

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 61

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Campus gangs up on Zahm in snow fight

500 students participate in frozen matchup; quads set rivalries aside, join against the Rabid Bats

By JAY FITZPATRICK
News Writer

There on the frozen tundra of North Quad, Zahm stood against the world.

The combined forces of North and South Quads — traditional enemies in the annual snowball fight that accompanies the winter season's first accumulation of snow — numbered an estimated 500 hurlers early Wednesday morning and backed the "Zahmbies" into the corner that separates their dorm from neighboring

Cavanaugh Hall.

But the Zahm residents would not fold.

Zahm freshman Scott Wilkinsen was confident in his dorm's performance in the early goings of the fight.

"We're taking it. It's not terrible," he said. "It's fine if they want to come and get us — we'll take them anywhere, anyplace. We went over there and started stuff, and they came back here. It's kind of dissipating. We're taking it to them I think."

see SNOW/page 3



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Students play outside Dillon Hall early Wednesday morning. About 500 students engaged in a campus-wide snowball fight.

Club 23 up for sale on Craigslist

Owner says shooting of students not a factor

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

Club 23 owner Mahmoud Hussein has put the bar he has owned for more than 20 years up for sale — on Craigslist.

The asking price for the bar, located on 744 N. Notre Dame Ave., is \$695,000 and will get the buyer the tavern's 2,500 square feet of space, the building itself, the 57-car parking lot, the furniture inside and the establishment's liquor license.

John Veit, a bartender at Club 23, confirmed by phone Tuesday night the listing's legitimacy.

The Observer could not reach Hussein for comment, but he told WNDU that the August 21 shooting of two Notre Dame students outside the establishment had nothing to do with his decision to sell the bar. Hussein said he was tired of the late nights, WNDU reported.

Seniors Matthew Collins and Mitchell Depree were shot by an unidentified man outside the bar's front door while they were waiting for a ride. Depree was shot in the leg, and Collins sustained life-threatening injuries from bullets to the abdomen and leg.

Though both Collins and Depree recovered, Hussein told The Observer in early September he feared students were "boycotting" Club 23 because they didn't feel safe in the neighborhood anymore.

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Professor discusses sex slavery on NBC

Carr, human trafficking victim talk to MSNBC, 'Today Show' about forced labor in America



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Professor Bridgette Carr speaks at a panel on human trafficking on Nov. 5. She was featured on an MSNBC documentary on the subject.

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

The story of a 20-year-old Ukrainian woman and her months of forced labor at a strip club in Detroit shocked attendees at a Notre Dame panel on human trafficking in November, and now it reached audiences across America.

MSNBC and The Today Show aired reports Monday about slavery in America, featuring the young victim — who assumed the name "Katya" for privacy purposes — and Notre Dame law professor Bridgette Carr.

Carr and Katya, her client, told cameras that three years ago Katya and a friend left the Ukraine to study English abroad. The two young women had plans to work as

waitresses in Virginia Beach while they learned the language, but instead, two human traffickers — Alex Macksimenko and Michael Aronov — picked them up at the airport and took them to Detroit, Carr said.

The men imprisoned Katya and her friend in a house with 15 other slaves, Katya said. Their captors forced the women to work 12-hour shifts as exotic dancers in Cheetah's, a strip club.

"We would go to work, work 12 hours a day there. And, at the end of the shift, [at] 2 a.m., [the captors] were waiting for us outside of the club in the car. Sometimes they raped us there," Katya said during the MSNBC documentary "MSNBC Undercover: Sex

see SLAVE/page 4

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

'Rock the Vote' campaign planned

Members hope to improve participation in student government elections

By JOSEPH McMAHON
News Writer

Troubled by apathy and a lack of participation in student government affairs, the Council of Representatives announced Tuesday its plans to launch its own "Rock the Vote" campaign to encourage a bigger turnout in the upcoming student government elections.

The campaign will begin Feb. 4 and last until the primary election day, Feb. 10, representatives said during the Council's meeting Tuesday.

Only 3,492 students voted in the student body elections last

see COR/page 4



WU YUE/The Observer

COR members discuss a "Rock the Vote" campaign to increase the number of student voters during their meeting Tuesday.

'Loyal Daughters' gets male angle in co-writer

By AMBER TRAVIS
News Writer

A man will be in charge of "Loyal Daughters and Sons" next year when sophomore Devin Preston assumes the role of co-writer of the play, which focuses on sexuality and sexual abuse at Notre Dame, from senior Sarah Van Mill.

"I was really honored and grateful that [Van Mill] thought that I was capable of such an important position," Preston said.

In his role as co-writer — a singular position — Preston will be in charge of any new material included in next year's production. The rest of the program will consist of

past stories from original writer Emily Weisbecker and Van Mill, who co-wrote this year's production.

A physics and film, television and theatre student, Preston will take on Van Mill's duties and conduct a new round of interviews with victims of sexual assault. Using findings from the interviews, he will produce the scripts for any new vignettes that will be added to the program.

Preston, a former Observer sports writer, said he was struck by "Loyal Daughters" and admired its ability to bring to public discourse sexuality, a subject he says is taboo on campus.

see DAUGHTERS/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Allegory of the dorm

Socrates: And now let me show in a figure how far our nature is enlightened or unenlightened. Behold!

Students living in a single sex dorm. Here they have been since their freshman year. They have had their drinking games dismantled, their beer bong confiscated, and their time and money assigned to fines and community service.

All around them are better options; and you will see, if you look, a couple of apartment complexes within walking distance, as well as numerous houses only a short bike ride or drive away.

Glaucon: I see.

Socrates: And do you see the crowded study halls turned residencies?

Glaucon: You have shown me a strange image, and they are strange prisoners.

Socrates: And now look again, and see what will naturally follow if the prisoners are released and disabused of their on-campus residency. At first, when any of them is liberated and compelled suddenly to buy groceries and clean the bathroom, he will suffer sharp pains; the chores will distress him, and he will be unable to see the world of which in his former state he had seen only the bubble; and then conceive someone saying to him that what he saw before was okay for awhile, but to be moved on from — what will be his reply? Will he not fancy that the bathroom which he formerly used was cleaner than the one used now?

Glaucon: Far cleaner.

Socrates: And when the police come to break up his party instead of the RA, will he not have regrets? He will not immediately appreciate his additional freedoms.

Glaucon: Not all in a moment.

Socrates: He will require to grow accustomed to the workings of the slightly-more-real world. At first he will see the old habits best, then he may stock a bar, then he will gaze upon the light of the ability to be belligerent on his own terms.

Glaucon: Certainly.

Socrates: Last of all he will be able to purchase a keg, and not mere cases. He will then proceed to argue that this is what gives the season and the years, and is the guardian of all that is in the visible world, and in a certain way the cause of all things which he and his fellows have been accustomed to behold?

Glaucon: Clearly, he would first purchase the keg and then reason about it.

Socrates: And when he remembered his old habitation, and the wisdom of the dorm and his fellow-prisoners, do you not suppose that he would felicitate himself on the change, and pity them?

Glaucon: Certainly, he would.

Socrates: And if they were in the habit of conferring honors among themselves on those who had had the best dorm events or had been the hall of the year, do you think that he would care for such honors and glories, or envy the possessors of them?

Glaucon: I think that he would rather suffer anything than entertain these false notions and live in this miserable manner. He would be particularly glad not to have endured the conditions of a girls' dorm, especially Pasquerilla West.

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

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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: WHO WILL WIN THE BCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME?



Michael Eardley
freshman
St. Ed's

"OSU can't win. Because Jim Tressel wears sweater vests and Uggs."



Mary Kozelka
sophomore
Farley

"Saint Mary's. Probably."



Bryce Ramos
junior
off campus

"Breen-Phillips Interhall Football team. Go Marina!"



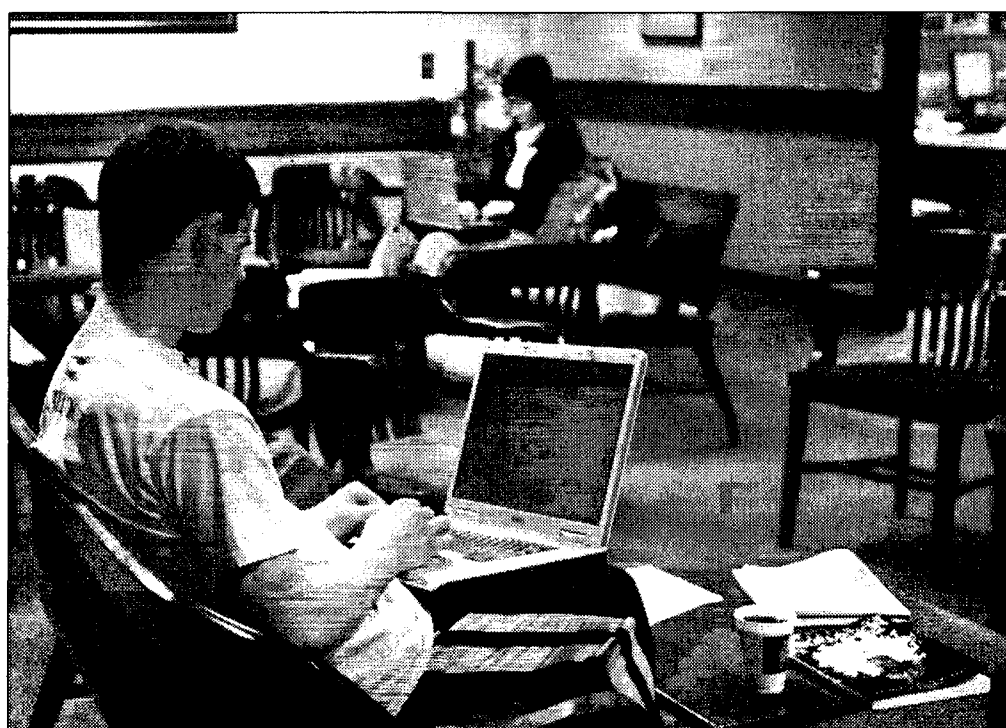
Teresa Hancock
senior
off campus

"Notre Dame. I like to think positive."



Sara Schreiber
junior
Farley

"The University of Oregon, because their mascot beat the crap out of other mascots."



WU YUE/The Observer

Though it's past 5 p.m., sophomore Dan Coyne, left, and freshman How Eun Lee wait to see their advisors in the Coleman-Morse Center and register for classes next semester.

OFFBEAT

Man allegedly leaves baby to rob store

LEHIGH ACRES, Fla. — Deputies said a man left his three-month-old baby home alone for six hours while he robbed a grocery store. Police said Tony Doden and his accomplice, James Schmidt, were arrested after their getaway car was spotted by a witness.

A teenage employee told police a man wearing a Halloween style 'Jason' masked robbed them at gunpoint and then took off.

Deputies said Doden had left his three-month-old son at home to fend for himself while he and Schmidt robbed the store.

The child's mother was

arrested in October.

Police say the baby was found with a severe case of diaper rash.

Tweety, Donald Duck summoned to court

ROME — Tweety may get a chance to take the witness stand and sing like a canary. An Italian court ordered the animated bird, along with Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and his girlfriend Daisy, to testify in a counterfeiting case.

In what lawyers believe was a clerical error worthy of a Looney Tunes cartoon, a court in Naples sent a summons to the characters ordering them to appear Friday in a trial in the southern Italian

city, officials said.

The court summons cites Titti, Paperino, Paperina, Topolino — the Italian names for the characters — as damaged parties in the criminal trial of a Chinese man accused of counterfeiting products of Disney and Warner Bros.

Instead of naming only the companies and their legal representatives, clerks also wrote in the witness list the names of the cartoons that decorated the toys and gadgets the man had reproduced, said Fiorenza Sorotto, vice president of Disney Company Italia.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Rosary will be said at at the Grotto at 6:45 p.m. today. The Rosary is said daily.

Campus Ministry is hosting a celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Prayer services held to obtain special graces are being held in St. Edward's Hall Chapel at 9 p.m. each night through Sunday. The celebration is cosponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies, La Alianza and OIA.

There will be NASDAQ training sessions tonight from 6 to 7:30 in the Eck Visitors' Center. The event is available to students only. Today's topic is "Defining Your Customer Market and Competition."

The Take Ten program will sponsor local children at the Robinson Community Learning Center in a book-mark recognition ceremony at 6 p.m. tomorrow. Local school children who participated in the Take Ten program will make bookmarks. The Robinson Center is located at 921 North Eddy Street.

The annual football banquet will be held Friday at 5:45 p.m. in the Joyce Center Monogram Room. The featured speaker will be 1993 graduate Aaron Taylor, a two-year All-American Offensive Tackle and Lombardi Award winner. Tickets can be purchased through the Notre Dame Ticket Office at 574-631-7356.

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	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 28 LOW 15	HIGH 24 LOW 10	HIGH 30 LOW 22	HIGH 35 LOW 23	HIGH 37 LOW 33	HIGH 45 LOW 40

Atlanta 60 / 38 Boston 36 / 21 Chicago 31 / 25 Denver 54 / 32 Houston 74 / 42 Los Angeles 77 / 55 Minneapolis 16 / 08 New York 37 / 29 Philadelphia 36 / 26 Phoenix 76 / 50 Seattle 47 / 44 St. Louis 40 / 37 Tampa 72 / 49 Washington 38 / 29

Snow

continued from page 1

By 12:30 a.m. Wednesday, between 200 and 300 students remained in the fight. Participants said the total numbers had been almost double that in the preceding hour, though the mounting casualties did not seem to affect the snow fighters' mentality.

Wilkinsen quipped that Zahm's offseason conditioning program helped its residents prepare for Tuesday's showdown against its numerous adversaries.

"We actually worked out in Florida over the summer working with sand castles, working with compacting sand and it worked well. I think it paid off today," he said.

After several minutes of waiting for the right time for an offensive charge — after a reload of fresh supplies of hot cocoa — the Rabid Bats launched their attack. As the South Quad denizens sat back complacently, Zahm ran forward, snowballs at the ready, flinging them with wild abandon at the other lines.

"We felt that we had the numbers. Just some tactics we've been working out," Wilkinsen said. "... You can't sit back. Just like you've got to take it to the terrorists, you've got to take it to the South Quad people."

But it wasn't only South Quad people. On the other side of the conflict, Dillon freshman Adam Carlson said the main difference between this year's matchup and last year's was the nature of the combatants.

"This one is pretty much everyone against Zahm," he said. "Last year was a lot more like North Quad versus South Quad. Pretty much everybody hates Zahm, I guess."

In the fight, Carlson said, he "hit some bros in the face."

"It's pretty much the best feeling you can have in the winter," he said.

But Notre Dame's first snowfall stretched far beyond the battle waging up north. Many students ventured into the snow on South Quad to play full-contact football without pads — not quite a Notre Dame tradition during the first snowfall.

A matchup between an option-style attack led by Dillon freshman Ryan Patton and a high-flying spread lead by Dillon freshman Matt Scioscia took place on South Quad early Wednesday morning.

