build student education hostels, care for orphans, treat those with drug problems and perform countless other actions for the destitute communities served in Bangladesh.

Smith, director of Holy Cross Missions, said the amount raised was by no means trivial, and estimated that the \$52,000 is worth up to \$500,000 worth of goods and services in Bangladesh.

While Bengal Bouts is just starting to gear up for this year's tournament in February and March, the women's Baraka Bouts will take place this Thursday from 6-11 p.m. in the Joyce Center. Andrew McGill, this year's president of Bengal Bouts encouraged anyone available to attend the event, which benefits Holy

Cross Missions across Africa.

McGill previewed this year's plans for Bengal Bouts after the check was handed over. He said 170 people have paid dues for the program and most will end up competing this year, including three returning champions.

"The guys who just began their training absolutely love it. They love the hard workouts, the camaraderie," McGill said.

McGill said that although boxing is usually a very individual sport, the Bengal Bouts makes it a team.

"Bengal Bouts has taken a sport that is one-on-one, and it has turned it into a community building opportunity," he said. "Notre Dame is such a tight community, and there's this miniature community inside Notre Dame that is as close as you could possibly ever imagine."

McGill said the best part of the program, however, is its focus on charity.

"To be in charge of [such a program] is a fantastic honor," he said.

Father Bill Seetch, Bengal Bouts Chaplain and Erika Meyer, a student office assistant for Bengal Bouts, were also present for the check presentation.

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Shirt

continued from page 1

ing a new record in Notre Dame history.

The unprecedented sales have not made the organizers complacent, however, as they anticipate even higher sales as the season comes to a close.

"We will never be satisfied. The more shirts we sell, the more money that goes back to the Notre Dame students," said Julie Campbell, vice president of The Shirt Project. "We are still looking forward to what the rest of the season has to offer for our sales."

Wiatrowski is especially looking forward to the last home game of the year this Saturday against Army — estimating that 175,000 units could be reached as a season total.

This year's version of The

Shirt was designed by current Stanford senior Ryan Ricketts, who said he is "honored to be a part of this extremely successful project."

The success of the project is even more gratifying, Ricketts explained, because of its goal to give back to University students in need.

"I'm even more proud of the Notre Dame community," he said, "for supporting such a large charity-driven endeavor." According to Fox, current Dillon sophomore Brad Lenoir will head The Shirt Project 2007.

"The success of this year's The Shirt stems from the direction it was given by its leadership," Lenoir said. "We hope to further the progress made [by taking] The Shirt national, as well as creating another unifying and exciting Shirt."

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	12,218.01	+86.13

Up: Same: Down: Composite Volume:
2,407 142 866 2,386,337,900

AMEX	1,987.32	+7.42
NASDAQ	2,430.66	+24.28
NYSE	8,880.47	+56.49
S&P 500	1,393.22	+8.80
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	16,291.58	+2.03
FTSE 100(London)	6,186.60	-7.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQ)	+1.08	+0.47	43.93
INTEL CP (INTC)	+4.19	+0.88	21.88
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+0.19	+0.01	5.39
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.07	-0.02	29.23

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.80	-0.037	4.568
13-WEEK BILL	+0.20	+0.01	4.955
30-YEAR BOND	-0.94	-0.044	4.660
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.74	-0.034	4.559

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	-0.30	58.28
GOLD (\$/Troy oz)	-0.50	625.30
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb)	-0.08	88.78

Exchange Rates	
YEN	117.7750
EURO	0.7806
POUND	0.5276
CANADIAN \$	1.1382

IN BRIEF

Vietnam trade bill tanks in the House

WASHINGTON — House Republicans, after suffering a surprising defeat on legislation to normalize trade relations with Vietnam, put off until December any effort to make another attempt to pass the bill.

Rejection of the measure, which had been expected to move smoothly through Congress, could be a signal that President Bush's agenda of trade liberalization is headed for tough times in a Congress that will be controlled next year by Democrats.

The measure failed Monday night to win the necessary two-thirds majority it needed to pass under a procedure House Republicans adopted to rush it through with limited debate.

It received 228 votes in support — 32 short of what was needed. There were 161 votes against it.

GOP leaders decided Tuesday to wait until after the House returns from its Thanksgiving break in December to bring the measure up again under normal procedures that require only a simple majority for passage. If there are no vote changes, the measure should pass since it gained 10 more votes than the 218-majority needed under the normal process. Vietnam on Tuesday called it a setback.

Shell companies flaunt government

WASHINGTON — Federal law enforcement efforts have been hampered by the absence of information on company ownership, allowing shell companies to be used to launder money and evade taxes, government officials told Congress Tuesday.

U.S. states grant incorporation to nearly 2 million new companies a year without identifying their owners — lenience that allows people to hide their identities and shell companies increasingly to be used for illicit activities, lawmakers and congressional investigators say.

Some \$15 million in international aid for improving the safety of nuclear power plants in the former Soviet Union was diverted, according to the Government Accountability Office, Congress' investigative arm. Shell companies in the United States are used to launder as much as \$36 billion from former Soviet republics. Millions in taxable income are hidden in bank accounts in the Caribbean.

Bush meets with automakers

Congress raises concerns about workers' health care, alternative fuel, fair trade

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush told Detroit's auto industry leaders on Tuesday he knows they are making "tough choices" to shore up their companies in foreign competition and promised continuing dialogue as they seek help on trade and health care issues.

"The president clearly understands the importance of the business to the United States and the global economy," Ford Motor Co. Chief Executive Alan Mulally said later.

Bush said, "We found a lot in common."

Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and other administration officials met in the Oval Office for just over an hour with top executives of Ford, General Motors and DaimlerChrysler AG's Chrysler Group.

The automakers later told reporters the meeting was productive, hopeful that it would lead to more discussions with the administration.

"That's a door that we've been waiting to open," said Tom LaSorda, president and chief executive officer of DaimlerChrysler AG's Chrysler Group.

On Capitol Hill, lawmakers representing large numbers of auto workers said they hoped Congress would address reducing the cost of the health care on manufacturers, foster the research and development of alternative fuel vehicles and promote fair trade practices.

"The industry's ability to compete in the global marketplace will determine its future. Rising health care and retirement costs as well as America's dependence on foreign sources of energy are negatively affecting industry strength," said Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio.

Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., who criticized Bush during her re-election campaign for not meeting with the executives earlier, said she hoped the meeting



Thomas W. LaSorda, President and CEO of Chrysler Group, listens to President Bush in the Oval Office Tuesday.

would be "an important first step toward a comprehensive American manufacturing strategy."

The auto executives said they pressed Bush about their concerns on health care, energy and trade issues, while making clear that the troubled industry does not want a federal bailout. The meeting had been delayed since last spring and had been widely anticipated in the auto industry.

Bush met with the leaders just hours before he was traveling to Asia to meet in Vietnam with Asia-Pacific economic partners. He said he would tell those partners, "Just treat us like we treat you. ... Our markets are open for your products

and we expect your markets to be open for ours, including our automobiles."

He said of the U.S. executives, "These leaders are making difficult decisions, tough choices to make sure that their companies are competitive in a global economy. And I'm confident that they're making the right decisions."

General Motors Corp. and Ford are both undergoing significant turnaround plans after posting large losses last year. GM has persuaded about 35,000 hourly workers to leave the company under early retirement or buyout plans while Ford has offered buyouts and early retirement packages to all 75,000 U.S. production workers in hopes of

reducing its hourly work force by up to 30,000.

The companies have faced hardships while Japan-based Toyota Motor Corp. is enjoying soaring profits and outlining plans to unseat GM as the world's largest automaker.

GM chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner said the automakers weakened the case that Japan's weakened yen makes imported goods from Japan cheaper and enhances profits Japanese automakers make in the U.S. He said they discussed the automakers' "strong conviction that the Japanese yen is systematically undervalued, which helps them to maintain significant trade balance surpluses in our industry."

Stocks surge on interest rate news

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street barreled higher Tuesday, with the Dow Jones industrials surging further into record territory after a Federal Reserve official indicated the Fed will maintain its policy of stable interest rates.

Investors who were heartened by an earlier report of slowing producer prices began buying in earnest after Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis President William Poole described the Fed's interest rate policy as "about right." Poole, who is acting as a voting member on the Fed's policy-making Open Market Committee, had reassuring words

for a market that has been counting on a steady rate policy for the near future.

Earlier, the Labor Department said inflation at the wholesale level as measured by the Producer Price Index dropped by 1.6 percent last month following a 1.3 percent slide in September. Plunging energy prices were behind the declines, which gave Wall Street some relief from concerns that rising inflation might prompt the Fed to raise rates after three straight meetings where they were left unchanged.

"With the PPI down and with the Fed cautiously optimistic about the economy, not signaling any rate hikes, it confirmed what the mar-

ket was hoping to hear," said Jay Suskind, head trader at Ryan Beck & Co.

The Dow rose 86.13, or 0.71 percent, to close at 12,218.01, above the previous record close of 12,176.54 reached last Wednesday. The blue chips also reached a new trading high of 12,228.01.

Broader stock indicators also closed sharply higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 8.80, or 0.64 percent, to 1,393.22. It hit a trading high of 1,394.49; this was the first time the S&P 500 surpassed 1,394 since November 2000.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 24.28, or 1.01 percent, to 2,430.66.

Assault

continued from page 1

to victim's resource person Ava Preacher, the Saint Joseph Medical Center ER and S-O-S, St. Joseph County's rape-crisis center.

The Web site also features an extensive "frequently asked questions" section, answering questions about the definition of rape, Notre Dame's stance on rape and what to do if rape occurs.

Brown said Student Government will be involved in the initiatives aimed at better educating students.

The work of the committee is a "vital part of Notre Dame's efforts to address issues of sexual assault and violence on campus, and has been for the last few years.

In 2001, shortly after the University formed the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee, student feedback was supplied to the group about how sexual assault cases were handled on campus. After discovering that the system had not worked to the satisfaction of many students, the committee appointed Preacher as the University's sexual assault resource person.

In this role, Preacher is a resource for students, who can come to her without facing repercussions, she said in a Feb. 17, 2005 article in The Observer.

Preacher's position as assistant dean makes her ideal for victims to talk to and remain anonymous, as nearly all undergraduates have access to her.

To increase awareness on a grander, campus-wide level, the Student Government and the Gender Relations Center have also launched a campaign about assault, Firth said.

Shappell and Chief Executive Assistant Liz Brown have worked with members of Student Senate to figure out how to best distribute information about sexual assault resources.

Among the senators' suggestions have been new sexual assault awareness posters in dorms and popular buildings on campus, the distribution of information at the mandatory freshman PILLARS meeting and a sexual assault awareness lesson in freshman Contemporary Topics classes.

The sexual assault awareness posters, Shappell said in a Sept. 20 meeting, are meant to be a constant and permanent source of information — not just one of many posters covering bathroom walls. Senators proposed changes to the color of the posters and the condensing of information into wallet-size cards as changes that would be effective.

"Related to this goal, one of our primary objectives is ensuring that resource infor-

mation is readily available to students through various means," Brown said, mentioning the wallet-sized information cards for students, re-formatted posters and magnets with important resource information in addition to the new Web site.

Discussions about sexual assault are not new to Student Senate. The Gender Issues Committee of the Student Senate organized a Sexual Assault Awareness Week last March. A new group — Men Against Violence (MAV) — was also launched last spring by a group of men committed to ending sexual violence and domestic abuse.

Campus Alliance for Rape Elimination (CARE) — of which Preacher serves as the faculty advisor — is another such group working to keep the issues of sexual assault fresh in people's minds.

And it is the goal of the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee to unite such groups and not just work from one perspective.

"[The committee] brings together a number of individuals from different campus organizations that are invested in this issue," Brown said.

Among these individuals are representatives from Student Affairs, Residence Life, the Gender Relations Center, counselors and psychologists, professors and students.

"The group creates an opportunity for collaboration on initiatives and provokes discussion that ensures the University is adequately addressing the needs of victims of sexual assault," Brown said.

The committee will meet again at the end of the month and three or four times in the spring, Firth said.

"I think many of our projects will be accomplished through the work of smaller subcommittees between meetings," she said.

Though sexual assault is present on Notre Dame's campus — as evidenced in "Loyal Daughters," a student-written play about assault at the University — Firth said such violence should have "no place here."

"Sexual assault and rape are very real problems on virtual-

ly every college campus, and Notre Dame is no exception," Firth said. "All of us within the Notre Dame community share responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment which promotes the safety and dignity of each individual."

The committee is appointed by Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman, Firth said. For the 2005-06 academic year, the committee is comprised of: Bill Kirk, Associate Vice President for Residence Life, Co-chair; Ann Firth, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Co-chair; Ava

Preacher, Assistant Dean in the College of Arts and Letters; Jeff Shoup, Director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing; Heather Rakoczy, Director of the Gender Relations Center; Michelle Russell, Director of

Residence Life at Saint Mary's College; Lynn Bradford, Director of S-O-S; Alex Chapeaux, student; Cathy Steinmetz, student; Sarah Raymond, Staff Psychologist at University Counseling Center; John Duman, Professor of

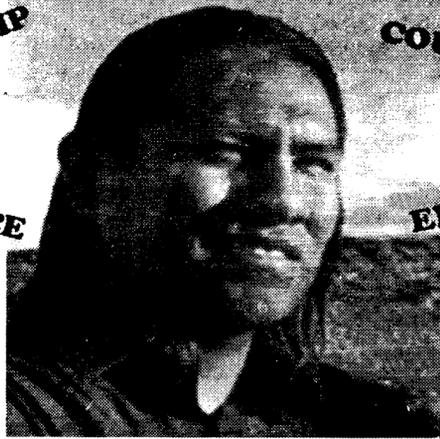
Biological Sciences; John Corker, student; Emily Weisbecker, student; Lizzy Shappell, student; Liz Brown, student.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

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Panel

continued from page 1

An audience member thanked Weisbecker for including different perspectives in the play, indicating a monologue about forgiveness for past sexual experiences and another regarding a conversation with Mary at the Grotto as particularly compelling for her on a Catholic level.

"I was very happy about the fact that so many people with very different perspectives came in and talked to me, so I felt like I was able to represent a really broad range of people," Weisbecker replied.

She also expressed gratitude for the students whose stories comprise the play — particularly those of male students.

"The fact that they were all so open and trusting so that their stories could be shared and experienced by the community is profound," Weisbecker said. "I was very honored that males would come forward especially and tell me their experiences with sexual violence."

Opening dialogue like this play and panel, Bellis said, is a key step in moving toward change.

"[...] A discussion like this seems to me like what needs to

happen. You [Emily] as the writer have generated far more spontaneous discussion than I ever had in my class," Bellis said.

Bellis said a crucial element in curbing sexual violence is communication. He mentioned the culture clash in the American mindset between traditional values and perceived cultural norms as problematic in shedding light on the issue.

"Whenever I talked about sexuality, mating patterns, marriage or violence, my classes go stone silent — whether they be 10 students or 150," he said. "One of my greatest clues to a deep-seated concern is their response — almost not breathing while we talk about it."

