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Three female presidents discuss leadership

Former student body officers, Shappell speak of experiences as women, leaders at Notre Dame

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

The spirit of Rosie the Riveter filled the Oak Room of South Dining Hall Wednesday night as the three women who have been Notre Dame student body president gathered to discuss female leadership issues at the University.

Alumnae Brooke Norton (2001-2002), Libby Bishop (2002-2003) and current student body president Lizzi Shappell were the feature guests at the Gender Relations Center's "We Can Do It! Women

and Leadership at ND" lecture.

Norton, Bishop and Shappell each took a turn to speak about their experiences as student body president, addressing triumphs, inspirations, difficulties and lessons learned from the perspective of a female leader at Notre Dame.

Norton identified Father Hesburgh as a key figure in her path to becoming Notre Dame's first female student body president.

"To [Father Hesburgh] it seemed like Our Lady's University should be a place for women," she said. "He felt it would only be complete when a

woman would become student body president."

For Norton, it would be a long process to decide whether or not to run, but in doing so she assumed a groundbreaking role, which allowed her to "[plant] the right seeds so that trees could grow later."

Her influence spread both to Bishop, who became president during the following term, and Shappell, who realized her goal of student body president after looking at a poster of Rosie the Riveter — a gift from Norton to the student government office.

"Coming to Notre Dame I had no intention of becoming stu-

dent body president," Shappell said.

But after viewing the poster, which was displayed in front of the panelists during the event, Shappell said she "knew it was time for female leadership at Notre Dame to become less of an exception and more of an expectation."

Each of the women acknowledged that being student body president was a demanding, stressful job with its own problems.

Bishop's election came in conjunction with the adminis-

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Abroad program thrives

ND ranked sixth in annual mobility report

By MEGHAN WONS
News Writer

This year's Institute of International Education's annual report, "Open Doors", showed Notre Dame has the sixth largest percentage of students participating in study abroad programs among American research universities.

The report — comprised of data collected through 2004-2005 on student participation in international study — concludes that about 58 percent of Notre Dame students participate in study abroad programs at some point during their academic careers.

Julia Douthwaite, assistant provost for international studies at Notre Dame, said she was happy with Notre Dame's sixth place finish, but thinks there is still room to improve. She suggested there are undiscovered opportunities for meaningful student academic and cultural experiences in the international community.

"We would like to be number one," she said, "but we are certainly holding our own."

"I would like to see 80 percent of our students go abroad — either for a semester, year or during the summer," Douthwaite said. "I think students need to be abroad for a minimum of six weeks for the

see ABROAD/page 4

Zahm identity faces future change



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

Zahm Hall residents impersonate DaVinci's "Vitruvian Man" while wearing the Zahm mascot, Ignats the Moose.

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

Editor's note: This is the second story in a two-part series examining changes to residence life within Zahm Hall and what those changes mean to the campus community.

When freshman Brad Monroe pulled up to Zahm in August, unloading boxes and belongings, he didn't really know what to expect — not of college, but of his dorm.

Zahm, after all, was a place where "crazy, lewd and obscene acts" supposedly happened on a regular basis.

"I'd heard Zahm had a bad reputation over the years, but everyone just emphasized the fellowship," he said. "It hasn't really lived up to the expectations as far as doing crazy stuff, but the closeness of the

dorm, I see that every day."

It hasn't taken long for freshmen to notice a gap between the "old" Zahm — which lives on in word-of-mouth primarily within the dorm's walls — and the "new" Zahm, a hall that seems to have shed much of its more infamous past.

To Zahm rector Father Dan Parrish, the dorm should be "a place where the heart grows as well as the mind."

"Because that's what a Holy Cross education is all about," he said. "You don't just come here to check into an apartment, or a frat house, or whatever — you come here to be part of a Christian community. And in so many ways, when we started this in 2003, we realized that every part of the Zahm community needed to be rehabbed and cared for. ...

"I think there's a much

see ZAHM/page 6

STUDENT SENATE

Shappell praises TC's policy

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

A suggested ease between student-community relations was the focus a "véry productive" meeting between Turtle Creek Apartments community manager Francis Schmuhl, Senate Community Relations Chair Josh Pasquesi and Student Body President Lizzi Shappell. Pasquesi reported at Wednesday's Senate meeting.

The meeting focused on Turtle Creek's approach to the eviction clause of South Bend's disorderly house ordinance and their relationship with the Indiana Excise police, he said.

see SENATE/page 4



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Chief executive officer Liz Brown, left, student body president Lizzi Shappell and student body vice president Bill Andrichik go over notes during Wednesday's Senate meeting.

Broden addresses state death penalty laws

NDASK lecturer is the fifth in series of six

By STEVE KERINS
News Writer

Indiana compares well to other states in its application of the death penalty, but legislators, judges and lawyers must remain diligent said Indiana State Senator Joe Broden Wednesday.

Broden, who represents the cities of South Bend and Mishawaka in the State Senate, spoke at the fifth of a series of six lectures in the Notre Dame Against State Killing (NDASK) Fall Lecture Series.

Broden, a 1987 graduate of

Notre Dame, offered insight from his experience in the legislature as well as from his membership in the Indiana Assessment Team of the American Bar Association's Death Penalty Moratorium Implementation Project.

Broden said the Moratorium Implementation Project began in 2001 following an ABA resolution calling for a review of capital punishment in policy and practice in each of the 38 states with a death penalty. Indiana's report is expected to be finalized early next year.

"The American Bar Association recognized ... that there are different methods of imposing the death penalty," he said.

These methods can vary

see NDASK/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Insider NFL rankings

This column is dedicated to Bill McGarry.

It's official. The 2005/2006 Super Bowl Champion is not going to repeat this season.

Some have said that the Steelers wouldn't repeat from the beginning when Ben

Roethlisberger nearly died in a motorcycle accident. Others jumped on the bandwagon when the Pittsburgh quarterback needed an emergency appendectomy before the first game of the season. Me? I knew it wasn't Pittsburgh or Roethlisberger's year when he tried to toss his wristband into the stands after Sunday's game against Baltimore and it was intercepted.

With that being said, it's time to look at this season's serious contenders to hoist the Lombardi trophy come February in Miami.

1: San Diego Chargers — Over his last five games, LaDainian Tomlinson is averaging 134.6 rushing yards per game and 3.2 total touchdowns per game. Over a full season, that would average out to 2,154 rushing yards and 45 touchdowns. And you wanted to take Larry Johnson with the first pick of your fantasy draft.

2: Indianapolis Colts — If you like 6-foot-5 quarterbacks with laser rocket arms ... and defenses that allow 155 rushing yards per game.

3: Chicago Bears — I don't trust Rex Grossman to win a playoff game on the road. Come to think of it, I don't trust Rex Grossman at all.

4: Dallas Cowboys — So if that's Chase Anastasio's fiancée, and Tony Romo can get Jessica Simpson, imagine what Tom Brady's girlfriend must look like.

5: Denver Broncos — Don't only blame Jake Plummer for the Broncos recent struggles as the once stellar Denver defense has given up 24.2 points per game over their last five. Blaming Plummer isn't a bad place to start, though.

6: Baltimore Ravens — This team is starting to look an awful lot like the Baltimore team that won the Super Bowl in 2001.

7: New England Patriots — Can you imagine Bill Belichick wearing a suit on the sideline? The only combination with less potential is Tom Brady and his cast of receivers.

8: Seattle Seahawks — Shaun Alexander looked an awful lot like the back who ran for 1,880 yards last season on Monday night. Or was that just because he was playing against the Packers?

9: Carolina Panthers — Seriously, why don't other teams just triple cover Steve Smith on every play? What are the Panthers going to do, run the ball?

The Relegation Bowl: In addition to the playoffs, I propose that at the end of each season the team with the worst record in the NFL play the national champion of college football. Like you wouldn't watch this?

The likely 2007 match-up: Ohio State (-1) vs. Oakland, and my prediction ... the Buckeyes win on a late safety, 2-0.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO WHILE PROCRASTINATING?



Caitlin Ivester
sophomore
PE

"Get some shoes."



Liz Lefebvre
sophomore
Badin

"Watching videos on YouTube."



Dan Allen
senior
O'Neill

"Mario Kart."



Jillian Pearson
sophomore
Farley

"YouTube."



Michelle Anderson
freshman
Regina

"Facebook, all the way."



Nick Kraft
sophomore
Stanford

"Playing an obscure game on Yahoo called 'Sheep's Head.'"



TOM FOLEY/The Observer

Students bid on gift baskets during Pasquerilla East's silent auction in the LaFortune Ballroom Wednesday. Some of the items up for bid include a Brady Quinn autographed football, movie baskets and Chicago Cubs tickets.

OFFBEAT

Ex-principal accused of kissing feet

LORAIN, Ohio — A former Roman Catholic school principal accused of kissing three male students' feet has pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor charges of sexual imposition.

Robert Holloway, the former principal at St. Anthony of Padua School in Lorain, entered the plea Monday. He also pleaded not guilty to charges of unauthorized use of public property.

Police Sgt. Mark Carpentiere said foot fetish material was found on two school computers seized from Holloway's office,

despite the educator's claims he did not have a foot fetish.

Holloway, 50, resigned as principal in the spring after the 14-year-old students and their parents reported the foot-kissing to police.

Glue spill shuts Indiana highway

PENDLETON, Ind. — A semitrailer carrying large drums of glue spilled part of its load onto a state highway Tuesday, causing the road to be closed for about three hours as crews worked to resolve the sticky situation.

Police officers diverted traffic off Indiana 67 and 38

and U.S. 36 after the spill. Workers and customers were evacuated from businesses within 100 yards of the spill and about 10 people were treated at the scene or a nearby hospital for skin, eye or respiratory irritation, Madison County Emergency Management spokesman Todd Harmeson said.

The spill happened about 10:30 a.m., when two 55-gallon drums of Bondmaster glue the truck was carrying tipped over and leaked onto the highway.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A Thai and Cambodian fundraising dinner buffet will be held today at 6 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room on the second floor of LaFortune. Heather Connell, producer of the film "Small Voices," will discuss her work with Cambodian orphans and show clips from her upcoming film beginning at 7 p.m. A \$5 donation is suggested for the dinner.

Mike Henry, actor, writer and supervising producer for the show "Family Guy," will speak today at 8 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo.

David Roodman from the Center for Global Development will give the lecture "The Commitment to Development Index: Which Rich Countries do the Most to Help Poor Ones?" today at 4:15 p.m. in room C-103 of the Hesburgh Center.

All Basilica choirs will participate in Advent Lessons and Carols Sunday at 7:15 p.m. in the Basilica. This one-hour service will include seasonal music provided by the ND Liturgical Choir, Women's Liturgical Choir, Basilica Schola, Folk Choir and Handbell Choir.

Christmas at the CoMo Benefit Concert by the ND Celebration Choir is Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the first floor Coleman Morse student lounge. International students will provide reflections of Christmas in their home countries. There is no admission charge, but a freewill offering will be sent to St. Jude's Primary School, Jinja, Uganda.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 53 LOW 32	HIGH 28 LOW 18	HIGH 30 LOW 17	HIGH 30 LOW 15	HIGH 30 LOW 20	HIGH 40 LOW 23

Atlanta 69 / 57 Boston 49 / 40 Chicago 40 / 38 Denver 31 / 5 Houston 66 / 63 Los Angeles 72 / 44 Minneapolis 24 / 12 New York 66 / 56 Philadelphia 68 / 52 Phoenix 57 / 37 Seattle 43 / 37 St. Louis 38 / 35 Tampa 82 / 65 Washington 69 / 52

Senate

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Though the ordinance calls for eviction after the first offense, Turtle Creek's approach gives students a warning rather than an immediate eviction, Pasquesi said.

"They are changing their policy and now they have a one-warning policy, where if you get in trouble with the police ... you will be sent a warning letter," he said.

Schmuhl said the new policy seems to be working, Shappell said, and that Turtle Creek has had a quiet fall.

"[Turtle Creek] has experienced [the new warning policy] working, which we think is a vast improvement from last fall," she said.

Shappell and Pasquesi asked Schmuhl about the rumor that Turtle Creek had called in the Excise police earlier in the semester, Pasquesi said. Schmuhl "debunked" that rumor, he said.

The other chairs reported to the groups the tasks their committees are working on.

Lyons senator Mariana Montes, vice chair for the Senate Residence Life committee, said they are working on enabling all vending machines on campus to take Domer Dollars.

"We should have functioning machines all over campus, so

we are trying to get that fixed," Montes said.

Academic Affairs Chair Jim Grace told the senators to expect a resolution on clocks in all the classrooms at the meeting next week. He said his committee has also begun working on the possibility of proposing a business certificate for students in Arts and Letters and adding a global health minor.

Gender Issues Chair Ashley Weiss updated the senators on the progress her committee has made with the eating disorders conference planned for February.

"We've contacted over five hundred university departments across the country that would have an interest in presenting on this issue," Weiss said.

They have also secured the involvement of departments and groups from within Notre Dame, she said. The exact schedule, advertising strategy and budget are still being finalized.

Social Concerns chair Sheena Plamoottil asked senators to survey dorm residents at their next hall council meetings to ask them whether they know what rector funds are, if they know what an ombudsperson is, and if they have seen posters for ombudspersons.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

NDASK

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between urban and rural areas and are also dependent on the quality of a defendant's legal representation.

His team's preliminary findings were promising when compared with some of Indiana's neighbors, but there remains room for improvement, Broden said.

"Indiana is usually a state where, frankly, we're oftentimes compared with states that don't fare particularly well on [issues such as] education and infant mortality," Broden said. "[But on the issue of] the death penalty, I think that Indiana might stack up quite favorably."

Broden cited several state laws that put Indiana ahead of the national curve, including one that requires that a person charged with a capital crime to be represented by two attorneys — with at least one who previously participated in a death penalty case.

Also, the Indiana Supreme Court cannot refuse to hear an appeal in a capital case, and a defendant has the right to a hearing to determine whether any new evidence warrants a second trial.

Indiana's legislature passed a law prohibiting the execution of individuals with demonstrable mental impairment in 1994 — eight years before an equivalent ruling by the United States Supreme Court.

Despite recent progress locally, Broden said public awareness of

high-profile wrongful conviction statistics has prompted the controversy surrounding the death penalty to reemerge.

"One hundred persons in some twenty-three states have gotten off death row ... because they had been exonerated," he said. "I think Americans take deep offense to [the legal system's failure]."

Although Broden said any proposal for a moratorium on the death penalty would be likely to fail in Indiana, he laid out some practical objectives he believes the State Senate might address.

"There's a real stirring to at least have our system be as fair as possible," he said. "I think we continue to make progress on a lot of the due process issues surrounding the death penalty, [for which there is] good bipartisan support."

Broden also pointed to the success of laws in Illinois and Minnesota that require all confessions to be recorded on video, and he highlighted the importance of "putting our money where our mouth is [and ensuring] competent counsel" for those accused of capital crimes.

Wednesday's lecture was sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns and Campus Ministry, and co-sponsored by Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture. The final lecture in NDASK's Fall Lecture Series will feature Dale Recinella, the Catholic Lay Chaplain for Florida's death row, at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6 in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

Abroad

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optimal experience."

International studies department administrator Joan Clark said there was a 76 percent acceptance rate of study abroad applicants during the 2005-2006 school year, making study abroad competitive but feasible for interested Notre Dame students.

The application deadline for study abroad in the 2007-2008 academic year was Nov. 15, Douthwaite said. She did not have exact statistics on applications received for the 2007-2008 academic year because her office is still in the process of reviewing them.

She said the international studies staff would be discussing application numbers and trends at a meeting today.

She does know the "numbers (of applications) were good."

"All of our programs are growing," she said. "Students are definitely interested in studying abroad. There is no downswing here."

Students can choose from 19 different study abroad locations, with sites from Notre Dame's largest program in London to the recently instituted program in Uganda.

Notre Dame study abroad programs provide experiences as diverse as the locations available to students. Immersion in a foreign language, acting on the stage of

Shakespeare's Globe Theater, being temporarily adopted by a French family and studying economic development in Uganda are all available.

During any given semester, the size of the University's diverse abroad options can range from over 100 students in the London program to a sole Domer enrolled at a foreign university.

Douthwaite said that London draws the most applicants annually, with Dublin, Toledo and Rome tied for second place.

Senior Packy Cain was one of 10 Notre Dame students who studied abroad in Innsbruck, Austria during the 2005-2006 academic year. He said he lived in a dormitory but also had an Austrian "guest family" — a family that volunteered to have a relationship with Cain during his time in the family's home country.

"If I were to look back at the whole year, I think the most memorable things for me would be the little things — visiting my guest family every Sunday for lunch, noticing myself adapting to the culture and becoming

more a part of the international community," Cain said.

Douthwaite said she is excited that Notre Dame students seek to engage with the international community. She is especially excited that a growing number of students

choose to study in less traditional locations.

"The big surprise this year was that students are applying to the more challenging locations," Douthwaite said.

She said numbers of applications for study in Cairo, Uganda and China have noticeably increased.

Study in Uganda is a relatively new program, Douthwaite said.

"Notre Dame joined the consortium with the

School for International Training in the course of the 2004-2005 school year," Douthwaite said.

"We recruited students [to study in Uganda] in 2005-2006, and this year we have our first cohort of students there as part of an official ND program," she said. "But students have been going on this program — either independently or during the summer — for several years prior to 2004."