Scioscia, who played defensive end for three years in high school in California, never played in the conditions he faced in Wednesday's game. In fact, Scioscia had never even seen snow before Tuesday — except for on television.

"I did not think it would be this cold," Scioscia said. "It's actually pretty fun, but it's freezing."

Scioscia said he and his dormmates decided in the spur of a moment to venture outside and start a game of snow football, although he is excited for the prospects of a snowy winter.

"If it keeps snowing like this I think we'll be able to have a lot of fun and a lot of snowfights," he said.

But not everyone outside early Wednesday morning was there for the thrill of battle and competition. Some just like the snow.

Walsh freshman Julie Zorb and her friends — some of whom also had never seen snow before — left the cozy confines of their dorm for the simple reason of being outside.

"We wanted something to do," Zorb said. "The snow is exciting."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Henna traditions explored through tattoos

Al-Zahra hosts SMC event to teach students about Middle Eastern, North African cultures

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

In an effort to teach students about Middle Eastern and North African traditions, new club Al-Zahra and the Office of Multicultural Affairs celebrated "Goodness Day" Tuesday at the Saint Mary's Student Center Lounge.

The day was indeed a day of goodness because it helped educate students about the region's henna tradition, collected canned goods for South Bend families and gave students "a chance to relax a little bit from the work load," Al-Zahra president Mariam Eskander said.

Eskander founded Al-Zahra earlier this year to educate students about Middle Eastern and Northern African culture.

She began the event — which about 30 students attended — with a brief history of the henna plant, which has been used in northern Africa for medicinal and artistic purposes for centuries. Henna's leaves and branches are crushed and mixed with hot water to make a paste that colors, conditions and cools skin and hair, Eskander said.

She said the ancient Egyptians were the first to use the plant. They used it

to dye the Pharaoh's toes before his burial. In India, brides have henna parties two days before their weddings where they will get tattoos on their hands, wrists, ankles and feet.

And the henna tattoo was at the center of Tuesday's events.

Al-Zahra hired Jayshree Patel, an Indian immigrant from South Bend and henna tattoo artist, to draw on the attendees. Students also had the opportunity to have their names written in Arabic.

"I was very pleased," Eskander said. "Most of the girls said they learned a lot and they really enjoyed taking a break from studying and getting a henna."

"Most of the girls said they learned a lot and they really enjoyed taking a break from studying and getting a henna."

Miriam Eskander
Al-Zahra president

Freshman Emily Newton called Goodness Day "an incredible cultural experience."

"Many students have stereotypical thoughts of Middle Eastern and Northern African culture and teaching them the reality can help them understand what those cultures are really like and about," Eskander said.

"I've always liked international things and I've always been a fan of Middle Eastern designs."

Julie Hagopian
freshman

Al-Zahra member Molly Thompson said she was pleased with the group's progress toward its founding goal.

"I'm happy with the turnout," she said. "I'm really impressed."

Thompson said different students were drawn to the event for different reasons.

Julie Hagopian, for example, was attracted by the opportunity to get a traditional henna tattoo.

"I've always liked international things and I've

always been a fan of Middle Eastern designs," Hagopian said.

Freshman Emily Chiapetta also walked away happy with her unique tattoo.

"I think it's amazing how fast [Patel] was able to produce such a beautiful and intricate design," Chiapetta said.

Eskander said upcoming Al-Zahra events include bringing a belly dancer to campus to teach belly dancing — as well as a fundraiser that might feature Patel again, in light of the artist's success with the students Tuesday.

Mandi Stirone contributed to this report.

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylor01@saintmarys.edu



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Tattoo artist Jayshree Patel draws on a student using henna ink during Al-Zahra's "Goodness Day" celebration Tuesday.



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Slave

continued from page 1

Slaves in America," hosted by Meredith Viera.

Carr and Katya also spoke to Viera during The Today Show on Monday morning.

They said the men, using a variety of surveillance methods on the women, maintained control over them through intimidation, threats of harming their families back home and violence. The women were raped repeatedly and forced to perform other sexual acts whenever the men desired, she said.

"Emotionally, physically, they could do anything with us. That was every single day in my life for one year," Katya said during the documentary.

Macksimenko and Aronov also imposed quotas on the women, forcing them to make up to \$1,000 per night. The two traffickers used this money to pay for luxury vehicles and designer clothes, among other lavish expenses, Katya said.

Carr came to represent Katya soon after the girls escaped their captors in February 2005 with the help of a sympathetic Cheeatah's customer. When the police entered the house where Katya and her friend had been imprisoned, they found stashes of cash — adding up to about \$500,000

— in different hiding spots, they said.

Macksimento and Aronov both pleaded guilty, but since Aronov cooperated with the authorities and confessed the men's crimes, Carr said, he received a reduced sentence. He has to serve only four-and-a-half years in prison, while Macksimento received a 14.5-year sentence.

And while the men were convicted and jailed, Carr said Katya's ordeal opened her eyes to all other human trafficking cases.

"Once I started looking into the case ... it seemed like I could not turn around without trafficking hitting me in the face," Carr said in the documentary. "I would find myself driving down the interstate and would see signs for massage parlors open from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., literally."

She said human trafficking is a billion-dollar industry and the second-largest criminal industry in the world. She said that more than 17,000 trafficking victims end up in the United States.

"It's not something that happens just in other countries," Carr said.

Victims of human trafficking end up in large cities all over the country, from cantinas in Houston to massage parlors in San Francisco, she said.

"[Human trafficking] is happening because men are engaging in this illegal activity," San Francisco mayor Gavin Newsom said in the documentary.

Undercover investigators in San Francisco conducted surprise inspections on a number of massage parlors, each of which was secretly conducting sex services using trafficked women. Newsom said authorities need to think about trafficking in a different way.

"I wish our language [about trafficking] could change," Carr said. "Saying someone is a prostitute denotes a choice. These women were prostituted. They were held against their will."

But when authorities talk about prostitution, Carr said, they fail to specify that many of the women were prostitutes under duress.

"They do not mean [to say] that these women chose to do it as a profession," she said.

An advocate for human trafficking victims since meeting Katya, Carr said she is currently working on a number of other trafficking cases.

Contact Katie Pralta at kperalta@nd.edu

"Emotionally, physically, they could do anything with us. That was every single day in my life for one year."

Katya
human trafficking victim

"Saying someone is a prostitute denotes a choice. These women were prostituted. They were held against their will."

Bridgette Carr
law professor

COR

continued from page 1

year and 3,352 voted in the runoff, judicial council president Ashley Weiss said.

"It was the lowest turnout in the history of student government," Weiss said.

Weiss, who was a vice presidential candidate last year, stressed the need for ways to spread awareness throughout the student body about the importance of voting. She said she has been researching ways in which peer schools have encouraged students to vote.

"We contacted other universities, including the University of North Carolina, to see what we can do and came up with a schedule," Weiss said.

According to a schedule given to COR members, the election dates will be advertised in LaFortune Feb. 4 with buttons that say "rock the vote" and a similar banner in South Dining Hall. Residence halls and educational buildings will also have posters emphasizing the importance of student government and playing a role in its elections.

The next day, the candidates will be introduced at an informal meet-and-greet. This will be a new addition to the campaign schedule, and representatives at Tuesday's meeting discussed where such an event should be held to maximize student attendance. Several possible locations were discussed, including South and North Dining Halls and Reckers.

"It would just be sitting, talking and asking questions with the candidates," Weiss said. "In addition to raising voter

turnout, we want students to get to know the candidates more."

On Feb. 6, the traditional debate will be held in LaFortune. Weiss said a discussion with the Office of Information Technologies is in progress to possibly record the debate and make it available as a downloadable podcast on iTunes. The following day, there will be a panel presentation, "Why should I vote." Students will also have the opportunity to attend a question-and-answer session featuring all the candidates.

COR members are also considering extending voting sites to several academic buildings, such as DeBartolo and O'Shaughnessy Halls, to make it easier for students to vote.

Many COR members thought the "Rock the Vote" campaign is a step in the right direction to increase student participation in student government.

"I think the whole effort is absolutely great," student body president Liz Brown said.

Some COR members, however, believe the campaign should focus more on showing students why their vote matters rather than attempting to strategically place meet-and-greet sessions.

"I think we're looking at the wrong side of the issue," senior class vice president Chris

Doughty said. "The more important issue than where we have events is showing the students why this matters."

In addition, the Council agreed that the same bylaws that governed the last election would apply to the upcoming one, except for two minor additions. Students will no longer be allowed to work on their respective campaign in student government areas on the second and third floors of LaFortune.

"Campaigns are not allowed to use any government resources," Brown said. "We don't want campaigning to be mixed in with any business the current administration is trying to accomplish."

Student government will also monitor the campaigns' official Internet domains, including their Facebook and MySpace groups.

"We're going to monitor the blogs to make sure everyone is respectful and following Notre Dame's rules," Weiss said.

In other COR news:

♦COR also discussed last week's Collaboration Fund appeal. All media and non-COR members were asked to leave the room during this part of the meeting.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

"It would just be sitting, talking and asking questions with the candidates. In addition to raising voter turnout, we want students to get to know the candidates more."

Ashley Weiss
judicial council president

Daughters

continued from page 1

"I saw the 2006 production of the show and I was really impressed," he said. "I thought it was the best play I saw that year and I felt it was a great way to bring the issue [of sexual violence at Notre Dame] to light."

Preston became a part of the production after seeing the play in its debut year of 2005.

"I auditioned for the play in October. Then I got an e-mail asking me if I would be willing to come on as a writer for next year's production," Preston said.

Van Mill approached him in an effort to expand the male perspective of the problem.

"One of our big concerns about this year's show was that we didn't think we had enough male stories that accurately portrayed how the issue of sexual assault and sexual violence really affects the male community," Preston said. "It was very important to [Van Mill and the other organizers] to try to get a male interviewer."

And while a male opinion in the shaping of next year's production is something he can guarantee, Preston said that opinion is far from static.

"My opinions and my ideas are going to go through a lot of changes during the interviewing process and when I come into contact with people who have really been affected by sexual assault and by these issues that we are trying to tackle," he said.

Past "Loyal Daughters" productions have tried to address sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame from the eyes of every party involved — female and male

victims and perpetrators, hetero- and homosexuals, the sober and the inebriated.

And Preston is proud of those efforts.

"I feel like the writers and producers of 'Loyal Daughters and Sons' — in the two years that I've seen it and been a part of it — have done a very good job of incorporating the male perspective and the male experience."

Even though it has been written and directed by women, Preston said, the production has made an effort to include other angles and that organizers are continuously "trying to make sure we get the whole picture."

And a male interviewer may succeed in grasping that picture by connecting with male interviewees in ways a woman could not, he said.

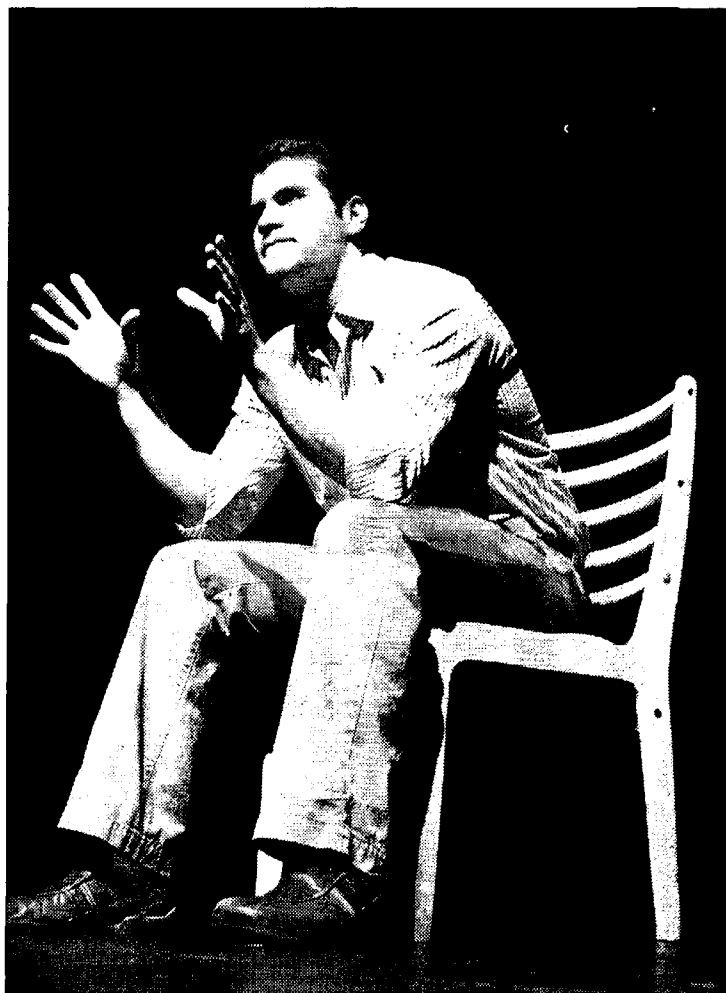
Preston said that as a writer and interviewer he would attempt to make male students a bit more comfortable telling their stories to the "Loyal Daughters."

The interviews, which are conducted every year and are voluntary, will produce the fresh material for next year's production, he said. The advertisements for interviews for next year's production have yet to be posted.

"Loyal Daughters and Sons" is one of many productions that Preston has participated in since he came to Notre Dame but this production will be his first experience as a writer and interviewer.

"I know it's going to be a lot of work and a lot of emotional strain, but, at the same time, I am looking forward to and anxious to move this project along," he said.

Contact Amber Travis at atravis@nd.edu



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Andy Houser performs during November's "Loyal Daughters and Sons" in Washington Hall.

Please recycle
The Observer.

WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Six Kurds killed in Turkish conflict

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish soldiers killed six Kurdish rebels near the border with Iraq on Tuesday in a clash that also killed a Turkish officer, the military said.

The rebels — four women and two men — were killed on Mount Gabar, in the province of Sirnak, the military said on its Web site. It said the clash erupted after the rebels defied calls for their surrender and opened fire on the soldiers.

The military said the rebels were among a group of guerrillas who killed 13 soldiers in an ambush in Sirnak on Oct. 7. At the time, the military retaliated by shelling areas near the border to prevent rebels from reaching bases in northern Iraq.

Kidnappers post video of British victim

BAGHDAD — Captors holding five Britons demanded Tuesday that Britain pull all its forces from Iraq, posting a videotape showing a bearded, haggard-looking victim more than six months after the group was kidnapped.

The purported hostage, speaking clearly with a British accent, identified himself as "Jason" and gave the date as more than two weeks ago. He sat under a sign in Arabic identifying the captors as "The Islamic Shiite Resistance in Iraq."

"My name is Jason. Today is November 18," he said, alternately glancing at the camera and downward, perhaps at a piece of paper. "I have been here now for 173 days and I feel we have been forgotten." No other hostage was shown.

NATIONAL NEWS

Alaskan medical helicopter missing

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Authorities launched a search Tuesday for a medical helicopter that vanished while carrying a patient and medical crew.