Silence about sexual and assault can lead to victims not feeling comfortable reporting crimes, Weisbecker said. One monologue made a striking comparison between duLac's treatment of consensual sex out of wedlock and that of rape according to University standards. Bellis spoke out against this regulation.

"A college or institution in which a policy that promotes silence to benefit the public presentation of the group over protecting the individual victims is an example of the individual

being sacrificed for the good of the organization," he said.

In denouncing pre-marital sexual relations as worthy of expulsion and placing committing rape (though not being raped) under the same punishment, all talks of sexuality become in danger of being silenced, and this may lead to the stifling of crime reports, he explained.

This lack of communication may also play a role in the physical assault itself, Envall said, because embarrassment from the situation may prevent a victim from crying out.

"Embarrassment is extremely big," Envall said. "I think it has a lot to do with someone not wanting to actually be happening to him or you, that you let yourself enter a situation where you're being victimized."

She also said that no one could know how he or she will act in an assault situation until it happens — some people's bodies

"simply just shut down," she said.

Weisbecker expressed hope that students can increase their self-confidence and therefore feel in control enough to be open about sexuality and violence.

"I'd like to see everyone's self esteem because I think that's one of the things that really affects these situations," she said, "they know right from the beginning that this isn't a comfortable situation, but as

you heard from so many of the scenes, he's telling me it's what I'm supposed to be doing ... people feel conflicted."

"If people can become more comfortable and positive within themselves, they would become more alive," she said.

Weisbecker said the over-achieving aspect of high performance Notre Dame students can be dangerous as they, having had so much success, see

failure as that much more frightening.

"There's a fear of failure or of doing anything wrong. We feel like there's a specific path we have to follow but we're not sure if we're on it," she said.

Weisbecker also expressed the desire for a change in the campus culture's focus on alcohol. Many of the monologues expressed alcohol-induced assault situations, suggesting that lessening the degree to which alcohol is consumed could create a safer environment, she said.

Bellis echoed Young's expressed sentiments about the particular opportunity Notre Dame has as a leading institution to set an example.

"Notre Dame has an extraordinary central legacy that can enable it to be very different — for the good of the commonwealth and of all," he said. "It takes more than a claim to be different for that to happen — you actually have to live out these principles."

The third and final panel discussion will take place tonight after the performance in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

Dorms

continued from page 1

he said.

Lypnout also said the new residence hall will evoke Notre Dame's older dorms with the inclusion of rooms of varying sizes.

"There will be some hierarchy of rooms," he said. "There'll be a combination of singles, doubles, triples and quads."

Lypnout's confirmation that rooms of differing sizes will be built into the dorm echoes statements made by Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves early in the year. As reported in the Sept. 28 issue of The Observer, the new residence halls will be designed in the "throwback" Gothic style, similar to that of the Jordan Hall of Science. This will visibly set them apart from the most recently built dorms on campus — the four on West Quad.

Affleck-Graves also said two

out of the remaining three residence halls in the planning stages will be constructed just east of Pasquerilla East and Knott where Juniper East is currently being cleared.

All four planned dorms figure into a significant expansion in Notre Dame's facilities set to occur over the next several years. Future construction projects will include a new wing for the Law School where the former Post Office now stands, a Gothic-style engineering building to be built in the current location of the University Club and renovations to the power plant and portions of the Joyce Center.

The cornerstone projects of the University's development program will be the landscaped Notre Dame Commons and the much-hyped Eddy Street Commons, or "college town," to be built south of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

Cops cleared in pepper spraying

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A district attorney's investigation has cleared police officers of wrongdoing in a videotaped incident in which a transient in handcuffs was apparently pepper-sprayed in a police car, police Chief William Bratton said Tuesday.

The February 2005 incident came to light this week when the videotape, shot by a citizen, was released by the man's attorney.

The tape of Benjamin Barker's arrest surfaced on the heels of an 18-second video showing a Los Angeles officer repeatedly punching a suspect in the face while another officer tried to handcuff the man during a struggle on a Hollywood street on Aug. 11.

At a news conference, Bratton cited a Nov. 15, 2005, decision by the Los Angeles County dis-

trict attorney's office in which prosecutors declined to file any charges against officers in the arrest of Barker, who had been in a scuffle with a Venice Beach merchant.

The officers were identified as David Guieterman, Victor Eguez and Peggy Thusing. Guieterman, seen in the video using pepper spray, left the department last year for reasons unrelated to the arrest, but remains in law enforcement, police said.

"Examination of the videotape clearly shows (the officers) did not use excessive force on Benjamin Barker, nor did they assault him under color of authority," Bratton said, quoting the decision. "The officers showed remarkable restraint and demonstrated professional courtesy to Barker despite his belligerent, threatening and combative behavior."

The tape shows Guieterman take pepper spray out of a holster, then raise it toward Barker's face, but the actual spraying is obscured by shadows.

The report found that officers arrested Barker after the merchant reported that Barker had hit him and customers.

The report, citing the videotape, says Barker resisted police efforts to put him in the police car, screaming and making a kicking motion toward an officer.

After he was placed in the car's back seat, he jumped out and lunged toward a fourth officer. Placed in the car a second time, Barker spit on the window and on Guieterman, the report says the tape shows. In response, Guieterman sprayed him twice with one-second bursts of pepper spray while Barker was in the back seat.

While being driven to jail, Barker kicked out a window, the report says.

"Barker's words and actions were resistive and obstructive," it says.

"The officers used that degree of force necessary to restrain Barker and maintain custody of him," the chief said, quoting from the decision.

Barker has since pleaded guilty to misdemeanor battery on the shopkeeper.

Barker's attorney, John Raphling, called allegations that his client spit on the officer "nonsense."

"Once (Barker) is in the car, he's cuffed, hands behind his back, and he's not resisting. He's not a threat," Raphling said.

The district attorney's office also concluded that reports by two officers that said the pepper spray was administered outside the car were mistaken recollections and not intentional misstatements of fact.

The chief noted that a court commissioner who held a hearing in the separate Hollywood arrest also found the officers in that case did nothing wrong because that suspect was resist-

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Wednesday, November 15, 2006

THE OBSERVER

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

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THE
OBSERVER ONLINE
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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

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

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

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

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

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jenkins must promote rape counseling

Father Jenkins claims to support the goal of preventing sexual assault. However, he apparently does not support the goal of providing post-assault counseling services for victims of sexual violence. He apparently also does not support the goal of providing safe shelter for women and children fleeing domestic violence. If he did, he would not forbid "Loyal Daughters" and similar plays (such as "The Vagina Monologues") from selling tickets or engaging in other fundraising to support S.O.S. of Madison Center, the only rape crisis center serving the South Bend metro area, or the YWCA of St. Joseph County, a Christian organization providing shelter for abused women and children.

As a rape survivor, I am grateful to see Catholic leaders like Jenkins supporting sexual assault prevention. However, Jenkins and other leaders must not forget that counseling and aftercare are every bit as essential as prevention. Rape is a crime that doesn't end with the act of sex; it can continue for years as the victim's life is literally taken over by fear, regret, self-loathing and pain. Rape crisis centers like S.O.S. help to prevent this continuing violence. Father Jenkins, I implore you to put your words into action. If you really care about helping victims of sexual violence, support the organizations that provide for the needs of victims in our community. Perhaps if someone from the Catholic Church had been there for me when I was 15, alone, in pain and afraid, I would still be a member of the Church today.

Jessica Tannenbaum
alumnus
Class of 2006
Nov. 13

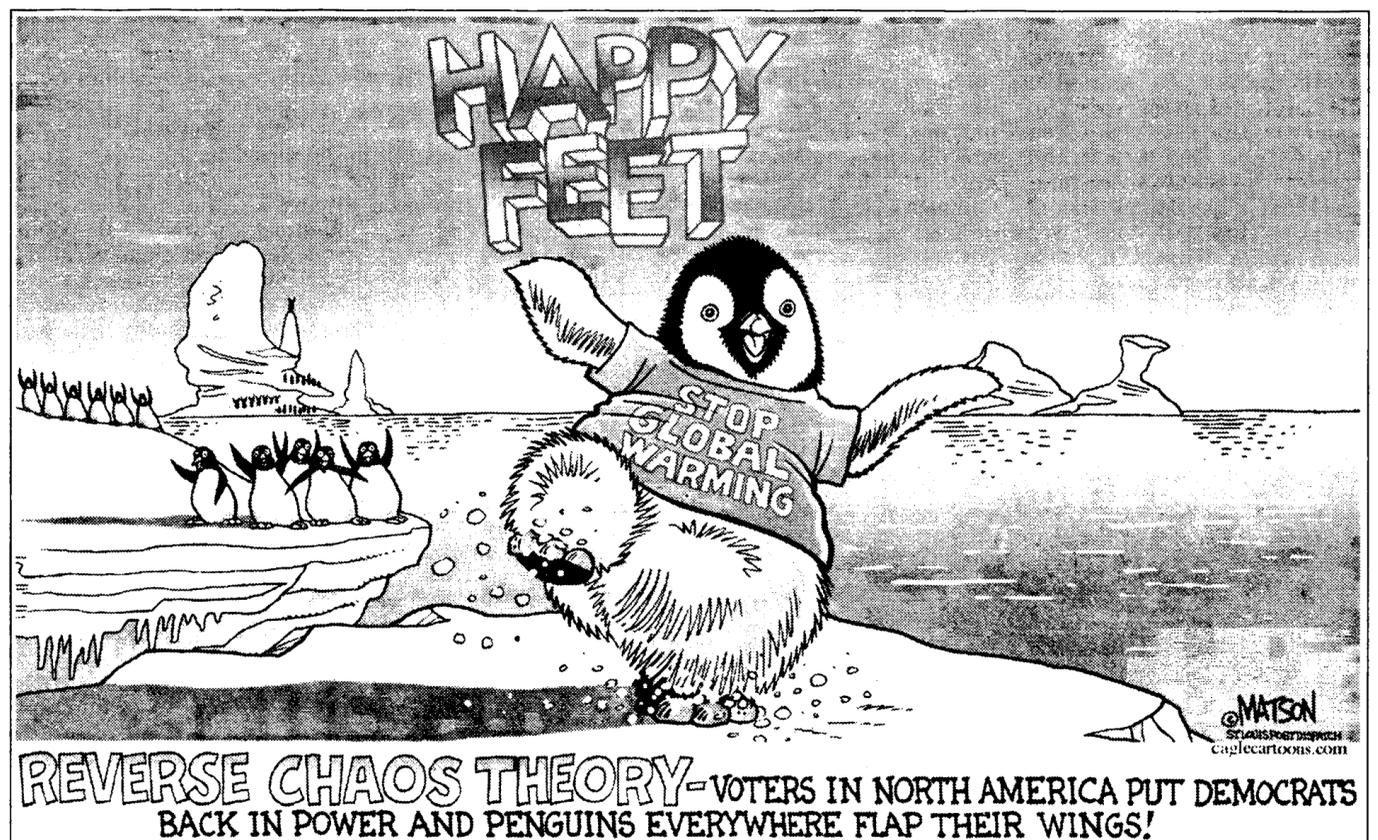
Attracting diverse students to Notre Dame

Why did you choose Notre Dame? It is not uncommon for freshmen to be asked this question by peers and professors. Many students reference the institution's Catholic heritage and academic excellence. However, when people learn that I am Muslim, they ask why did you choose Notre Dame if you're a Muslim? As a practicing Muslim, I explain that many of the values advocated at Notre Dame are not necessarily Catholic; they are secular values that enhance oneself regardless of his/her respective faith. After explaining the basic tenets of Islam, many of my peers respond by recognizing the vast similarities between Islam and Christianity.

In order for Notre Dame to become a more diverse community and attract people of other religions, I believe that it should make it known that while Catholicism remains integral to its identity, the values and morals emphasized at the University embrace people of all faiths. Many of my Muslim friends chose to attend Georgetown University for that very reason; it emphasizes values as well as diversity. While Notre Dame can significantly improve its image as a multi-cultural university, the University has been supportive of interfaith councils such as the Muslim Student Association. In order to attract people of other religious beliefs, the University should make it known that Notre Dame is not simply for Catholics. As a result of expressed interest in other faiths, Notre Dame can attract even more diverse and talented students to attend the University. I recognize this as a necessary step in order for Notre Dame to compete with other prestigious universities and establish itself as the ideal institution for people of all faiths.

Ammar Tahir
freshman
Alumni Hall
Nov. 13

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Do you plan to see "Loyal Daughters?"

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

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause."

Mark Twain
U.S. novelist

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Play 'problematic' for campus community

A number of individuals have inquired as to why I did not support the Ad Hoc committee's recent announcement promoting three upcoming events at Notre Dame and why I have resigned from the committee. Certainly, my decision to resign rather than join the committee in its support of the play "Loyal Daughters" is not nearly as noteworthy as Father Jenkins' decision to withhold his endorsement of "Loyal Daughters." However, some may nonetheless be interested in my rationale. A full explanation of my decision would require an extensive recounting of the history of the formation of the committee, a chronology of the committee meeting discussions, a critique of "Loyal Daughters," and an analysis explaining the difference between an individual's right to academic freedom and the University's institutional right to academic freedom. It would also require an explanation of the related distinction between creating a forum for speech as opposed to institutional speech. Neither time, nor space, permit for a complete rendition of my reasoning. However, those who have inquired can reasonably expect an answer and for them I offer this explanation.

Initially, though, please allow me to clearly state my conviction that Notre Dame must do all it can — appropriately and morally — to prevent sexual assault and violence against women. The horror of sexual assault and violence suffered by our students — sometimes at the hands of other students — is real, as is the physical and emotional destruction such violence inflicts. During my time teaching at Notre Dame, several students who were victims of sexual assault, rape and violence have sought my help and guidance. Others came to me for assistance

when they discovered they were pregnant and faced not just a crisis pregnancy, but also physical and emotional abuse from the fathers of their unborn babies. These women, like all women who are victims of sexual assault and violence, suffer unspeakable wounds and deserve compassionate support. They will be in my continued prayers as they seek healing. At the same time, public condemnation of such violence is critically important so that all will know that Notre Dame does not tolerate violence against women.

To the extent, therefore, that "Loyal Daughters" is intended to focus our attention on the issue of sexual assault, its goal is worthy. However, after claiming the stage for this laudable purpose, "Loyal Daughters" takes advantage of the spotlight to present in a morally neutral way illicit sexual activity, including homosexual and bisexual sexual relations, fornication, masturbation and contraceptive sex — at times in a celebratory tone. Although the vignettes are based on actual experiences, which deserve our attention and concern, the manner in which those experiences are related to the community is problematic. In relating such experiences without comment or context, and in a morally neutral manner, "Loyal Daughters" presents a one-sided and false view of God's beautiful gift of human sexuality as taught so eloquently by the Church. The play mischaracterizes Notre Dame's policies on sexual abuse and sexuality and fuels common misperceptions of the University's appropriate and compassionate response in these cases. The play ridicules virginity and treats all views of sexuality and consensual sexual activity as equally valid, and promotes harmful stereotypes of classes of

students, particularly football players and those considering the priesthood.