Douthwaite said she thinks providing students with opportunities for international education is imperative to Notre Dame's mission "to (help students) gain a sound understanding of other cultures and to master a second language as part of their commitment to attaining compassion for other people."

Douthwaite said the study abroad experience ultimately plays an important role "to strengthen student resolve to work for social justice."

"All of our programs are growing. Students are definitely interested in studying abroad."

Julia Douthwaite
assistant provost
International Studies

"The big surprise this year was that students are applying to the more challenging locations."

Julia Douthwaite
assistant provost
International Studies

NDASK FALL LECTURE SERIES 2006

& THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO: CITIES for LIFE

DALE RECINELLA '76

DALE RECINELLA '76

LECTURE BY

DALE RECINELLA '76

Open Prayer at the Grotto 1 / 20pm Lecture at Hesburgh Center Auditorium

Dale Recinella is a 1976 graduate of the University of Notre Dame Law School and a Catholic Lay Chaplain for Florida's Death Row & Solitary Confinement. He authored the book: *The Biblical Truth about America's Death Penalty*.

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Last year we pledged \$2000 for hurricane relief in the Guatemalan village where we work. In the end, we spent \$4400! Thank you for your support! Please stop in to look, buy, or just visit!

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Powell calls Iraq 'a civil war'

DUBAI — Former Secretary of State Colin Powell said Wednesday at a business conference here that the war in Iraq "could be considered a civil war," the conference organizer said.

Powell made the comment during a question-and-answer session after a keynote speech, according to David Hellaby, who organized the "Leaders in Dubai Business Forum." No cameras were allowed in to record the talk, but Hellaby was present and issued a press release quoting Powell.

Powell could not be immediately reached for comment. Hellaby said Powell was leaving Dubai immediately after Wednesday's conference.

Powell's comments come in sharp contrast to those of President Bush, who said Tuesday that Iraq is not in a civil war. Bush blamed al-Qaida extremists for the daily violence there.

Bush said Iraqis had "a chance to fall apart and they didn't."

Radiation found on British planes

LONDON — Officials found traces of radiation on two British Airways jets as part of an investigation into the poisoning death of a former Russian spy, and the airline appealed Wednesday to tens of thousands of passengers who flew to Moscow or other cities to contact health authorities.

Two Boeing 767s at London's Heathrow Airport tested positive and a third was grounded in Moscow awaiting examination, British Airways said. The airline said "the risk to public health is low" but that it was attempting to contact some 33,000 passengers who have flown on the jets since Oct. 25.

NATIONAL NEWS

Hurricane season comes to an end

MIAMI — The mild 2006 Atlantic hurricane season draws to a close Thursday without a single hurricane striking the United States — a stark contrast to the record-breaking 2005 season that killed more than 1,500 people and left thousands homeless along the Gulf Coast.

Nine named storms and five hurricanes formed this season, and just two of the hurricanes were considered major. That is considered a near-normal season — and well short of the rough season government scientists had forecast.

"We got a much-welcome break after a lot of the coast had been compromised in the last several years, but this is a one-season type break," said Gerry Bell, lead seasonal hurricane forecaster for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Frist backs out of Presidential race

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist renounced a bid for the White House in 2008 on Wednesday, an early dropout from the most wide-open presidential race in decades.

"In the Bible, God tells us for everything there is a season, and for me, for now, this season of being an elected official has come to a close," said the Tennessee Republican, a surgeon before he entered politics in 1994.

While the first national convention delegates won't be chosen for more than a year, jockeying among potential presidential contenders is well under way.

LOCAL NEWS

Burns indicate arson in house fire

MARTINSVILLE, Ind. — A fire that forced a man to jump from a second-story window while carrying his 10-month-old daughter was arson, authorities said.

Investigators found an irregular burn pattern on the kitchen floor, indicating arson, said Andy Zirkle, spokesman for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Division of Fire and Building Safety.

Dennis Sizemore, 47, remained in critical but stable condition in Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis after being severely injured Thursday when he jumped from the window of his house near Martinsville.

U.S.-Iraq summit canceled

Bush administration says delay is not related to White House memo leak

Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — President Bush's high-profile meeting with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki on Wednesday was canceled in a stunning turn of events after disclosure of U.S. doubts about the Iraqi leader's capabilities and a political boycott in Baghdad protesting his attendance.

Instead of two days of talks, Bush and al-Maliki will have breakfast and a single meeting followed by a news conference on Thursday morning, the White House said.

The abrupt cancellation was an almost unheard-of development in the high-level diplomatic circles of a U.S. president, a king and a prime minister. There was confusion — and conflicting explanations — about what happened.

Bush had been scheduled to meet in a three-way session with al-Maliki and Jordan's King Abdullah II on Wednesday night, and had rearranged his schedule to be in Amman for both days for talks aimed at reducing the spiral of violence in Iraq.

The last-minute cancellation was not announced until Bush had already come to Raghadan Palace and posed for photographs alone with the king.

White House counselor Dan Bartlett denied that the delay was a snub by al-Maliki directed at Bush or was related to the leak of a memo written by White House National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley questioning the prime minister's capacity for controlling violence in Iraq.

"Absolutely not," Bartlett said. He said the king and the prime minister had met before Bush arrived from a NATO summit in Latvia. "That negated the purpose to meet tonight together in a trilateral setting."

A senior administration official, who spoke with



Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki walks with Ziad Fariz, Prime Minister of Jordan, early Wednesday before canceling summit talks with President Bush scheduled for later in the day. AP

U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad, basically echoed Bartlett's account.

The Jordanians and the Iraqis jointly decided it was not the best use of time because they both would be seeing the president separately, said the official.

Members of the Jordanian and Iraqi delegations contacted Khalilzad, who called Air Force One and spoke with Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, giving them a heads-up, the official said.

However, Redha Jawad Taqi, a senior aide of top Shiite politician Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim who also was in Amman, said the Iraqis

balked at the three-way meeting after learning the king wanted to broaden the talks to include the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Two senior officials traveling with al-Maliki, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the information, said the prime minister had been reluctant to travel to Jordan in the first place and decided, once in Amman, that he did not want "a third party" involved in talks about subjects specific to the U.S.-Iraqi relationship.

With Maliki already gone from the palace, Bush had an abbreviated meeting and dinner with the king before heading early to his

hotel.

The cancellation came after the disclosure of a classified White House memo, written Nov. 8 by Hadley. In one particularly harsh section, Hadley asserted: "The reality on the streets of Baghdad suggests Maliki is either ignorant of what is going on, misrepresenting his intentions or that his capabilities are not yet sufficient to turn his good intentions into action."

Administration officials did not dispute the leaked account, saying that on balance the document was supportive of the Iraqi leader and generally portrayed him as well-meaning.

Consensus reached on Iraq policies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan commission has reached a consensus on new U.S. policies for Iraq and will announce its recommendations next week, the group's co-chairman said Wednesday.

Former Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., declined to disclose any specifics about the Iraq Study Group's decisions. The report, much anticipated by the Bush administration and members of Congress, is coming out next Wednesday amid the spiraling violence in Iraq that has raised questions about the viability of the Iraqi government and U.S. policy for a deeply unpopular war.

"This afternoon, we reached a con-

sensus ... and we will announce that on December 6," Hamilton told a forum on national security at the Center for American Progress, a liberal group.

"We're making recommendations," said Hamilton, who led the group with former Secretary of State James A. Baker III.

Defense officials, meantime, said the Pentagon is developing blueprints to send four more battalions to Iraq early next year, including some to Baghdad.

The extra combat engineer battalions of Army reserves would total about 3,500 troops and would come from around the United States, said officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deployments

have not been announced.

President Bush is under growing pressure to craft an exit strategy to withdraw substantial numbers of U.S. troops while shifting more responsibility to the Iraqi government. Even so, top military commanders have said they would consider increasing U.S. troops, at least temporarily, if they deemed it necessary.

Bush said Tuesday he would not withdraw American forces "until the mission is complete."

The study group is expected to recommend regional talks involving Syria and Iran. The Bush administration has been reluctant to engage those two countries, which it says have abetted the violence in Iraq.

Zahm

continued from page 1

greater level of care for every part of the Zahm community now, and people feel that."

It's a far cry from crazy, lewd and obscene — and that's something former residents say current students will never understand.

"People who live in Zahm now don't know what it was like before," said Matt Walsh, a 2006 alumnus who lived in the dorm during his sophomore year and second semester of his junior year. "... Traditions are going to fade away."

Senior Kevin Gimber, former Zahm president who lived in the dorm for three years, also noted how "there's no one living in Zahm" that remembers the past.

"These freshmen don't know any different," he said.

Implications of "indifference"

Those freshmen, who say they've heard stories about the Zahm of years past, agree that's the case.

"I guess our rector has been cracking down more and more, which sounds like it was needed," freshman Tim Thayer said. "I think people who have gone through the changes and saw what Zahm was before prefer that."

"But I'm kind of indifferent."

Parrish also touched on that idea of indifference — not indifference to the dorm, necessarily, but indifference to its image as "some sort of frat house on North Quad."

"And even as we're leaving behind some of that each year, people still try very hard to force it on us," he said. "I think as in any dorm, there is a great spirit here, and it's also something I've told the hall government every year, that the majority of the hall is the silent majority. And I would say it's somewhere between 60 and 80 percent of the hall [residents] that either don't buy into some of ... the events that are more in the eye of the public, or they just don't give a dang about it."

"But there's also a great, a very strong vocal minority as there is in any group, that kind of sets the tone for what will be, and that's what you see," he continued. "Because you don't see the people who aren't as interested in that, because they don't get together and go out on the quad and do things that are, you know, in public."

If the freshmen will set the tone of the future, however, it doesn't seem like the fraternity comparisons will continue. Based on what upperclassmen have shared, new residents said an evolution of the dorm's culture was probably for the best.

"People complain about Father Dan, they talk about how it used to be, [you] could do whatever you wanted with the old rector, but I think [more rule enforcement] was necessary," Monroe said.

Freshman Mike Perez first encountered "negative rumors" about Zahm when he stayed in the dorm during Spring Visitation Weekend.

"No one would fill me in on any details but would instead say, 'Ooh, Zahm,'" he said.

So this summer, when the incoming freshman found himself assigned to Zahm Hall, he "wasn't too excited" about hearing anti-Zahm jokes for the next four years of his life.

But those verbal jabs, he said, don't really mean anything.

"I quickly learned through Frosh-O and other activities ... that there is more to Zahm than what you hear," he said. "Zahm is a brotherhood and I've come to embrace it."

But will everyone embrace it in the future?

Seniors and alumni said they think an increasing number of upperclassmen will move out of the dorm in the future.

"I think it will continue, because now the trend has been set," said Joe Cussen, 2006 alumnus who served as dorm president during the last of his three years in Zahm.

But Cussen also pointed at what he said was a "campus-wide" trend of moving out of the dorms "as a senior, or even a junior" — a trend he said now seemed to be catching up to Zahm.

"I wouldn't even call it a problem — it's a big change," he said.

"For better or for worse"

For now, however, Zahm's freshmen express a seemingly high level of satisfaction with dorm life.

"Zahm does catch a lot of heat from other dorms — that kind of sets us apart, but that only strengthens us as a group," freshman Brian Price said. "We have reputations, you know?"

Within the Zahm community, Price said he has found "a strong sense of tradition that you just want to uphold."

"It's a family within a family," he said.

Upperclassmen have mentioned big changes within the community over the past several years, Price said, but he doesn't believe much has changed.

"I mean, that's been talked about," he said. "I guess, that's been tough for me — it's been hearsay for me — but the overall environment has remained the same, in terms of everyone being close-knit."

While Thayer said he wasn't very familiar with other men's dorms, he agreed there was an especially developed character that set his hall apart — a "common bond" among residents established "just by being in Zahm."

"For better or worse," he said. "I don't know."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

Women

continued from page 1

tration's ban on hard alcohol, putting her in a difficult position as a mediator between students with "unfeasible" demands and the administration.

"The people making the big decisions for the University at the time were still white males," Bishop said, noting that her "feet didn't even touch the ground" in the overstuffed chairs she sat in during meetings with the administration.

Shappell discussed her difficulties in dealing with controversial issues that ranged from

evictions to the Vagina Monologues and sexual assault on campus.

While being a female student body president at Notre Dame certainly stands out as an anomaly, all three spoke of a sentiment to focus less on "female" and more on "leader."

Shappell said during her campaign for president she tried to remain as gender-neutral as possible, trying to "make sure that no one pegged me as a crazy 'femi-nazi.'"

Bishop stressed that future women leaders see "it's not about being the best 'female' leader. It's about being the best leader."

For Bishop, being student

body president at Notre Dame pushed her to focus on the smaller things.

"Leadership is not just having a title," she said. "It's not just being student body president. It's in the actions, and it's in the little things."

Norton stressed "the best kind of leadership is servant leadership," and relayed advice from Father Hesburgh, saying, "... you don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they are popular; you make them because they are right."

Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu

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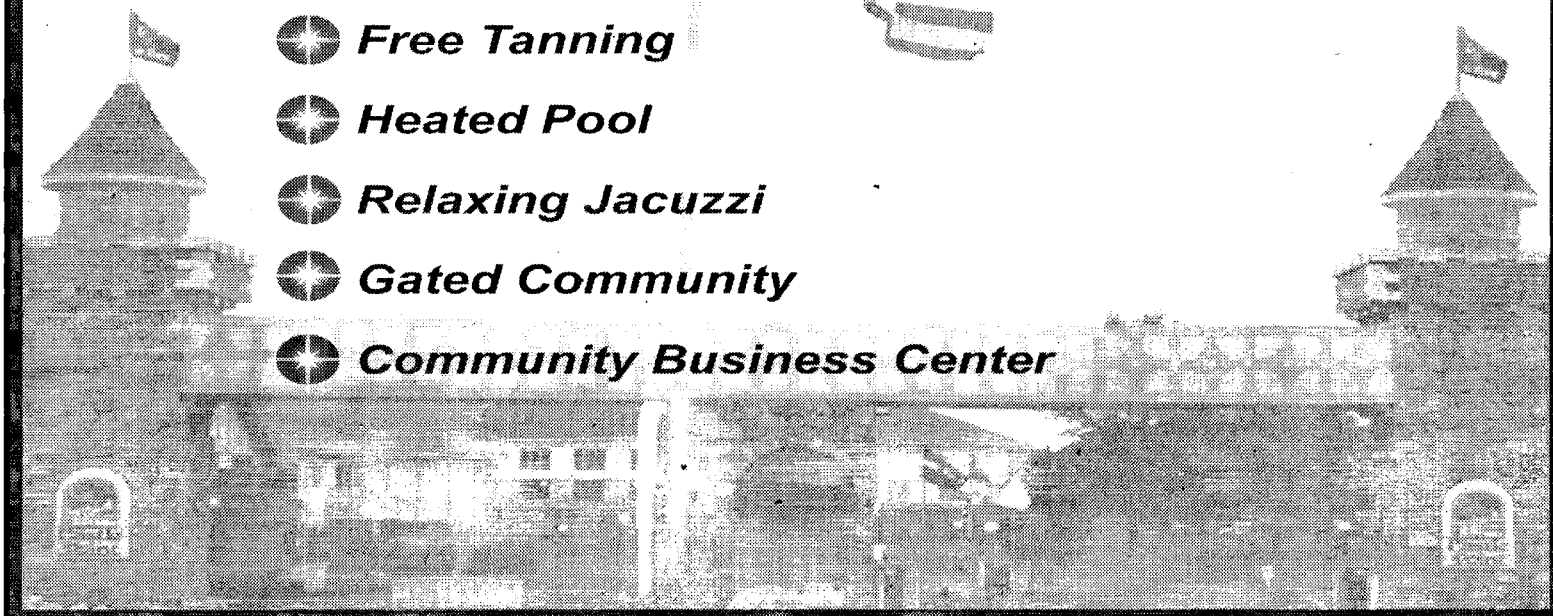
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AMEX	2,059.57	+19.64	
NASDAQ	2,443.23	+19.62	
NYSE	8,947.17	+95.53	
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NIKKEI(Tokyo)	16,206.23	+130.03	
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TREASURIES			
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+0.69	+0.30	44.07
INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.24	+0.26	21.24
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+0.19	+0.01	5.36
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+0.61	+0.18	29.57
TREASURIES			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.27	+0.012	4.521
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.000	4.905
30-YEAR BOND	+0.35	+0.016	4.612
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.27	+0.012	4.515
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)		+1.47	62.46
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)		-1.90	641.80
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)		+0.53	90.95
Exchange Rates			
YEN			116.2050
EURO			0.7594
POUND			0.5133
CANADIAN \$			1.1382

IN BRIEF

Ford employees accept buyout deals

DETROIT — Ford's hourly work force is shrinking to half its current size, following the announcement Wednesday that 38,000 hourly workers have agreed to accept early retirement or buyout packages this year.

That still might not be enough to revive the nation's second-largest automaker, however, which is contracting in the face of multibillion-dollar losses and fierce competition. Now, say analysts, Ford Motor Co. needs to rekindle interest in its cars and reclaim some market share lost to Asian rivals.

"They've got to learn how to build a product that is acceptable in the market at a good price," Turnaround specialist Jim McTevia, of McTevia & Associates in Bingham Farms, said. "They've got to build it economically and they've got to sell it economically."