The LifeGuard Alaska helicopter, which was heading from Cordova to an Anchorage hospital, disappeared Monday sometime after 5:18 p.m., authorities said. The helicopter crew had made a satellite phone call around that time, but it was not a distress call, said Coast Guard Lt. John McWhite.

A patient, pilot, paramedic and nurse were aboard the helicopter, said Providence Alaska Medical Center spokeswoman Becky Hultberg. Their names were not released.

A Coast Guard cutter left Cordova just before 5:30 a.m. Tuesday and was making its way through Prince William Sound, Rossetti said. Bad weather had hampered search efforts overnight.

MySpace suicide investigated further

ST. LOUIS — A woman linked to an online hoax played on a 13-year-old girl who committed suicide had no idea MySpace messages to the girl had turned cruel and did not write any of them herself, the woman's lawyer said Tuesday.

Attorney Jim Briscoe appeared on NBC's "Today" show, as did the parents of Megan Meier. Megan, a 13-year-old girl from the St. Louis suburb of Dardenne Prairie, hanged herself last year minutes after receiving mean messages on MySpace.

Briscoe said his client, Lori Drew, "absolutely, 100 percent" had nothing to do with negative, nasty comments posted online about Megan Meier, and wasn't home when they were sent.

"She didn't find out about it until after Megan had taken her own life," he said.

LOCAL NEWS

Teen charged with stealing fire truck

LAPORTE, Ind. — A sheriff's deputy who saw two fire trucks leave a station when there wasn't any fire caught a teenager who allegedly stole one of the trucks.

Police said they weren't sure why the 17-year-old LaPorte boy, who was wearing full firefighter gear when he was arrested, stole the truck. He was being held at the LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center on Monday on juvenile charges of burglary and vehicle theft.

LaPorte County sheriff's Deputy Steve Pearce was on patrol about 1:30 a.m. Monday when he saw a pumper truck and rescue truck leave the Center Township fire station with lights flashing and sirens blaring.

Bush: Iran dangerous despite report

New intelligence findings show Persian country halted nuclear weapons program in 2003

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Defending his credibility, President Bush said Tuesday that Iran is dangerous and must be squeezed by international pressure despite a blockbuster intelligence finding that Tehran halted its nuclear weapons program four years ago.

Bush said the new conclusion — contradicting earlier U.S. assessments — would not prompt him to take off the table the possibility of pre-emptive military action against Iran. Nor will the United States change its policy of trying to isolate Iran diplomatically and punish it with sanctions, he said.

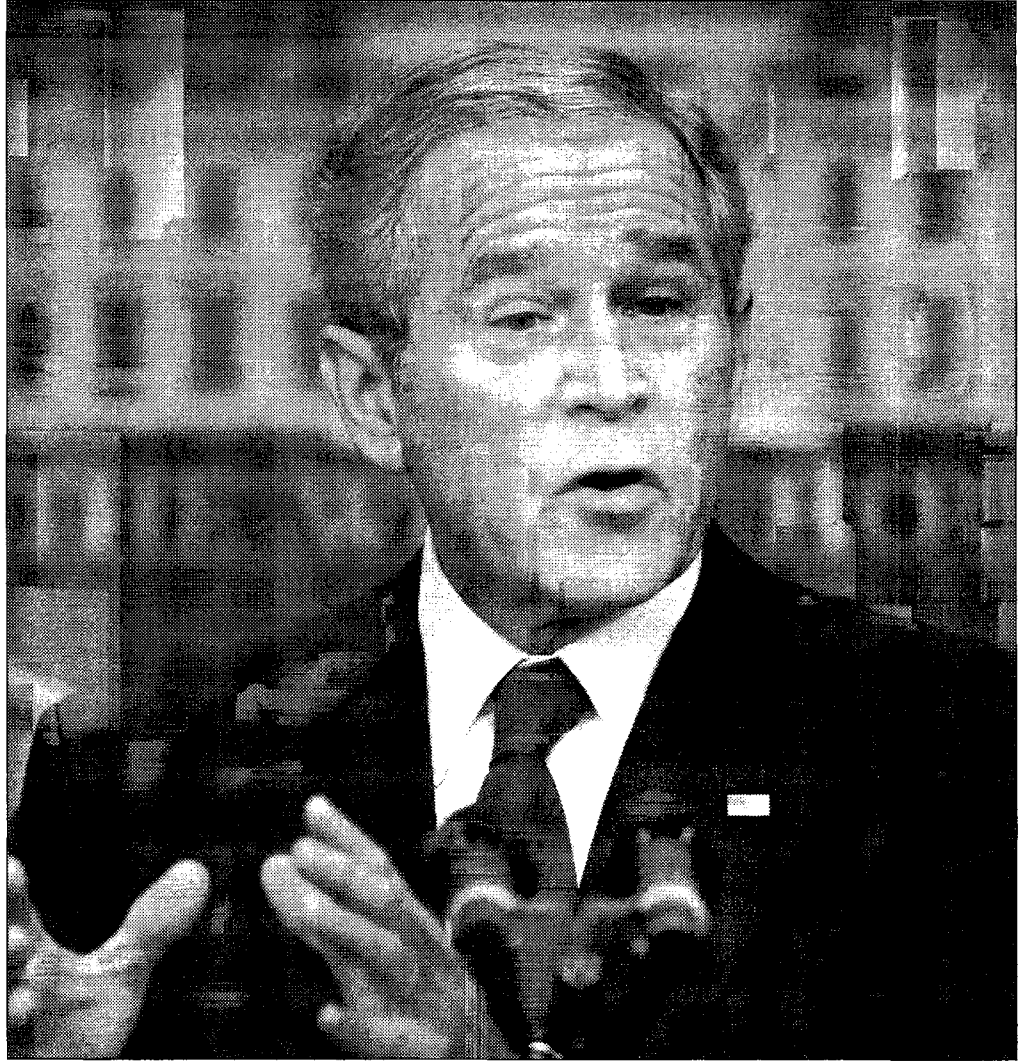
"Look, Iran was dangerous, Iran is dangerous and Iran will be dangerous if they have the knowledge necessary to make a nuclear weapon," the president told a White House news conference a day after the release of a new national intelligence estimate representing the consensus of all U.S. spy agencies.

On Capitol Hill, congressional Democrats said they hoped the report would have a cooling effect on the administration's rhetoric, which they said was hyped and counterproductive. At a campaign debate in Iowa, seven Democratic presidential candidates stood in agreement that the United States should shift its focus with Iran to diplomatic engagement.

"They should have stopped the saber rattling, should never have started it," said Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton said Bush "should seize this opportunity." But she also said it was clear that pressure on Iran has had an effect — a point disputed by rival Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware.

While U.S. intelligence about Iran has changed, Bush showed no inclination to alter course. Iran continues to produce enriched uranium that could be transferred to a secret weapons program, he said.

"So, I view this report as a warning signal that they had



President Bush speaks about Iran at a news conference in the White House Tuesday after findings showed Iran halted its weapons program in 2003.

the program, they halted the program. And the reason why it's a warning signal is that they could restart it," the president said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, en route to Ethiopia for talks with African leaders, said it would be a "big mistake" to ease diplomatic pressure on Tehran.

"I continue to see Iran as a dangerous power in international politics," Rice said. "At this moment, it doesn't appear to have an active weaponization program. That frankly is good news. But if it causes people to say, 'Oh well then we don't need to worry about what the Iranians are doing,' I think we will have made a big mistake."

Rice worked the phones to explain the new assessment,

reaching out to the foreign ministers of Germany, Britain and France, as well as China and Russia, according to U.S. officials. She spoke to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, whom she expects to see later this week at a NATO meeting in Brussels.

"What I am going to say to my colleagues is, 'Look, we have got the right strategy,'" Rice told reporters.

Rice urged nations such as China and Russia not to harden their stance against a new round of sanctions against Iran, saying the fact that Iran halted its nuclear weapons program in 2003 because of international pressure shows that diplomacy works.

Bush rattled some allies by warning recently that a nuclear-armed Iran could lead to World War III. Until

Monday's report, the administration was unwavering in its conviction that Iran was seeking nuclear weapons. Bush said he did not know about the new findings until he was briefed last week — a point challenged by some.

"The president knew, even as he was saying 'World War III' and all that kind of stuff," said Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. "He knew, he had been briefed."

Bush drew support from European allies who said the international community should not walk away from years of talks with an often defiant Tehran that is openly enriching uranium for uncertain ends. The report said Iran could still build a nuclear bomb by 2010-15.

MEXICO

Not even entertainers immune to violence

MEXICO CITY — A wave of organized crime violence terrorizing many parts of Mexico is driving fear into the heart of the entertainment business with the murders of several popular musicians, suggesting no one is immune to the rampant brutality.

Most disquieting were the weekend slayings of two singers who had crooned only about love and loss, not drugs and guns like some "narcocorrido" celebrities killed in the past.

The murders of Sergio Gomez, lead performer for the top-selling group K-Paz de la Sierra, and Zayda Pena of the group Zayda and the Guilty Ones has mainstream singers worrying they may become targets by becoming identified with one or another of

Mexico's warring drug gangs.

"What can I say? We are dismayed about this. I mean, we are all in the same boat," said Javier Diaz, representative of Los Tucanes del Norte, a popular group that often poses with assault rifles to promote its songs and violence-filled videos.

Although not known for songs glamorizing the drug business, Gomez had reportedly received death threats urging him not to appear in the capital of the western state of Michoacan, a hot bed of the drug trade where he was tortured before being strangled Sunday.

Pena was killed with similar brutality the previous day. Gunman fired an execution-style gunshot into her at the

hospital where she was recovering from surgery for a bullet wound in her neck suffered Friday at a motel in the border city of Matamoros, across from Brownsville, Texas.

Some fear that singers, whether they have any links to drug cartels or not, are routinely "adopted" by drug gangs, which post Internet videos showing their members torturing and executing rivals to soundtracks of popular tunes.

"It really has people worried, because you never know if you go to a concert, what will happen, whether somebody might get shot," said Pablo Zuack, press coordinator for Bandamax, a cable TV channel specializing in northern Mexican music.

CANADA

Canadian ambassador to country ordered to leave

Removal arises after rejection of candidates to represent Islamic republic in Ottawa; Tehran embassy now run by No. 2 diplomat

Associated Press

TORONTO — Iran has ordered Canada's ambassador to leave the country, the Canadian foreign minister said, after Canada rejected candidates Tehran had proposed to represent the Islamic Republic in Ottawa.

The two countries have tried to come to an agreement on an exchange of ambassadors for some time.

"Unfortunately, we have as yet been unable to accept the candidates Tehran has submitted," Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier said in a statement late Monday.

"We believe that the expulsion of our ambassador is an unfortunate and unjustified consequence of this situation. As always, Canada remains prepared to receive an Iranian ambassador provided a suitable candidate is

presented," he said.

The statement did not explain why the Iranian candidates had been unacceptable to Canada. The Canadian ambassador to Iran, John Mundy, was recently appointed but had not yet had his credentials accepted.

"Iran has been refusing to let our ambassador present his credentials and thereby fully assume his duties,"

"Iran has been refusing to let our ambassador present his credentials and thereby fully assume his duties."

Shaun Tinkler
spokesman
Canadian Foreign Affairs

Foreign Affairs spokesman Shaun Tinkler said. "They've decided to downgrade our relations."

Bernier said the Canadian Embassy in Iran now will be headed by the charge d'affaires, the No. 2 diplomat. Both countries will

continue to maintain embassies in the respective capitals and conduct normal

operations, the release said.

The diplomatic slap came one day after the Iranian charge d'affaires expressed frustration that his country's overtures to Canada were being ignored by the Canadian government.

Seyed Mahdi Mohebi said in an interview with The Canadian Press that he has twice asked for a resumption of high-level contacts up to the foreign minister level.

Calls to the Iranian Embassy were not immediately returned Monday.

Relations between the two countries have been frosty since former Canadian ambassador Ken Taylor helped spirit Americans out of the U.S. Embassy in 1980 before they could be taken hostage shortly after the Iranian revolution.

Recently, Iran's supreme court ordered a review of the death of Zahra Kazemi, a Canadian photojournalist who died in custody after being arrested while taking photographs outside a Tehran prison in 2003.

After her death, a committee appointed by then-Iranian President

Mohammad Khatami, a reformist, found that Kazemi, 54, died of a fractured skull and brain hemorrhage caused by a "physical attack."

Prosecutors filed charges against a secret agent who interrogated Kazemi while she was in custody, but those charges were later dropped.

The more conservative judiciary rejected the presidential finding, saying that Kazemi died in an accidental fall when her blood pressure dropped during a hunger strike.

A former Iranian army doctor has said he examined Kazemi and observed injuries that could only have been caused by torture and rape. The doctor later received political asylum in Canada.

Mohebi, the Iranian charge d'affaires, said he hoped a resolution of the case would lead to a warming of relations.

Canada recalled its ambassador in 2003 to protest how Iran was dealing with the case.

"Iran hasn't measured up to our standards for full and normal partnership for some time given their human rights record, the Kazemi case, the nuclear issue," Tinkler said.

Iran is embroiled in a standoff with the West over its nuclear program. It has refused demands to halt uranium enrichment, a process that can be used to manufacture fuel for nuclear weapons. Iran insists it needs enrichment technology to produce fuel for atomic reactors that will generate electricity.

"Iran hasn't measured up to our standards for full and normal partnership for some time given their human rights record, the Kazemi case, the nuclear issue."

Shaun Tinkler
spokesman
Canadian Foreign Affairs

In northern Rockies, grizzlies are back attacking humans

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks commissioner calls for population control, federal Fish and Wildlife Service says 'not yet'

Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — Nearly extinct last century, grizzly bears are back in a big way in the northern Rockies — rising in numbers, pushing into new territories and mauling hunters who stumble across them in the wild.

While state and federal officials laud the bear's comeback, others say it's time to lift the remaining protections that helped them recover. They point to recent grizzly encounters as evidence.

"We've got grizzly bears eating people who come here to hunt," said Vic Workman, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks commissioner, who fended off a grizzly during a Nov. 25 hunting trip near Whitefish. "It's getting out of whack. We've got too many bears."

The grizzly charged after Workman stumbled upon it as it guarded a fresh deer carcass. Workman fired a shot from his rifle and was not injured. The bear ran off.

If hunters could kill some bears, Workman said, the rest of the population would learn to avoid humans.

The biologist in charge of restoring grizzlies acknowledges they appear to be on track toward recovery in some areas. In central and western Montana, for example, they've expanded their range by more than 2,300 square miles in the last two decades.

But Christopher Servheen, grizzly recovery coordinator with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said it would take at least five more years of research to show the bear's progress is not fleeting.

Recovery is not just measured by the number of bears, he added. Also important is how widely they are distributed,

whether females breed at an adequate rate, and how many are killed crossing highways or in other human-related accidents.

Workman's close call was the latest in a string of bear attacks and near misses this year in Montana and portions of Idaho and Wyoming near Yellowstone National Park. While there is no comprehensive data on grizzly-human conflicts, an Associated Press tally shows at least a dozen grizzly bear attacks reported since April.