Moreover, as Father Jenkins explained in his address to the faculty in January of 2006, the offense from the proposed production of "Her Loyal Daughters" to Catholics who revere Mary — the model of chastity — appears intentional. Merely removing "Her" from the production's title does nothing to remove the offense. The meaning of "Loyal Daughters" remains clear to all who know and love Notre Dame, and it is hard to believe that those responsible for this inconsequential editing thought otherwise.

Finally, "Loyal Daughters" has been the focus of media attention, and this attendant publicity threatens to bring further scandal to our Faith. Although "Loyal Daughters" is not explicit or exceedingly crude, as the Monologues were, removing the crassness and vulgarity does not alter the fundamental infirmity — gravely illicit sexual behavior is still presented in a morally neutral way. In fact, the relative subtlety of "Loyal Daughters" really magnifies the problem because the fraudulent message is masked for the unwary by the guarded prose and not highlighted by the glaring profanity.

The fact that "Loyal Daughters" is not explicit makes it easier to overlook the underlying objectionable message which nonetheless permeates the script: that there is no one true view of sexuality and that there is nothing wrong with consensual sexual activity, whether it be homosexual, bisexual, fornication, masturbation, or contraceptive sex. In light of these objectionable features of the play, I do not want to lend it my personal support, and, given the special status of the committee, I do not believe that the committee

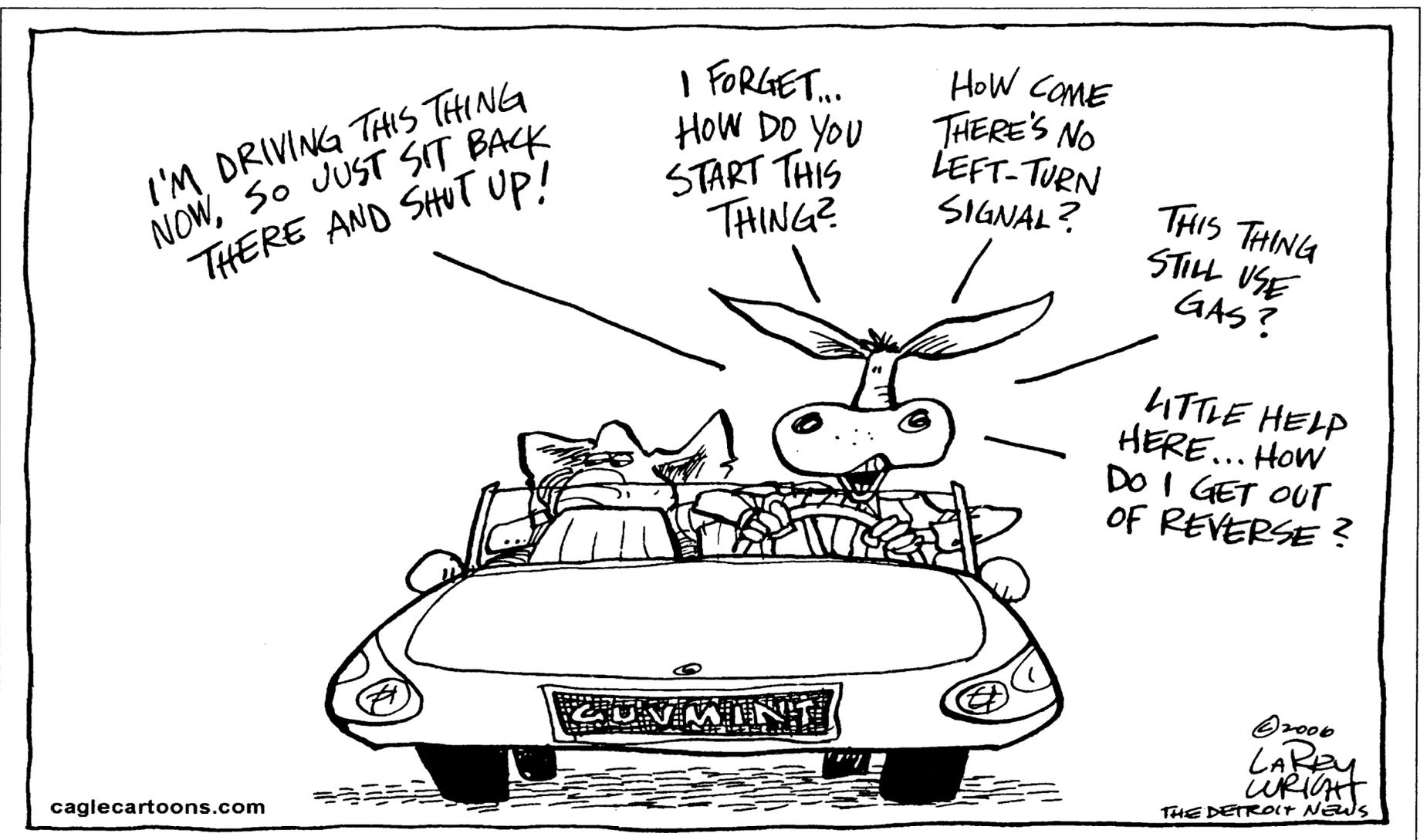
should lend "Loyal Daughters" its institutional support.

Regarding this institutional support: the committee's promotion of "Loyal Daughters" elevates the play from something tolerated in the name of academic freedom, to an event commended as a proper way for Notre Dame, as a Catholic institution, to address illicit sexual activity and sexual violence. It is one thing for an academic unit or a professor to present, as true, viewpoints in conflict with Church teaching, but it is quite another for the University itself, through an Ad Hoc committee created specifically to address issues of sexual assault and gender roles, to promote a play that presents illicit sexual behavior in a morally neutral way. And this vice surely is not cured by the scheduling of later events as moral antidotes, as if telling the truth months later to a different audience offsets the harm.

Finally, let me make clear that this is not a question of silencing the students: The voices and viewpoints found in "Loyal Daughters" would be heard without the committee promoting the play, as "Loyal Daughters" is sponsored by the Gender Studies Program, as well as the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts. Under these circumstances, I believe the committee should not have promoted "Loyal Daughters" and that the committee's action bore so importantly on its mission that I felt I could no longer serve. I accept the contrary judgment of my colleagues but, for my part, conscience and what I perceive as the best interests of Our Lady's University counsel otherwise.

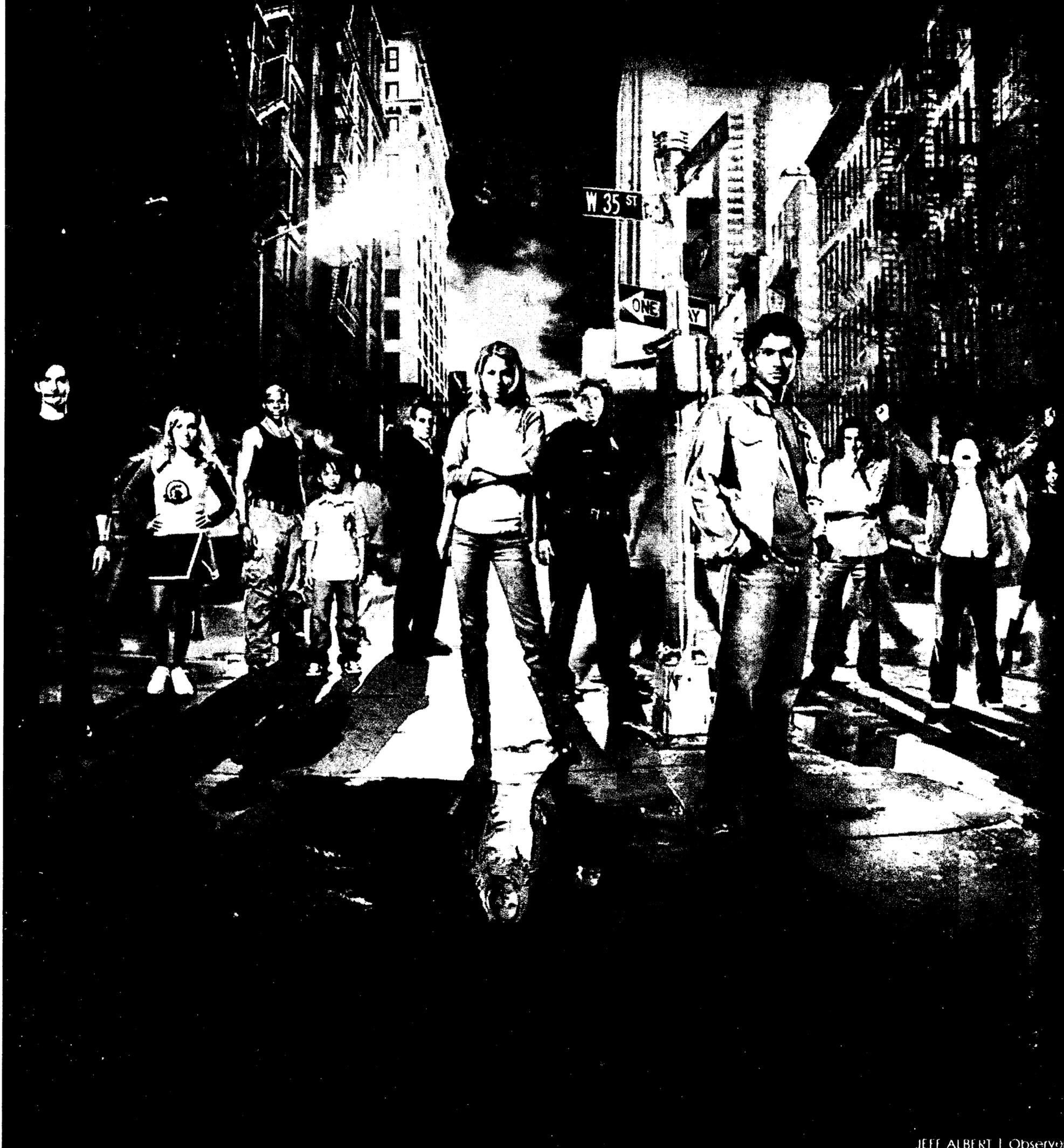
Margot O'Brien
 Professional Specialist
 Nov. 14

EDITORIAL CARTOON



ONE GIANT

NBC'S 'HEROES' ECLIPSES THE ORDINARY WITH SPRAWLING SUPERHERO



T LEAP

SAGA

BY RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA

It begins the way any good superhero tale should. A solitary figure is perched on the ledge of a skyscraper. He's a dreamer, unsure of his place in the world but intrigued by the growing thought that he might be far from ordinary. Convinced he can fly, the man steps off the ledge in a literal and figurative leap of faith.

Set amongst sweeping, cinematic imagery, the prologue to the pilot episode of NBC's drama "Heroes" introduces us to Peter Petrelli (Milo Ventimiglia), the first of many remarkable protagonists in the show's ensemble cast. With nearly a dozen principal characters, "Heroes" revolves around ordinary individuals who slowly discover they have uncanny abilities.

Fighting their own conflicts to either embrace or shelter these gifts, they find themselves colliding in the real world, drawn together in an attempt to stop an impending global catastrophe. But because the show navigates the lives of characters who are human first and saviors second, "Heroes" feels familiar and distinct in the same breath.

Origin stories

After all, the premise is nothing new. At first glance, it's hard not to notice the glaring similarities "Heroes" shares in theme and tone to M. Night Shyamalan's "Unbreakable," a quiet, character-driven drama centering on the discovery of one man's extraordinary abilities. Or cry wolf on the show's ensemble cast and sprawling scope, both hallmarks of ABC's "Lost," the current standard by which all serialized dramas are judged. And how about those 40 years of X-Men comics?

Origin stories for super heroes — the heart of what makes "Heroes" appealing — have been popular yarns for decades in comic books, one of America's most treasured storytelling mediums. Whether it was Superman up in the sky in 1938 or Spider-Man's first brush with great responsibility in 1962, comic books have become our culture's equivalent of mythology.

The Greeks idolized Zeus, Hercules and Achilles for their power and their prestige. Americans have Superman, Spider-Man and Batman to reflect their hopes, their dreams, their fantasies.

"Heroes" creator Tim Kring knows this better than most, even if he won't admit to it. The former creator-producer of "Crossing Jordan" — NBC's entry into the television staple of murder mysteries — claims he's a comics newbie.

"I was not a comic book nerd," Kring said in an interview with The New York Times. "But the truth is that nowadays that world is so pervasive, especially when you have kids, that you go to movies in the summertime and that's what you see. I didn't really feel like I had to come from that world."

Reality meets fantasy

Where "Heroes" differs from its comic book counterparts is in its execution. Awe-inspiring abilities and fantastical leaps of logic aside, Kring and the show's writers have built a world that feels so real you can't help but be swept away by its spectacle. There's no fictional Metropolis, no prowling the dark streets of Gotham City.

Instead, the bright lights of New York City, Tokyo, Las Vegas and Los Angeles take center stage, with characters struggling through a fictional world that's no simpler than the one

seen on the news every day. Persecution, war, terror and the threat of a nuclear explosion loom on the horizon.

"Heroes" is a stark vision of a world where these champions are needed now more than ever, told in 44-minute installments that demand the attention of viewers week after week. In that respect, "Heroes" shakes after in common with "Lost" and Fox's "24," its stylistic predecessors on network television. With audience demand for addictive serialized storytelling higher than ever, Kring seized his opportunity to build a show with its own unique mythos.

"I wanted to do a large, ensemble saga," Kring said. "I was intrigued by these other shows that were intriguing and this other Dickensian storytelling, with chapters unfolding one after another."

Kring points to a Victorian-era novelist as the inspiration behind his first mainstream hit. But the most basic tenet of a good story applies to "Heroes" just as well as it does for 19th century literature — give audiences characters they can care for and they will come.

The chosen ones

With "Heroes," viewers can take their pick from 11 such characters to inhabit, idolize and applaud — with more role players waiting in the wings for their chance to shine. Supported by relative unknowns eager to make the most of their first big break, the show's casting choices have all been spot-on, with a few characters already stepping to the forefront.

The show's lead is Peter, a compassionate everyman living in New York City. Plagued by vivid dreams of flight, he thinks he's meant for some greater purpose, but isn't quite figured out what that purpose is. As he discovers, Peter's powers allow him to temporarily mimic the powers of other heroes — sometimes better than they can. Peter's complicated relationship with his older brother, Nathan Petrelli (Adrian Pasdar), forms the emotional backbone of the show and, in many ways, knocks over the first domino in the race to save the world.

A pessimistic and driven politician running for election to Congress, Nathan is as ironic a hero as there's ever been. Blessed with the textbook, Superhero 101 power — self-propelled flight — Nathan is the Superman who can scorch the sky at speeds that break the sound barrier. But he'd rather stay grounded in his political career, even publicly accusing Peter of mental illness to keep the press from unearthing the family secret. The tiff between the two brothers is the fulcrum that "Heroes" balances on — whether their abilities belong to themselves or to the world.

Arguably the show's most popular character, Hiro Nakamura (Masi Oka) doesn't even speak English. But the little guy's ability to stop time and teleport from Tokyo to New York City in the blink of an eye makes him one of the most powerful beings on Earth. But even the most leaders start from humble beginnings.