Ford had expected 25,000 to 30,000 workers to sign up during an open enrollment period that expired Monday. The new reduction figure would amount to nearly 46 percent of the 83,000 unionized employees that Ford had at the start of the year.

That will eventually save Ford about \$5 billion a year, but it still has a long way to go and more painful measures to take before it's financially sound.

GM to begin work on plug-in car

LOS ANGELES — General Motors Corp. has begun work on a plug-in hybrid power system for its Saturn Vue sport utility vehicle that could save on gasoline use, Chief Executive Rick Wagoner said Wednesday at the Los Angeles Auto Show. He offered no timetable on when it will be available, however.

Wagoner also said GM will start offering versions of its Hummer models that could run on biofuel within three years. The Hummers have become a lightning rod for critics of vehicle fuel efficiency.

Hybrid vehicles have both electric and gasoline power systems. They save on gas consumption by shutting off the engine while idling, giving the vehicle a boost of electric power during acceleration and capturing electrical energy when the vehicle is braking.

U.S. to enforce new trade policies

Government to use 'luxury sanctions' to reprimand N. Korea for nuclear tests

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a novel effort targeting the lifestyle of North Korea's eccentric president, the Bush administration wants to make it tougher for him to buy iPods, plasma televisions, Segway electric scooters and more.

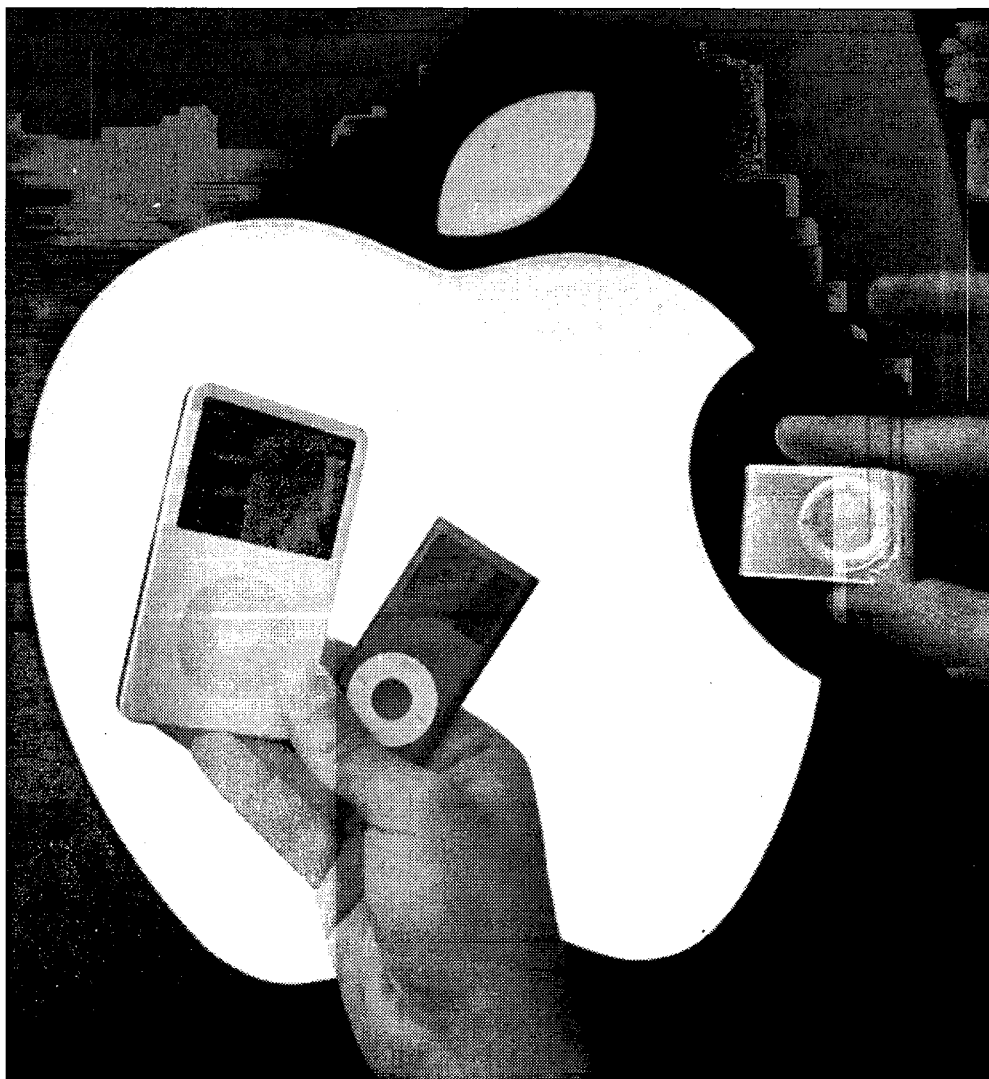
It is Washington's first-ever attempt to use trade penalties as a way of personally aggravating a foreign leader. They target items believed to be favored by Kim Jong Il or presented by him as gifts to the roughly 600 loyalist families who run the communist government.

Kim, who orchestrated a secret nuclear weapons program despite international efforts to stop him, has other options for obtaining high-end consumer electronics and other luxuries.

But the list of proposed U.S. penalties, obtained by The Associated Press, aims to make Kim's swanky life harder: No more cognac, Rolex watches, cigarettes, artwork, expensive cars, Harley Davidson motorcycles or even personal watercraft, such as Jet Skis.

The ban would extend even to musical instruments and sports equipment. The 5-foot-3 Kim is an enthusiastic basketball fan; Secretary of State Madeleine Albright presented him with a ball signed by Michael Jordan during a rare diplomatic trip in 2000. Kim's former secretary, widely believed to be his new wife, studied piano at North Korea's Pyongyang University of Music and Dance.

"While North Korea's people starve and suffer, there is simply no excuse for the regime to be splurging on cognac and cigars," Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez said Wednesday in a statement. "We will ban the export of these and other luxury goods that are purchased for no other



The U.S. hopes to get North Korea's attention with the restriction of high-end electronics such as Apple's mega-popular iPod mp3 player.

reason than to benefit North Korea's governing elite."

Gutierrez said penalized items were "carefully considered and carefully targeted."

Experts said the U.S. luxury sanctions would be the first ever to curtail a specific category of goods not associated with military buildups or weapons designs — and the first tailored to annoy a foreign leader. They acknowledge that enforcing the ban on black-market trading would be difficult.

"He's got folks who can move around nuclear weapons. If he tells these guys to get him a case of Scotch, they're going to pull it off," said James A.

Lewis, a former State Department official who worked on arms controls. "Unless it's too large to fit into the cargo hold of a commercial aircraft, it's going to be tough to restrain him."

In Beijing, U.S. and North Korean diplomats failed to reach agreement on when they might resume disarmament negotiations on Kim's atomic weapons program. Japan's Kyodo News agency cited unidentified people at the talks as saying that Kim demanded the U.S. freeze the penalties on luxury goods and other items imposed after the North's first nuclear test on Oct. 9.

The population in North

Korea, one of the world's most isolated economies, is impoverished and routinely suffers food shortages. The new trade ban would forbid U.S. shipments there of Rolexes, French cognac, plasma TVs, yachts and more — all items favored by Kim but unattainable by most of the country.

"It's a new concept. It's kind of creative," said William Reinsch, a former senior Commerce Department official who oversaw trade restrictions with North Korea under President Clinton.

Reinsch predicted governments will comply with the restrictions, but agreed trying to block all underground shipments will be frustrating.

FEMA ordered to resume payments

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration must immediately resume housing payments for thousands of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina, a federal judge said Wednesday, heaping more criticism on the government's handling of the 2005 disaster.

U.S. District Judge Richard J. Leon's ruling sharply criticized the Federal Emergency Management Agency for illegally cutting housing funding and subjecting storm victims to a convoluted application process he called "Kafkaesque."

It is the second court victory for

Katrina victims this week. A federal judge in Louisiana said Monday that many homeowners might be entitled to more insurance money for flood damage.

In the Washington case, Leon said FEMA mishandled the transition from a short-term housing program to a longer-term program this spring and summer.

FEMA, which was criticized in the wake of the storm for responding too slowly, defended itself in a statement released Wednesday night. FEMA said it sent letters outlining the program changes, explaining why some people were ineligible and describing the appeal process.

Leon, however, said those letters contained only program codes and agency jargon and didn't explain anything. Some evacuees got multiple letters with conflicting information, he said, leaving families unable to understand why their aid was being cut.

Until FEMA explains itself and allows victims to appeal, Leon said the government must keep making housing payments.

"It is unfortunate, if not incredible, that FEMA and its counsel could not devise a sufficient notice system to spare these beleaguered evacuees the added burden of federal litigation to vindicate their constitutional rights," Leon wrote.

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The cult of the celebrity

This week, the Pope makes a historic visit to Turkey that will strongly influence Muslim-Christian dialogue in the coming months and years. In New York last Saturday, police officers fired fifty shots on an unarmed man in a case that may or may not be a flash-point of police brutality. The violence in Iraq continues to escalate, and NBC now officially refers to the conflict as a civil war.



James Dechant

Foregone Conclusion

All these headlines dominate the news this week, yet many Americans are going to give them only a passing glance or ignore them completely. Instead, most of us will read about Tracy Morgan's DWI, catch up on the latest Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie drama and/or baby adoption or immerse ourselves in the details of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes' post-matrimonial escapades. This excessive admiration for particular individuals resembles a cult, in a fully pejorative sense.

It's no great insight to say that our culture has an unhealthy fixation on celebrities and their meaningless (but still more interesting than our) lives. It puzzles me why we do, when our qualifications for fame are so low. It seems that all it takes anymore to become famous is having a sex video leaked to the Internet. We don't demand much more than that. Once you're in, you can sit back and relax — we maintain your fame. We obsess and worship our celebrities. Even though we love to see their shortcomings, we still allow them more leeway than any average citizen dreams of. Living an outrageously lavish life is fawned over. The more gratuitous and disgustingly-affluent ways you

can find to waste your money, the more airtime you'll be awarded on MTV.

We are not alone in this mania. England has its royalty to obsess over (though it isn't so much that celebrities replace royalty figures as objects of public fixation, but rather royalty moonlights as celebrities. Whether this represents the triumph of mass democracy or the conflation of the political and entertainment realms — a related phenomenon in full swing — remains to be seen). And sometimes individuals even do something to merit our attention — we still have our sports icons to glorify and drool over, after all. Yet sports icons these days are adopting the roles of social luminaries. We know athletes as much for their product promotions as for their physical accomplishments. Just ask Michael Jordan or Tiger Woods. Your career never ends; when you run out of steam or get too old, you can just move into the announcer's booth or start your own reality television series. Hey, it worked for Hulk Hogan.

Why do we obsess over these figures? Why are Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie more important to us than violence in the Sudan, starvation in Ethiopia and war in Iraq (combined)? Why do we proclaim ourselves leaders of the free world as we apathetically ignore world politics and instead devour tabloid magazines which dig up dirt on the latest break-ups, pregnancies, weight-gains and drug rehab stunts?

Our aversion to reality seems to be worsening. The circulation of *Us Weekly* rose 18 percent last year, *In Touch Weekly's* 30 percent. Compare that to *Time's* measly 0.1 percent growth or *National Geographic's* one percent loss. We shield ourselves in an exciting fantasy world where our only problem is predicting which celeb has a drug addiction problem next. I don't mean to be a Gloomy Gus — life sucks some-

times, and we need lighter things to occupy our time or we'd all crack. But celebrities don't really fit this bill: we love to see them fail. Tabloid magazines don't run articles about celebrities' accomplishments and success stories; they feature stories about lovers' forbidden trysts, broken celebrity marriages and Oprah's latest dietary habits. We set up our idols and then we smash them down.

Maybe that's what we love — the feeling of authority we get in building these people up and having the power to break them down again. Because it is really we, the masses, who build up the sacrosanct images that celebrities become. We hype them, we follow them and we love them. And then, when they've reached the pinnacle of popular existence (e.g. the cover of *TV Guide* or *People*), we know we have the power to strip them of their pristine reputations and cast them back down to the dregs.

What sick, twisted creatures we are.

But hold on — I said I wouldn't be bleak. There may be some good in our relation to celebrities. As I mentioned above, it's in some ways a communal celebration of our popular influence. An exercising of our democratic power, with no harmful effects (for us). A perverted, megalomaniacal exercising of that power, true, which can ruin the individual lives of the actors, singers, dancers, athletes, artists, daytime talk show hosts, food critics, movie reviewers, fitness coaches and politicians that we build up — but at least it's not us taking the fall.

Although maybe it would be worth it, just to be on the cover of *People*.

James Dechant is a junior English and Theology major. He can be contacted at jdechant@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Will you be watching the Notre Dame women's soccer team in the Final Four this weekend?

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

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to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Well, dinner would have been splendid ... if the wine had been as cold as the soup, the beef as rare as the service, the brandy as old as the fish and the maid as willing as the Duchess."

Sir Winston Churchill
former British prime minister

Don't give in to stress

Stress. It can be an ugly thing. High blood pressure, pimples, weight gain, irritability and a host of other unappealing, even unmentionable, physical symptoms have all been linked to experiencing stress. And how is everyone feeling these days, now that the Thanksgiving holiday milestone has been breached? Stressed. Somehow, we can hold it at bay through the great feast on — to quote my brother — the “large roasted flightless bird.” However, some of you may have even noticed the stress creeping up on you as the holiday weekend came to a close ... and when you got back to class on Monday? Bam! Stress city! There's no longer anything between you and finals!

You have probably noticed, however, that sometimes stress can be a good thing. Who hasn't been able to whip out a paper simply because it was due the next morning (or that same afternoon)? Who hasn't found their study habits suddenly improving as the test grew nearer and nearer? Ironically, we often get a lot more done when we're busy than when we have plenty of time on our hands.

One of the unfortunate side-effects of both kinds of stress — the over-the-top-can't-sleep-because-of-it stress and the adrenaline-buzz-high-productivity stress — is that both can induce high levels of selfishness. In the midst of our shoul-

der-tightening anxiety, we believe that no one else could possibly have more work, harder profs, a more demanding schedule or longer papers than we do. We grouse at our roommates, who are certainly just sitting around doing nothing compared to the amount of work we have. Or, while zipping around in caffeine-induced super-productivity, we come to think a little too highly of our own speed writing or cramming abilities. Who needs study groups, friends to proofread papers or any help at all, for that matter? On a tight deadline, we're the best!

Well, step back and take a deep breath, regardless of how you're experiencing the stress during these last few busy days of the semester. Althea Gibson, the trailblazing tennis player of the 1950s who became the first African-American to ever win a Grand Slam tennis tournament (she won 11) and the first African-American voted by the Associated Press as “Female Athlete of the Year” said, “No matter what accomplishments you achieve, somebody helped you.” Whether you feel overwhelmed and alone or slightly on the cocky side, reach out to someone else in these next few weeks. We are more connected than we realize, for as St. Paul wrote to the Philippians, “It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure” (2:13).

Finally, if you will accept a few words of advice from a voice of experience:

Be kind to your roommates and friends, even if you don't feel like it.

Stand up straight (just trust me on this; it really helps).

Don't drink too much coffee or alcohol. Neither will help as much as you think they will.

Don't eat too much, especially when you're just mindlessly moving your hand back and forth between chip bag and mouth. It will only make you feel worse.

Get a little exercise, even if you just take a quick walk around the quad.

Sleep never hurts either. It helps the brain absorb information and it also helps ensure against involuntarily falling asleep during the exam itself (as I did once during a Calculus final my freshman year).

Pray with these words from Archbishop Virgil O'Brien, who recently visited the Notre Dame campus: “Never is life so insecure as when we hold it in the palm of our own hands and think we can control it. Never is our own life safer than when we entrust it to the hands of a merciful God in Christ.”

This week's FaithPoint is written by Kate Barrett, director of resources and special projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Catholics, capital punishment and Cities for Life

In the week leading up to this month's national elections, as you might recall, Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death by hanging. While President George Bush smirked, declared victory and spoke about “healing justice,” nearly every European leader, including Bush's closest allies, wore long faces on the news and condemned the sentence for its inhumanity. This article is an invitation to the Notre Dame community to think about these different reactions. On a campus regularly dotted with right to life campaigns calling for an end to abortion, Notre Dame students have an opportunity this week to reflect on another dimension of the right to life and, if so moved, symbolically challenge the death penalty in the United States.

On Thursday, Nov. 30, students from the campus' Sant'Egidio community and Notre Dame Against Killing (ND ASK) will be celebrating the worldwide Cities for Life day. Sponsored by the community of Sant'Egidio in over 400 cities on Thursday, groups around the world will be lighting up big-city monuments — like the Coliseum in Rome and La Moneda in Santiago — to commemorate the first abolition of the death penalty by law, in the Great Duchy of Tuscany, 1786. On campus we will be lighting candles at the Grotto with Dale Recinella, a Notre Dame law grad who gave up his life as hot-shot international finance lawyer to minister spiritually to inmates on death row in Florida. Following a series of speakers on campus by ND ASK to mobilize support and collect signatures to end the death penalty, Dale will

talk afterwards about his experience making and losing friends on death row. In his recent book, Dale notes that most Americans who believe in the death penalty, like George Bush, defend it on religious grounds, believing that God demands this justice in death, that in some way the death penalty can bring healing vengeance.