Seven people were injured,

some severely. At least five grizzlies were killed, either during the attacks or later by wildlife agents.

Servheen said it would be a mistake to link the run-ins to a decision on whether protections should be lifted.

"That wouldn't have changed what happened to Mr. Workman in any way shape or form," he said. "If you walk close to a bear that's over a carcass, it doesn't care if it's a delisted bear or not. It's going to charge."

One bear population is already moving toward possible hunting.

An estimated 600 grizzlies in and around Yellowstone this spring became the first of their species in the lower 48 states to lose their threatened species status.

Even there, a hunt is at least a year away and would likely be capped at just a few animals, said Chris Smith, chief of staff for the state wildlife department.

Conservation groups say more could be done to prevent bear-human conflicts without simply culling the grizzlies' population. Craig Kenworthy, conservation director for the Greater

Yellowstone Coalition, noted that spikes in bear attacks generally coincide with a shortage of food or other unfavorable environmental conditions.

This year, for example, drought in the Yellowstone area forced bears to roam farther and stay out longer in search of berries, insects and other food before winter.

"What we don't want to do is have a hunt and knock the numbers down and then find out we're still having the same number of conflicts," Kenworthy said.

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 13,248.73 -65.84

Up: 1,188 Same: 79 Down: 2,187 Composite Volume: 3,347,334,211

AMEX 2,337.01 -14.54
NASDAQ 2,619.83 -17.30
NYSE 9,784.38 -63.48
S&P 500 1,462.79 -9.63
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 15,388.87 -91.32
FTSE 100 (London) 6,315.20 -71.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-0.89	-1.320	146.36
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.41	-0.21	50.67
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	-2.21	-0.61	26.96
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	-2.93	-0.11	3.64

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.15	-0.006	3.889
13-WEEK BILL	-0.68	-0.020	2.980
30-YEAR BOND	-0.18	-0.008	4.346
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.33	-0.011	3.277

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.99	88.32
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+12.90	807.60
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.18	89.55

Exchange Rates	
YEN	109.8550
EURO	0.6778
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0135
BRITISH POUND	0.4865

IN BRIEF

Toys continue to fail lead testing

DETROIT — Tests on more than 1,200 children's products, most of them still on store shelves, found that 35 percent contain lead — many with levels far above the federal recall standard used for lead paint.

A Hannah Montana card game case, a Go Diego Go! backpack and Circo brand shoes were among the items with excessive lead levels in the tests performed by a coalition of environmental health groups across the country.

Only 20 percent of the toys and other products had no trace of lead or harmful chemicals, according to the results being released Wednesday by the Michigan-based Ecology Center along with the national Center for Health, Environment and Justice and groups in eight other states.

Of the 1,268 items tested, 23 were among millions of toys recalled this year.

Mattel Inc. recalled more than 21 million Chinese-made toys on fears they were tainted with lead paint and tiny magnets that children could accidentally swallow. Mattel's own tests on the toys found that they had lead levels up to 200 times the accepted limit.

U.S. looks to strengthen power grid

WASHINGTON — Energy officials announced Tuesday they will re-examine a decision to declare a large swath of the mid-Atlantic and two Southwest states a priority area for new power lines — a nod to those fighting proposed lines in their communities.

The Energy Department said it would grant a rehearing on its October decision to declare two areas of the country as "national interest electric transmission corridors," a new legal designation designed to foster greater power line construction in order to ease the threat of blackouts.

Local groups often resist such proposed lines in their communities, saying they are ugly, unnecessary, and diminish the quality of life. Advocates for the corridor law say it's necessary to avoid future blackouts as the nation's energy grid ages and demand for electricity rises.

Writers' strike reaches fifth week

Negotiations resume after four-day recess as networks prepare for spring season

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The TV industry braced Tuesday for what could become a long strike by writers, even as both sides returned to the bargaining table.

Leslie Moonves, chief executive officer of CBS Corp., told an investor conference in New York that he was hopeful, but "not terribly optimistic."

The two sides conceded there was likely to be ratings shortfalls if the five-week strike dragged on, Moonves said. Programming costs would fall as well, resulting in no significant financial impact to the network in the short to medium term, Moonves said.

Bargaining resumed in Los Angeles after a four-day recess, with a relatively scant \$21 million separating contract proposals by studios and striking Hollywood writers.

The more telling figure involves the \$20,000-plus that writers now earn for a single network rerun of a TV episode and the \$250 the studios are offering for a year's online reuse of an hourlong show. That represents the chasm between the old business order and burgeoning new media faced by negotiators as they try to end the strike, now in its fifth week.

The strike has shut down production on dozens of prime-time and late-night shows, sending a number of programs into reruns.

Still, Moonves said CBS viewers will be served.

"We are prepared to have a full schedule" in the spring, he said. "We're certainly not going to go dark."

He said the schedule will include programs from Showtime, the network's sister cable channel that offers daring fare including "Weeds" and "Dexter," a



Peter Sears, a writer for The Tonight Show, prepares to distribute picket signs outside of NBC Studios in Burbank, Calif., Tuesday.

serial-killer drama.

The shows will be edited for network use, a CBS spokesman said.

The walkout could soon affect the development of pilot episodes, which networks use to determine which series they will order for the next season. The process typically begins early in the year.

"If the strike is protracted, pilot season will be potentially ruined. Everything starts from the script," said Matt Edelman, a film and TV producer who now is chief executive officer of a lifestyle Web site, PeopleJam Inc.

However, Marc Berman, an analyst for Mediaweek, noted that networks have been cutting back on pilots for several years to save money.

Last Thursday, before negotiations recessed, the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers said it was willing to offer \$130 million in extra pay over the life of its proposed three-year deal, on top of the \$1.3 billion already paid annually to writers.

The Writers Guild of America countered by saying the proposal only addressed advertising-supported pro-

grams streamed for free on the Web and jurisdiction over shows made for the Internet. It said the offer constituted a "massive rollback."

The writers said their plan, also presented Thursday, would cost producers \$151 million over three years. Details of that plan were not publicly disclosed.

However, citing an unidentified person close to guild negotiators, the Hollywood Reporter trade publication said the union was proposing fixed compensation rates that also are graduated in increments tied to viewership.

Bush threatens to veto new Medicare bill

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration on Tuesday threatened to veto any legislation that cuts payments to private insurers as a way to give physicians more money when treating Medicare patients.

Beginning Jan. 1, physicians face a 10 percent pay cut when treating the elderly and disabled. If that occurs, doctors warn that some in their ranks will quit seeing new Medicare patients. Congress has intervened in recent years to make sure similar cuts didn't go into effect, and is likely to do so again this year. However, it has to find a way to pay for the fix.

Democratic lawmakers say the best place to start would be by curbing payments to private insurers that provide health insurance coverage to the elderly. In the program, called Medicare Advantage, the government pays insurers for taking on the

risk of covering the patient's health needs. But some believe the insurers are overpaid.

Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt said a veto would be recommended for any legislation that results in a loss of benefits or choices for the more than 8 million participants in the Medicare Advantage program. Insurers have warned that payment cuts would negatively affect benefits.

Leavitt said a veto would also be recommended if legislation raises taxes to pay for spending increases, overturns rules or regulations designed to restrain Medicare and Medicaid spending, or overturns features of the new Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Earlier this year, the House passed legislation that would trim payments to insurers by \$54 billion over five years. The Senate Finance Committee is expected to take up legislation seeking much more mod-

est cuts. Leavitt's veto threat was issued in a letter to the committee's chairman, Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., and the ranking Republican, Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa.

A congressional aide to Baucus said he's heard from Leavitt directly, in addition to receiving Tuesday's letter, and the senator looks forward to hearing from the administration once more specifics on the Medicare bill are released.

At a news conference earlier Tuesday, advocacy groups called on the Senate to trim payments to insurance companies.

"While the president chides Congress for 'wasteful Washington spending,' at the same time he and his allies continue to defend providing billions of dollars in subsidies to the insurance industry," said Max Richtman, executive vice president of The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

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POST OFFICE INFORMATION

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

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

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

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Restoring the constitutional republic

In today's political discourse, it is popular to treat the concept of "democracy" with a degree of reverence befitting six-pound, eight-ounce baby Jesus. It is as if the ballot box has taken on a supernatural mystique usually reserved for duct tape, big-screen HD TVs and Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders.

Mark Poyar

Actual
Common Sense

Every few years, millions of Americans pay homage at the democratic altar while casting their ballot for the seemingly less moronic politician of their choice. It is an American tradition, on par with the great Catholic traditions of old.

Our president is certainly not one to break tradition. No one really knows for certain whether the real reason the U.S. invaded Iraq was to get rid of Saddam Hussein's apparent stockpile of WMDs as originally claimed, but the president knows one thing for sure: We're "spreading democracy" in Iraq, and that's something the U.S. should be darn proud of.

Lest the American public forget this point, the president decided to name our little overseas excursion "Operation Iraqi Freedom." Apparently, he sees absolutely no difference between democracy and freedom. In his 2004 State of the Union Address, the president said, "we also hear doubts that democracy is a realistic goal for the greater Middle East, where freedom is rare" and, "as democracy takes hold in Iraq, the enemies of freedom will do all in their power to spread violence and fear."

But is democracy freedom, as many maintain without giving it a second thought? What did the founding fathers think about democracy? Does democracy deserve as much praise as it receives?

The founders viewed democracy with outright distrust. President John Adams said, "[r]emember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit sui-

cide." Similarly, James Madison wrote in the Federalist Papers that in a pure democracy, "there is nothing to check the inducement to sacrifice the weaker party or the obnoxious individual." Edmund Randolph said at the Constitutional Convention that "in tracing these evils to their origin every man had found it in the turbulence and follies of democracy." The word "democracy" is notoriously absent in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution or the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were a number of reasons why the founders feared democracy. Most importantly, the founders viewed freedom and individual rights as the most important political ends. Thomas Jefferson famously wrote in the Declaration of Independence that men "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Similarly, John Adams said that individuals have "rights antecedent to all earthly governments; rights that cannot be repealed or restrained by human laws; rights derived from the Great Legislator of the Universe."

People should be free to act as long as they don't harm others or their property. They believed that it was the job of government to secure these rights. They knew that individual rights, and therefore freedom, would not be safe within a democracy.

In a democracy, the rights of individuals were not protected but were subject to the whims of the majority, or as Madison said, "there is nothing to check the inducement to sacrifice the weaker party or the obnoxious individual." If the majority felt like seizing an individual's property or violating his other rights, there was nothing to stop the majority. Without protections in place securing the rights of the people, a democracy would almost certainly end up violating the rights of individuals and destroying their freedom. It was with this thought in mind that they created a Constitutional republic.

They knew that democratic majorities

acting through the government were likely to try to violate the rights of minorities. Consequently, the founders wrote the Constitution to place well-defined limits on what the newly created federal government could and couldn't do. It guaranteed certain fundamental rights from infringement from the government such as freedom of speech, freedom of the press and the right to bear arms.

Although the people democratically elected representatives to act on their behalf, they were unable to act on certain subject matters and had to respect the rights outlined in the Constitution. Checks and balances further limited the power of majorities. As a wise man once said, in a democracy, two wolves and a sheep take a majority vote on what's for supper, but in a constitutional republic, the wolves are forbidden on voting on what's for supper, and the sheep are well armed.

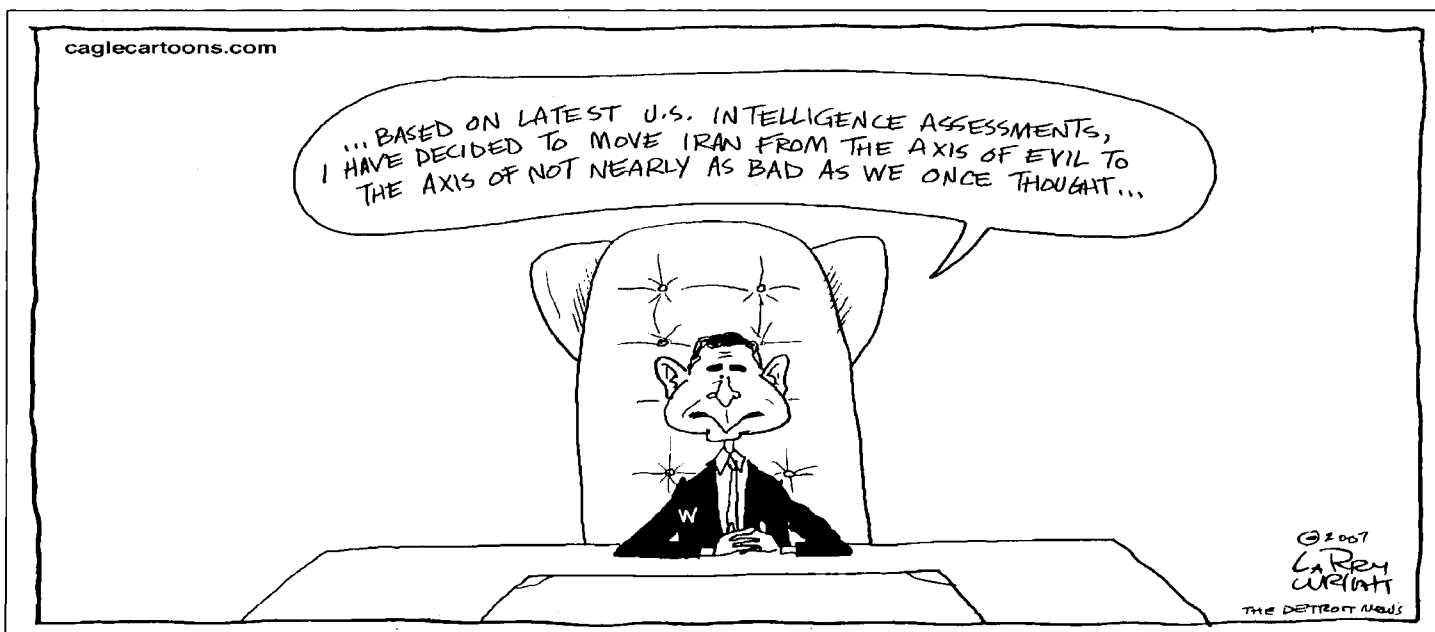
Unfortunately, the United States is, for all intents and purposes, no longer a Constitutional republic. Congress routinely exceeds its defined and enumerated powers listed in the Constitution. It can do nearly anything it wants, from spending money on Social Security or health care (neither of which the Constitution gives Congress the power to do) to spying on people without warrants.

When the government can do anything it wants by majority vote, including taxing everything under the sun, it's hardly a wonder that people are much less free to do as they please. Restoring the Constitutional republic by actually enforcing the Constitution as written would go a long way in restoring freedom once again.

Mark Poyar is a junior finance major and vice president of the College Libertarians. Their Web site is <http://ndlibertarians.blogspot.com>. He can be contacted at mpoyar@nd.edu

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

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

Who deserves to face Ohio State in the BCS Championship game?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m.
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to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Dare to be naive."