From the very start, it's clear Hiro is the class clown, the character having the most fun with his powers. "I bend time and space," he chortles gleefully in an early episode. A nerdy Japanese office worker, Hiro idolizes Spock and aligns his moral compass to choices made by the X-Men. While he begins as the most immature of the bunch, Hiro's journey through the first eight episodes have already

shown him the true potential of the vast powers he's still learning to grasp — and the consequences if he does not.

In one of the most thrilling moments of the fledgling series, a future version of Hiro appears to Peter in a darkened subway car with time at a standstill. Complete with a samurai sword, closely cropped hair and like aura, future Hiro's message for Peter — the instantly cult phrase, "Save the cheerleader, save the world." — set the course for the rest of the show's first season.

Friends and foes

While the super-powered beings in "Heroes" are numerous, the show's human population plays just as vital a role in the narrative — and its emotional depth — as the telepaths, flyers and time-travelers. The most visible villain thus far has been a mysterious man in horn-rimmed glasses (affectionately dubbed "HRG" for short by the show's creators).

Even with no powers of his own, HRG has been pulling the strings since the pilot episode, hunting down the heroes for his own purposes — including an attempted abduction of Nathan. He also happens to be a loving father to Claire Bennett, the quick-healing high school cheerleader in need of saving. Whether HRG becomes an important ally or a dangerous foe remains to be seen.

Similarly, every great hero needs a sidekick to pick up his morale and help guide his difficult journey. Frodo had Samwise, and Hiro has Ando (James Kyson Lee), a co-worker and friend he takes along for the ride. Ando's friendship with Hiro, despite some rough patches, has been one of the great constants in the early episodes. Though the series has gotten progressively darker as the stakes have risen, every quirky scene with the dynamic duo is a treat, filled with laughter and genuine goodwill.

The future

Kring has hinted that characters will lose their powers, lose their lives and sacrifice themselves for the greater good — all in the pursuit of good drama. But in the meantime, the show has a seemingly endless supply of stories to mine and characters to explore. Exactly how long "Heroes" will remain on the air is a mystery. NBC is in no hurry to find out. The pilot episode attracted 14.3 million viewers, garnering the highest ratings for any NBC drama premiere in five years. And the number of viewers has continued to climb in recent weeks as the critical and popular acclaim for the show has snowballed.

Kring remains optimistic and he has a five-year plan in mind for his creation. The minds behind "Heroes" has already modeled the

show after a well-known comic book convention — using short, multi-episode arc with defined storylines to build upon a larger, season-encompassing arc. So far, these heroes have been anything but static — or dull.

"A show has a life of its own," he said. "If you're willing to listen to it, it will take you where it wants to be."

The epilogue to the "Heroes" pilot ends the way the prologue begins. A man gathers himself, closes his eyes and steps off the edge. Like Peter, viewers are taking the leap by the millions. Where "Heroes" goes from here is anyone's guess. Now it's just up to Kring and his crew to decide how high it will soar.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumu@nd.edu

SCENE FEATURE

Superhero stories stay relevant despite age

By SEAN SWEANY
Assistant Scene Editor

The phrase "Holy cow, Batman!" may mean little to most television audiences today, but its origin in the 1960s television series "Batman," starring Adam West, laid the groundwork for what has become a thriving and successful genre. Gone are the days of "Wham!" and "Pow!" from Batman and Robin — rather, they've been replaced with more stylish and less satirical characters such as the young Clark Kent, or even Claire Bennett from "Heroes."

Superhero television essentially began with the legendary George Reeves' "Adventures of Superman" in the 1950s. Limited and unrealistic special effects made the show goofy and endearing to its audience. Interest in both this era and program still runs high, as evidenced by the recent film "Hollywoodland," which dramatized Reeves' death and his portrayal of Superman.

The new medium of color television in the 1960s allowed ABC to breathe life into the Batman and Robin story in the twice-weekly serials that have become affectionately revered for their corniness and overly-dramatic storytelling. The ability of heroes like the Caped Crusader to sell color televisions ensured a thriving market for the new technology.

The success of "Batman" also led to a surplus of hero-centered and superhero-based programs on television. A heavy reliance on expository scripts and basic special effects helped "The Green Hornet," "The Six Million Dollar Man" and "Wonder Woman" find success with viewers in the 1960s and 1970s.

In large part, these television programs achieved such success because superheroes did not thrive on the big screen. Film adaptations of superhero stories either did not exist, or were done so poorly in this era that they found no audience. The simple and effective method of serialized storytelling on television was the easiest and most realistic manner in which such stories could be told.

The late 1970s found studios taking different approaches from the campy styles of "Batman" or "Wonder Woman." This latest type came into prominence in the form of "The Incredible Hulk." Less satiric (by 1970s standards) than its predecessors, the show placed a much stronger emphasis on drama and emotion, with great success. At a time when superhero shows were a dying breed, "The Incredible Hulk" showed that different approaches to the genre were necessary in a new day and age.

This trend continued with ABC's "Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman," which reexamined the Superman saga from a more romantic point of view. New perspectives like this became increasingly necessary due to the new capacity for theatrical films to convincingly use special effects in telling superhero stories.

More recently, successful big screen adaptations of franchises like "Batman" and "Spider-Man" forced television to seek alternate ways of depicting superheroes — ways that could continually attract elusive audiences. "Smallville," a show on the now-defunct WB (and currently airing on the CW), did this effectively by focusing on the teenage years of Clark Kent in an attempt to reach out to



Photo courtesy of nbc.com

Hiro Nakamura (Masi Oka), right, plays cards with Ando Masahashi (James Kyson Lee) in "Heroes." The show is one among several to re-imagine superhero stories.

younger audiences.

The extreme rash of comic book superhero stories being adapted in recent years has caused television to draw from other, more original material. Here enters NBC's "Heroes." This wildly successful show focuses less on well known superheroes, working to create its own mythos with more ordinary, everyday heroes.

Despite departing in nearly every aspect from its predecessors, "Heroes" still draws from one defining trait. It portrays on a weekly basis the actions

and exploits of people who are more than human and possess extraordinary talents. The innate desire of human beings to participate in the lives of these characters, week in and week out, is a powerful force, whether accomplished comically, romantically or dramatically. This has allowed hero-themed shows to remain one of television's major draws, and will continue to do so for a long time to come.

Contact Sean Sweany at ssweany@nd.edu

MOVIE REVIEW

Ferrell, cast shine in 'Stranger than Fiction'

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

The term "modern-day fairytale" is often associated with films like "Shrek," or similar animated features. "Stranger Than Fiction," is truly a modern fairytale — an original story, set in modern times and just realistic enough that the audience gets lost in a magic, endearing story.

In this sweet romantic comedy, and in an incredible performance, Will Ferrell stars as IRS auditor Harold Crick, who suddenly and inexplicably finds himself as a novel's main character. Harold goes about his mundane and obsessively precise life as a tax-man until he suddenly hears a narrator describing his every thought and action — and "with a better vocabulary." It starts out mostly as an obnoxious and inconvenient distraction until the narrator says that Harold is going to die.

In order to try and prevent his imminent death, Harold goes to visit professor and literary expert Jules Hilbert (Dustin Hoffman). Hilbert then attempts to decipher, through the clues given by Harold's narrator, whether Harold's story is a comedy or a tragedy, while also discerning to whom the mysterious author's voice might belong.

In the meantime, Harold begins to fall in love for the first time with one of his clients, rebellious baker — and Harold's complete opposite — Ana Pascal (Maggie Gyllenhaal).

The movie alternates back and forth between Harold, the bewildered protagonist trying to unravel the mystery of his narrator, and the narrator herself, reclusive author Kay Eiffel (Emma Thompson).

Suffering from writer's block, Eiffel decides that she is going to kill Harold, without having decided how. In order to help her along, her publisher sends an assistant (Queen Latifah) to help her kill off her protagonist.

While the plot is unrealistic (remember, it's a modern-day fairytale), the acting is what holds the film together.

Ferrell is surprisingly streamlined and low-key as Harold Crick, a departure from his typical roles. He never overplays Harold's coming of age, allowing the audience to believe the journey and travel right along with him.

Also, Gyllenhaal's wild baker-woman is a wonderful compliment to Ferrell's calm Crick, and the two share an adorable chemistry.

Hoffman and Thomson round out the main cast as the professor and writer, respectively. Both deliver eccentric and quirky performances.

First-time screenwriter Zach Helm delivers a seamless and intelligent

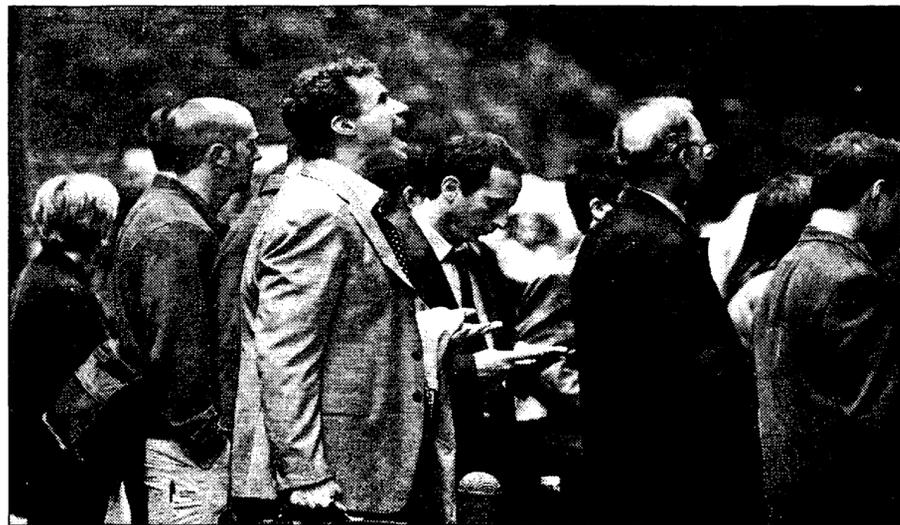


Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Lonely auditor Harold Crick (Will Ferrell), center, decries the omniscient voice of author Kay Eiffel (Emma Thompson) that narrates his life in "Stranger than Fiction."

script, matched well by the efforts of veteran director Marc Forster ("Finding Neverland"). Forster keeps the tone and mood playful and warm through his various visual and thematic elements. From the on-screen graphics of Harold's calculating mind at work to the ingenious literary references, the film is full of numerous hilarities that are not essential to the plot, but instead stimulate the imagination of the audience.

The film finds its own voice and ground in the ever-present themes of self-awareness and fatalism. As the numerous characters struggle to gain control of their own lives, the film

becomes a powerful study of how important it is to seize the day and live life to its fullest potential.

While not nearly as deep as it could have been, "Stranger Than Fiction" still manages to work on a variety of levels. It doesn't quite reach the height of genius that similarly-themed films, such as 2004's "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," have attained, but instead goes in a slightly different direction — switching that brilliance for heartwarming pleasure, a perfect move for a genuine fairytale.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu



Stranger than Fiction

Director: Marc Forster
Writer: Zach Helm
Starring: Will Ferrell, Dustin Hoffman, Emma Thompson, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Queen Latifah and Tony Hale

SAVION GLOVER



CLASSICAL
SAVION

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— NEWYORK POST

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CINEMA

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Presented by FTT Talks and the
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NR, 78 minutes
Presented by Sandra Schulberg, film producer.
Wed, Nov 15 at 7:00 pm

Some Mother's Son (1996)
Nanovic Film Series
Directed by Terry George
Rated R, 112 minutes
English and Gaelic language with English subtitles
35mm print
Thu, Nov 16 at 7:00 and 10:00 pm

House of Sand (2006)
Directed by Andrucha Waddington
Rated R, 103 minutes
Portuguese language with English subtitles
35mm print
Fri, Nov 17 at 7:00 and 10:00 pm

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PAC Classic 100
Directed by Billy Wilder
Not Rated, 120 minutes
35mm print
Sun, Nov 19 at 4:00 pm

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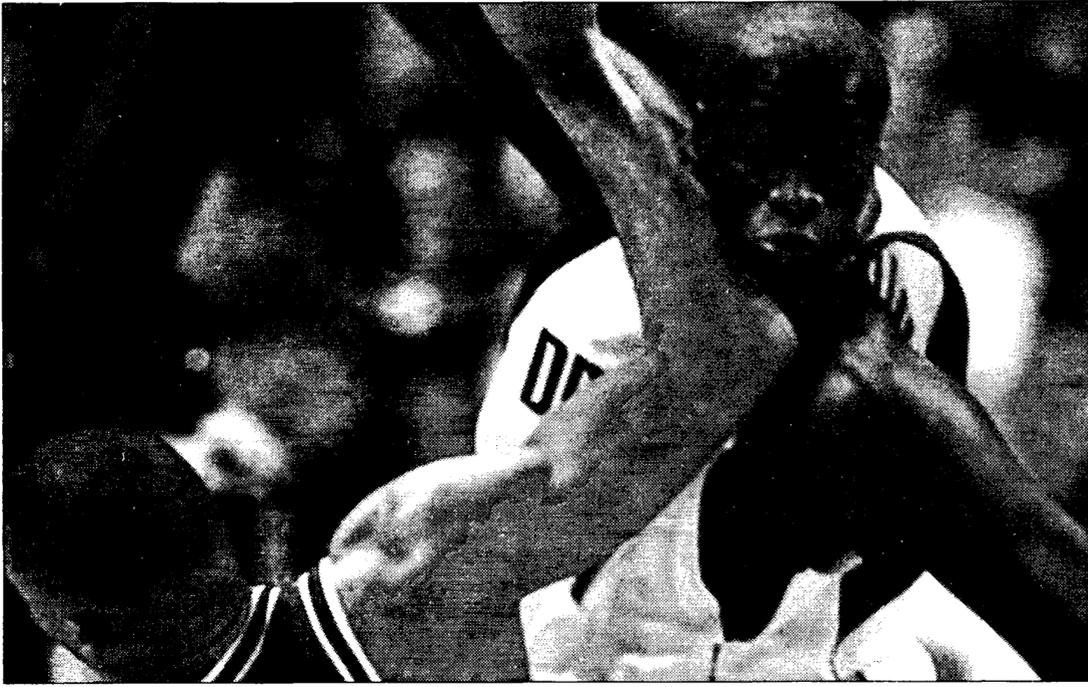
For details about these shows, keep an eye on our Web site:

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You can buy your tickets online, or call the DPAC Ticket Office at 631-2800.

NBA

Mavs bury Bulls; Nuggets cool heat; Hornets tame 'Cats



Dallas center DeSagana Diop takes a forearm to the face from Chicago center P.J. Brown during the Mavericks' 111-99 victory over the Bulls Tuesday.

Anthony nets 33 as Denver edges Miami

Associated Press

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 31 points and Erick Dampier had season highs of 14 points and 13 rebounds, helping the Dallas Mavericks beat the Chicago Bulls 111-99 Tuesday night for their first home victory of the season.

Dallas won its third straight following an 0-4 start. Two of those early losses were at home and the Mavs came out intent on avoiding a rare three-game home losing streak.

With Dampier setting an energetic tone, Dallas led by 10 within a few minutes. Chicago briefly went ahead in the second quarter, but never got closer than 70-67 in the second half. A nearly 4-minute scoring drought early in the fourth quarter doomed the Bulls' comeback hopes.