While the Biblical commitment to justice by God is great, it is always underscored by a more powerful call towards compassion, forgiveness and love. As the last few popes and the U.S. conference of Catholic bishops have all emphasized, it is only through these fundamental exigencies in which true healing can occur, not through the violence of the executioner's switch, noose or needle. If we can defend society bloodlessly, why should Catholics continue to support the violence of society and the destruction of human dignity by allowing our government to kill our criminals? Who are we to allow the legitimized violence of the state to mobilize so completely against one person when their very crimes mirror our own collective inability to have reached out and helped them in the first place? As Gandalf tells Frodo, “Many that live deserve death. And some that die deserve life. Can you give it to them? Then do not be too eager to deal out death in judgment. For even the very wise cannot see all ends.”

Michael Driessen
graduate student
political science
Nov. 25

Stop using the ‘but’

As college students, we have the new and often unappreciated privilege of being able to vote. We can have much influence on the future, and as moral, religious people we can influence the character and morality of those who we chose to rule our country. One thing we need to watch out for is politicians who claim to be personally opposed to some moral wrong, yet do absolutely nothing about it politically or even encourage that wrong through their political decisions. This position is called the “I am personally opposed, but ...” position and was popularized for our generation by the antics of Senator John Kerry in the 2004 presidential election with his position on abortion. Bear in mind I am not discussing abortion, so you avid pro-lifers or pro-choicers can calm down. I just find the “I am personally opposed, but ...” position invalid and completely inconsistent. A politician who discovers moral norms that are not often justifiable when broken should be willing to rally support for those issues. Being personally opposed and politically in favor means you are supporting and cooperating in what is wrong.

My problem is the misconception of private opposition and public support. I believe Catholics and all politicians need to stop hiding behind “privately opposed,” speak the truth, be honest about their beliefs and stop what I see as the cynical appeal of votes from their party members by faking a strong and unwavering faith. Our friends the Catholic bishops have made noise on this topic and a few threatened to deny communion to presidential candidate John Kerry. You may ask, what gives the bishops the right to do this? What about separation of church and state? In fact, the free-exercise clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution allows this. Both bishops and politicians are completely free to persuade the public to the moral truth they discovered, not created. Religious freedom is no excuse for the inconsistencies of the “I am personally opposed, but ...” position. A politician cannot support publicly what he knows is wrong personally. How can you support something you find wrong? It is unnatural to not be in line with your personal beliefs.

The evil of slavery was ended by consistent politicians who were morally opposed to slavery and actually did something about it to try to end a wrong to so many innocent people. The “I am personally opposed, but ...” position prevents the spread and clarification of debatable moral truths of our time such as torture, stem-cell research, nuclear war and even abortion.

Eric Kosmo
freshman
Alumni Hall
Nov. 29

NDAA care package thanks

On behalf of the Notre Dame Accounting Association, we would like to say thank you for the generous support and donations given to us for the Care Package Drive to the Troops. Through your help, we were able to send out over 155 packages to soldiers serving all over the globe and will hopefully give them a little piece of home for the holidays. It was expressed to the soldiers that they are continuously in our thoughts and prayers, and we are grateful for their sacrifices. We received monetary donations, great goodies and gracious letters to put in the packages, as well as discounts and donations from Wal-Mart, Hobby Lobby, UPS, Martins, Osco, Sam's Club, Athletic Department, Food Services and The Shirt. Once again, none of this could have been achieved without all this support and we thank you all for it.

Liz Byrum
junior
Rena Zarah
senior
Service Commissioners
Notre Dame Accounting Association
Nov. 29

We are not animals

Daniel Amiri (whom I don't know) recently wrote a most apt description of free will, an element which separates us from animals. “We are not animals. We do not have to be trained to obey,” he wrote. The Servant of God, Pope John Paul II, addressed the International Congress on Life-Sustaining Treatments and Vegetative State Mar. 20, 2004 and began by asserting his concern that “vegetative” has become entrenched in our vocabulary: “A man, even if seriously ill or disabled in the exercise of his highest functions, is and always will be a man, and he will never become a ‘vegetable’ or an ‘animal.’” The Holy Father proclaimed these words one year before his entrance into Eternal Life while he was most seriously ill and disabled in the exercise of his highest functions ... and teaching us some of his most profound lessons. May God bless you all through Our Lady.

David Spellman
Notre Dame parent
Logansport, Ind.
Nov. 29

SCENE *in perspective*

Who decides what Americans have a right to see?

*The cancellation of Simpson's book might lead down a slippery slope*By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

In our modern-day world it is next to impossible to escape from the influence and impact of the media world. With the nearly constant connection to media outlets — from televisions, to computers, to books and newspapers — the American public is constantly absorbing information of all kinds.

Although not everything that passes from the media to the public is of interest to everyone, the beauty of having such a diversity of options is that the public can choose what they want to pay attention to and ignore the rest.

In the middle of November, ReganBooks and the FOX television network announced that they were, respectively, publishing a book written by and airing an interview with the notorious O.J. Simpson. The two-part interview was between Simpson and his publisher, Judith Regan, about his book entitled "If I Did It." On November 20 — just ten days before the book was scheduled to hit the shelves — News Corp. (who owns both HarperCollins/ReganBooks and FOX) announced that it was cancelling both the book and television interview.

Aside from being a Heisman winner at USC, an NFL Hall-of-Famer with the Buffalo Bills and the San Francisco 49ers and an actor in such Hollywood hits as "The Towering Inferno" and "The Naked Gun," Simpson is arguably most famous for being the center of "The Trial of the Century" where he was accused of committing the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown and her friend Ron Goldman. Anyone older than a toddler during the summer of 1994 will remember watching the footage of the slow-speed white Bronco chase across the California Interstate on almost every major network — NBC even interrupted its coverage of the 1994 NBA Finals in order to air the pursuit.

From beginning to end, Simpson's criminal courtroom trial was a complete media frenzy. Every single minute of the trial aired on Court TV — there were 133 days of televised testimony, making it the most public criminal trial to date.



Photo courtesy of aol.com

O.J. Simpson's criminal court hearings, referred to as "The Trial of the Century," are the most public to date, with every single day of testimony shown live on television.

On Oct. 3, 1995 the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" in front of an audience of 150 million American television viewers. There was never a moment when the American media public was not involved — or at the very least interested — in the Simpson case.

Only a few weeks ago ReganBooks announced that they were publishing a 240-page book written by Simpson called "If I Did It," where Simpson hypothetically describes in the second-half of the book how he would have committed the murders of Brown and Goldman if he had been guilty of the crime.

His publisher, Judith Regan, told the Associated Press that she considered the book his confession to the crime.

The book was to be preceded by a two-part interview between Simpson and Regan (Barbara Walters initially asked for the interview, but then backed out of the project) that was going to air on the FOX network on Nov. 27 and 29.

Just over a week before both the interview and the book were to go public, News Corp. issued a statement that both had been cancelled due to criticism over the releases.

HarperCollins, of which ReganBooks is a division, announced that all copies of "If I Did It" that had been shipped to stores were being recalled and that every copy of the book is to be destroyed.

However, several copies of the book have since shown up on eBay and changed hands, with bids reaching upwards of a million dollars.

Although books have been recalled for instances of plagiarism, this is a rare instance where a book has been pulled over its content. The Associated Press called the book's cancellation "an astonishing end to a story like no other," recognizing that a publisher withdrawing a book for its content "is virtually unheard of."

Both the Brown and Goldman families were vocal about their opposition to both the television interview and book, appearing on several news shows and giving several interviews.

The Goldman family started an online petition at dontpayoj.com, and garnered 58,395 signatures. They argued that this move by Simpson was nothing but exploitation and was allowing him to profit from the murders of their family members.

The question resulting from this overall debacle is who decides what

is appropriate or not in the media. Although there were protesters to "If I Did It," there were also supporters.

The spokesperson for Borders, Inc., Ann Binkley, stated that the book would be carried at Borders and Waldenbooks stores because of their belief that "it is the right of customers to decide what they read and what to buy." Borders, Inc. also stated that they were donating all of the proceeds from sales of "If I Did It" to charity.

What some people deem offensive, others will enjoy while being offended by yet other material. There are consistently cases of outcry over everything from "South Park" to "Harry Potter" to "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" — but where is the line that decides when it is allowable for material to be pulled from the hands of the public?

In the case of "If I Did It" it was the squeaky wheel that got the oil.

While some are rejoicing over this questionable victory, it leaves others worrying about the precedent that this sets. The Simpson trial was important enough in the eyes of the public to be called "The Trial of the Century."

Dozens of books have been published about the case — without the same cries of exploitation. This was not even OJ's first book. In 1995, Simpson published "I Want to Tell You" where he responds to letters and questions about his life, the trial and his declared innocence in the murders. That book has not been pulled off the shelves to be destroyed.

But now the line has been drawn. Is it about the exploitation of the deaths of innocent people? Then how soon until books, or movies, about 9/11 are pulled? Is it about appropriateness and offensiveness? How soon until "The Catcher in the Rye" and "Harry Potter" are recalled from shelves and destroyed? Or public book burnings of "Mein Kampf?"

Where does the line stop? Simpson's book might be shelved indefinitely, but the American people are left to struggle with the ramifications of, what is ultimately, his censorship.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu

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

The question resulting from this overall debacle is who decides what is appropriate or not in the media.

How soon until "The Catcher in the Rye" and "Harry Potter" are recalled from shelves and destroyed?



**X-BOX'S STRONGEST
WEAPON IN THE WAR
OF THE CONSOLES**



JARRED WAFER/Observer Graphic

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

"Gears of War," a new third-person shooter for the Xbox 360 produced by Epic Games, is Microsoft's flagship title for the holiday season. Set to compete with the release of two hotly-anticipated gaming consoles — Sony's PlayStation 3 and Nintendo's Wii — "Gears of War" debuts with high expectations.

"Gears" is primed to be the game that the Xbox 360 will be known for, much like how "Halo" provided the heart for the original Xbox.

Set in a post-apocalyptic universe on the planet of Sera, "Gears" provides a compelling atmosphere of beautiful desolation. The character models, environments and weapons are detailed with dirt, grime and debris that easily draws players into what is arguably the prettiest game on the Xbox 360 to date. Sera and its destroyed civilization are brought to life through intricate environments ranging from massive, destroyed cityscapes to underground caverns. Sera's ambience is most spectacular during the night scenes. The darkness adds several interesting twists to the gameplay.

The plot is that of typical first-person shooter fair, but the game's atmosphere easily makes up for the lack of storytelling. In fact, the game's atmosphere sets a new standard for future

releases — arguably even beating out such well-known powerhouses as "Call of Duty."

"Gears" spans a 36-hour period chronicling the exploits of soldiers from the Coalition of Ordered Governments in their desperate fight against the Locust. The game begins with a quick animation detailing the destruction of Sera's civilization on Emergence Day by the Locust. The Locust are a gruesome, ferocious enemy often discharging from the depths of Sera without warning to rampage and generally cause havoc. Their motives are unknown and never truly explained to any satisfactory degree, leaving the Locust in the realm of a generic, destructive, horde creature.

The game is split into a number of chapters, each composed of missions that range from extremely short to quite long. During the soldier's fight of survival against the Locust hordes, the player is armed with a truly brutal array of weapons that only helps underpin the game's juxtaposition of elegance and devastation. Enemies are immolated, sundered and maimed in a most visceral fashion producing a satisfying feeling of retribution. Weapons such as the Hammer of Dawn will leave avid gamers grinning from ear to ear. Although members of the Locust are for the most part a generic foe, they do provide an excellent source of fodder for the uniquely designed weapons.

The soundtrack and effects will satisfy any audiophile, and those lucky gamers with 5.1 surround sound will be in for a



Photo courtesy of IGN.com

"Gears of War," one of Xbox 360's newest games, takes the genre of the third-person shooter to new heights with the mission difficulty and graphics quality.

treat. The music changes pace to match the action on screen. Each weapon produces an exhilaratingly deep response. The voice acting for the characters is done well, although the dialogue leaves much to be desired. Each line of absurdity is delivered in a spectacular and grandiose manner, often eliciting a good chuckle.

The control scheme adopted by "Gears" is non-standard and takes a little while to learn. But with a little patience, the controls they feel extraordinarily natural. The buttons are all context-sensitive and provide a rather large repertoire of mobility options. "Gears" utilizes a cover system that is fairly reminiscent of "Killswitch."

The game requires a high level of finesse and planning, especially once the higher levels of difficulty are unlocked. In fact, the higher levels of difficulty are near impossible without the help of a fellow gamer in co-op mode. "Gears" provides the best co-op experience available on the Xbox 360 and is playable either in split screen or through Xbox Live.

"Gears" is a guaranteed pleaser for both the avid and casual gamer, and easily the Xbox 360's strongest argument to put them at the head of the console battle.

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CD REVIEW

Oasis returns with a strong compilation album

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

A decade after their zenith in popularity, it's easy to remember Oasis for the things that happened — the infighting, a raw arrogance, the rotating supporting cast — and forget that, for a few years, it truly may have been among the great bands in the world.

The two-disc compilation "Stop the Clocks" collects 18 tracks from all six Oasis albums (with the notable exception of 1997's "Be Here Now") released over the course of their decade-long career, demonstrating just how great — and surprisingly consistent — Oasis really was.

Oasis was essentially one half of the major Brit Pop equation, competing against Blur for popular supremacy. Where Blur was a pop band whose influences came from a variety of sources, Oasis was a rock band, with crunchy gui-

tars, simple hooks and sneered vocals. They also had a pretty good singer in Liam Gallagher, who improved with each passing album and a pretty good songwriter in his older brother Noel, who penned some of the biggest hits of the 1990s.

Oasis was accused of being a Beatles knockoff, and occasionally of being outright thieves, which is aurally evident in some of their best-known songs. The opening piano of "Don't Look Back in Anger" does evoke Lennon's "Imagine." But Oasis has a signature sound that manages to squeeze them past those pilferings.

It's easy to harp on what's missing from a compilation, and there's plenty missing from "Stop the Clocks," most notably anything from "Be Here Now." That album spawned its share of hits ("D'Yer Know What I Mean?," "Stand By Me," "Don't Go Away"), but hindsight proved it to be an insufficient follow-up to "What's the Story," which may account for its complete absence.

And while fans might harp that a popular favorite or two is missing (their volatile cover of The Beatles' "I Am the Walrus" would've been welcome), "Stop the Clocks" gets it mostly right.

Much like Blur's own compilation, 2000's "The Best of Blur," "Stop the Clocks" mixes in B-sides and fan favorites alongside the hit hits, which



Photo courtesy of wallpapers.diq.ru

Oasis, a British rock band, has been a mainstay in the music world since it dominated the early 1990s with still-popular hits such as "Wonderwall."

means that, yes, "Wonderwall" and "Live Forever" are here. But so are lesser-known tracks like "Talk Tonight" and "Acquiesce." All this adds up to make "Stop the Clocks" sound fresher and also serves to strengthen the ubiquitous songs, since they're given a different context.

And really, the music is great. Aside from all the songs already mentioned, there's a wealth of great material here, with five tracks each from "Definitely Maybe" and "Morning Glory," and a total of four songs from Oasis' last two albums, though this makes sense since the zenith

of the band's career was during that time.

"Stop the Clocks" makes a great compilation for newcomers and casual fans, but it won't be of much use to longtime devotees, who likely have most of the material already.

For anyone else whose only exposure to Oasis is through "Wonderwall," however, "Stop the Clocks" serves as a great introduction to one of the brightest bands of the 1990s.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
bdoxtade@nd.edu

Oasis

Stop the Clocks

Big Brother



Recommended tracks: 'Wonderwall,' 'Live Forever,' 'Talk Tonight' and 'Acquiesce'

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ducks take down Hoyas; Colonials scare Panthers

No. 23 Georgetown loses second game of non-conference schedule

Associated Press

Aaron Brooks scored 15 points, and Oregon made up for poor shooting with hustle and rebounding to improve to 6-0 with a 57-50 upset of No. 18 Georgetown on Wednesday night.

Oregon was better than Georgetown in nearly every facet of the game, but they couldn't hit their shots until midway through the second half. The Ducks never had anything close to a comfortable lead until a 10-3 run gave them a 53-44 lead with 1:36 to play.

Bryce Taylor scored nine of his 14 points in the second half for the Ducks, who are 6-0 for the first time since the 2002-03 season. The victory was also the first ever for Oregon on the road against a ranked team in the Eastern time zone. They had previously been 0-7 on such trips.

Oregon held the rebounding edge over Georgetown until late in the game and neutralized the fearsome frontcourt of Jeff Green and Roy Hibbert, who went scoreless in the first half and combined for only nine points on 4-for-11 shooting. Green, considered a potential Big East player of the year at the start of the season, had yet another very quiet game: 2-for-4 from the field with five points and three turnovers before fouling out in the final minute.

Jonathan Wallace was the lone star for the Hoyas, scoring 17 points on 8-for-13 shooting. The rest of the team was a combined 14-for-36, and the entire team went 1-for-9 from 3-point

range. The Hoyas (4-2) were a preseason Top 10 team, but they've now lost twice at home to unranked opponents, and their next game is at No. 11 Duke.

Pittsburgh 67, Robert Morris 53

Aaron Gray's size and scoring touch inside proved too much for smaller Robert Morris to handle and No. 2 Pittsburgh held off an upset bid by its city rival, overcoming a second-half deficit to rally for a victory Wednesday night.