R. Buckminster Fuller
U.S. architect and engineer

U-WIRE

Green eating habits mean more than just broccoli

Just Food, a nonprofit organization that "works to develop a just and sustainable food system in the New York City region," held a summit the first weekend of December in conjunction with The New School. I sat in on a series of workshops that focused on food, farms and community health. In the process, I picked up a great deal of green information, all of which Columbia students should know, and most of which some of them probably don't.

For instance, eating organic produce translates to eating an extra serving of

**Mackenzie
Yang**

*Columbia
Daily
Spectator*

fruits and vegetables due to all the antioxidants and nutrients it has compared to nonorganic produce.

Students might also be interested to know that vitamin content in nonorganic fruits and vegetables has decreased by 10 to 40 percent over the years.

With so many Japanese food options, both on campus and in the neighborhood, students should be aware that fish and shrimp served in sushi bars and buffets are grown in large nets that enclose antibiotics and pesticides along with the creatures' excrement.

This isn't the only issue with fish. Raising one pound of carnivorous fish such as cod requires two to six pounds of wild fish to be ground up as feed. As a result, the rise of fish farms is wiping out some wild fish populations.

Moreover, irradiated food — food exposed to radiation to kill off bacteria — does not have to be labeled as such, even if it's sold in restaurants, schools and hospitals. This is disturbing, as irradiation destroys vitamins, protein and essential fatty acids, and produces chemicals that have been linked to DNA damage in human cells.

However, due to the driving market of consumer demands, the prevalence of local, healthy food is gradually increasing. Over 15 percent of the world's food is now grown in cities. New York City alone has 50 farmers' markets. Columbia, in response to student groups operating under the Green Umbrella, an umbrella organization for environmental groups on campus, is also taking steps toward serving stu-

dents nutritional and environmentally-friendly food.

Although they buy the now-familiar fair-trade and organic coffee, the majority of students are unaware of Columbia's green changes. If more students knew about these options, they'd be prompted to demand even more environmentally-forward programs concerning not only food, but also the energy and waste issues on our campus.

This column was originally published in the Dec. 4 edition of the Columbia Daily Spectator, the daily publication of Columbia University.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



U-WIRE

The challenge of hunting for a candidate

With each new political debate, I get closer and closer to deciding who it is I'm not going to vote for in the next presidential election.

I also get closer to realizing my vote means very, very little. So little, in fact, that I'm thinking a write-in vote for "King Arthur" or "Sherlock Holmes" would leave me as satisfied as I could possibly get.

It's easy to pick out who I don't want. Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards all come to mind. If any of them get elected, I might give up following politics and just go join the circus.

Maybe I should do that now, but that's beside the point.

What about Mitt Romney, Fred Thompson, Mike Huckabee or Rudy Giuliani?

Eh. Can I hit "Reset?"

This is really the best the Republican Party can come up with? More than 300 million people in the United States, and these are it?

But I suppose dispirited rhetorical questions don't get us anywhere. The way I see it, we have three options.

First, you can latch on to the "most electable" candidate and ride his or her coattails to success. It's like picking one of the two best teams at the beginning of the football season and celebrating rabidly when they win it all at the end.

All aboard the bandwagon!

I'll admit it: This is, by and large, the extent of my support for Giuliani. I've

been saying it for months, but if I had to vote today, Rudy would get my vote. He can beat Clinton in a general election, and that is (as sad a reflection of the times as it may be) the simple truth of the matter. I'm even willing to look past scandal and a weak platform, just because I think he is the Republicans' best chance against Clinton.

I swear I'm not a total partisan hack — I just really don't like that woman.

Option number two may be a little more appealing to most of us. There's something a bit more dignified in it.

This route involves going with the mainstream candidate that you most agree with in terms of policy. Obviously no candidate is going to be perfect and no candidate is going to have a platform you completely agree with, but some are better than others. Some are, in each voters' eyes, "more right" than others. Think back to the SAT (and try not to cry). There were a couple different choices you could pick (and sometimes all the choices seemed wrong), but you still had to go with the "most correct."

Find which candidate you think is the most correct answer, and proudly fill the bubble in after championing his or her cause to all who will listen. You like the candidate, and he or she has a reasonable chance of success. What a combination.

you, get involved early.

The first step would probably be to take a field trip to Iowa.

Last but not least, we have the option I'm beginning to seriously consider: this involves going with the underdog, the Appalachian State of the political world. No, I won't be casting my vote for Sherlock Holmes any time soon, but I just might go with the next closest thing.

I'm thinking about voting for Ron Paul. Yes, the somewhat nutty doctor from Texas who seems just a bit paranoid and whose foreign policy platform is, to most Republicans, highly debatable. That Ron Paul.

Let's be clear: I really don't think Paul has a chance to win the presidency. In fact, I'm not even sure I would want him to. I'm far from convinced he would be the best choice this country could make. But that doesn't mean I wouldn't vote for him.

His stance on several issues, most notably his incessant calls for reduced government spending, intervention and control, are all quite appealing to this libertarian-minded young columnist. The Republican Party is generally thought to consist of fiscal conservatives, social conservatives and libertarians. Most recently, the rise of social conservatism has dominated the party. The other branches have fallen nearly by the wayside, for reasons I'm not entirely sure of. But Paul speaks forcefully about revitalizing those legs of the stool on which the Republican Party sits, and I admire him for it. I don't buy everything he says, but he offers an alternative to the other Republican candidates. He

offers a shift in thinking for the Republican Party; a shift that may be necessary to undertake if Republicans hope to win any more elections any time soon.

Paul may not win the presidency. I doubt he will. But if enough people vote for Paul, future Republican candidates will have to take notice. There is a contingent of conservative voters out there concerned about the other two legs of the stool. This contingent is fearful that with too much buildup of one leg, the whole thing will topple over.

Perhaps it's time to vote for Paul in 2008 and lose this battle to the Democrats but hope the Republican Party hits "Reset" and comes back in 2012 with a new sense of what it should stand for. A "lose the battle to win the war" political mentality, so to speak. It's something to consider, anyway.

It's not difficult for us to pick out who we don't want to vote for. In a world full of negative campaigning and tainted candidates, that's the easy part.

The challenge is in finding someone you're willing to support. As citizens of the United States, however, it's something we all ought to do.

So good luck and happy hunting; November will be here before you know it.

This column was originally published in the Dec. 4 edition of the Daily Nebraskan, a publication of the University of Nebraska.

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



Scene's Christmas



Photo courtesy hollywoodjesus.com

This movie is classic. We all grew up loving how Tim Allen explained all the secrets of Santa and answered all our great Christmas questions. How does Santa get around the world in one night? Seconds become minutes, minutes become hours, etc. How does Santa fit down the chimney? He magically shrinks until he fits. Plus, who doesn't love the idea of waking up to find your dad is Santa Claus? This is a classic movie because it is the ultimate Christmas fantasy of our generation. It's funny, and we can relate to it. Even now, it's hard to watch and not wonder if Santa really does exist. And maybe someday we'll get that Weenie Whistle we always dreamed of.



This, ladies and gentlemen, is the matter who you are, Charlie Brown, about the real Christmas spirit. It's when Linus walks across the stage, then explains the real spirit of Christmas.

The movie was originally made as a little-known jazz composer by Christmas gold. Everyone knows he Starbucks released the Vince Guaraldi movie a few years ago, and since appreciate what happens when you characters and sing Christmas carols with-your-family film.



Photo courtesy moma.org

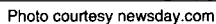
Many don't consider "Meet Me in St. Louis" a Christmas movie, but here are two hard facts: one-third of the musical takes place during Christmas, and it features Judy Garland's mesmerizing performance of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," which never fails to be emotional.

The premise is simple; it's about a Midwestern family and the love they have for each other. Their interactions with each other are the heart of the movie. But there really are three reasons to watch it: "The Trolley Song," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and finally, the Christmas dance. Maybe it's Judy Garland's red gown or maybe it's that single moment when all of her character's dreams unexpectedly come true, but the Christmas dance scene stands out from other holiday films.



If you think that nothing says "Christmas" like crazy song-and-dance numbers, the Jim Henson-fled version of the Charles Dickens novel "A Christmas Carol" stars as the cold and whose love of money is only surpassed by Scrooge's best employee, the humble than Kermit the Frog himself. The Gonzo and Rizzo, his tough-talking slew of classic Muppet characters Fozzie, Scrooge's first employee appearance. The film also shines on songs like "Bless Us All" and "It Gets You in a Christmas Mood," and "Marley and Marley" add to the

as Movie Picks



a television special with music
 at this animated movie became
 w to dance to "Linus & Lucy."
 raldi Trio's soundtrack from the
 e then we've all been able to
 ask real children to voice child
 ls. This is the curl-up-by-the-fire-

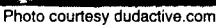


Photo courtesy kevinwolf.com

Crosby as Jim Hardy and Astaire as Ted Hanover are perfect comic foils as they compete for the affection of rising star Linda Mason (Marjorie Reynolds) and sing and dance their way through Jim's Holiday Inn, that is open only on holidays. It's true that "Holiday Inn" can be enjoyed year-round. After all, one of Astaire's most dazzling solo routines in any of his films is the firecracker number for the Fourth of July. However, "Holiday Inn" is especially enjoyable at Christmas time. You'll know why as soon as Bing sings "White Christmas" for the first time on film, and the whole world melts around you.

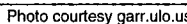


Photo courtesy garr.uio.tu

Maybe it's director Frank Capra's ability to tug at your heart without feeling schmaltzy. Maybe it's Jimmy Stewart's sweet and powerful performance as George Bailey, a man who feels like life has passed him by. Or maybe we all just feel like George sometimes. But whatever it is that keeps us watching, "It's a Wonderful Life" is a classic American film that audiences return to every Christmas season. Watching George grow from a spirited kid, to an optimistic youth, to an older and wiser adult through the eyes of his guardian angel Clarence (Henry Travers) feels like watching bits and pieces of our own lives.

And Clarence's final message to George - "No man is a failure who has friends" - rings as true to us now as it did when the film came out 60 years ago. So lasso the moon for Mary and sing "Auld Lang Syne" with George Bailey this Christmas season. Maybe you'll even find Zuzu's petals in your coat pocket.

NHL

Senators lose in shootout, extend losing streak

Lightning lose 3-1 lead in final minutes but win shootout 2-1; Datsyuk scores twice in Wings' win over Canadiens

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — The Ottawa Senators are in their longest losing streak in over a decade. However, the latest loss has the team feeling a little better about itself.

Vinny Prospal scored in the fourth round of a shootout and the Tampa Bay Lightning extended Ottawa's losing streak to seven games with a 4-3 victory Tuesday night.

The Lightning blew a 3-1 lead in the final two minutes but won the shootout 2-1.

Daniel Alfredsson scored twice during a three-goal third, helping the Senators tie it at 3. Alfredsson (1:57 remaining) and Wade Redden (1:21) completed the comeback scoring 36 seconds apart late in the period.

"I think we tried hard all game long, worked it pretty good, tried to create chances," Alfredsson said. "It's obviously very nice to see that we got rewarded. We would have loved to have won it in the shootout, but we're happy with getting a point."

The Senators have lost seven consecutive games for the first time since Feb. 22-March 9, 1996. Ottawa has a two-point lead over Carolina for in the Eastern Conference.

Mathieu Darche, Chris

Gratton and Filip Kuba scored for the Lightning. Tampa Bay has won two consecutive games following a six-game losing skid.

"I'm not talking any negatives," Lightning coach John Tortorella said. "We won a big hockey game against a pretty good hockey team. Mistakes were made. They will be addressed."

Alfredsson's power-play goal at 7:05 of the third pulled Ottawa within 2-1. Tampa Bay got the goal back just over two minutes later when Kuba scored at 9:08.

Ottawa's Ray Emery made 25 saves, including an in-close chance by Martin St. Louis in overtime. He finished with 25 saves.

In the first period, Dany Heatley failed to score on a breakaway, Brian McGrattan couldn't handle a pass through the slot that could have resulted in a goal and Tampa Bay goalie Johan Holmqvist made a glove save on Jason Spezza's shot from the low left circle. Holmqvist had 26 saves.

Meanwhile, Redden played a key role in the Lightning's two goals during the first. His defensive zone pass into the slot was intercepted by Jan Hlavac, who then found Darche alone in close for a 1-0 lead at 3:43.

Just as Redden completed a two-minute holding penalty, Gratton scored his first goal in 21 games from the low slot off a pass from St. Louis to put Tampa Bay up 2-0 with 8:26 left in the period.

Ottawa's woes continued in the second. Chris Kelly lost possession of the puck while making a stick-handling move during a 2-on-1 midway through the period. The Senators caught a break when Tampa Bay was penalized for having too many men on the ice at 13:21, but Ottawa took just one shot during the power-play opportunity.

"It's pro sports and winning is the only thing that matters, but we're in kind of a slump," Alfredsson said. "As a team, when you see everybody working and you see everybody really pulling together, that's a good sign. That's a sign of better things to come, I believe."

Red Wings 4, Canadiens 1

When Pavel Datsyuk got the puck on his stick Tuesday night, his only thought was to shoot it.

That mind-set paid off for the Detroit center as Datsyuk scored two unassisted goals off turnovers to lead the Red Wings to a win over the Montreal Canadiens.

Datsyuk's second goal of the



Canadiens defenseman Mathieu Dandenault checks Red Wings center Pavel Datsyuk in Detroit's 4-1 win over Montreal Tuesday.

game and 11th of the season came midway through the second to restore Detroit's one-goal lead at 2-1. He also scored 16:40 in.

"Before my goal, we had good chances and we didn't score," said Datsyuk, who has scored seven times over the course of a five-game goals streak. "Every shot is dangerous."

Dominik Hasek stopped 15 shots and Niklas Kronvall and Henrik Zetterberg also scored for the Red Wings, who extended their winning streak to four.

Detroit, first overall in the NHL with a 19-6-2 record, out-shot Montreal 34-16 overall, including a 16-5 margin in the second.

Christopher Higgins scored his 11th goal for Montreal, which has lost three straight and five of six.

"If you look at the first 15 games that we played, we played as a team," Canadiens coach Guy Carbonneau said. "We made the plays when the players were there, we stayed fresh on the ice, our passes were crisp, if we had no play we put it in somewhere — we looked like a fast team. Now, because the confidence is not there, there's a lot of hesitation in our game."

Canadiens rookie Carey Price stopped 30 shots.

While Carbonneau said he

needed a stronger performance from his goalies than he has been getting recently, he went even farther with defenseman Andrei Markov, who currently leads Eastern Conference defensemen in All-Star voting.

"Maybe he sees himself at the All-Star game too quick," Carbonneau said. "I don't think he's injured but his play on the ice is not where it should be. We've talked to him about it. We need him to get back to where he was earlier in the year. We need him to be our best defenseman and right now he's not."

Hockey legend Gordie Howe was accompanied by Ted Lindsay, Alex Delvecchio, Marcel Pronovost and Marcel Dionne as the Canadiens honored their long-standing rivalry with Detroit in a pre-game ceremony.

Jean Beliveau, Dickie Moore, Jean-Guy Talbot, Stephane Richer and Claude Lemieux represented Montreal, which celebrates its centennial in 2009.