Kirk Hinrich scored 25 points and Luol Deng added 24 for Chicago, which was opening a seven-game road trip and breaking in a new starting lineup. Chris Duhon and Andres Nocioni joined the first five, with Ben Gordon and P.J. Brown going to the bench.

Gordon, who had been 2-of-18 his last two games, was 6-of-18 for 17 points.

Jerry Stackhouse added 21 for Dallas, which has beaten Chicago in 16 of the last 17 meetings.

Dampier usually takes over a handful of games every season, and this was certainly one for his 2006-07 collection. He was 7-of-8, with five dunks, and blocked three shots in 36 minutes, with highlight-worthy plays nearly every time he touched the

ball.

Perhaps fired up by the challenge of going against Ben Wallace or his recent return to the starting lineup, Dampier got the game's first rebound and turned it into a layup. He got the next rebound, too, then helped force Nocioni to miss a layup. Soon after, he grabbed the rebound of Nowitzki's miss and tossed it back to Nowitzki for an assist, just his second of the season.

His first dunk made it 15-5. He later threw one down so hard the basket frame shook for several seconds, then early in the second half dunked off an acrobatic pass from Devin Harris.

Nowitzki was 10-of-19 and made all 10 of his foul shots. He also had 10 rebounds, and seemed to have extra vigor after an early stuff by Deng that knocked Nowitzki to the ground.

He came back with a jumper in the lane punctuated by a Michael Jordan-esque tongue wag, then a dunk with an emphatic scowl. Nowitzki also went down hard in an early third-quarter collision with Wallace, but neither seemed too shaken up by it. Nowitzki also was hit with a technical foul with 3:37 to play after disagreeing with consecutive calls.

Wallace, coming off an 18-rebound game, had only eight and six points. Nocioni scored 11, while Duhon had only two on 1-of-6 shooting.

Denver 112, Miami 105

The Miami Heat tried fouling from beyond the 3-point line, and even then they failed to stop the Denver Nuggets.

Carmelo Anthony scored 33 points and Denver twice converted four-point plays to beat the

Heat Tuesday night.

The Nuggets' point total was a season high, and they outscored Miami 54-36 in the paint.

"We can't stop anybody right now," Heat coach Pat Riley said.

The defending NBA champions fell to 3-4 with their second consecutive loss, both at home.

Anthony lost his scoring duel with fellow 2003 draft pick Dwyane Wade, who had 37 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds. But the Nuggets reached .500 by winning their third in a row after an 0-3 start.

"A week ago the media had us buried," coach George Karl said. "Now we're good."

The Heat were again without Shaquille O'Neal because of a hyperextended left knee, his second injury to the knee this season. His status is day to day.

"If he wants to stay in Miami when they come to Denver in December, that would be good," Karl said.

Miami is also without starting guard Jason Williams, still recovering from offseason knee surgery. He might return Friday.

"Right now we have to almost be perfect to win," Riley said.

Thanks to fouls on Gary Payton, the Nuggets converted a pair of four-point plays in the second quarter. J.R. Smith sank a 3-pointer, was fouled and made the free throw. Andre Miller was fouled attempting a 3-pointer and made all three free throws, which were coupled with another free throw when Payton drew a technical for protesting the call.

Miller had a season-high 29 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds for the Nuggets. They missed 21 of 27 3-pointers, but Anthony did plenty of damage inside and shot 13-for-26.

"I get up for every game — some games even a little more than others," Anthony said with a smile. "It's always fun playing against Dwyane and Miami, the champions."

An 11-0 run beginning late in the third quarter put the Nuggets ahead to stay. Reggie Evans' basket made it 84-83, and Earl Boykins made a 3-pointer — his first basket after eight misses — for an 89-83 lead.

Soon the margin was 95-85. "It's that one dead spot for us," Wade said. "We had one bad stretch, and they went up 10 points on us."

Miami cut a 12-point deficit in half in the final minutes with consecutive 3-pointers by Wade and Antoine Walker. But the Nuggets sank six successive free throws down the stretch.

"We played our best offense and best defense in the fourth quarter," Karl said.

New Orleans 94, Charlotte 85

From start to finish, Peja Stojakovic kept showing why the New Orleans Hornets wanted him this offseason.

Stojakovic scored a career-high 42 points and directed a decisive fourth-quarter run as the Hornets beat the Charlotte Bobcats on Tuesday night, breaking a three-game losing streak.

"I just came out aggressive, playing like every other game. I got going, so guys kept looking for me," Stojakovic said. "I kept playing, I kept shooting the ball."

"I don't know how to describe

it," said Stojakovic, who scored New Orleans' first 20 points of the game. "When you're a shooter, you just shoot it even when you're missing — just trying to get yourself involved in the game, and when you make a couple in a row your teammates start looking to you."

Stojakovic scored 22 points in the first quarter — a franchise record — and added 11 more during a 13-4 fourth-quarter surge.

"To me, Peja's always hot. I don't care if he's missed 10 shots in a row, he's still hot if you ask me," said Hornets guard Chris Paul, who had seven of his 10 assists on baskets by Stojakovic. "That's just the kind of player he is."

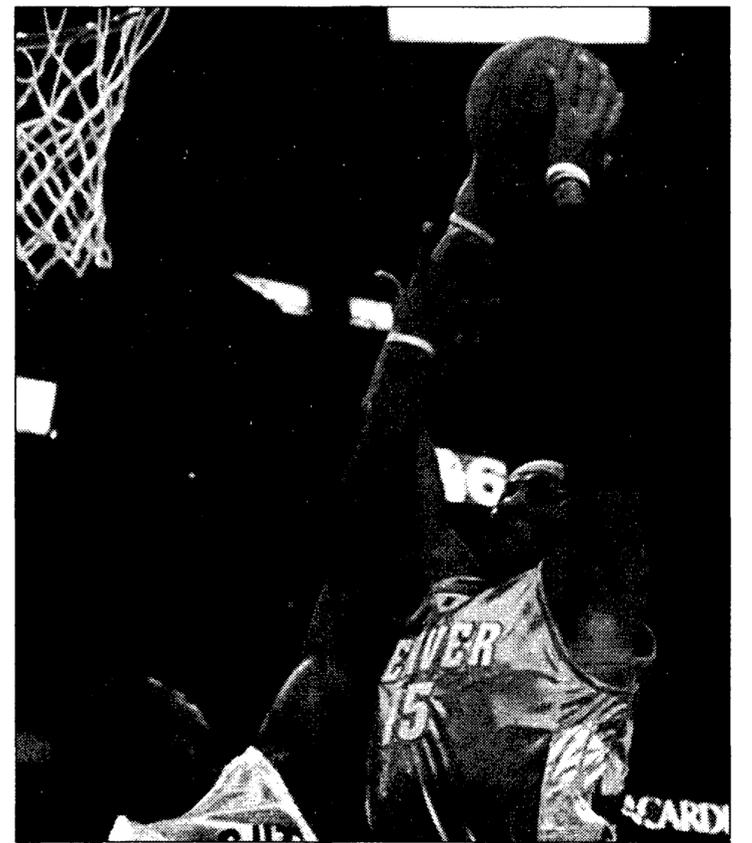
New Orleans picked up Stojakovic in a sign-and-trade deal with Indiana in the offseason and gave him a contract worth about \$64 million over five years. A three-time All-Star, Stojakovic entered the season as a 40 percent shooter from 3-point range.

"Whenever he misses, I usually say something to him because I don't think he's supposed to miss," Paul said.

Emeka Okafor had 25 points, 16 rebounds and a career-high seven blocks to lead Charlotte. Adam Morrison, the No. 3 overall pick in the NBA draft, matched his career high with 21 points, and reserve Sean May scored 18.

The loss was the fourth straight for Charlotte.

"We're hurting ourselves," Bobcats coach Bernie Bickerstaff



Denver forward Carmelo Anthony tries to dunk over Miami forward Dorell Wright in the Nuggets' 112-105 win over the Heat Tuesday.

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

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PERSONAL

Watch Scrubs! Starts Nov. 30 at 9:00 right after "The Office" on NBC.

Niners: 4-5. One game out of the playoffs.

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Joey has shiny hair.

Let's go Baylor!

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic

team	record	pct.	GB
New Jersey	3-3	.500	-
Philadelphia	3-3	.500	-
Toronto	2-4	.333	1
New York	2-6	.250	2
Boston	1-6	.143	2.5

Eastern Conference, Central

team	record	pct.	GB
Cleveland	5-2	.714	-
Indiana	4-3	.571	1
Chicago	3-3	.500	1.5
Detroit	3-4	.429	2
Milwaukee	2-5	.286	3

Eastern Conference, Southeast

team	record	pct.	GB
Atlanta	4-2	.667	-
Orlando	5-3	.625	-
Washington	3-3	.500	1
Miami	3-3	.500	1
Charlotte	1-5	.167	3

Western Conference, Northwest

team	record	pct.	GB
Utah	6-1	.857	-
Portland	4-3	.571	2
Seattle	4-4	.500	2.5
Denver	2-3	.400	3
Minnesota	2-4	.333	3.5

Western Conference, Pacific

team	record	pct.	GB
LA Clippers	5-1	.833	-
Sacramento	4-2	.667	1
LA Lakers	5-3	.625	1
Golden State	4-3	.571	1.5
Phoenix	2-5	.286	3.5

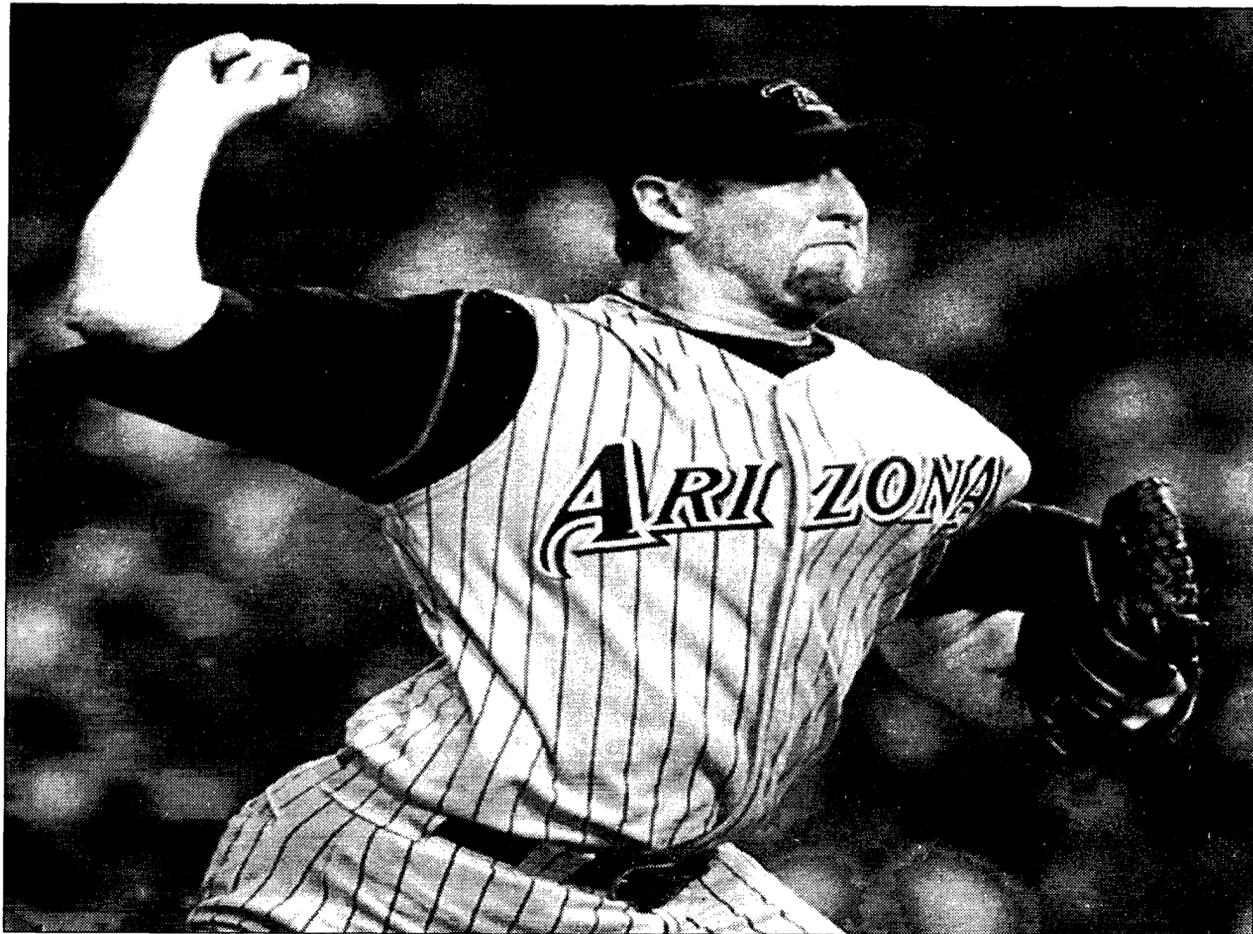
Western Conference, Southwest

team	record	pct.	GB
San Antonio	5-1	.833	-
Houston	5-2	.714	0.5
NO/Oklahoma City	4-3	.571	1.5
Dallas	2-4	.333	3
Memphis	1-5	.167	4

CCHA Standings

	team	record	points
1	Miami	5-3-0	10
2t.	Michigan	4-2-0	8
2t.	Alaska	3-1-2	8
4t.	NOTRE DAME	3-0-1	7
4t.	Michigan State	3-2-1	7
4t.	Northern Michigan	3-2-1	7
4t.	Western Michigan	3-4-1	7
8t.	Lake Superior	3-3-0	6
8t.	Ohio State	2-4-2	6
10	Nebraska-Omaha	2-3-1	5
11	Ferris State	1-4-1	3
12	Bowling Green	1-5-0	2

MLB



Arizona pitcher Brandon Webb won a competitive race for the NL Cy Young Award Tuesday. Webb is just the second Diamondbacks pitcher to win the award, the other being Randy Johnson.

Webb victorious in NL Cy Young battle

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brandon Webb of the Arizona Diamondbacks won a wide-open race for the NL Cy Young Award, beating out San Diego closer Trevor Hoffman on Tuesday.

One of six pitchers who tied for the league lead with a pedestrian total of 16 wins, Webb received 15 of 32 first-place votes and 103 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Hoffman, who broke the career saves record this season, got 12 first-place votes and 77

points.

St. Louis Cardinals ace Chris Carpenter, last year's winner, finished third with two first-place votes and 63 points.

"All three of us probably were deserving of it and probably a couple more guys, too," Webb said. "I knew that I had a pretty good chance."

Houston's Roy Oswalt, who led the NL with a 2.98 ERA, got the other three first-place tallies and came in fourth.

Webb, who went 16-8 with a 3.10 ERA and made his first All-Star team, was listed second on seven ballots and third

on seven others. No pitcher was included on every Cy Young Award entry.

"It was pretty big emotions. We were very excited for it," Webb said. "It's with you forever. To have that title go along with you means a lot."