The 7-foot Gray, four inches taller than any Robert Morris starter, scored 13 of his 21 points in the second half and had 15 rebounds. The Panthers (7-0) outscored the Colonials 26-11 down the stretch after trailing 42-41 on Derek Coleman's drive to the basket with 13 minutes remaining.

The Panthers answered Robert Morris' comeback try by going on a 12-2 run finished off by Gray's three-point play. Gray had seven points during the surge, and Ronald Ramon hit a 3-pointer after Robert Morris had closed to 47-44.

Mike Cook added 11 points and Levon Kendall had 10 for Pitt, which improved to 26-0 against Robert Morris and 64-0 against Northeast Conference teams. The Panthers, ranked No. 2 for the seventh time in school history, are 7-0 for the fifth consecutive season.

Robert Morris, a commuter school based near the city's airport, hung in despite getting only six points from A.J. Jackson, who was averaging 24 points but made only two of 13 shots.

Coleman scored 12 points as Robert Morris shot only 37 percent (20-of-54) to Pitt's 51 percent (27-of-53).

LSU 91, McNeese State 57

Garrett Temple had 17 points and Tasmin Mitchell scored 14 of his 16 in the second half, leading No. 10 LSU to a win over McNeese State on Wednesday night.

Temple shot 7-of-12 from the field and hit three 3-pointers for the Tigers (3-1). Glen Davis made only three field goals but hit nine free throws to finish with 15 points. Reserve guard Ben Voogd scored a career-high 12 points, and Darnell Lazare added 11.

Aldryan Wardell paced McNeese State (2-5) with a season-high 16 points. John Ford, who made three 3-pointers in the first half, had 13.

Jarvis Bradley, the Cowboys' leading scorer, was held to six points — eight below his season average.

The Tigers used a couple of scoring flurries in the first 10 minutes to take control.

LSU ran off eight straight points to take a 10-2 lead four minutes into the first half. A couple of minutes later, the Tigers scored 12 consecutive points to go ahead 23-6. Alex Farrer and Temple made 3-pointers during that stretch.

Butler 60, Valparaiso 47

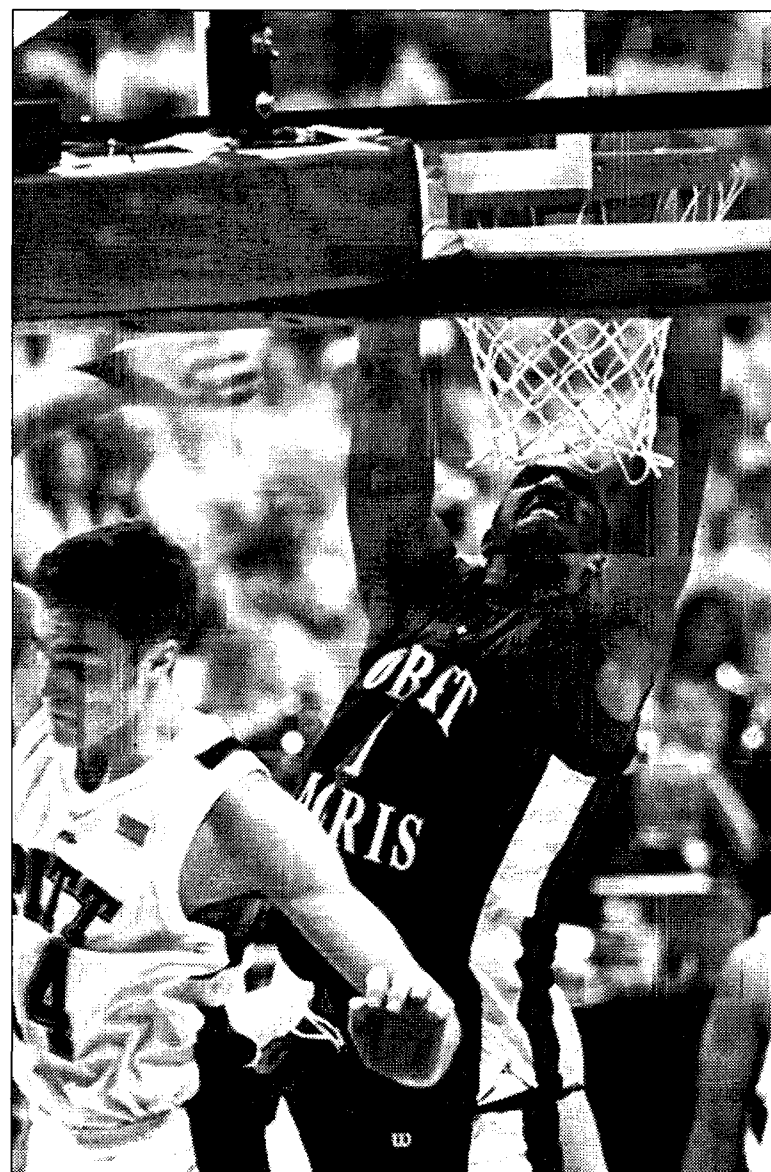
Mike Green scored 16 points and A.J. Graves added 13 to help No. 19 Butler, playing with its highest ranking in 57 years, beat Valparaiso on Wednesday night.

Green scored nine straight points, highlighted by a 3-pointer that bounced high off the back rim and then in, during a decisive 14-1 run late in the first half that stretched Butler's lead from 16-14 to 30-15. Valparaiso (3-3) never got closer than 11 after that.

Valparaiso, which shot 8-of-10 from 3-point range in the second half to give eighth-ranked Marquette a scare during a 65-62 loss on Monday, couldn't get its outside game going against Butler (8-0). The Crusaders were 3-of-17 from 3-point range. They also were 8-of-19 from the free-throw line.

Brandon McPherson led Valparaiso with 14 points and Jarryd Loyd had 10.

Butler, which shot below 40 percent for six straight games, shot 42.5 percent against the Crusaders. The Bulldogs also were 20-of-26 from the free-throw line. Butler is off to its best start since opening the



Robert Morris forward Ifeanyi Ehirim dunks over Pittsburgh forward Levon Kendall in the Colonials' 67-53 loss Wednesday.

2002-03 season with 10 straight victories.

Purdue 61, Virginia 59

Tarrance Crump drove to the basket and hit a floater with 1 second remaining, giving Purdue a victory over No. 25 Virginia in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge on Wednesday night.

The Boilermakers (5-1) blew a nine-point lead midway through the second half and fell behind by five before consecutive 3-pointers by Marcus Green, Chris Lutz and David Teague. The Cavaliers (4-1) tied the game for the final time at 59 on two free throws by Sean Singletary with 29 seconds left.

After a Purdue timeout, Carl Landry held the ball away from the basket until about 7 seconds remained, then got the ball to Crump, who drove in and scored from the right side of the lane. Virginia had one more chance, but turned the ball over on the inbounds pass.

Landry led the Boilermakers with 19 points. Teague added 14 points and five assists.

Virginia was paced by

Singletary with 21 points and Mamadi Diane with 17.

Virginia had averaged almost 91 points in its first four games, but poor shooting and turnovers prevented the Cavaliers from exploiting Purdue's sloppy play early in the game.

Nevada 86 Louisiana-Lafayette 74

Marcelus Kemp and Nick Fazekas combined for 40 points and 24th-ranked Nevada broke open a close game midway through the second half to take a win over Louisiana-Lafayette on Wednesday night.

Kemp had 19 points, including two baskets in a 50-second period, to begin a 16-2 run for the Wolf Pack (6-0). Fazekas had two baskets during that stretch, including a three-point play with 8:08 left that gave Nevada a 69-56 lead.

Fazekas finished with 21 points on 8-of-12 shooting.

JaVale McGee's layup in transition gave the Wolf Pack a 71-56 lead with 7:40 left and Nevada led by double figures for all but 22 seconds the rest of the way.



LSU coach John Brady argues with referee Mike Nance over a call in the first half of the Tigers' 91-57 win Wednesday.

CLASSIFIEDS

LOST & FOUND

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Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at 1-7819. For more information, visit our web site at <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml> or see our bi-weekly ad in The Observer.

Would you like to be an Observer comic artist? If so, please e-mail editor in chief Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu or call him at 574-631-4542. The application process will include preparing 3-5 sample comics.

Dear Abby, I have a problem. My coworker is very demeaning to my hero. What should I do? -Slopy Dear Slopy, Rely on statistics over hunches. -Abby

She's barely moving now Warming in the sun Warming in the sun I left her colder now Than almost anyone Warming in the sun Warming in the sun And the light she finds is golden And I can't take my eyes away But I'm no longer welcome And this is — Not my place to stay Cigarettes fill my lungs One by one by one And I wish spring would come Warming in the sun

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

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, November 30, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Men's Basketball AP Poll

	team	record	points
1	UCLA	4-0	1727
2	Pittsburgh	6-0	1666
3	Ohio State	6-0	1649
4	Florida	6-1	1576
5	Kansas	5-1	1490
6	Alabama	5-0	1404
7	North Carolina	4-1	1389
8	Marquette	6-0	1240
9	Texas A&M	5-0	1213
10	LSU	2-1	985
11	Duke	5-1	946
12	Wisconsin	5-1	807
13	Washington	5-0	731
14	Memphis	3-1	685
15	Syracuse	6-0	662
16	Arizona	3-1	652
17	Wichita State	4-0	635
18	Georgetown	3-1	628
19	Butler	7-0	572
20	Connecticut	5-0	516
21	Georgia Tech	5-1	511
22	Gonzaga	6-1	421
23	Maryland	7-0	376
24	Nevada	5-0	349
25	Virginia	4-0	91

NCAA Women's Basketball AP Poll

	team	record	points
1	Mayland	7-0	1246
2	North Carolina	6-0	1176
3	Oklahoma	4-0	1154
3	Tennessee	5-0	1111
5	Duke	5-0	1024
6	Ohio State	5-0	995
7	Connecticut	2-0	947
8	Georgia	5-0	911
9	Purdue	6-0	852
10	Texas A&M	5-0	728
11	LSU	7-1	708
12	Vanderbilt	6-0	674
13	Baylor	6-1	660
14	Arizona State	5-1	643
15	Stanford	2-3	514
16	California	4-1	400
17	DePaul	3-1	363
18	Rutgers	2-2	334
19	Louisville	6-0	312
20	Michigan State	4-1	282
21	George Washington	5-1	254
22	Texas	5-1	186
23	BYU	3-2	180
24	Kentucky	3-2	82
25	Texas Tech	5-1	77

MIAA Basketball Overall Records

	team	record
1	Hope	3-0
2	Adrian	2-1
3	Albion	3-2
4	Alma	3-2
5	Calvin	3-0
6	Kalamazoo	1-3
7	Olivet	2-3
8	Tri-State	1-3
9	SAINT MARY'S	1-4

around the dial

NBA

Detroit at Miami

8 p.m., TNT

Utah at Los Angeles Lakers

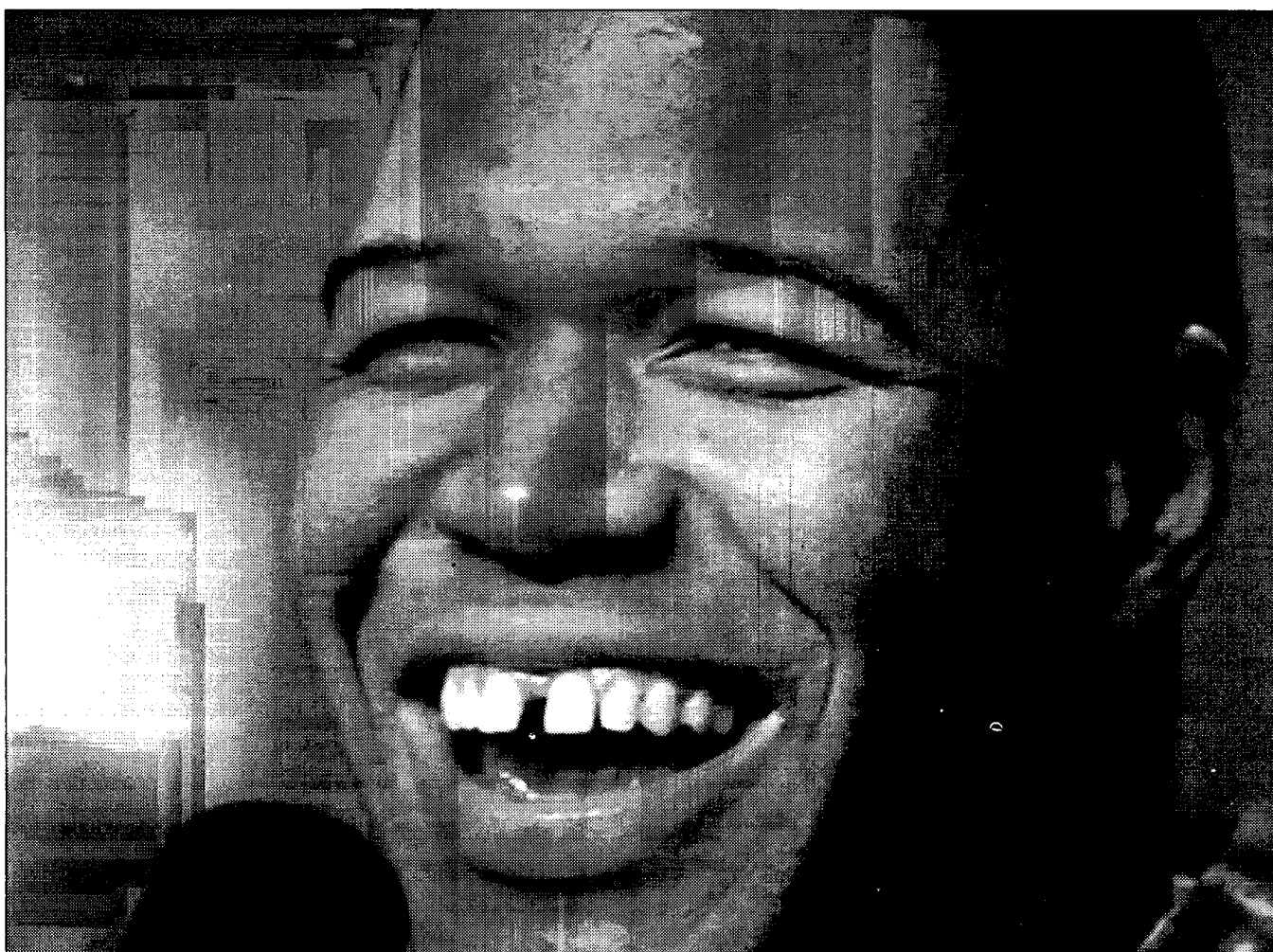
10:30 p.m., TNT

NCAA BASKETBALL

Arkansas at Missouri

9 p.m., ESPN 2

NFL



New York defensive end Michael Strahan talks with reporters Feb. 1. Strahan verbally confronted a reporter Wednesday when asked a question concerning his comments about Giants teammate Plaxico Burress.

Strahan loses his cool with reporter

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD — Losing isn't the only thing contagious on the New York Giants these days.

Blowups are just as popular, and Pro Bowl defensive end Michael Strahan on Wednesday joined the ranks of Jeremy Shockey and Tiki Barber in mouthing off in what is quickly becoming a season of frustration for the team.

Unlike Shockey and Barber, who criticized coach Tom Coughlin and his staff after losses this season, Strahan did his best to intimidate an ESPN reporter who attempted to question him about comments

he made on radio Monday about receiver Plaxico Burress quitting on plays.

Strahan, who has been sidelined the last three weeks with a foot injury, called out Kelly Naki, ESPN's New York-based reporter, as she stood behind about three dozen members of the media trying to question him.

"Come here, I want to see your face when you ask this question, the way you are going to ask it," Strahan said. "I know you are going to ask it in a way there is more division and more of a negative way than it was, so come here, I want to see your face, please."

Strahan then asked the media to clear a path so he

could see Naki.

"You're a responsible journalist, look me in the eye and ask this question the way you want to ask it," said Strahan, who only came into the locker room after being told by the public relations staff that Naki was questioning his teammates about his comments. "Look a man in the eye before you try to kill him or make up something."

Naki then asked Strahan whether he had spoken with Burress since his comments, which came before the Giants held a players' only meeting Monday after a heart-breaking 24-21 loss to Tennessee. The setback was New York's third in a row, and it came in a

game in which it blew a 21-0 fourth-quarter lead.

The Tennessee comeback started after Burress gave up on a deep fourth-quarter pass by Eli Manning and Adam "Pacman" Jones intercepted.

"It's a shame," Strahan said on the radio Monday. "You can't give up. You can't quit, because you're not quitting on yourself, you're quitting on everybody. I don't quite understand what his lack of motivation is in those types of situations. But I'm going to try to see what it is, and if I can talk to him about it. He's too good for that."

Strahan got snippy after Naki questioned him about talking to Burress.

IN BRIEF

Hoops coach finally gets new facility for team after court fight

MONTGOMERY — An Alabama high school basketball coach who was fired when he complained that his girls' basketball team wasn't treated as well as the boys' team — and won a pivotal Supreme Court ruling — has reached a settlement that includes a school board promise of equal facilities.

"My aim all along was to ensure fair treatment for Birmingham female athletes and this agreement, at long last, should guarantee that happens," said Roderick Jackson.

Under the settlement reached Tuesday night with the Birmingham Board of Education, Jackson will receive \$50,000, his lawyers will receive \$340,000, and the board will take all necessary steps to provide female athletes with facilities comparable to those used by male athletes. Jackson had complained in part that his players had to practice in a gym built in 1908 rather than a new one

used by boys.