Current Red Wings defenseman Chris Chelios, who began his career with Montreal in 1983-84, also took part in the ceremony along with Carbonneau.

The 45-year-old Chelios was given a standing ovation by the sold-out crowd of 21,273 when he was announced as the third star following the game.



Senators goalie Ray Emery stops Lightning right wing Martin St. Louis during a shootout in Tampa Bay's 4-3 win over Ottawa Tuesday. Lightning center Vaclav Prospal ended the shootout in the fourth round.

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PERSONAL

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AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
NY Rangers	15-10-2	32	6-3-1
Philadelphia	14-9-2	30	5-3-2
New Jersey	14-10-2	30	8-2-0
NY Islanders	13-11-1	27	4-5-1
Pittsburgh	12-12-2	26	5-4-1

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Ottawa	16-7-2	34	3-5-2
Boston	14-9-2	30	7-3-0
Montreal	13-9-4	30	4-5-1
Toronto	10-11-6	26	3-4-3
Buffalo	12-11-1	25	6-4-0

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Carolina	15-10-3	33	4-6-0
Atlanta	12-13-1	25	5-4-1
Florida	12-14-1	25	5-4-1
Tampa Bay	11-13-2	24	4-5-1
Washington	9-16-2	20	3-6-1

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Detroit	18-6-2	38	5-4-1
St. Louis	15-8-1	31	8-1-1
Chicago	14-10-2	30	5-3-2
Columbus	12-10-5	29	4-4-2
Nashville	13-9-2	28	6-2-2

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Minnesota	15-9-2	32	6-4-0
Vancouver	14-10-2	30	6-2-2
Colorado	14-11-1	29	4-6-0
Edmonton	13-14-1	27	6-4-0
Calgary	10-13-4	24	4-5-1

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Dallas	15-9-4	34	8-2-0
San Jose	13-8-4	30	6-1-3
Anaheim	12-12-4	28	5-4-1
Phoenix	11-14-0	22	4-6-0
Los Angeles	10-14-2	22	2-6-2

NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving CCAA Poll

team	points	previous
1 Texas	300	1
2 Stanford	288	3
3 Arizona	281	2
4 Michigan	271	4
5 Florida	260	5
6 Tennessee	250	6
7 Indiana	237	7
8 Auburn	228	8
9 Georgia	220	9
10 Minnesota	212	10
11 California	201	11
12 Purdue	188	12
13 Ohio State	179	13
14 Virginia	174	14
15 North Carolina	159	15
16 Penn State	141	19
17 Texas A&M	136	17
18 Northwestern	132	18
19 Missouri	117	20
20 Southern California	108	16
21 Louisiana State	92	21
22 NOTRE DAME	90	22
23 Brigham Young	64	23
24 SMU	56	24
25 Hawaii	54	25

NFL



Eric Rivera, 17, leaves a Florida Highway Patrol Office in Estero, Fla., on Friday. He and three co-defendants were indicted on charges of first-degree murder and armed burglary Tuesday in the death of Washington Redskins player Sean Taylor.

17-year-old indicted for Taylor's murder

Associated Press

MIAMI — The 17-year-old suspect in the death of Sean Taylor was accused Tuesday of firing the shot that killed the Washington Redskins safety.

A Miami-Dade grand jury identified Eric Rivera as the gunman in its indictment.

Rivera and his three co-defendants were indicted by the grand jury on charges of first-degree felony murder and armed burglary.

Charles Wardlow, 18; Jason Mitchell, 19; and Venjah Hunte, 20; were ordered held without bail during brief court appearances via a videoconference from Miami-Dade County

jail. The three, who stood silently during the hearing, will remain at the jail under suicide watch after Judge John Thornton Jr.'s ruling.

Rivera, still in custody in Fort Myers, was expected to be transported to Miami-Dade on Tuesday night and make a court appearance Wednesday. One of his attorneys said the grand jury's identification of Rivera as the gunman was expected.

"This does not come as a surprise," said Sawyer Smith, who represents Rivera along with his father Wilbur.

The 24-year-old Taylor died Nov. 27, a day after he was shot in the bedroom of his home. Police have said

he was a victim of a botched burglary.

"I think he's in disbelief over what occurred," said Wilbur Smith. "His expression to me was that 'I can't believe this kind of thing happened.'"

Asked how he would defend his client, Wilbur Smith said simply: "Stay tuned."

Attorneys said the four young men were agitated.

"He's very distraught," said Hunte's attorney, Michael Hornung. "He's scared."

Hornung offered glimpses of his client's possible involvement. He said Hunte was the only suspect with a valid driver's license and behind the wheel at least

part of the time. He said Hunte did not have a gun and did not know his friends' plans.

"Just a bunch of friends that evening said they were going to the East Coast, and he went along," Hornung said. "He had no idea what-soever what was going on."

Hunte is cooperating with police, his attorney said, and would tell them everything he knows.

Probable cause affidavits for Mitchell and Rivera said the two confessed to participating in armed burglary. According to the reports, Mitchell and Rivera admitted entering the home and said someone had a gun and shot Taylor, but they didn't identify who.

IN BRIEF

Broncos' Henry avoids drug suspension

DENVER — Broncos running back Travis Henry won his appeal of a one-year suspension over a failed drug test Tuesday.

The NFL informed Henry in September he had failed a test for marijuana. He disputed the results and sued the NFL to avoid a suspension. He contended the league violated its substance abuse policy by not allowing an expert of Henry's choosing to be present for the testing.

Henry's lawyer Harvey Steinberg told The Associated Press that he wasn't surprised by the decision.

"I'm thrilled," Steinberg said. "I always thought we should prevail. I knew that if we got a fair shake, based on the evidence, we'd win. Travis knows and he's absolutely thrilled and relieved and very happy."

The Broncos issued a statement that said they were "pleased with

this outcome and happy that Travis has been absolved of any wrongdoing with respect to this matter."

Guillen signs three-year, \$36-million deal with Royals

NASHVILLE—Power-hitting outfielder Jose Guillen and the Kansas City Royals reached an agreement on a \$36 million, three-year contract.

The 31-year-outfielder batted .290 with 23 homers and 99 RBIs for the Seattle Mariners this year. Seattle declined its \$9 million option and Guillen turned down a \$5 million player option, receiving a \$500,000 buyout.

The agreement was subject to him passing a physical, a person familiar with the negotiations said Tuesday, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made. His deal was first reported by ESPNdeportes.com and foxsports.com.

"We have the obvious need of adding right-handed power to our lineup," new Royals manager Trey Hillman said.

Sports Illustrated names Favre sportsman of the year

NEW YORK — Brett Favre's standout season for the resurgent Green Bay Packers has earned him the title of 2007 Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year, making him the fourth quarterback to win the award in its 53-year history.

The 38-year-old Favre joins fellow quarterbacks Terry Bradshaw (1979), Joe Montana (1990) and Tom Brady (2005) as recipients of the award, given to an athlete who symbolizes the ideals of sportsmanship.

Favre, a three-time NFL MVP, said in the cover story of the magazine's Dec. 10th issue that leadership is about finding ways to raise his team's level of play.

around the dial

NBA

Lakers at Nuggets
9 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Without James, Cavaliers can't handle Nets

Pistons win fourth straight with Billups' double-double; Stoudemire's 42 points, Nash's 17 assists lead Suns over Pacers

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Cavaliers looked lost without LeBron James, and Richard Jefferson took advantage.

Jefferson scored a season-high 36 points, Vince Carter added 19 and the New Jersey Nets beat Cleveland 100-79 Tuesday night.

James missed his third straight game because of a sprained left index finger.

"Whenever you get an opportunity to play against this team without him, you have to make sure you go out there and get it done," Jefferson said.

He and Carter led the Nets on a 9-0 run to start the third quarter, opening a lead that the Cavaliers were incapable of challenging.

"Richard obviously was really, really good tonight," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said.

Jason Kidd didn't even play the fourth quarter, finishing his night early with seven points, six assists and 10 rebounds.

Cavaliers coach Mike Brown, who rarely jumps on his team publicly, expressed disgust with its performance.

"I want to see them fight," Brown said. "I didn't see any tough or any grit as a team out there."

The Cavaliers have lost four straight and are 0-3 without their superstar forward, falling to 9-10.

"Tonight, I felt we gave in as a team," Brown said. "We gave in to whatever they were doing and we didn't fight back until late. I'm disappointed that we gave in the way that we did."

Drew Gooden agreed with Brown's assessment, saying the team has to find a way to compete without James.

"We can't just sit back and wait for him to get back and say we will be all right when he gets back," Gooden said. "We have got to do something now."

Brown wouldn't comment before the game on whether James' injury is taking longer to heal than first anticipated. He was hurt Wednesday in a loss to Detroit, when Nazr Mohammed slapped at the ball as James began to shoot.

New Jersey bounced back from a 118-95 loss at Detroit on Sunday and improved to 5-3

on the road behind Jefferson, who shot 11-for-18 from the field and 13-for-15 from the line.

Jefferson downplayed his scoring output.

"I'm not too concerned about that. I'm more concerned about us being consistent as a team," he said. "We had a nice win tonight, but 48 hours ago we played (poorly)."

Carter, who was 7-for-13, including 3-of-5 from 3-point range, hurt his lower right leg in the third quarter, but returned. He didn't think it was serious.

The Nets shot 51.5 percent and even got some offensive production from Jason Collins, who had a season-high seven points.

Shannon Brown got the start in place of James and sparked the Cavaliers early with some hustle.

He drove to the rim on a fast break, scored and took a hard foul, bringing James, wearing a light gray three-piece suit, to his feet courtside.

Brown finished with a career-high 20 points and four assists.

He replaced Devin Brown, who was ineffective starting in James' place the last two games, going scoreless in 21 minutes in Sunday's loss at Boston.

However, the result was the same for Cleveland.

The Cavaliers took a seven-point lead on Daniel Gibson's 3-pointer midway through the second quarter. But they couldn't keep up with the Nets and fell behind 47-43 at halftime.

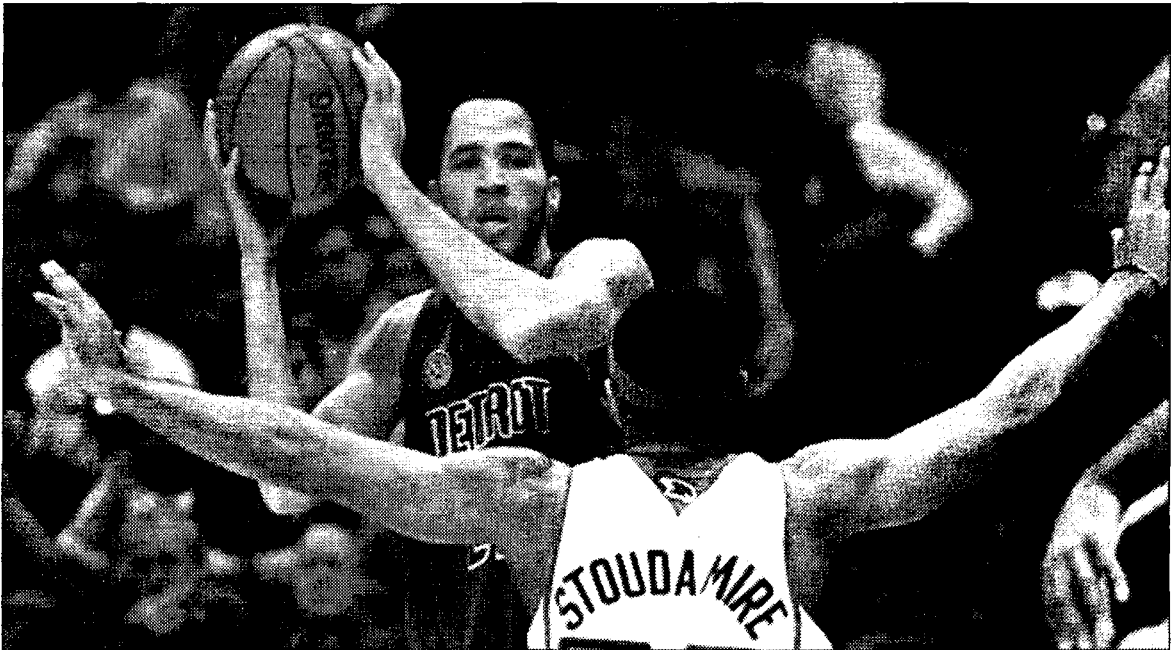
Zydrunas Ilgauskas was a non-factor, shooting 1-for-6 with seven rebounds. Sasha Pavlovic was 1-for-9 as Cleveland shot 34.6 percent.

The Cavaliers could soon get some help from high-energy big man Anderson Varejao if they elect to match a three-year offer sheet the restricted free agent signed with the Charlotte Bobcats on Tuesday. Varejao has held out all season waiting for a new deal.

Pistons 106, Hawks 95

The Detroit Pistons are playing like a dominant team, even when the final score is deceptively close.

The Pistons led by 26 after a



Pistons forward Tayshaun Prince looks to pass over Hawks guard Salim Stoudamire during Detroit's 106-95 win over Atlanta Tuesday. Prince scored 23 points in the victory.

lopsided third quarter and coasted to their fourth straight victory, beating the Atlanta Hawks on Tuesday night.

The Pistons won with balance, with seven players scoring in double figures, led by Tayshaun Prince's 23.

"It was good, man," said Chauncey Billups, who had 10 points and 10 assists. "We got a lot of guys rolling."

Detroit won with a strong inside presence, taking a 10-0 advantage in offensive rebounds in the first half.

"I was really impressed with the job we did on the glass," said Pistons coach Flip Saunders, adding he considered offensive rebounds "the Hawks' forte."

The Pistons also won with defense, blocking 10 shots and shutting down the Hawks' top scorer, Joe Johnson, who had only five points. Johnson's scoring average dropped a full point from 21.7 to 20.7. It was the low total for Johnson since he had five at Memphis on April 2, 2006.

Johnson called the Pistons "a great team" but added he also had a bad game.

"I'll give them credit, maybe a little bit of both," Johnson said. "It's just tough fighting against double teams."

The Hawks couldn't come close to matching the Pistons' scoring depth. When Johnson was shut down, the Hawks had no backup plan. Josh Smith was held to 13 points, four below his average.

"Our main core guys, they just didn't have it tonight," Hawks coach Mike Woodson said. "There are nights like that in the NBA. I just hope we don't have many more nights like that."

Saunders credited Richard Hamilton with leading the defensive effort on Johnson.

"Rip has done a pretty good job on some people lately," Saunders said.

Johnson and Smith sat out the fourth quarter.

The Pistons put away the game by outscoring the Hawks 30-13 in the third quarter after leading 57-48 at halftime.

"They were able to make defensive stops and get out and push the ball and get easy shots," Smith said. They knocked down all their shots."

The Pistons made 11 of 14 shots from the field and were

6-of-6 on free throws in the third quarter.

"They hit us tonight," Woodson said.

"If they hit you, you've got to hit back, and I don't think we did a good job with that."