Webb's victory total was the lowest for a starting pitcher who won the Cy Young Award in a full season. The previous low was 17 wins, by Pedro Martinez of the Montreal Expos in 1997 and Randy Johnson for Arizona in '99.

Fernando Valenzuela of the Los Angeles Dodgers was honored with a 13-7

record in 1981 and Atlanta's Greg Maddux went 16-6 in '94 — but those seasons were cut short by players' strikes.

"A lot of the wins pitchers can't control," Webb said. "You can give up one hit and still lose the ballgame."

Webb also is the first NL above 3.00 since Philadelphia's Steve Carlton had a 3.10 mark in 1982. Rick Sutcliffe split the 1984 season between Cleveland and the Chicago Cubs, finishing with a 3.64 ERA overall but a 2.69 mark in the NL.

IN BRIEF

FSU's Bowden resigns as offensive coordinator

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — For months, Florida State fans have clamored for the ouster of offensive coordinator Jeff Bowden, blaming him for the team's woes.

Tuesday, Bowden ended the debate, resigning just three days after the Seminoles were shut out for the first time in 233 games.

His resignation will take effect at season's end, said athletic director David Hart Jr. said. Then, Bowden, the youngest son of Seminoles head coach Bobby Bowden, will be reassigned outside the athletic department until his contract expires in August 2007.

"I believe in my heart that for Bobby Bowden this is the decision that I need to make," Jeff Bowden said. "I could not be happier that I had this opportunity."

Hart said Bowden, 46, came to him Monday, and an agreement was worked out. Details are pending, Hart said, and will be released Wednesday.

New ballpark in the works for Oakland Athletics

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics unveiled grand plans Tuesday to move south and build a long-awaited, state-of-the-art stadium they hope will soon transform the small-market club into a big spender.

Not to mention elevate the A's to a new status level comparable to the rival Giants across San Francisco Bay — and perhaps even tap into a Silicon Valley fan base that has largely belonged to San Francisco.

"This is, I say a dream because those who have followed sports for a long time know this has always been an issue," said A's general manager Billy Beane, whose team was swept in the AL championship series last month by Detroit. "It never seemed like a reality."

The A's, in partnership with Cisco Systems, Inc., agreed to purchase 143 acres of land from Cisco in suburban Fremont, about 30 miles south of the current stadium.

Roddick comes up short against Federer in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, China — Andy Roddick was one serve from finally ending his losing streak against Roger Federer.

Not close enough. This, after all, is Federer.

The top-ranked Swiss saved three match points and beat Roddick 4-6, 7-6 (8), 6-4 in the Masters Cup. Roddick had been serving in the second-set tiebreaker before his biggest weapon misfired once.

"It's just frustrating," Roddick said. "I was real close. I think that makes it a little bit harder, knowing you're one of your best shots away — one serve away."

"It's not easy," he added. "I'm sure it won't be the last time I think of it tonight."

Federer extended his unbeaten sequence in round-robin matches at the season-ending championship to 14. He also won his 26th consecutive match and became the first player to surpass \$7 million in prize money in a season.

around the dial

TODAY

NBA

Grizzlies at Kings
9 p.m., ESPN

NCAA FOOTBALL

Miami (Ohio) at Bowling Green
7:30 p.m., ESPN 2

NCAA BASKETBALL

Preseason NIT
10:30 p.m., ESPN 2

MLB

Washington hires Acta as manager

Former Mets bench coach takes over for Frank Robinson

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Manny Acta began preparing to be a major league manager when he was the only kid with a catcher's mitt in his neighborhood back in the Dominican Republic.

"So I was like, 'I'm running the game, or I'm taking the glove away,'" Acta recalled Tuesday. "I've run games all my life."

Now he'll run them for real from big league dugouts after being hired by the Washington Nationals, who made him the youngest manager in the majors.

The 37-year-old Acta, the New York Mets' third-base coach the past two years, replaces 71-year-old Frank Robinson, who was the oldest manager in baseball and was told during the final week of a 71-91 season that he wouldn't be back.

Robinson was a Hall of Fame player who managed in the majors for 16 seasons. Acta's days as an infielder ended in the minors — when he was 20, he said, "they told me to my face I couldn't play" — and this is his first major league managing job.

It's a return of sorts: Acta was Robinson's third-base coach with the Montreal Expos from 2002-04, before the franchise moved to the nation's capital. So Acta — who said he learned a lot from Robinson, particularly about communicating with players — already knows some key veterans, including first baseman Nick Johnson, catcher Brian Schneider, starting pitcher John Patterson and closer Chad Cordero.

"Frank was more of an old-school guy. We're going to have to wait and see how it's going to be with Manny," Schneider said.

"He's young. He's motivated. He's waited to do this for a long time. He knows the game of baseball."

Team president Stan Kasten and general manager Jim Bowden said Acta impressed them with his personality, his knowledge of the Nationals and his ideas about how to turn around a club that finished last in the NL East the past three seasons.

"Usually, with a manager, they're strong in one area or the other. He's really well-balanced, all the way around," Bowden said. "He really understands teaching, developing, building a young club. He has great people skills, but he knows how to put the hammer down."

The Nationals hope to be competitive when Washington's new stadium opens in 2008.

"We have a very good plan in place here. We're going to do it the right way," Acta said.

"We're going to be patient, and we're going to bring a winner here."

Set to lead what's expected to be an inexperienced roster next season, Acta noted that Washington's most pressing problem is starting pitching, where Patterson is the only given. Acta said the defense needs to improve and that he will stress fundamentals.

"Everyone who's been with him has raved about him," Kasten said. "He came in here probably more prepared than any candidate we had, knowing our roster, knowing the holes in our roster."

Washington interviewed several people for the job with varying degrees of experience; Lou Piniella and Joe Girardi both withdrew from consideration. Bowden acknowledged it was "a very long process" with "a lot of candidates," and said Acta was part of a group of five up-and-comers under consideration.

Acta agreed to a two-year contract with two one-year club options.

He managed eight seasons in the minors and five in the Dominican Winter League, and he led the Dominican Republic to the semifinals at the World Baseball Classic this year.

During that tournament, Acta benched a struggling Alfonso Soriano, the All-Star who hit 46 homers and stole 41 bases for the Nationals in 2006 and has filed for free agency.

Acta said Soriano was the first player who called to congratulate him on his new job — although Acta, Kasten and Bowden all cautioned they figure the size of a contract will have more to do with where Soriano winds up than who the manager is.

Still, Kasten and Acta spoke about how having the only Dominican manager in the majors would help attract Latin players and help expand marketing to Hispanic fans. At one point, Acta addressed fans in Spanish saying, "This is the capital of the world, and this is the world's team. Not America's team — the world's team."

He played six seasons of minor league baseball in the Houston Astros' organization before becoming a coach in Class-A in 1992. That began a climb, first through the minors, then the majors.

"How appropriate: An immigrant from the Dominican Republic like me comes to America, works hard, keeps his nose clean and gets his chance to manage the capital of the United States' baseball team," said Acta, who became a U.S. citizen in 1999. "God bless America. Only here."

He flashed a broad grin repeatedly: When he stepped to the podium. When he donned a jersey with the number 14 and his name on it. When he drew laughs with his quick wit.

Bowden was giddy, too, at one point yelling into the microphone: "Let's Acta-vate, baby!"

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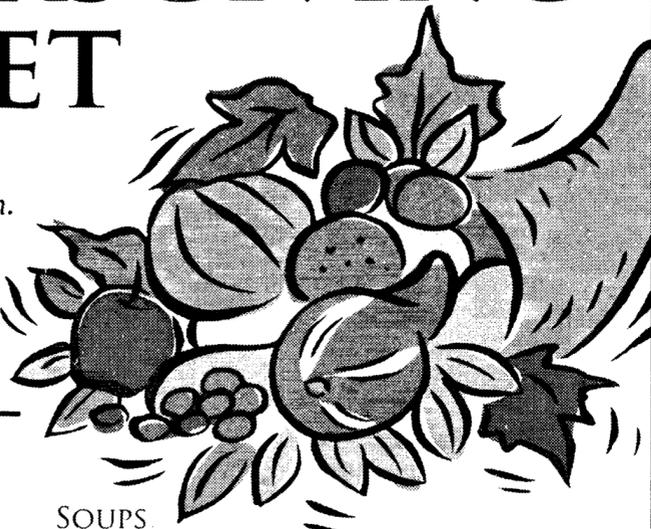
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MENU

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Variety of Gourmet Breads

SALADS

Spinach, Mixed Frisee, Mesclun Greens
Avocado Dressing
Hot Bacon Dressing
Roasted Red Pepper Vinaigrette
Fruit Salad with Tangerine Dressing

SOUPS

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New England Squash

ENTREES

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Baked Ham with Irish Whiskey Glaze
Grilled Halibut with Apple and Horseradish
Squash Butternut Tortellini

SIDES

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Giblet Gravy or Turkey Gravy

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Paterno back with team after surgery

JoePa will likely be in press box Saturday

Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE — The rolled-up khakis, the thick-rimmed glasses, the nasally voice. The familiar sights and sounds of Joe Paterno returned briefly on Tuesday to Penn State.

More than a week after undergoing surgery on his left leg, the 79-year-old head coach felt well enough to come to practice, and might even be back in a Beaver Stadium press box for this weekend's regular-season finale, defensive coordinator Tom Bradley said Tuesday.

"We're assuming that's where he'll be, but you never know where he might end up," Bradley said with a sly grin. "I wouldn't be surprised if he's on the 50 (yard line), OK? Somehow, some way."

That might be a stretch, given that a team doctor has said he would allow Paterno to return on game days only if he's calling the shots from above the field — and not on the 50-yard line — provided his recovery is progressing well.

It's going well enough, though, that Paterno attended part of

Tuesday's practice and spoke to the Nittany Lions (7-4, 4-3) as they readied for Saturday's contest against Michigan State (4-7, 1-6 Big Ten). Because Paterno must stay off his feet for at least another five weeks, team officials rigged a golf cart that allowed the coach to watch practice while keeping his legged propped up.

Paterno had surgery last week to repair a broken shinbone and two torn knee ligaments in his left leg, injuries sustained after getting hit along the sideline by two players on Nov. 4 at Wisconsin.

Adhering to doctors' orders, Paterno sat out last week's 47-0 win against Temple, missing just his second contest in 41 years as head coach. The only other JoePa-less game in that period was in 1977, after Paterno sat out following an accident involving his son, David.

Instead, Paterno watched his team from home on Saturday, forced to play armchair quarterback.

On Sunday afternoon, team captains Levi Brown and Paul Posluszny showed up at Paterno's doorstep to present their coach a game ball. It was the first time Posluszny had seen Paterno since the Wisconsin game.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Athletic director supports Knight

School officials back coach after recent incident with one of his players

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech coach Bob Knight says there were times he was wrong when his hot temper got the best of him on a basketball court. Not this time, however.

This time, everyone from the player he, everyone from the player's mother and school officials say what Knight did was no big deal.

It all started Monday night when Knight went after Michael Prince, forcefully pushing his chin upward and telling him to look him in the eye, during a timeout late in the Red Raiders' 86-74 victory over Gardner-Webb.

Athletic director Gerald Myers said Knight on Tuesday, saying he did nothing wrong when he "quickly lifted" Prince's chin. The president of the school's faculty, James H. Smith, said Knight's action was not "physical abuse or violence."

Knight, with a history of chair-throwing, referee baiting and run-ins with school officials, was not available for comment to The Associated Press before Tuesday night's home game against Arkansas-Little Rock.

"I'm sure there were some cases where I have been wrong, but (Monday night) wasn't one of them," Knight told ESPN.com. "I was trying to help a kid, and I

think I did.

"I flipped his chin up and told him to look me right in the eye so he could do the job we want. I said, 'Can you?' And he said, 'Yes,' and I said, 'OK, sit down and let's go.' If that's an issue, then I'm living in the wrong country."

Prince told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal after Monday's game that what happened with the coach "was nothing."

"He was trying to teach me and I had my head down, so he raised my chin up," said Prince, who was seen moving his jaw around as he sat on the bench after the confrontation. "He was telling me to go out there and don't be afraid to make mistakes. He said I was being too hard on myself."

Prince's mother, Suzette Prince, told the Avalanche-Journal that she was sitting with her husband, Mike, across from the Tech bench. She said she didn't think this episode should be an issue.

"We talked with Michael, and he had just committed two fouls in a row," she said. "He told us that Coach Knight was asking him if he's ready to play. He said they needed him ready to play."

She said she didn't think Knight should be reprimanded, and the school made no reference to disciplinary action against Knight.

"Coach Knight did not slap Michael," Myers said in a statement. "Michael came off the court with his head down, and coach Knight quickly lifted Michael's chin and said, 'Hold your head up and don't worry about your mistakes. Just play the game.'"

Knight gave a brief statement at the post-game news conference Monday, then answered one question before exiting the room. He did not address what happened with Prince.

It was win No. 871 for Knight, who is five shy of tying Adolph Rupp for second place on the men's career list. He needs nine more victories to surpass Dean Smith for the most victories in men's Division I history.

Knight's career has featured three national championships, all at Indiana, but plenty of outbursts.

In 1992, Knight kicked a chair on the bench while son Pat, then a player for him at Indiana and now his assistant and successor-to-be at Texas Tech, was sitting in it. When fans behind the team bench booed, Knight turned and responded with an obscenity.

He was accused of grabbing a player by the throat during a practice in 1997, an incident that was caught on videotape and created the whirlwind that eventually led to his firing from Indiana in September 2000.



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MLB

Boston wins bidding war for prized pitcher



Japanese WBC team starter Daisuke Matsuzaka pitches against Japan's Yomiuri Giants March 1 in Tokyo.

Red Sox offer of \$51.1 million is highest from any team in majors

Associated Press

NAPLES — The Boston Red Sox emerged Tuesday night as winners of the bidding for Daisuke Matsuzaka with a \$51.1 million offer and have 30 days to sign the Japanese pitcher to a contract.

The Seibu Lions of Japan's Pacific League announced they had accepted the high bid for their prized pitcher, and the major league commissioner's office simultaneously confirmed at the general managers' meetings that the Red Sox had made the offer.

"We're very pleased and excited. We've long admired Mr. Matsuzaka," Boston general manager Theo Epstein said. "Matsuzaka has a real talent. He would be a great fit with the Red Sox organization."

"We're excited to have won this part of the process. We're hopeful we can reach an agreement."

Even before the announcement, general managers had assumed Boston would be the highest bidder in the blind process.

"We'll congratulate the winner and move on," New York Yankees GM Brian Cashman said Tuesday afternoon.

Matsuzaka is represented by Scott Boras, who last year negotiated the deal that moved center fielder Johnny Damon from the Red Sox to the Yankees.

"Pitching, as usual, is at a premium," Boras said.

Agents roamed the lobby at the hotel where GMs are meeting, discussing their free-agent clients. Some agents think the market will move more quickly this offseason because of the decision by management and the players' association to eliminate the Dec. 7 deadline for free agents to re-sign with their former teams unless they were offered salary arbitration.

Second baseman Mark DeRosa became the first major league free agent to switch teams, leaving Texas for a \$13 million,

three-year contract with the Chicago Cubs.