Jackson fined \$25,000 for criticizing officials

NEW YORK — Phil Jackson was fined \$25,000 by the NBA on Wednesday for criticizing referees Friday night after the Lakers' 114-108 loss to Utah.

Jackson was quoted in several newspapers about the way the officials — Derrick Stafford, Derek Richardson and Leroy Richardson — handled second-year center Andrew Bynum.

In the second quarter, Bynum was called for traveling and moments later he was whistled for a foul when he thought he drew a charge against Matt Harpring. The 19-year-old Bynum approached the referees, but teammate Kobe Bryant intervened.

"The big key with Drew is they wouldn't let him play," Jackson said following the game.

Jackson called the matchup a "roughhouse game" and it was

"one of those nights in Utah that you know you're going to get."

"The league throws out some referee corps that you're dubious about to start with and, you know, the game ends up to be like that," he said.

Each team was called for 26 fouls.

Titans hire Indiana native as new team doctor

KNOXVILLE — Tennessee has hired a former assistant team physician from the Indianapolis Colts and Purdue to be the team doctor, school officials announced.

Dr. Chris Klenck, 35, has completed a primary care sports medicine fellowship at Indiana University Medical Center. He worked for the Colts during preseason training camps and has been a high school team doctor in Indiana.

Klenck, a native of Evansville, Ind., replaces Dr. Val Gene Iven, who served for 14 years as the head doctor.

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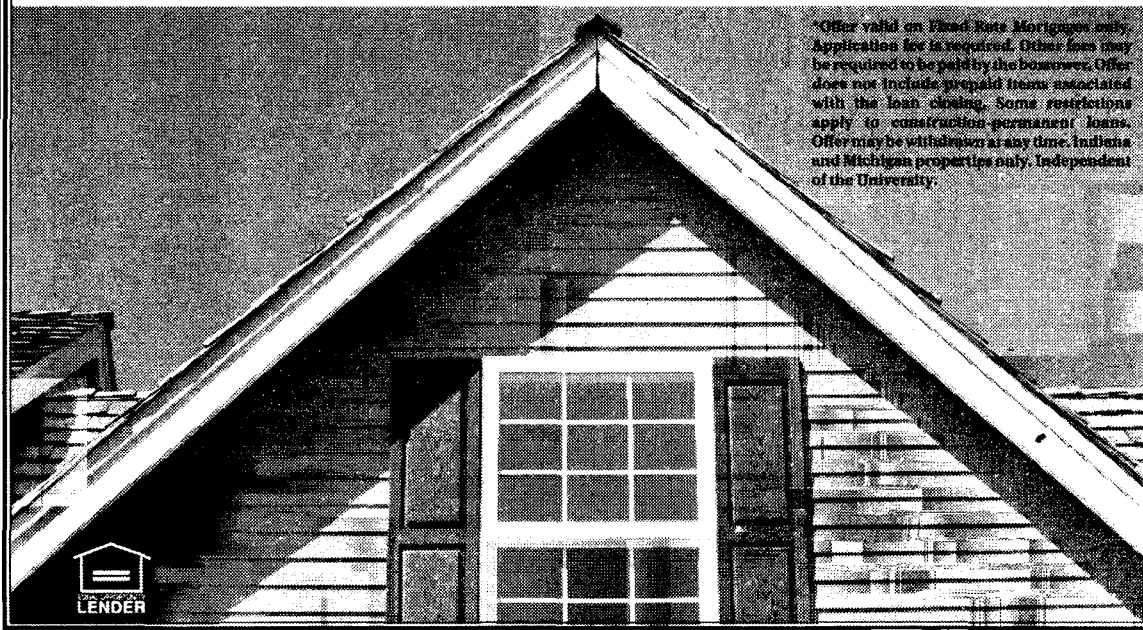
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NFL

Ravens can earn spot in playoffs with win



Baltimore quarterback Steve McNair looks to throw in the Ravens 27-0 victory over Pittsburgh Sunday.

9-2 Baltimore takes on Cincinnati Thursday

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Marvin Lewis won't compare Baltimore's current defense to the record-setting one that helped the Ravens win the Super Bowl six years ago.

"That's a long time ago," said Lewis, who was their defensive coordinator in 2000. "I don't even remember that. They're this year's version of the Baltimore Ravens."

This version is looking like a champion, too.

With a victory over Lewis' Cincinnati Bengals on Thursday night, the Ravens (9-2) would become the first team to clinch a division championship this season. A victory in Cincinnati would snatch the AFC North title away from the Bengals (6-5) and put the Ravens on course for greater things.

"There's something much more than just winning the division," safety Ed Reed said.

First, they'd like to put the mouthy Bengals in their place.

Some Ravens are miffed by the way T.J. Houshmandzadeh talked down to them the first time they met this season. The Ravens won 26-20 on Nov. 5, but Houshmandzadeh wasn't about to give them any credit afterward.

"Deep down, we know we're better than Baltimore and they know it," Houshmandzadeh said. "We've got better players than they do."

Houshmandzadeh isn't backing down.

"I think we're better than them," he said Tuesday. "We'll find out."

Sure will.

The Ravens know their three-game lead on the Bengals — and the chance to clinch a title on their field — speak for themselves. Reed chortled when Houshmandzadeh's comments were brought up.

"Keep your mouth shut, man," Reed said. "Play football. I heard

it. It is what it is. The game speaks for itself. If you think you're a better team, then come out and let's play football, man."

The Ravens are used to hearing good-natured trash talk from Bengals receiver Chad Johnson, but Houshmandzadeh's slight struck a nerve.

"He must not have played in the game that we were playing in," linebacker Terrell Suggs said. "Anybody could have lined up across from us that day and we had their number. It's evident on the film. If he feels passionate about it, then go out there and prove it this time."

That jarring loss in Baltimore became a turning point for Cincinnati. The offense finally got on a roll, with Carson Palmer throwing for nine touchdowns in

the last three games. For the first time in his career, he has put up passer ratings above 120 for three games in a row.

Studying film of that game in Baltimore made him cringe this week.

"When I say it hurts, I mean it literally hurts watching what we did against them the last time," said Palmer, who was only 12-of-26 with two interceptions in the loss. "We didn't play well at all. I feel we've come a long way and made a lot of progress offensively. They'll be seeing a different unit, a unit they've seen in years past but not in this past game."

There was a confidence in Cincinnati's locker room this week, a sense that all was well again. The Bengals knew that a victory over Baltimore would leave them in good shape for the playoffs — they're currently one game out in the wild-card standings.

They also knew there was no margin for error.

"We know what's at stake," Houshmandzadeh said. "We can't afford to stumble and lose another game."

The Ravens haven't lost since that win over Cincinnati, stretching their winning streak to five games while taking control of the division. Baltimore played its best game of the season last Sunday, a 27-0 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Recycle The Observer.

NFL

AFC South in Colts' grasp

Indianapolis can win division with victory over 4-4 Tennessee Sunday

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts know that on Sunday they could clinch their fourth straight AFC South title and lock up a playoff spot with four weeks left in the regular season.

Their memory of a 14-13 home victory over Tennessee in Week 5, however, leaves them expecting a challenge in Sunday's road rematch with the

Titans — a team the Colts believe has been on the rise in recent games.

The Titans (4-7) have posted a 4-2 record since that loss to the Colts, amid the quick maturation of rookie quarterback Vince Young and the strong play of running back Travis Henry.

Young is 4-4 as a starter since taking over the Titans' offense in a 45-14 loss to Dallas on Oct. 1. He gave the Colts defense plenty of troubles when he

made his second NFL start at the RCA Dome last month.

Although he passed for a meager 63 yards, hitting on 10-of-21 passes, he ran for 43 yards in four carries, including a 19-yard touchdown. The Colts failed to record a sack against the elusive Young.

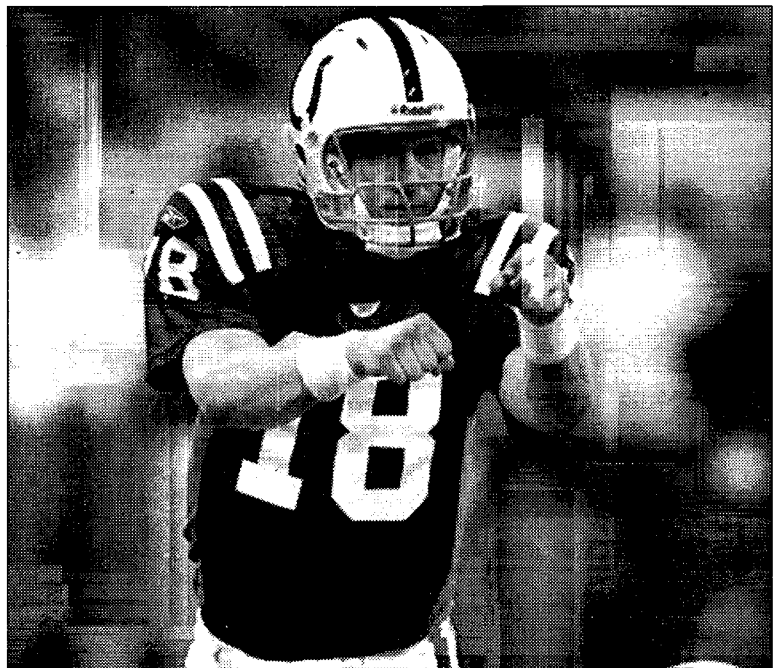
Henry, meanwhile, has been on a tear of late and has a team-leading 756 yards this season. He ran for 123 yards in just 19 carries against the Colts, whose run defense has been a weak point all season.

"They're just playing well. They're making a lot of plays," Colts quarterback Peyton Manning said Wednesday. "We played them early on and now those guys are more comfortable in the system, so you just see them communicating and making a lot of plays right now."

The Colts (10-1) can clinch the division with a win on Sunday coupled with a Jacksonville loss to Miami or a tie by either the Colts or the Jaguars. The Colts are 3-0 in the division after winning home games against all their AFC South rivals in the season's first five weeks.

They travel to Jacksonville next weekend and then play at Houston on Dec. 24.

Colts coach Tony Dungy said has been particularly impressed with the development of Young, the Titans' first-round draft choice last spring.



Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning directs the Colts offense in their 45-21 win over Philadelphia Sunday.

ND SWIMMING

Women get ready for key U.S. Open meet

Olympic competitors await Irish at Purdue

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

It has been 11 days since No. 20 Notre Dame's last meet, but the Irish must make sure they show no signs of rust at the U.S. Open, which begins this Thursday in West Lafayette, Ind. at the Boilermaker Aquatic Center.

The three-day, six-session event will run from Thursday through Saturday with the preliminary rounds in the morning and the finals at night on each day. The tournament boasts an impressive field filled with both quality and depth.

Combining both the men and the women who will participate in the meet, there will be almost 1,000 swimmers taking to the pool this weekend. The field also will include multiple Olympic athletes, including American record holders Katie Hoff of USA Swimming, Amanda Weir and Kaitlin Sandeno of USA Swimming and Southern California.

Despite the stiff competition that awaits, Notre Dame has plenty of reason to be confident heading into this week-

end's meet. The Irish have won all three of their dual meets this season, comfortably defeating Purdue, Michigan State and Pittsburgh.

In its latest event, Notre Dame rallied for a first-place finish in the 11-team Minnesota Invitational. The Irish won the Minnesota Invitational with a total of 889 points, enough to edge second-place Tennessee by a margin of 83 points. Notre Dame was led by senior Katie Carroll, who tallied one first-place finish and three second-place finishes over the course of the three-day meet.

Only the Notre Dame swimmers will be participating in the U.S. Open. The Irish divers will travel to Columbus this weekend to take part in the Ohio State Invitational, which begins on Friday.

While most women will be in West Lafayette, the Irish men will be fully dedicated in Columbus.

The Irish will be one of 13 teams competing in the event hosted by the No. 12 Buckeyes. Buckeyes diver Kellen Harkness leads the squad and earned Big Ten diver of the week honors this week.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

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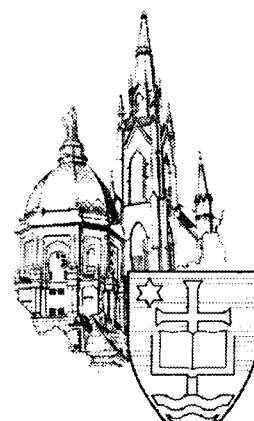
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NCAA FOOTBALL

Old foes to renew rivalry

Oklahoma and Nebraska will face each other for Big 12 championship

Associated Press

NORMAN — With Barry Switzer on one side and Tom Osborne on the other, no rivalry was bigger than Oklahoma-Nebraska.

When the Sooners and Cornhuskers collided, the impact could be felt throughout all of college football. Between 1971 and 1988, the teams met 17 times when both were in the top 11, including 15 times with both in the top 10. Their 1971 meeting as No. 1 vs. No. 2 went down as "The Game of the Century."

Former Sooners quarterback Cale Gundy, now an assistant coach with Oklahoma, remembers watching some of those classic matchups. The suspense was unbearable.

"I'd run outside because I don't want to see the play on TV. I'd come back inside and figure it out or my mom sticks her head out and tells me what happened," Gundy said.

The rivalry has lost its luster in recent years, but on Saturday at the Big 12 title game in Kansas City, Mo., Oklahoma and Nebraska will be playing for a championship again — for the first time in 18 years.

"It's a big-time game regardless of who we're playing," Nebraska linebacker Stewart Bradley said. "But when you put Oklahoma and Nebraska in the game with all the tradition, it makes it that much bigger."

Chuck Fairbanks was coaching Oklahoma and Bob Devaney was at Nebraska in 1971, when Johnny Rodgers led the top-



Oklahoma defensive back Reggie Smith talks with reporters Tuesday. The Sooners face Nebraska for the Big 12 title Saturday.

ranked Cornhuskers to a 35-31 victory over the second-ranked Sooners.

In 1972, Osborne took over for Devaney and a year later Switzer replaced Fairbanks. For the next 15 years, the Big Eight was the Big Two with the Sooners and Cornhuskers fighting for supremacy.

"It wasn't just a game, it was the good guys against the bad guys. Good against evil. Tom Osborne against Barry Switzer," said Bill Barnett, a defensive tackle on Nebraska's 1978 team that upset top-ranked Oklahoma 17-14. "In

our eyes, Tom was the good guy and Barry was the bad guy, but Barry always figured out a way to get the best of us."

Switzer won his first six against the 'Huskers, leading up to that 1978 game.

"The games usually went right down to the final minutes, but 'Sooner Magic' was out there waiting to show its ugly face," Barnett said. "So when we finally beat them in 1978 it was like toppling an empire."

Nebraska or Oklahoma won the Big Eight title outright or had a piece of it every year from 1962 to 1988.

NFL

Holmgren confounded by injury speculation

Hasselbeck: Hand not much of a problem

Associated Press

KIRKLAND — Matt Hasselbeck has a bruised hand, perhaps even a broken finger.

But the standard for Seahawks fractures, infections and hospitalizations has been set ridiculously high during Seattle's season of attrition. So a Pro Bowl quarterback's mangled fingers on his non-throwing hand that has him listed as probable for Sunday night's game at Denver?

Big whoop.

"Like my dad said, 'It's your left hand. Suck it up,'" Hasselbeck said Wednesday, referring to rugged former NFL tight end Don Hasselbeck.

Coach Mike Holmgren said that his quarterback is "fine," will start Sunday and should have no limitations. Holmgren then playfully marveled at breathless reports over Hasselbeck's minor injury that began circulating Seattle late Tuesday.

"Goodness gracious," Holmgren said. "I mean, I'd be the last one to be critical of these Watergate-type investigative reporters, because I think that was a very important time in our history. It was important that story came out."

"THIS, however, is not one of those situations. ... So in an effort to 'break the big one,' I am going on record saying this is not that big a deal. OK?"

"Golly sakes."

Hasselbeck had four turnovers but also threw three touchdowns in his first game Monday night after missing four weeks with a sprained knee. He said he injured the top of the palm of his left hand between the index and middle fingers sometime during the second quarter of the win against Green Bay.

As for the knee, Hasselbeck said it was "a little sore."

"I hadn't played football in a long time," he said.

He practiced Wednesday with the same black brace encasing his right knee, a wrap and glove over his left hand and his middle fingers taped together. He received only one direct snap — accidentally, when both he and center Chris Spencer forgot about the injury.

Hasselbeck said he'll be back

to taking snaps Thursday.

When pressed on the injury, Holmgren said he thinks "there's probably a little something that's broken" in Hasselbeck's hand.

Holmgren said Hasselbeck's three interceptions and lost fumble that Green Bay returned for a touchdown — all before halftime — had nothing to do with the injury. The coach said rust from Hasselbeck's monthlong layoff caused two uncharacteristic misreads of defenders and stare-downs of intended receivers. And he dismissed Hasselbeck's third interception, which deflected off the

facemask of Packers defensive lineman Ryan Pickett, as "unlucky."

"He played a pretty good game — except for four plays," Holmgren said. "It's just good to have your leader back."

The leader of Seattle's offensive line, Pro Bowl center Robbie

Toback, will not be back to play the Broncos. Holmgren said that although Toback is out of the hospital after spending his Thanksgiving weekend there getting intravenous antibiotics for an abscess on his hip, he won't get blood tests to see if the infection has dissipated until Monday. So Spencer, Seattle's 2005 first-round draft choice, will remain the starting center indefinitely.