Billups made two free throws with 1.4 seconds left in the third period, giving Detroit an 87-61 lead with a full period left.

The Philips Arena scoreboard, perhaps unable to keep up, was blank for the start of the final quarter.

At one point in the third quarter the posted score was Hawks 75, Pistons 0. That fiction was as close as the Hawks came to holding a lead.

Atlanta native and former University of Georgia star Jarvis Hayes had 17 points in 17 minutes for Detroit. Hamilton had 14 and Jason Maxiell added 13.

Suns 121, Pacers 117

For much of the fourth quarter, the Indiana Pacers were beating the Phoenix Suns at their own game.

In the end, Amare Stoudemire and Steve Nash showed the Pacers how it's done.

Stoudemire scored 42 points, and Nash had 18 points and 17 assists to lead the Suns to a victory over the Pacers on Tuesday night.

"It was just a relief that we could make the plays down the stretch and get the stops when it counted, but not a very gratifying win," Nash said.

The Suns rallied in the final minutes. Nash made two free throws with 1:11 left to cut Indiana's lead to 117-115, then made a 3-pointer with 42 seconds remaining to give the Suns a 118-117 lead.

Indiana's Jamaal Tinsley missed a spinning shot in close, and the Suns rebounded. With the shot clock winding down, Stoudemire's mid-range shot bounced up, then in with 6.5 seconds left to give the Suns a 120-117 advantage.

Indiana's Danny Granger missed a 3-pointer that could have tied the game, and the Suns rebounded to clinch the victory.

Phoenix's quick shots gave the Pacers the chance to overcome a 12-point deficit in the second half.

The up-tempo style the Suns

have helped popularize in recent years worked against them in the second half. The Pacers entered the game ranked in the top 10 in the league in scoring, so were equipped to make the comeback.

"You go up 15, and the way you got up there is also the way they're going to get it back," Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni said. "So you just have to kind of put your seat belt on and ride through it."

Stoudemire bailed the Suns out, but he almost didn't get the chance. He committed his fifth foul with 6 minutes left, but D'Antoni kept him in the game.

"He did a good job," D'Antoni said. "That's kind of why I keep him in there. Normally, we would take him out if it was a playoff game, but he has to learn how to do that."

Stoudemire shot 15-for-24 from the field and 12-for-13 from the free throw line. He also had 13 rebounds.

"I felt real good, felt strong," he said. "I just played my game. I took whatever the defense gave me, whether it was a jump shot or an easy layup or two. I just played my style of game, and the team did a great job of playing Phoenix Suns basketball."

Shawn Marion added 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Suns (14-4), who have won three straight.

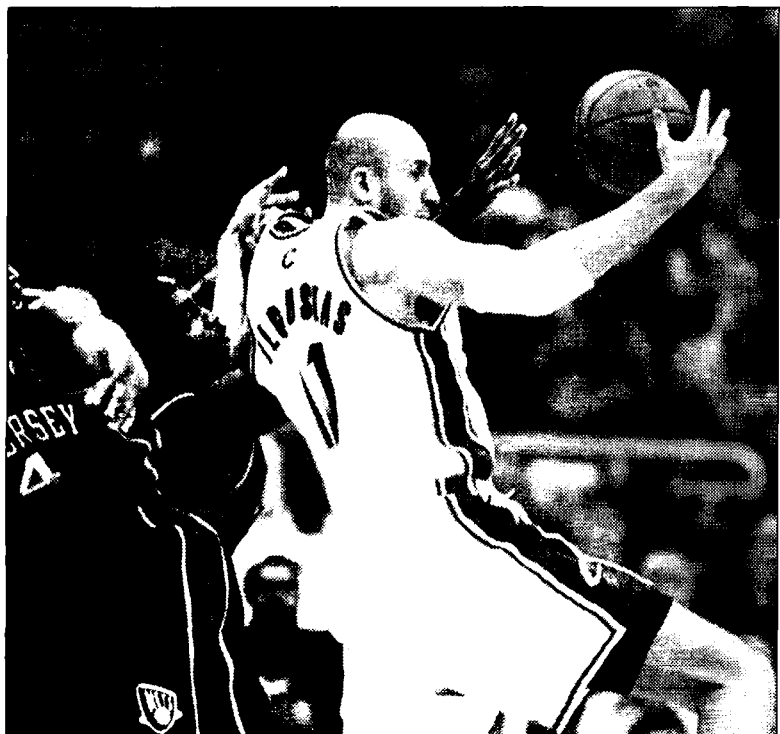
Indiana nearly made the Suns another of their top Western Conference victims. The Pacers already had beaten Dallas, Utah, Denver and New Orleans.

Jermaine O'Neal scored a season-high 30 points on 14-for-20 shooting for the Pacers (9-10). Mike Dunleavy scored 22 points and Tinsley had 19 points and 12 assists for Indiana.

O'Neal was playing in just his third game since sitting out with knee and shoulder injuries.

"My knee is getting stronger," he said. "At least I'm getting back to where I can compete at the level that people are used to me competing at."

Stoudemire scored 23 points to help the Suns take a 69-64 lead at halftime. The Suns led 66-51 in the second quarter, but the Pacers closed the half on a 13-3 run.



Cavaliers center Zydrunas Ilgauskas drives through the Nets defense during New Jersey's 100-79 win over Cleveland Tuesday.

NBA

Sixers hire Stefanski as GM

Former Nets GM will also be team president after Philly fires King

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ed Stefanski is trading a difficult commute for a much tougher road: trying to turn a fallen franchise into a winner.

Stefanski was chosen president and general manager of 76ers on Tuesday, hours after Billy King was fired after 10 seasons in Philadelphia. Stefanski left his job as GM of the New Jersey Nets and made the daily commute from the Philadelphia suburb of Wayne to northern New Jersey.

The move keeps Stefanski in the familiar Atlantic Division and returns the Philly-area native to his roots with the daunting task of making the dismal 76ers into winners.

"I feel more than ready to be the caretaker for the 76ers," Stefanski said.

For the second straight year, the Sixers (5-12) are off to a miserable start.

After playing in the NBA finals in 2001, Philadelphia has missed the postseason three of the last four years and was in the beginning stages of yet another rebuilding plan.

King jump-started the youth movement a year ago when he traded former MVP Allen Iverson to Denver. He outlined to chairman Ed Snider a three-year plan to turn the 76ers into a playoff team and management seemed to back the former Duke standout.

King, who was in the final year of his contract, instead got 17 games.

"We came to the conclusion that we have a good plan in place, but that we needed a

fresh approach in the leadership of the franchise," Snider said.

That responsibility will fall on Stefanski, who grew up rooting for Wilt Chamberlain and the 76ers. His passion for basketball manifested itself when he played at the University of Pennsylvania under Chuck Daly and later coached his high school alma mater, Monsignor Bonner, to a Catholic League championship.

He admits to still being a fan of local teams.

"I die with every Philadelphia team," Stefanski said.

Imagine how the rest of the fans felt this season.

King made his share of questionable moves

— overpaying players like Aaron McKie, Kenny Thomas and Sam Dalembert; showing impatience with the head coach; and failing to find a No. 2 to play with Iverson. Regardless, the timing of the move is curious.

Snider had never publicly wavered in his support for King and let him shape the immediate future of the franchise by making both the Iverson trade and the three first-round draft picks in June.

Snider gave few solid reasons why King's time had run out.

"We decided it wasn't working, that's all," Snider said.

Philadelphia has been mired in mediocrity or near the bottom of the East since a five-year playoff run under coach Larry Brown ended in 2003.

"It's a tough day for Billy," said Brown, now a consultant.

King, who had been with the Sixers since 1997, declined comment when reached on his cell phone.

Snider did say he hoped the Sixers would have built more off their 30-29 finish last season during which Andre Iguodala and Andre Miller emerge as part of a solid foundation. Instead, they have collapsed under third-year coach Maurice Cheeks and the team's 88-79 loss to Atlanta on Monday was its seventh in 10 games.

"We may have been delusional at the end of the last season," Snider said.

The Sixers hope the surprising

move sends a signal to a dwindling fan base that the team is committed to winning. Few have turned out this season, as the team's average attendance of 11,960 ranks 29th out of 30 teams.

"Hopefully they'll see we're making the right moves, they believe in what we're doing and they'll support us," Snider said.

The team believes hiring Stefanski was the right move. He teamed with Nets president Rod Thorn to reshape Philly's division rival and is known as a sharp talent evaluator who helped bring the Nets Vince Carter and Richard Jefferson.

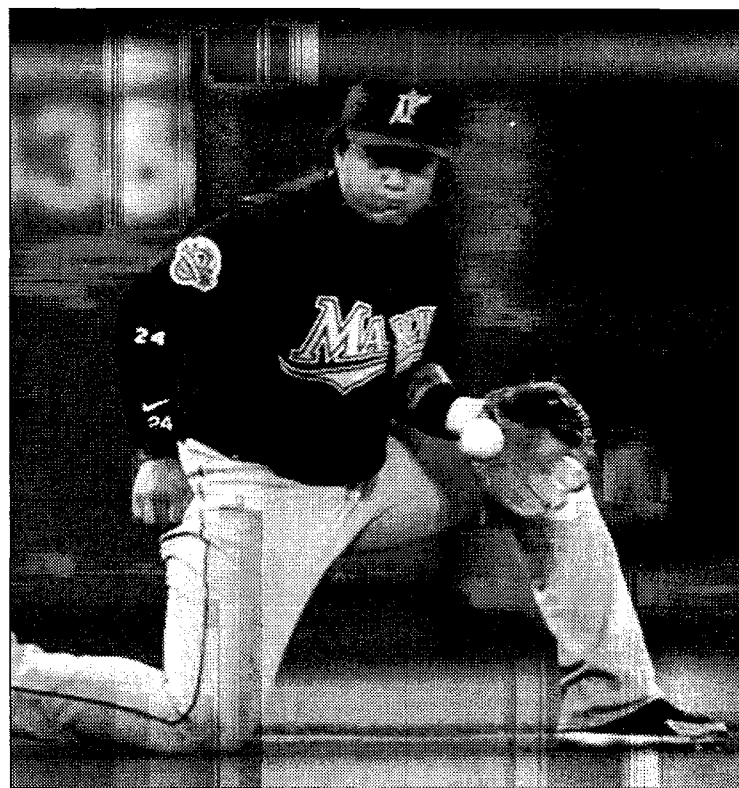
"He's been a big part of our success here the last seven years," Thorn said. "I'm sure he'll do a great job there."

"We may have been delusional at the end of last season."

Ed Snider
76ers chairman

MLB

Marlins trade Willis, Cabrera for prospects



Newly-acquired Tigers infielder Miguel Cabrera fields a ground ball during Florida's 6-0 loss to Washington on May 11.

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Detroit Tigers reached a preliminary agreement Tuesday to acquire Miguel Cabrera and Dontrelle Willis from the Florida Marlins for a package of six players, an unexpected blockbuster trade that developed quickly at the winter meetings.

In a huge deal that took the spotlight away from Boston's pursuit of Johan Santana, Florida gets lefty Andrew Miller, outfielder Cameron Maybin and four other prospects from the Tigers, a baseball official with knowledge of the talks said on condition of anonymity because the trade had not yet been finalized.

Willis was on vacation when he heard the news.

"I'm in Mexico right now with my family. I'm kind of busy," he told The Associated Press.

The Marlins also receive catcher Mike Rabelo and right-handers Burke Badenhop, Eulogio De La Cruz and Dallas Trahern. The players involved must pass physicals for the deal to be completed.

"It's very serious, but nothing is finalized yet because some issues need to get worked out," Tigers manager Jim Leyland told the AP.

Florida didn't even approach the Tigers until Tuesday morning. The Marlins told the Tigers they could have the two stars for those six players, then Detroit called back about two hours later and agreed.

"If it does happen, obviously they're getting two very good players," said Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who managed the Marlins in 2006. "Miguel Cabrera is one of the finest hitters in the game. He can do so many things with a bat, whether you want him to hit a home run for you, you want to hit and run, work the count, get on base. And Dontrelle Willis has been one of the premier lefties in the

National League."

Detroit had not been considered a contender for Cabrera or Willis.

"It was kind of like, wow, when I heard. I halfway expected one of them to get traded, but not both in the same deal. So it's a little bit of a shock," Marlins left fielder Josh Willingham said.

"It's deflating because they're great teammates and good friends. It's going to be hard not seeing them around. I know we got some good players in the deal, but Miguel and Dontrelle are proven big league players, and it's going to be tough to fill those roles. Miguel brings you more than 100 RBIs, 30 home runs and a .300 batting average, and while Dontrelle had a disappointing year last year, he's a workhorse. He's going to eat up 200 innings and he's always healthy. It will be tough to replace those guys."

Boston, meanwhile, was focused on Santana, the Minnesota Twins' two-time Cy Young Award winner. Finding the price too high, the Yankees ended their efforts to acquire the 28-year-old left-hander.

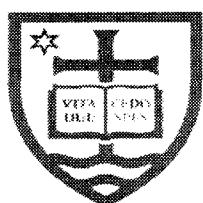
Yankees senior vice president Hank Steinbrenner had set a Monday deadline for an agreement with the Twins.

"A deadline is a deadline. It was pretty much done as of this morning," he said. "He's a fine pitcher, but there's a lot of things that go into this. This isn't fantasy baseball."

Boston had offered the Twins packages built either around pitcher Jon Lester or outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury, but not both.

"I know there's a lot of speculation that we're close to something big," Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein said. "Until we reach an agreement, then we're not that close."

New York had proposed pitcher Phil Hughes and center fielder Melky Cabrera. The Twins dropped their demand that pitcher Ian Kennedy be included, but the sides couldn't agree on a third player.



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MLB

Yankees nix talks for Minnesota's Santana

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Hank Steinbrenner had enough. The New York Yankees ended their pursuit of Johan Santana on Tuesday, leaving Boston as the favorite to land the two-time AL Cy Young Award winner.

"A deadline is a deadline. It was pretty much done as of this morning," Steinbrenner said. "He's a fine pitcher, but there's a lot of things that go into this. This isn't fantasy baseball."

Steinbrenner, a senior vice president and son of owner George Steinbrenner, set the deadline Sunday, saying he wouldn't allow Minnesota to play the Yankees against the rival Red Sox in trade talks.

New York had proposed pitcher Phil Hughes and center fielder Melky Cabrera. On Monday, the Twins dropped their demand that pitcher Ian Kennedy be included, but the sides couldn't agree on a third player.

"For a while, there's no question, they asked for too much," Steinbrenner said. "To tell you the truth, toward the end, Minnesota negotiated in good faith. They really did. I have no problem with them. It was something we just couldn't do."

Boston has offered the Twins packages built around pitcher Jon Lester or outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury, but not both. The Red Sox become the front-runner to acquire Santana, who would join a rotation that already has Josh Beckett, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Curt Schilling and Tim Lincecum.

"You can't worry about that. It's just the way it is. It will be what it is," Steinbrenner said. "Everybody has got to do what they think is best for their own team overall."