The Mets re-signed two players, agreeing to a \$12 million, two-year contract with 41-year-old pitcher Orlando Hernandez and a \$3.8 million, one-year deal with second baseman Jose Valentin.

Mets general manager Omar Minaya said some teams are unsure of where the marketplace is going, "so if they could do something quick, they're going to try to do it."

Mike Mussina's agent, Arn Tellem, kept up talks with the Yankees on a new contract for the pitcher that likely will be worth \$23 million to \$25 million over two years.

"We're in the red zone," Tellem said.

With Barry Zito and Jason Schmidt heading a weak free-agent class, pitchers will get top prices.

"There are 30 clubs and probably three-quarters are looking for pitching," new Chicago Cubs manager Lou Piniella said. "There's a lot of interesting pitchers out there. At the end of the year, the teams that have pitching, and healthy pitching, are usually the ones that are around."

GMs, as usual, will hold their annual discussion Wednesday of whether to have instant replay available to umpires, a concept commissioner Bud Selig opposes. In the past, the idea hasn't garnered enough support.

"I guess we'll get a sense of that tomorrow," said Joe Garagiola Jr., a senior vice president in the commissioner's office.

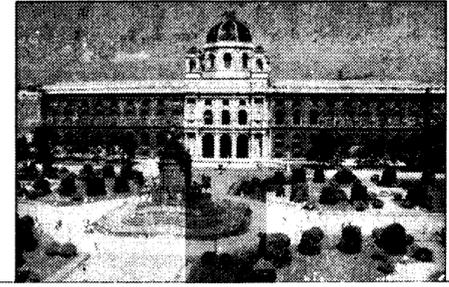
There will also be talk Wednesday of whether to eliminate tie games, having them instead become suspended games. On Thursday, the GMs will discuss whether to have uniform standards for storing baseballs, a talk prompted by the use of a humidifier by the Colorado Rockies at Coors Field.

As for the postseason schedule, nothing seems to have come of the idea floated by Selig to give wild-card teams fewer home games in the playoffs.

"That is not officially on the agenda, so I suspect that will be some good lobby talk," Garagiola said.



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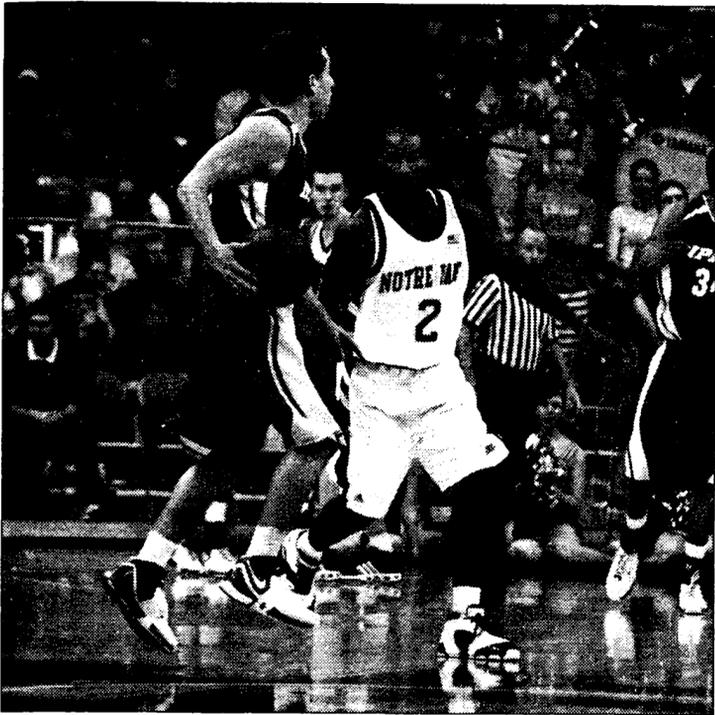
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ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish freshman Tory Jackson guards an IPFW player during Notre Dame's 92-49 win at the Joyce Center Nov. 10.

Rebound

continued from page 24

always take," he said. "I got a couple of steals and a bunch of open looks and my shots just fell."

Several of Carter's opportunities came off passes from point guard Kyle McAlarney, who only scored three points but dished out 12 assists.

"He's our point guard," Carter said. "That's what he does."

Carter said improved teamwork led to the better result Tuesday.

"Everyone was really unselfish offensively and defensively," he said. "When we do that we're a tough team to beat."

The senior also added that Notre Dame's summer conditioning paid off, allowing the Irish to bounce back just 24 hours after their first loss of the season.

"Playing on back-to-back days wasn't a problem," he said. "I'm happy that we had another game after last night's loss."

The Irish led for most of the contest, taking a 46-30 lead into the locker room, but they pulled away in the second half. Notre Dame opened up a 60-38

lead in the first few minutes after the break and led by as much as 36 before Irish coach Mike Brey pulled his starters.

The Leopards did not get an offensive rebound or score any points off turnovers until the closing minutes of the game. Guard Matt Betley, who scored 10 points on 4-of-7 shooting, led them offensively.

Notre Dame freshman forward Luke Harangody scored in double figures for the third straight contest, pouring in 18 points on 7-of-12 shooting from the field. Junior forward Rob Kurz had one of his best nights in an Irish uniform, scoring 18 points and grabbing eight rebounds.

Kurz and Harangody split time in the post with sophomore Luke Zeller, who scored eight points. All three got 20 minutes of playing time.

Point guard Tory Jackson scored 10 points in relief of McAlarney, his first collegiate double-figure game.

In total, 11 players saw the floor for the Irish, including four freshmen — Jackson, Harangody, guard Joe Harden and guard Jonathan Peoples.

Notre Dame will be back in action Sunday at 4 p.m. against The Citadel at the Joyce Center.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Gioia

continued from page 24

"What they do is they do a really, really good job on defense on third down getting off the field," he said. "Teams are converting only 37 percent of the time on third down."

But Weis is confident that the team, particularly the seniors, will be focused on Saturday's game.

"I don't really believe in using just fake things for motivation," he said, referring to the analogy of the playoffs. "I think that Senior Day alone and playing against Army should be enough to avoid any emotional letdown and looking past the next opponent."

For Senior Day, all the players' parents were invited to the Friday night pep rally.

"I like the way it was done before I even got here, that they bring [the parents] in on Friday night," he said.

"Because on game day, you know, it gets to be kind of a distraction. It's already an emotional day as is, to realize this is it; this is the last home game of your career. But I like the fact that they get to be recognized on Friday night at the pep rally."

In addition, all fourth and fifth-year seniors will stay at the team hotel the night before the game, even the ones who aren't expected to see significant action Saturday.

"I think it's something special for them to be a part of, because not everyone goes to the hotel the night before the game," Weis said. "So we have extra hotel rooms to make sure they are all there."

Although this could be a "trap game" for the Irish, Weis remains confident in the focus of his players.

"You're going to play for

the last time, ever, at your home stadium in front of your home fans, in front of your students that you've

been buddies with for four years with your family and friends here," he said. "How could you want to do anything but play your best?"

The fact that the game is against Army only makes it more challenging, he said.

"One thing you do know about any of the service academies ... is you're always going to get their best," he said. "That's what you're going to get. You're never going to get anything but their best."

Notes:

◆ Weis said that tight end John Carlson, who was injured against Air Force last week, will definitely not play against Army or USC.

"He won't play this week," Weis said. "I could lie and say he's day-to-day, and just try to throw a smoke screen out there, but he won't play this week and he won't play next week. And he'll be at the hotel

and he'll travel with us the next week and he'll be ready to go for the bowl game, whatever bowl game that would be."

In 2006, the senior has accumulated 46 catches for 621 yards and four touchdowns.

Weis said Carlson will not need a medical procedure, just time to recover.

"Fortunately it wasn't severe, but severe enough where if I play him in the USC game, I could do damage," he said. "So that would not be a smart thing to do."

◆ When asked, Weis called the Michigan-Ohio State game, which kicks off at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, "interesting."

"I think turnovers will decide the game," he said. "I think that will be the critical factor in the game."

Whoever turns it over, I think that on Sunday morning, you look down and say, they

turned it over this many times versus that many times, that team probably won the game."

He declined to name which school he is cheering for, if any.

"I root for Notre Dame," he said. "Whatever is best for Notre Dame, that's what I'm rooting for. Tell me what that is and that's what I'm rooting for."

◆ After kicker Carl Gioia missed three extra points against Air Force, Weis said there will be "competition" for the kicker's spot this week.

"I think that if a starter doesn't stand up to starter performance, the starter's not the starter anymore," he said. "But Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week will determine that. There will be a competition going on."

Gioia is 7-of-11 in field goals this season and 39-of-43 in PATs. His longest field goal is 40 yards.

◆ Quarterback Brady Quinn's name has been mentioned in the Heisman race all season after he finished fourth last year. But Weis said he won't try to pad Quinn's stats at the expense of his safety.

"I would love for Brady Quinn to win the Heisman Trophy, but I'm not going to risk Brady Quinn for stats," he said. "I would not do that."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

"It's the second round of the playoffs. If I can't get guys up for a playoff game, I'm doing something wrong, and I should be judged accordingly."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

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10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Douglass Rohrman**
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Ready

continued from page 24

into tomorrow's matchup is whether or not the Irish will be rusty. With a layover between games that rivals the off-season, one can't help but wonder if it will take Notre Dame some time to regain their legs, so to speak.

Notre Dame has performed better this year on shorter rest. For the first month of the season, the Irish played games on Fridays and Sundays. In their Sunday contests, Notre Dame was 3-1 and knocked off Creighton and Indiana on consecutive Sabbaths — both of whom were ranked No. 8 at the time.

In the Friday games, after four full days between contests, Notre Dame was 1-2-1.

After the Irish began playing their bi-weekly games on

Wednesdays and Saturdays — where there was a more even spacing between games — they were 4-1-1 with three days between games and 5-1 with two.

And although Notre Dame dominated the tempo of its games and outshot opponents all season, even in losses to South Florida and UAB, the statistic still warrants mentioning.

Irish coach Bobby Clark said he felt the team had had a "fantastic" focus in practice this week, but admitted there's only one way to determine how the Irish progressed in the break.

"The only way we're going to find is by playing a game," he said. "You can tell me tomorrow whether we're sharper [or not]."

In the last two-and-a-half weeks, a lot has happened. Senior midfielder Greg Dalby and junior striker Joseph Lapira — who leads the nation in goals — were named Missouri Athletic

Club Hermann Trophy semi-finalists, and each won the Big East Player of the Year at his respective position.

Still, they haven't played a game in a long time.

Yes, the Irish did play an intrasquad scrimmage two Saturdays ago, but that game lacked the atmosphere a second-round playoff match will have.

"It's never quite the same when you play against yourselves," Clark said.

More likely than not, the speculation about rust and time off will prove to be nothing. Notre Dame is an experienced, senior-laden team that has attacked each game as a mature, focused unit. At times, it has played with almost mechanical efficiency.

The long break between the conference tournament finale and the NCAA Championship opening — which all teams

experience to some degree, especially the ones like the Irish who received a first-round bye — could even be what the Irish need.

Senior goalkeeper Chris Cahill, who the Notre Dame defense often leaves as a spectator, has said he gets more work and sees better

shots in practice. He's certainly had a lot of that lately.

The Irish have had a chance to rest and recover from the season, and Clark has

noticed a spark developing in the lull.

"We're hungry to play, which is exciting," he said. "Once we get into a game, we could be in very good shape."

Notre Dame has all the pieces to make a deep run through the NCAA bracket. Led by Lapira's 20 scores, the Irish are tied for 13th in

the country in goals per game. The Irish have consistently controlled midfield, and Cahill — who has 10 shutouts — has stopped the shots that trickle through the Notre Dame defense.

Still, one can't help but wonder how the Irish will start off, especially against Illinois-Chicago, a team that already has a tournament game under its belt and a shut out against Western Illinois (a team that scored the third most goals in the nation this year).

Tonight, look for the first 15 minutes — where the Irish have thrived all season — to be an indication of how the last two-and-a-half weeks have gone and how the next two-and-a-half will go.

If the Irish come out shaky, UIC might just be able to steal a game.

If they come out strong, the sky's the limit.

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

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

NCAA

continued from page 24

Irish coach Bobby Clark says his team is ready to play again after the break.

"I think [the team] is very excited to play a game of soccer, and I hope that they play a lot of games over the next couple of weeks," Clark said.

In 2005, Notre Dame made a surprise run to the Sweet 16 when it upset Indiana 2-0 in Bloomington before falling to Clemson 1-0 in the next game. Clark, however, feels that his team is capable of greater things this year.

"We know we're one of the top teams, but we want to prove that we're one of the top teams," Clark said. "I think we can do that if we go deep into the tournament. This is an opportunity for us."

A formidable test awaits the Irish when they take the field Wednesday night.

Illinois-Chicago boasts an impressive record of 13-2-5 that includes wins over NCAA Tournament participants No. 8 Saint Louis and California-Santa Barbara. Playing in their first postseason match since 2000, the Flames comfortably defeated Western Illinois 3-0 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

"Any team that can go and win at Saint Louis and at Santa Barbara [is a good team]," Clark said. "They're a very senior laden team with a lot of foreign lads, so they're a bit older than usual. They're a very good team."

The Illinois-Chicago offense has been led this year by play-making Croatian forward Tonci Skroce who tops the Flames in both assists (7) and points (21). It has been Illinois-Chicago's defense, however, that has gotten the team to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Illinois-Chicago has given up .33 goals per games this season posting shutouts in 13 of their 20 games.

The Notre Dame offense, led by junior forward Joseph Lapira, will try to break down the Flames defense.

The Irish average 1.97 goals per game, and they averaged three scores per game during a seven game mid-season winning streak.

By receiving one of the 16 available seeds among the 48 tournament teams, Notre Dame earned the right to stay in South Bend for their first game. Clark hopes to maximize the home field advantage.

"It's always nice to play at home, but your home field doesn't win the game for you," Clark said. "That being said, I would love it if we could get all the soccer fans to come out and cheer on the Irish."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu



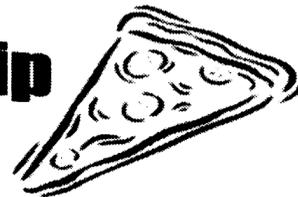
Notre Dame's Corey Rellas battles Marquette's Matt Blouin for possession during the 4-0 Irish victory Sept. 27 at Alumni Field. Notre Dame takes on Illinois-Chicago at home tonight.

JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

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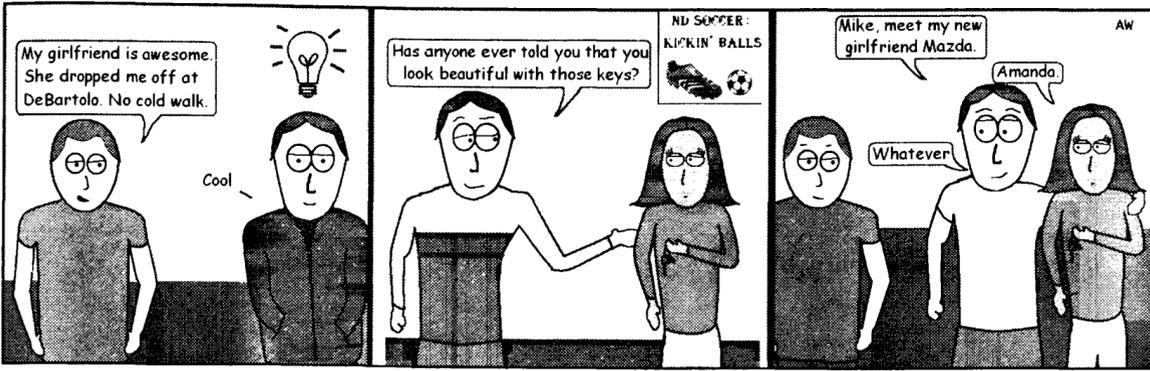


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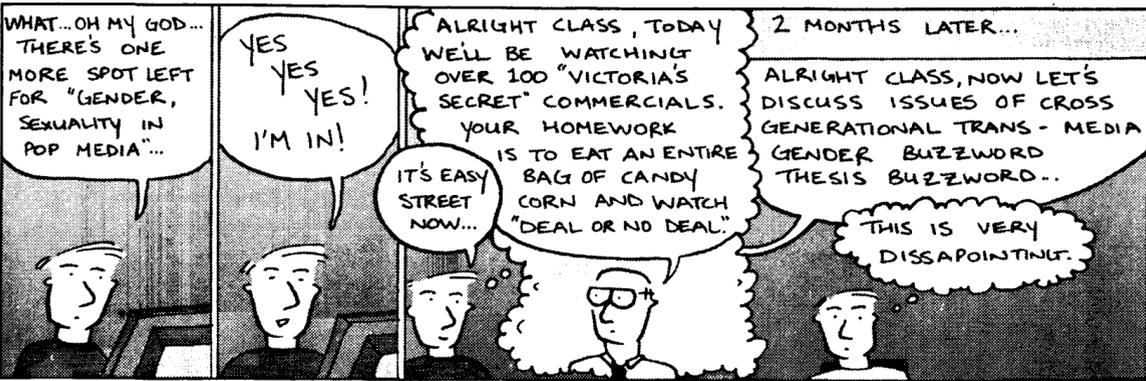
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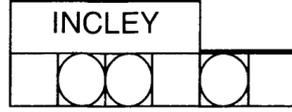
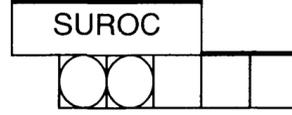
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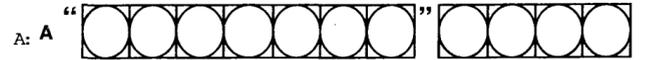
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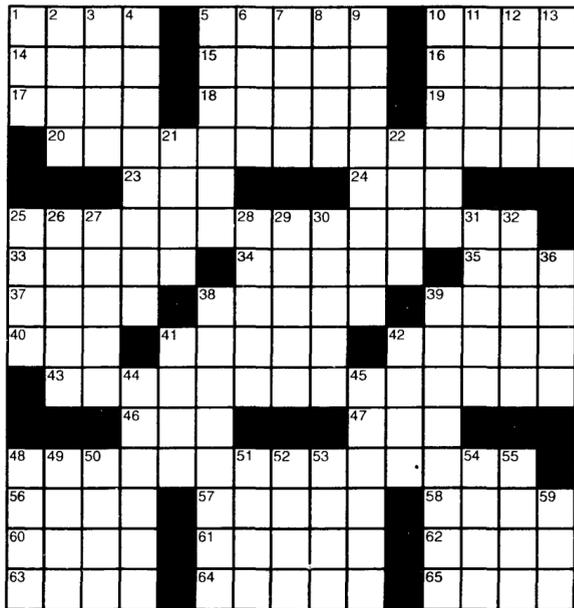
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WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS: 1 Strip, 5 Fight off, 10 Magic charm, 14 Wows, 15 Slip away, as support, 16 Go up against, 17 Headline?, 18 Thumb, e.g., 19 "Little ___ in Slumberland" (early comic), 20 Breakup line from a data inputter?, 23 Scottish river, 24 Canal locale, 25 Breakup line from an astronaut?, 33 Mountain lakes, 34 Tarzan's transportation, 35 Pick, with "for", 37 Afr. or Eur., 38 Ice hockey game interruption, 39 Noted tower site, 40 Initials on the high seas, 41 Less sportsmanlike, 42 Round dance, 43 Breakup line from a grammarian?, 46 Steno's need, 47 Modern navigation aid, for short, 48 Breakup line from a farmer?, 56 "Anything ___?", 57 What "audio" means in Latin, 58 Curse, 60 In, 61 Dusk to dawn, 62 "___ walks into a bar ...", 63 ___ Music of 1970's-80's rock, 64 Stimulate, 65 ___ v. United States, 1967 decision limiting wiretapping
- DOWN: 1 Breach, 2 "Shoo!", 3 Complete drip, 4 Candidate for valedictorian, 5 Turn in, 6 Actress Moran of "Happy Days", 7 "We have met the enemy and he is us" speaker, 8 Tweak, say, 9 "Hmmm ...", 10 Oft-repeated phrase, 11 Word removed from many modern wedding vows, 12 Parachutist's act, 13 Cornhusker State tribe, 21 Cold war side, 22 Sounds in pounds, 25 Wanderlust, e.g., 26 One of the Judds, 27 Surrealist Max, 28 Manifest, 29 "Home-Folks" poet, 30 First page of a calendario, 31 Mattress layer, 32 ___ salts, 36 Wiretapping evidence, 38 1970's fad item, 39 Man of letters?, 41 Unforeseen difficulty, 42 Notre Dame footballer coached by Rockne, 44 Express, 45 Lorre's "Casablanca" character, 48 Sport, 49 "Redhead" on "Sesame Street", 50 Midsize motor, 51 Miami River's outlet, 52 "___ Together" (song from "Grease"), 53 Casual denials, 54 Baltic capital, 55 Letter-shaped hardware item, 59 End of kindergarten?



Puzzle by Adam Cohen

- 36 Wiretapping evidence, 38 1970's fad item, 39 Man of letters?, 41 Unforeseen difficulty, 42 Notre Dame footballer coached by Rockne, 44 Express, 45 Lorre's "Casablanca" character, 48 Sport, 49 "Redhead" on "Sesame Street", 50 Midsize motor, 51 Miami River's outlet, 52 "___ Together" (song from "Grease"), 53 Casual denials, 54 Baltic capital, 55 Letter-shaped hardware item, 59 End of kindergarten?

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Travis Barker, 30; Yanni, 51; Prince Charles, 57; Elena Gomez, 20

Happy Birthday: Let's get things straight this year. No more confusion about what you should or shouldn't do. Make your choice and just do it. You may bring other people or ideas into the equation along the way, but the main issue here is to stop being afraid of failure and focus on being productive. Your numbers are 4, 12, 22, 23, 36, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make this a day that counts. Do something that will help you get ahead professionally or increase your earning power. You will have an opportunity to take care of any pressing legal, financial or health matters. ** TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You won't find it easy to deal with emotional concerns about kids, elders or even your partner. Disagreeing will not resolve anything; take a direct approach and offer something in exchange. *** GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone from your past may grab your interest again. Be sure this person isn't carrying a lot of baggage or still involved with someone else. Make sure any change is your choice, not based on someone else's desires. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will get a big surprise today. Your chance to do something really exciting depends on your ability to give in and let yourself go. Now is the time to make up your mind once and for all about what you really want and go after it. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be tempted to overspend. Back up and consider the bills you have to pay. Someone is likely to bug you or stretch your patience. Don't let anger get the better of you. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can make this a very special day if you do things a little bit differently. Change should be high on your list. Consider what's not working in your life and do something about it. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Pay closer attention to your investments and personal money matters. A contract may be causing you some grief. Minor health problems will flare up if you let yourself get rundown. Someone may be a burden. *** SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put yourself in the spotlight, and be confident that you've done your research and will outshine anyone who questions your thoughts. An opportunity to make a career move is apparent. Don't waffle; follow through with confidence. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put everything into work, making money and doing your best to get ahead. Try not to change your mind too much or you will confuse the people around you. Sudden changes may take place concerning your personal life. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be industrious, and travel will be productive. A trend that is brought to your attention will be a wise bet. A partnership will develop with someone in whom you have an interest. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be careful how you treat the ones you love. There is a good chance you may be disappointed or let someone down by not following through with a promise. Offer to help others and you will feel better about yourself. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will have a chance to do something totally unique. Your attitude and unpredictability will make you irresistible today. Spend time with someone you really care about and your relationship will grow stronger. ****

Birthdays: You are emotional, caring and true to yourself. You have a vivid imagination and a colorful way of expressing yourself. You are industrious and willing to help those in need.

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

THE OBSERVER

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

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MEN'S SOCCER

Wait's end

Irish fired up to play Flames in first game of NCAA Tourney

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

After almost three weeks of preparation, No. 12 Notre Dame will finally play a game again — its most meaningful match of the season.

The Irish will take on No. 23 Illinois-Chicago in the second round of the NCAA Tournament Wednesday night at Alumni Field. It will be the first game of the tournament for Notre Dame, which enters Wednesday's match with a record of 13-5-2.

The Irish received the No. 12 seed, entitling them to a first round bye. It has been 18 days since Notre Dame's last game — a 2-1 overtime loss to Rutgers in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament, but

see NCAA/page 22



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish forward Joseph Lapira tracks down a serve in Notre Dame's 3-0 win over DePaul Sept. 10. The Irish take on Illinois-Chicago tonight at 7:30 at Alumni Field in their first NCAA Tournament game.

Clark wants 'fire' to top rust in battle with Illinois-Chicago

It's been a long time. No. 12 Notre Dame hasn't played a game since its 2-1 loss to Rutgers Oct. 28 in the second round of the Big East tournament



Eric Retter

Associate Sports Editor

— 18 days ago — and it will have its biggest game of the season tonight against Illinois-Chicago at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field.

The Flames (13-5-2) looked impressive in their first-round victory, knocking off Western Illinois 3-0.

The biggest question going

see READY/page 22

FOOTBALL

Weis focuses on 2nd round of 'playoffs'

Coach says kicking job open for competition after poor performance

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

There isn't a question of keeping the team motivated for Army, according to Irish head coach Charlie Weis.

"It's the second round of the playoffs," he said Tuesday. "If I can't get guys up for a play-off game, I'm doing something wrong, and I should be judged accordingly."

Despite Notre Dame's trip to USC looming on Nov. 25, Weis is confident that his players are grounded and focused for their final game at Notre Dame Stadium this season.

The Irish beat Air Force 39-17 last week in what Weis called "the first round of playoffs."

"I think the first round was important, too," he said. "If we don't play fairly well last week, then this week ... it would not be as important. So now this week becomes more

important to make the next week more important. So I think that all those things happen and certainly helped us and helped magnify the importance of the game."

Army is 3-7, including a 43-7 blowout loss in its last game, at home against Air Force Nov. 3.

Weis hasn't discounted the Black Knights despite their record, noting that the team is preparing to see two quarterbacks and two running backs Saturday. At the quarterback position, Carson Williams, a true freshman, and Dave Pevoto have started this season, although Pevoto is the more experienced with eight starts in 10 games. In the backfield, Wesley McMahanad leads the team in rushes, and Tony Moore, another true freshman who has seen increased playing time as the season progressed. Weis also expects most of the offensive line to rotate.

On defense, Weis points to the Black Knights' low third-down conversion allowance.

see PLAYOFF/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

No losing streak for squad

Carter, Harangody avenge first loss, trounce Lafayette

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

One day after a heart-breaking loss to Butler, Notre Dame took out its frustration on a helpless Lafayette squad 92-60 in the consolation round of the NIT Season Tip-Off in Indianapolis Tuesday.

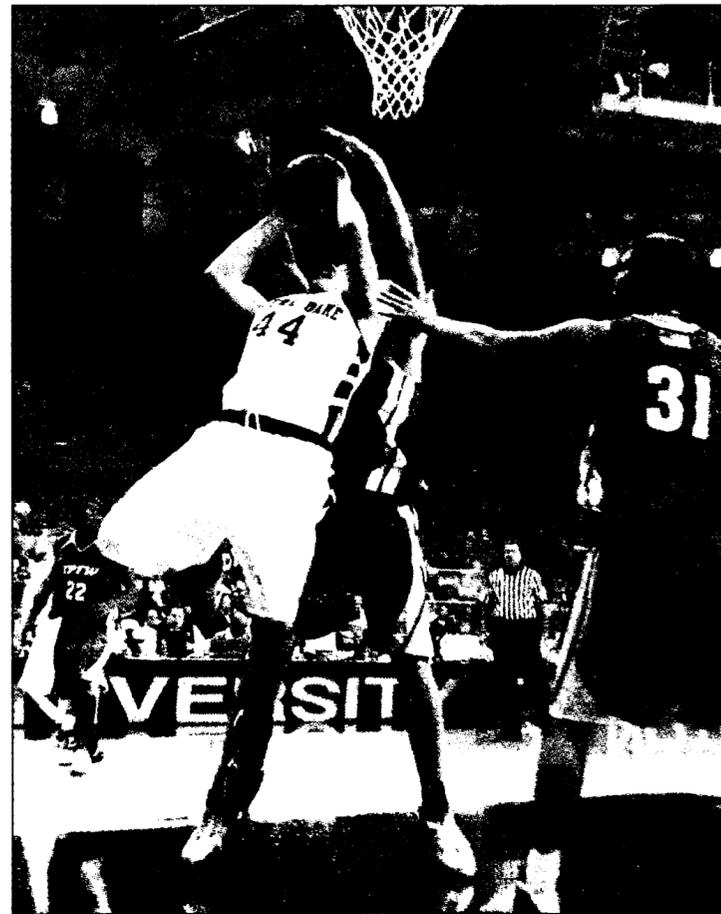
"We had to redeem ourselves from last night's loss," Irish guard Russell Carter said. "We identified our mistakes and corrected them tonight."

Notre Dame (2-1) lost to the Bulldogs 71-69 Monday after Carter missed a desperation 3-pointer with 2.8 seconds left.

Tuesday, the senior vindicated himself, leading the Irish with 20 points on 8-of-12 shooting. He credited his high shooting percentage to the number of open looks he had at the basket.

"It was just the shots I

see REBOUND/page 21



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish forward Luke Harangody muscled through a defender in Notre Dame's 92-49 win over IPFW Nov. 10 at the Joyce Center.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

MLB

The Boston Red Sox win the bidding war for coveted Japanese pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka.

page 20

NCAA BASKETBALL

Texas Tech officials voice support for Bobby Knight after the coach's on-court incident with a player.

page 19

NCAA FOOTBALL

Penn State coach Joe Paterno will return to the sidelines Saturday, two weeks after breaking a bone in his leg.

page 19

MLB

The Washington Nationals hire Mets third base coach Manny Acta to replace Frank Robinson as manager.

page 18

MLB

Cy Young Award

Arizona's Brandon Webb wins the National League award for top pitcher.

page 17

NBA

Dallas 111 Chicago 99

Dirk Nowitzki scores 31 in the Mavericks' home win.

page 16