The leading Seahawks receiver from last season, Bobby Engram, won't be back Sunday, either. Holmgren said Engram, listed as probable, will miss his eighth consecutive game because medication to slow his accelerated heart rate from a thyroid condition is still fatiguing him.

Darrell Jackson, who leads the NFL with nine touchdown receptions, watched the indoor practice but did not participate

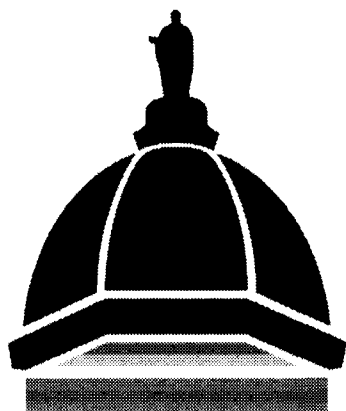
Wednesday. He is listed as probable with a right knee injury.

Holmgren said starting right tackle Sean Locklear will be a game time decision Sunday because of his high left ankle sprain. He has missed the last five games.

The Seahawks also placed fullback Josh Parry (foot) on injured reserve and signed tight end Bennie Joppru, a second-round draft choice by Houston in 2003 who has played in one game during four NFL seasons.

"Like my dad said, 'It's your left hand. Suck it up.'"

Matt Hasselbeck
Seahawks quarterback



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Jones

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one of the treasons why I chose to go to Notre Dame — because it had such a great balance of having excellence in both areas.”

In addition to starting at right back for the No. 1 Irish, Jones became the seventh Notre Dame women's soccer player honored with first-team Academic All-American honors. Jones was voted on by College Sports Information Directors of America and was one of only three non-seniors on the 11-member squad.

“She's just one of those kids I've said all along is just a pillar of consistency,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “That's the way she is in her life away from the soccer field, and I think that's the way she is on the soccer field as well. Whenever she puts her mind on a task she's going to get that task done the best that she can.”

Jones, who has earned 17 As and 2 A-minuses in two full years at Notre Dame, has been a critical component of a defense that ranks first in the nation in

total goals against (8) and goals against average (.317), helping the Irish maintain their No. 1 ranking from the first weeks of the year. Her value on the Irish backline rose after sophomore Big East defensive player of the year Carrie Dew was lost for the season with an injury in Notre Dame's final regular season game and senior defender Christie Shaner missed two NCAA Tournament games while battling meningitis. While Jones appreciates the recent honor, she said, her main priority is continuing the help the defense capture Notre Dame's third national champi-

onship.

“Ultimately it's all about the team,” Jones said. “I think a national championship means a lot more to me than any individual academic or athletic awards. I think that's something I'll remember when I'm older and cherish much more in the future.”

Senior midfielder Jen Buczkowski (3.39 GPA in marketing) and Shaner (3.49 GPA in design) received second team All-District V honors. Senior defender Kim Lorenzen and sophomore forward Brittany Bock were also nominated.

Jones isn't the only Irish player who has a chance to earn hardware this year. While Jones earned top honors in the classroom, sophomore forward Kerri Hanks was named Monday as one of three finalists for the prestigious M.A.C. Hermann Trophy for the nation's best player. Hanks' 22 goals and 20 assists

lead the nation in both categories.

“I really didn't expect it just because I'm younger,” Hanks said. “I'm a sophomore, so I didn't expect it because there's so many other players out there that are great and can

have every opportunity to be one of the finalists as well.”

The Hermann Trophy likely will be announced Thursday night in Cary, N.C., the day before Notre Dame takes on Florida State in the national semifinal match.

“I'm not going to be too focused on it right now because one of my goals and the team goals is to get into the finals,” Hanks said. “It's an individual award, and it'd be awesome to get an individual award but the team's more important.”

Contact Tim Dougherty at tdougher@nd.edu

BCS

continued from page 20

there has never been an inclination to do that,” Slive said. “So, in other words, we don't try. ... We've had rematches in major bowls over the last 20 years — a lot of them.”

Because the Rose Bowl has automatic tie-ins with the conference champions of the

PAC-10 and Big Ten — and this year USC of the PAC-10 and Ohio State of the Big Ten likely will square off in the BCS National Championship game — the Rose Bowl will get the first two selections for teams. The Rose Bowl committee likely will select Michigan first, who will have an automatic berth to the BCS with a top-3 finish in the BCS standings.

After the Rose Bowl picks twice, the Sugar Bowl will pick an opponent for the SEC champion, then the Orange Bowl will choose a team to face the ACC winner and the Fiesta Bowl will pick the final squad to face the Big XII champion.

Because of Notre Dame's national appeal and the relatively weak pool of eligible teams this season, the Irish are nearly a lock to be selected for one of the BCS bowls. Boise State will earn an automatic berth for its top-12 finish in the BCS, and three

teams in the eligible top-14 of the BCS rankings — two from the SEC and Wisconsin from the Big Ten — will be prevented from attending a BCS bowl due to a rule limiting a conference to two teams in the series.

That leaves Notre Dame a near-lock for an early selection. And while Notre Dame hasn't played in a Rose Bowl since Knute Rockne led the Irish over Stanford in 1925 en route to a national title, a

“We have a methodology for selecting the teams and ... if the teams are eligible, the bowls have the right to go ahead and make those picks that would create a rematch.”

Mike Slive
BCS coordinator

rematch with Michigan would diminish the appeal and likely hurt television ratings.

But Slive said the search for the BCS' common good would take a back seat to Bowl autonomy.

“We have a methodology for selecting the teams and ... if the teams are eligible, the bowls have the right to go ahead and make those picks that would create a rematch,” he said. “I can't speak for my fellow commissioners, but there has not been in the past an inclination to make changes.”

Notes:

♦ The Walter Camp Football Foundation named Irish quarterback Brady Quinn one of five finalists for its annual player of the year award.

Quinn, Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith and Hawaii quarterback Colt Brennan are the seniors on the list, though Brennan has a fifth

year of eligibility remaining. Sophomore running backs Darren McFadden of Arkansas and Steve Slaton of West Virginia are the other two finalists.

Quinn finished the 2006 regular season with 35 passing touchdowns and only five interceptions. He completed 63.4 percent of his passes for 3,278 yards and a passing efficiency rating of 151.59. He also rushed for two scores.

Smith, widely considered the front-runner for the Heisman Trophy, an award given by the New York Downtown Athletic Club to the nation's most outstanding player, completed 67.0 percent of his passes for 2,507 yards, 30 touchdowns and five interceptions. He rushed for 233 yards and one touchdown and had a passing efficiency rating of 167.87.

Brennan led the nation in passing efficiency with a rating of 186.7. He completed an NCAA-best 72.0 percent of his passes for 4,589 yards, 51 touchdowns and nine interceptions.

Slaton is second in the nation in rushing yards per game with 147.36. He has 1,621 yards and 14 touchdowns on 222 carries, for a 7.30 yards-per-carry average.

McFadden, who was injured early in the year, came on strong and finished the regular season with 1,485 yards on 244 rushes (6.09 yards per attempt) and 14 touchdowns.

McFadden and Arkansas take on Florida Saturday in the SEC title game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

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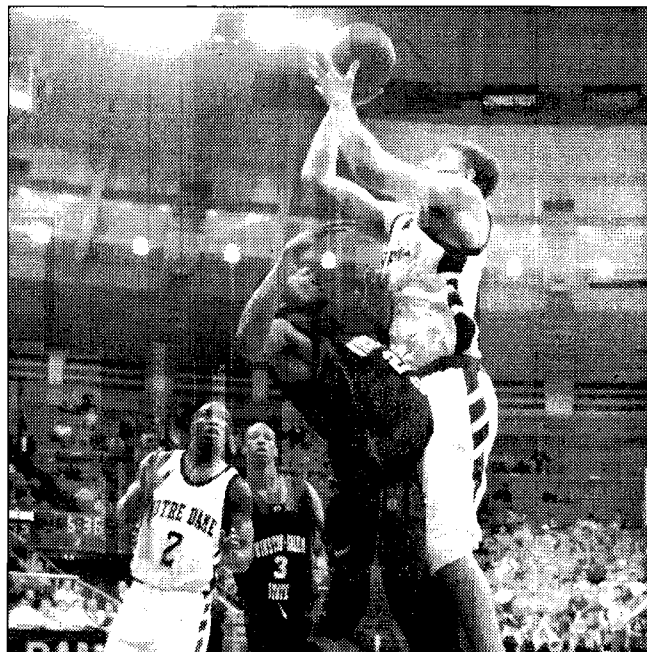
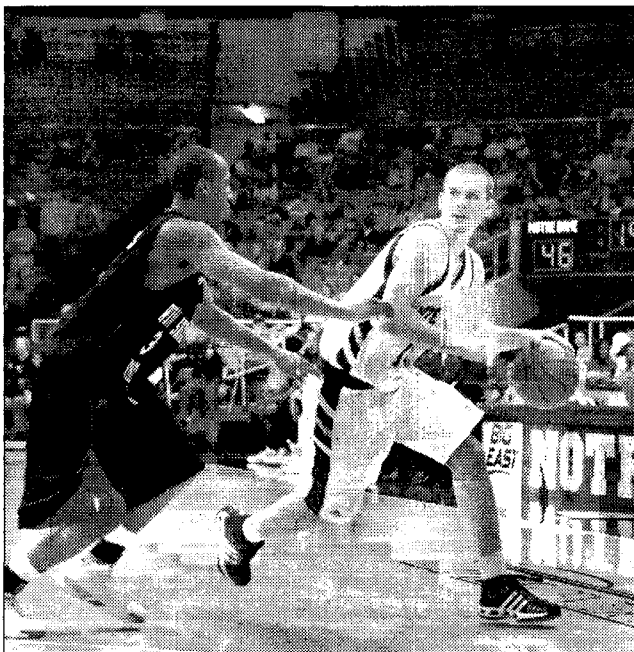
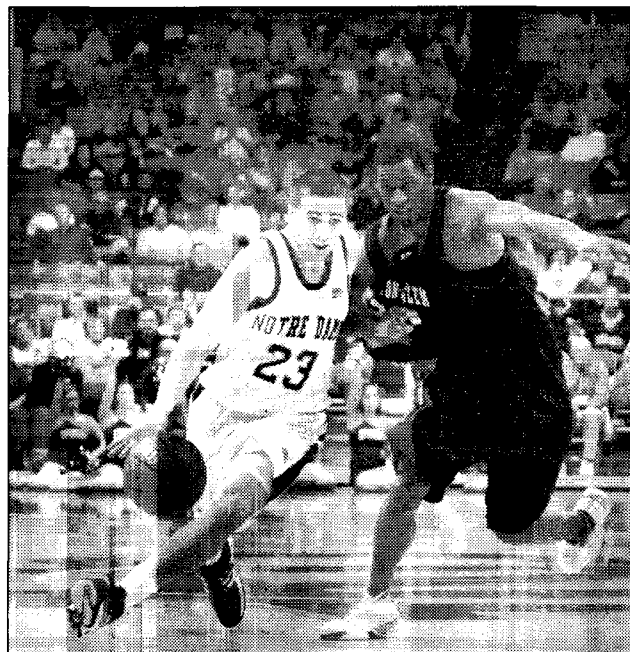
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At left, Irish guard Kyle McAlarney drives to the lane in Notre Dame's 90-45 win over Winston-Salem State Wednesday at the Joyce Center. Center, Irish guard Colin Falls looks for a passing lane. At right, Irish forward Rob Kurz, who led all scorers with 18 points, elevates over a Rams defender for one of his five field goals.

Salem

continued from page 20

pleased with his improvement and where he is mentally.

"There isn't a harder worker in our basketball program."

As a team, Notre Dame out-rebounded Winston-Salem State 41-19.

"We knew coming into the game that we had a size advantage," Kurz said. "Our focus was really to get on the glass."

The Rams, who dropped to 1-9 in their first year in Division I, scored first, but the Irish responded with 10 straight points, including a steal-and-slam by senior guard Russell Carter, to take a commanding early lead.

Winston-Salem State scored the next four points, but Notre Dame responded with 12 points to go up 22-7 and cruised into halftime leading 46-25.

The Irish kept their foot on the gas in the second half, extending the lead to 30 with 10 minutes left in the game and outscoring the Rams 44-20 after the break.

After Lehigh made 56.9 percent of its shots in a 93-

87 loss to Notre Dame Monday, the Irish held the Rams to 30.4 percent shooting from the field Wednesday, including just 19 percent in the second half.

"We definitely played pretty solid [defense]," Kurz said. "We weren't happy with our defensive effort Monday night and we concentrated on rotating better and communicating better on defense in practice."

Irish forward Ryan Ayers played 21 minutes Wednesday, scoring six points, grabbing three rebounds, blocking one shot and getting two steals.

Brey said he was glad to be able to get Ayers some quality minutes because he wants the sophomore to be a consistent part of a nine-man rotation this season.

"We have a rotation, but the ninth guy is the one we're trying to figure," Brey said. "We need to find out if we have nine or not."

Notes:

♦ Each of the Rams uniforms read "C.E. Gaines" on the back nameplate to honor former coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines, who coached at Winston-Salem State from 1946 until 1993 and died in 2005.

The Rams will wear the special uniforms all season.

♦ With a free throw in the second half, senior guard Colin Falls became the 45th player in Notre Dame history to score 1,000 career points.

Falls scored 13 points Wednesday, bringing his career total to 1003.

♦ Thirteen players saw action for the Irish, with 11 scoring points. Brey used a nine-man rotation for most of the game and inserted freshmen Joe Harden and Jonathan Peoples with seven minutes to play. Peoples scored seven points while Harden tallied two on the night.

Walk-ons senior Kieran Piller and freshman Tim Andree entered the game with 1:36 to play, but neither scored.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

"We definitely played pretty solid [defense]. We weren't happy with our defensive effort Monday night and we concentrated on rotating better and communicating better on defense in practice."

Rob Kurz
Irish forward

"[Tonight] was good for our confidence. We have to play two really good teams next week, but I think we're a pretty good team too."

Rob Kurz
Irish forward

**Want to draw a comic?
Call Mike at 631-4542.**

Rout

continued from page 20

now say it lost to a clear NCAA Tournament team.

Notre Dame has shown an ability to score the ball at will this season (85.8 points per game) and has a rebound margin better than every team in the Big East, including perennial inside powerhouses Connecticut and Pittsburgh.

Granted, it's early, and the quality of opponent (save Butler) hasn't been close to what the Irish will see in the next week and on their Big East schedule.

But Notre Dame is doing something so far that it hasn't done in several years — it's dismantling early season opponents. Instead of squeaking out wins over IPFW, Columbia and Wofford, the Irish are putting on offensive clinics in games they are expected to win — visible in Wednesday's 90-45 win over Winston-Salem State.

There is work to be done defensively, but two days after Lehigh torched the Irish with 57 percent shooting (77 percent from 3-point range), Notre Dame held the Rams to 30 percent from the floor.

The Irish will need their best effort on both ends to beat either Maryland or Alabama. The guards are going to have to pressure the ball all night and the forwards will need to continue dominating the paint.

And coach Mike Brey is going to need a couple gutsy efforts from the bench. Brey has taken a lot of criticism lately, some of it deserved following his team's inability to win games down the stretch last season, but let's give credit where credit is due.

Instead of sticking to his guns, he's completely retooled this year's offense, emphasizing team chemistry and ball movement when his squad grew far too willing to let one player control the game for the last three seasons.

He's done a solid job managing his bench — see Luke Zeller, who sat out for the entire second half of Monday's win over Lehigh because the matchups favored Luke Harangody (far more bruising) and Zach Hillesland (far more athletic).

And, finally, for a coach who has been slammed by Irish fans for being unable to bring forwards along in his system — Rob Kurz looks very improved from last season and Harangody could be an NBA player in four years.

Beating Maryland or Alabama, or both for that matter, is going to be difficult. Both teams are on fire and each is more athletic than the Irish.

But a win in either would be a stepping-stone for the Big East season. It would give the team a swagger that only comes from knowing it's capable of winning big games against tough opponents.

If Notre Dame loses both games, it's still questioning its identity come January. It also continues to carry the painful memories from last season's embarrassing record in close games.

But a win in one or both games and there's a clean slate, fans are back in the Joyce Center and the Irish can safely expect special things for the remainder of the season.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Contact Bob Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu

#4 NOTRE DAME HOCKEY

THIS WEEKEND:

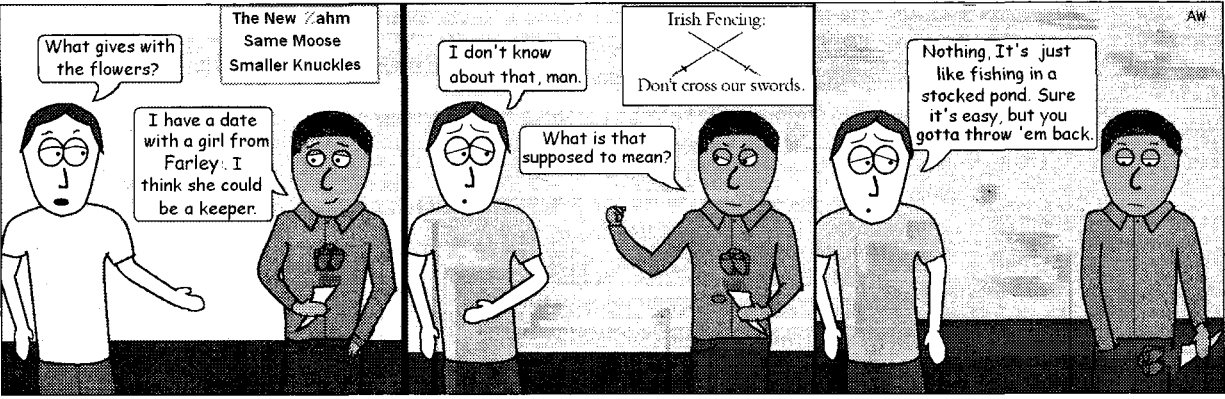
SAT, DECEMBER 2ND @ 7PM
SUN, DECEMBER 3RD @ 7PM

VS. #16 ALASKA

Free admission for ND/SMC/HCC Students (while space is available)

JOCULAR

ALEC WHITE



CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHÖLM



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

Note: The clues in this puzzle appear in a single list, with Acrosses and Downs together. Answers that share a number in the grid also share a clue.

- CLUES**

1 Maple syrup need

2 Co-star of John and Samuel in "Pulp Fiction"

3 Part of a Southern network

4 A Guthrie

5 Prepare to emerge from bankruptcy

6 A dwarf

7 Cutting down

8 Ascribe to

9 Subspecies especially adapted to their environments

10 "Sure thing"

11 Singer Jackson

12 Activity for some season ticket holders

13 Children's author ____ Le Cain

14 "____ Scusami" (1960's song)

15 Ready for later

16 Natl. Humor Month

17 Painter Veronese

18 Kitchen whirrer

19 Custody sharers, maybe

20 Brown building?

21 Nickname of the household head on TV's "Hazel"

22 With #61, a common e-mail address ending

23 Prefix with -graphy

24 Not many

25 Intend to

26 Not fine

27 Cast one's lot (with)

28 Library catalog abbr.

29 Fitting in the hands

30 Dunk

31 Short sleepers?

32 Witticism

33 Apply to the skin, say

34 "... ____ wed"

35 ____ eye for (discerns)

36 Good tennis score

37 Intermit

38 "Mary Worth" cartoonist Ken

39 Leaving via ladder, perhaps

40 First-time stock

41 In pieces

42 Pen part

43 Part of a possessive supermarket brand name

44 ____ paradox

45 Some salts

46 Sofa

47 Use a Singer

48 Freshwater catch

49 Mauna ____

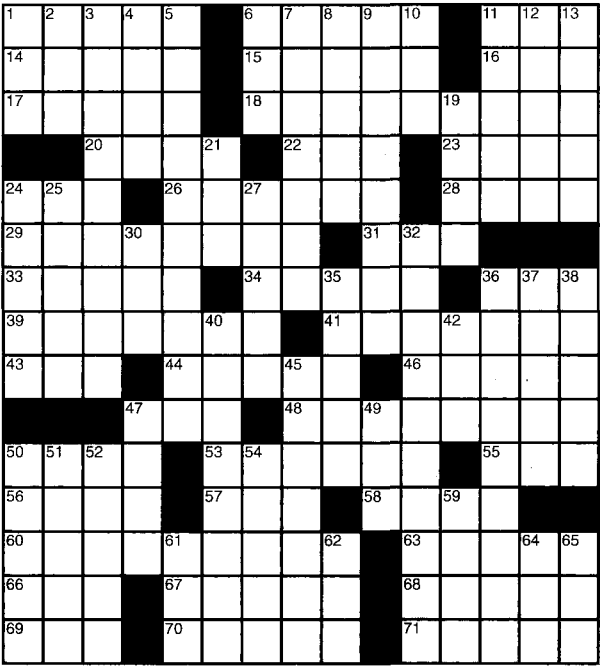
50 Sprite flavor

51 Amazed

52 Loy of "The Thin Man"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A	C	D	C	M	E	S	A	S	J	A	V	A
W	A	I	L	E	X	A	L	T	O	X	E	N
E	S	A	U	T	E	M	P	O	W	E	N	T
A	L	B	E	R	T	W	I	L	L	I	E	
				L	E	E	C	H	E	D		
C	L	A	R	E	R	H	O		O	V	U	M
W	O	M	E	N	S	A	B	O		A	N	I
T	H	E	M	A	N	F	R	O	M	U	N	C
S	A	B	U		L	O	L		B	R	I	A
N	A	S	A		R	E	D		G	A	P	E
				L	A	D	Y	E	V	E		
M	I	L	T	I	E		F	E	S	T	E	R
U	T	A	H		S	A	B	I	N		A	D
S	E	M	I		O	N	E	N	D		P	I
T	M	E	N		P	I	N	E	S		S	T



- Puzzle by Raymond C. Young
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 53 Dancer Castle and others | 58 Give ____ on the back | 64 ____ cheri |
| 54 The Little Colonel | 59 Tops | 65 Swine cooler? |
| 55 Trawl | 60 Tropical monkeys | 66 Newman's ____ |
| 56 Singer born Eithne Ní Bhraonáin | 61 See #22 | 67 Tricks |
| 57 Yellow ____ | 62 Dir. down Baja California | 68 Something valuable held in reserve |
| | 63 Goes hither and yon | 69 Pro-school grp. |
| | | 70 Ninnies |
| | | 71 Size two, say |

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

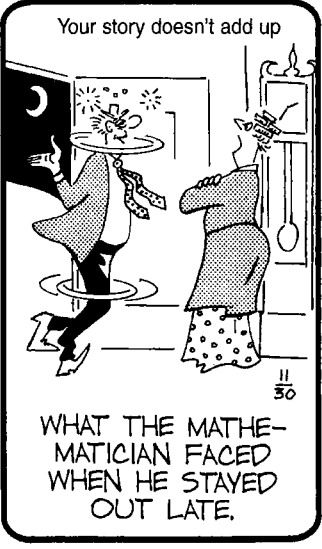
JUMBLE

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

TAABE
○ ○ ○ ○ ○
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ANBOT
○ ○ ○ ○ ○
BEHREY
○ ○ ○ ○ ○
www.jumble.com
FLEMSY
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Answer: THE ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ - ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRANK SNACK MEASLY PIRATE
Answer: When Mom heard Junior's excuse, she said that — TAKES THE CAKE



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cathy Moriarty, 45; Andrew McCarthy, 43; Jonathan Knight, 37; Kim Delaney, 44

Happy Birthday: Change has become routine in your life and you have learned to take advantage of it. Now it is time to try your hand at something you've always wanted to do. Financial gains look positive, but you need to revise your spending habits. Your numbers are 13, 17, 22, 30, 41, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Whatever isn't paying you back or working for you must be stopped. You've been working too long and too hard. Your generosity has become a hindrance, so get back to doing what counts. ***
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Bend over backward for an older friend or relative. Now isn't the best time to take on another responsibility but, by doing so, you will please someone who will make a difference in your future. ***
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Try to settle down a little and focus on one thing. Multitasking is fine, but not today. Put your thoughts on paper. You can get your point across if you are precise. ***
CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may have some minor disputes with older or younger people. Today is about love, getting along and doing things that will bring you closer to someone you truly care about. *****
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let little things depress you. Everything is OK, even if you can't see the light at the end of the tunnel. Ignore the negative and you will see some good possibilities to work toward. **
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You're in dreamland, so shake yourself before it's too late. Someone may try to take advantage of you when he or she doesn't think you'll notice. Keep a sharp eye while taking part in fun activities. ***
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can make your professional position more interesting. A new way of doing things or a chance to try something different will bring you greater recognition. Include friends and family in your ideas. ***
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Things are either moving way too fast or way too slow. Get used to it. Today will be a repeat of the past and an indicator of the future. Base your actions on your past experience. ***
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do something that will help your self-esteem. Spending time with someone you respect will change your attitude and give you some great ideas about things you should pursue. ***
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let someone take advantage of you because of your interest in him or her. If you can keep things even, you stand a better chance of gaining respect and getting what you want. ****
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take your time and do things by the book or you may face ridicule for what you didn't do. Sudden changes will affect your future. Don't be discouraged — you need more time. **
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be hard to resist no matter what you do. Everyone will be looking to you for answers. Don't let it go to your head. One slip up and you may get caught in the middle. *****

Birthday Baby: You are in control. It is your own uncertainties that will hold you back. You are respected, looked up to and called upon to solve problems. You can do anything you set your mind to.

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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Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Salem, without a stake

Kurz leads squad with 18 points and 10 boards in rout over Rams

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

Even with two ranked teams looming next week, Notre Dame wasn't caught looking ahead Wednesday night.

The Irish (5-1) dominated an overmatched Winston-Salem State squad 90-45 at the Joyce Center in their final tune-up before facing No. 23 Maryland Saturday in Washington, D.C., and No. 6 Alabama next Thursday at home.

"[Tonight] was good for our confidence," Irish forward Rob Kurz said. "We have to play two really good teams next week, but I think we're a pretty good team too."

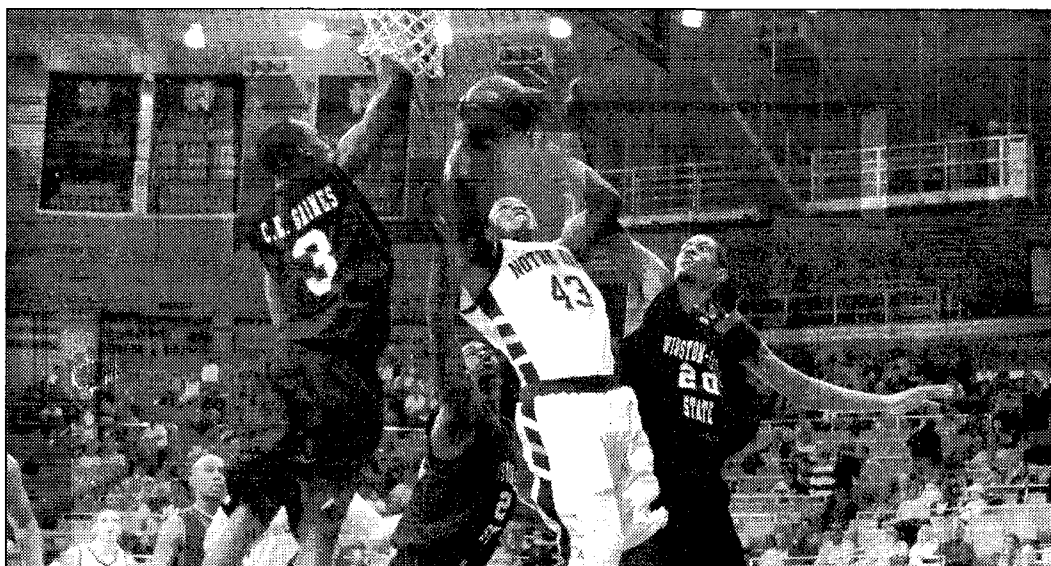
Kurz led the Irish with 18 points and 10 rebounds. The junior hit the bottom of the net on every shot he took, going 5-of-5 from the field and 8-of-8 from the free throw line.

"All my shots were pretty open," Kurz said. "My teammates did a good job of finding me for open looks."

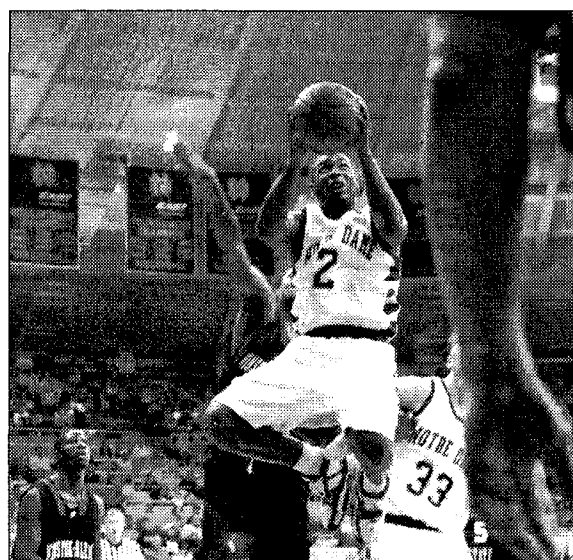
While Kurz was humble, Irish coach Mike Brey praised him.

"He's a guy who has really arrived as an excellent Big East forward," Brey said. "I'm really

see SALEM/page 18



Above, Irish senior guard Russell Carter splits two Winston-Salem defenders for a layup. At right, Irish freshman guard Tory Jackson elevates for a basket of his own.



PHOTOS BY
ALLISON AMBROSE

After blowout, next two games can shape remainder of season

Forget the Big East. Notre Dame's upcoming games against Maryland and Alabama are the two most important contests of the season.

A victory in either would provide the Irish with a quality non-conference win — something they have struggled with the last couple seasons — and in the process bolster the team's RPI come February.

But looking at the bigger picture, it would set the course for the rest of the season.

Saying the Irish are going to beat two of the hottest teams in the country — both squads are undefeated and have looked impressive in the process — is a stretch, especially in back-to-back games.

But momentum's a funny thing. Just ask Butler.

Suddenly, 16 days after what was then an embarrassing loss to a mid-major reminiscent of last season's struggles, Notre Dame can



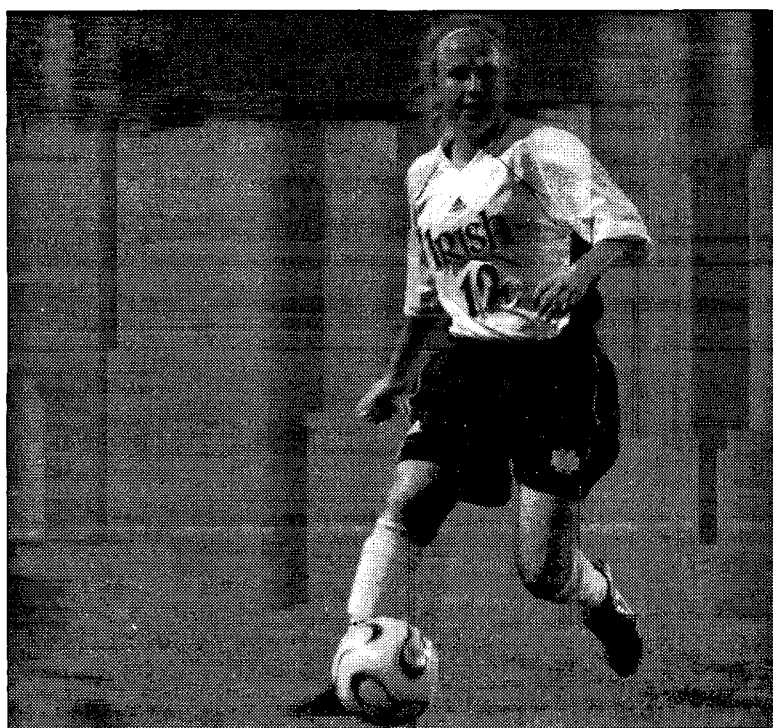
Bob Griffin

Sports Writer

see ROUT/page 18

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Honors abound for No. 1 Irish



Irish defender Ashley Jones earned ESPN The Magazine first-team Academic All-America honors for her 3.96 GPA.

Team is gearing up for semifinal match with Florida State

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

This week is all business as Notre Dame prepares for the College Cup semifinals. But for defender Ashley Jones, it's all business all the time.

The junior accounting major was rewarded for her work in the Mendoza College of Business, as she was named to ESPN The Magazine's first-team Academic All-American squad last week thanks to her 3.96 cumulative GPA.

"Both academics and athletics are equally important to me," Jones said. "That's

see JONES/page 17

FOOTBALL

BCS chair: Rematch in Rose not off table

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame's bowl picture just got a little murkier.

Bowl Championship Series (BCS) coordinator Mike Slive, who also serves as the Southeastern Conference (SEC) commissioner, said in a teleconference Wednesday that the BCS commissioners will keep in mind the BCS by-law allowing the Notre Dame and the six BCS conferences — the SEC, Big Ten, Big XII, Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), PAC-10 and Big East — to adjust bowl pairings for maximum "appeal."

But he added a warning: While many expect the conferences to step in to avoid a Midwestern rematch of Notre

Dame and Michigan in Pasadena, the conference commissioners will be hesitant to change what the bowl chairmen want.

According to Section III, paragraph 5(b) of the BCS selection procedures, "After completion of the selection process ... the Conferences and Notre Dame may, but are not required to, adjust the pairings taking into consideration ... whether two teams that played against one another in the regular season will be paired against one another in a bowl game."

"It's something that's been on the books since the outset [of the BCS in 1998], and of course that's done after the teams have been selected, and

see BCS/page 17

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

NCAA FOOTBALL

Big XII title game

Legendary Big Eight foes square off with a conference crown on the line for the first time in 18 years.

page 16

NFL

Hasselbeck injury

Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren announces that quarterback Matt Hasselbeck is not seriously injured.

page 16

ND SWIMMING

U.S. Open

The Irish travel to West Lafayette for the prestigious national competition.

page 15

NFL

Colts at Titans

Indianapolis visits Tennessee with a chance to lock up the AFC South with four weeks remaining.

page 15

NFL

Giants problems

New York defensive end Michael Strahan loses his cool with ESPN.

page 13

NCAA MEN'S BBALL

Oregon 57 Georgetown 50

The Ducks travel to the Hoyas' home court and upset the No. 23 team in the nation.

page 12