Steinbrenner said the Yankees also had spoken to Oakland general manager Billy Beane, but not recently. The A's are exploring possible trades involving Dan Haren.

"That was preliminary and that was a week ago," Steinbrenner said.

Twins general manager Bill Smith wouldn't discuss the talks specifically. He also refused to get into whether he was upset with Steinbrenner's repeated public comments about negotiations. When asked about Steinbrenner, Smith responded with praise for Yankees general manager Brian Cashman.

"I have the greatest respect for Brian Cashman. He's a gentleman. He's a classy pro-

fessional in this game," Smith said. "I don't have any problems with the Yankees. They've been good to the Twins. They've been good to the Twins for a lot of years."

He wouldn't say whether Steinbrenner's remarks were out of place during a negotiation.

"Not my position to judge. I have enough troubles doing my own job," he said.

Steinbrenner was pleased that the Yankees retained their four key free agents: third baseman Alex Rodriguez, closer Mariano Rivera, catcher Jorge Posada and pitcher Andy Pettitte.

"We went 4-for-4," he said. "Obviously, I'm really happy about getting the four pieces to the puzzle back."

New York's current rotation projects to have Chien-Ming Wang, Pettitte, Mike Mussina, Phil Hughes and Joba Chamberlain, with Ian Kennedy and Kei Igawa among those in reserve. While there will be pitch and inning limits on the young pitchers, a six-man rotation isn't planned.

Pettitte's decision last weekend to return was key. "Personally, it means a lot

because I know what Andy is all about," new manager Joe Girardi said. "It gives you a guy that you can pencil in for 32 starts, and you know that he can handle the workload. ... When you have a lot of young pitchers, you have to be a lot more careful about their workload and how many starts and how many innings they throw."

The 35-year-old left-hander could stay with the Yankees beyond 2008.

"If I'm healthy and if my family wanted to support it again, we would consider it," Pettitte told Houston television station KRIV. "The Yankees are going to have a new stadium. I know down the road when we get through this season that will be in the back of my head also. That would be awfully nice to play in that new stadium."

Steinbrenner said the team will turn its attention to the bullpen. At times during the Santana talks, it appeared the Yankees were uncomfortable with trading Hughes. They made Chamberlain untouchable.

"I'm kind of pleased what we've got," Steinbrenner said.

Cashman said the Yankees will remain in contact with the other 29 clubs. Well, perhaps 28.

"I don't see us talking to Boston too much," he said.

"A deadline is a deadline. It was pretty much done this morning."

Hank Steinbrenner
Yankees senior vice president

"I don't see us talking to Boston too much."

Hank Steinbrenner
Yankees senior vice president

"That would be awfully nice to play in that new stadium."

Andy Pettitte
Yankees pitcher

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles start MIAA schedule

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

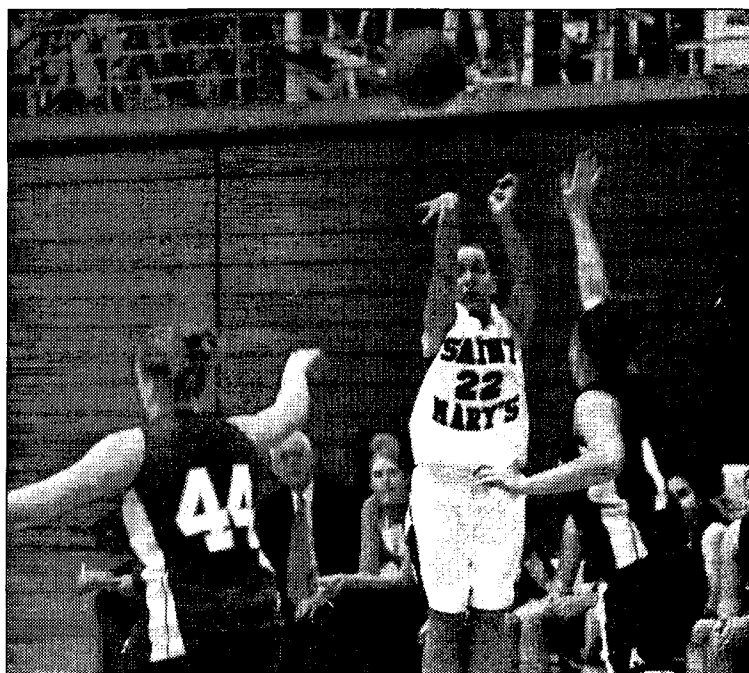
After a 2-3 start to the season, Saint Mary's will play its first MIAA game tonight at home against Calvin at 7:30.

"We are excited to open up conference play and be playing at home tomorrow night," Belles coach Jenn Henley said. "We will have our hands full with Calvin. They are a good team. We play in a very competitive conference, so we have to be ready all the time."

The Belles recently went 1-1 in the Trinity University Thanksgiving Classic, taking second in the four-team tournament. They cruised past the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, 92-44, in the first round but lost in the championship to nationally-ranked George Fox 69-58. Calvin lost its last two games in the MIAA/CCIW Classic at Hope College in Holland, Mich., this past weekend.

"I think Calvin is off to a good start to the season," Henley said. "However, they are coming off two losses against Wheaton and Carthage College. I am sure they will be ready for us on Wednesday."

Calvin has played Saint Mary's tough in the past, but the Belles have shown themselves a capable team so far



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Belles guard Alison Kessler shoots during a game against Alma on Feb. 20, 2007. Kessler averages 15.6 points per game this season.

this season. Belles senior guard Alison Kessler has racked up 78 points in five games. Meanwhile, Calvin junior Marcia Harris has posted 95 points in six games. With four Belles averaging more than 10 points per game — in addition to the strong rebounding of Erin Newsom and Anna Kammrath — the Belles will try to test Calvin's defense early and often.

"I feel we have played some very good games thus far, but

we still need to improve defensively," Henley said. "That has been our focus."

Defense has been the Belles' weakness so far this season. They are able to score, but when the ball is on their side of the court, Saint Mary's has had trouble.

"We are still focusing on defending the paint," Henley said.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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The Varsity Shop at the Joyce Center will also be honoring the student discount from 9am-5pm.

The List

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to use his blazing speed. The problem is, that's the only pass route Tate could run properly all season. Weis has always said you have to design an offense for the personnel you have and not force them into a system. But Tate, who converted to wideout after paying running back in high school, barely saw the field because his skill set didn't mesh with the offensive system.

Hopefully, one of two things happens here. 1) After one season, Tate becomes more comfortable in Weis' offense and learns when to cut his routes shorter or make them longer. 2) Weis simplifies his offense to allow Tate to get the ball in the open field in ways other than a go-route. If Tate is on the field every play, he's going to draw attention that will open things up for other receivers. This doesn't apply just for Tate either. This goes

for all current and future (Michael Floyd, I'm looking at you) playmakers on Notre Dame's squad.

◆ Don't lose anyone in recruiting — Notre Dame has the No. 1 rated class in the country right now. The coaching staff did an excellent job hanging onto its 21 verbal commitments in such a crummy season. The worst thing that can happen to this program right now, outside of a campus-wide fire, is for recruits to start dropping like flies.

◆ No more back to basics. After Notre Dame's 38-0 drubbing at the hands of Michigan, Weis went back to square one to try and improve his team. Why wait until the middle of the season this year? Re-teach the basics when the new recruiting class comes in over the summer, and teach the older guys again in the spring. Weis learned his lesson this year. He has to teach fundamentals to his young squad

before they start to learn a complicated offensive scheme.

◆ Lastly, and most importantly, develop an edge. Head into this offseason mad. Put Mark May's picture on the wall of the weight room and curse him out as you fight through the pain of getting that one last rep. Do something, anything, to get fired up. Without a bowl to prepare for, you get an extra month of workouts. That must be fun. But with proper self-motivation, it doesn't have to be that bad. This way when you play San Diego State on Sept. 6, 2008, you're ready to run through a wall.

So, that's it. Just a few things on the Christmas list this year. Notice it doesn't say a bowl win. Hopefully, that'll be on next year's list.

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

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

FOOTBALL

Weis: Clausen could be 'something special'

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

After a year closely evaluating freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen, Notre Dame head coach Charlie Weis said he has seen early signs of "it" — the indefinable quality that makes quarterbacks great.

"Let's not rush this, but I think that there's definitely evidence that this kid could be something special," Weis said in a news conference Monday.

Clausen played in 10 games this season for the Irish, starting nine of them, and finished with 1,254 yards, seven touchdowns and six interceptions. But during Notre Dame's final three games against Air Force, Duke and Stanford — both wins — Clausen started to improve in play. In those games, the freshman had six touchdowns, one interception and a 55.8 percent completion percentage. These performances came after Clausen rode the bench for Notre Dame's two losses to USC on Oct. 20 and Navy on Nov. 3.

Weis said Clausen's break in playing time midway through the season was just a part of the quarterback's learning process and the two halves were not two separate entities.

"I look at it from when he got here last year right on through," Weis said. "You know, how it progressed. All I can tell you is he would like things to have turned out a lot better, so would have I. But I definitely like the direction where this is going."

After Clausen showed considerable on-the-field improvement in the end of the season, Weis said the most important thing for his freshman quarterback this offseason will be to hit the weights and gain some strength.

"I think that the kid has a very good mind. He has a very good arm. He has a pretty good understanding about the basis of our system that we're going to be able to expand

going into the spring," Weis said. "But I think for him, more than mentally, I think that his biggest task is going to be to get himself fully healthy and physically ready to go and add some muscle."

Because Notre Dame failed to qualify for a bowl game, it cannot practice again until the spring season begins, but its strength and conditioning program starts this week.

Weis said the only other aspect Clausen needs to work on is becoming a leader.

"I think that any time you're a freshman, it's tough to be a leader or show leadership abilities when you're a freshman because it's tough for a fifth-year senior in a huddle to look at a freshman and say, okay, I'm going to listen to everything," he said. "It's a little tough just naturally doing it that way, although he got a lot of help from guys like [center John Sullivan] and [tight end John] Carlson to make sure that that's the way things went around here."

But after this season, Weis feels that his quarterback has gone through the "rite of passage" needed to become the head of the offense.

One of the main things Weis was most impressed with this season was Clausen's "nasty" attitude — something the coach hoped to instill in the Irish since he joined the program in the winter of 2005. Weis said this attitude helped Clausen adapt to being the starting quarterback as a freshman, despite that he didn't have the team experience Notre Dame's other quarterbacks had.

Overall, Weis is confident in the quarterback situation going into the spring, a difference from last spring and summer's four-way quarterback free-for-all that saw three different quarterbacks take snaps in the first game of the fall season.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

BGSU

continued from page 20

McGraw also said the margin of victory may be inflated because of the opponents Notre Dame has faced. She is more concerned with how many points her team allows, she said.

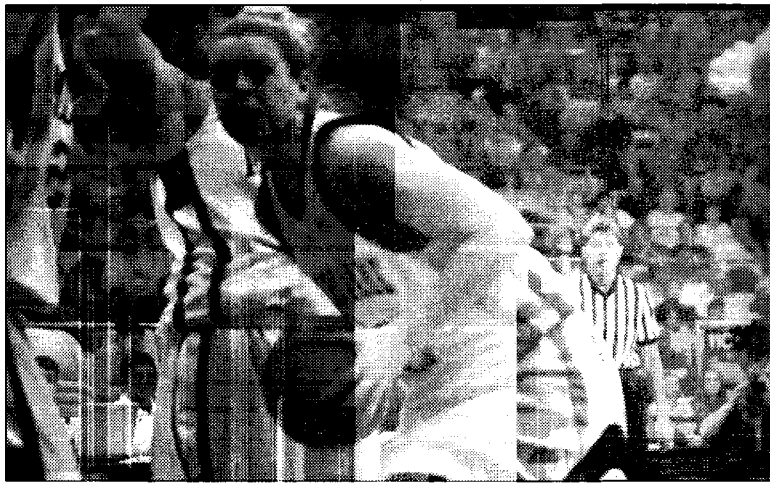
"I'm perfectly content with giving up a game in the 60s," McGraw said. "What I'm looking for is for us to hold them below their average."

McGraw said she enjoys coaching this team because of their desire to learn and improve.

"They're looking at each game and saying, 'What do we have to do to get better? How can we keep getting better?'" she said. "We worked on our defense a lot yesterday, and I think we've had a good feeling coming out that we're improving defensively."

That defense has held opponents to 53.7 points per game and forced 24.3 turnovers per game. The tight Irish press has also helped force 12.7 steals per game, which in turn helps fuel their transition offense.

Bowling Green's tallest player, center Chelsea Albert, is 6-foot-2. Irish freshman forward Devereaux



Irish guard Brittany Mallory controls the ball in the lane during Notre Dame's 77-46 win over Michigan Sunday.

Peters, at 6-foot-2 as well, and 6-foot-5 centers Melissa D'Amico and Erica Williamson give Notre Dame a size advantage in the post. McGraw said Peters and freshman forward Becca Bruszewski can guard the smaller Falcons players.

Notes

◆ McGraw said Williamson was probable for the game after hurting her back, which was still sore Tuesday, against Michigan. "She didn't practice yesterday, she's going to practice today," she

said.

◆ McGraw will celebrate her birthday Wednesday night. The Irish are 3-1 on McGraw's birthday during her 21-year tenure at Notre Dame, with their last victory coming against Liberty, 85-68, on Dec. 5, 1999 in the championship game of the Wachovia Women's Basketball Invitational in Richmond, Va.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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KSU

continued from page 20

Irish up four. After Kansas State cut the lead to two again, he hit one of the biggest shots of his career — a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 1:32 remaining.

That shot, which put Notre Dame up by five and forced the Wildcats to start fouling, was the difference between this win and the losses to the Bears and Yellow Jackets.

In those games, no one on the Irish stepped up and made a big shot to kill the other team's run. On Tuesday, McAlarney made that clutch shot, and gave his team a huge win.

Still, while McAlarney won the game at the end, the Irish wouldn't have even been in that position if it wasn't for the play of several other players — most notably Luke Harangody.

The sophomore forward scored 19 points and grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds despite being repeatedly mugged under the basket while the referees turned a blind eye. He also played solid defense on Wildcats superstar freshman Michael Beasley.

Zach Hillesland and Ryan Ayers complemented Harangody with strong play at the small forward position. They hustled for rebounds and always had their hands in the passing lanes — especially Ayers, who forced a turnover with a deflection of an in-bounds pass on one of Kansas State's final possessions.

Notre Dame only had three games against "power conference" teams on its schedule before Big East play — Baylor, Georgia Tech, and Kansas State. After seeing the

first two of those games slip away, the Irish were in a bad position. They had only one shot to get a big win before the conference season and give themselves a résumé boost for Selection Sunday in March.

And thanks to McAlarney, they got that big win. With Northern Illinois, San Francisco, Brown and North Florida left before the conference schedule begins, Notre Dame should enter Big East play 10-2 and riding an eight-game winning streak.

The Irish came into this game having not done anything notable this season. ESPN almost completely ignored them in the pre-game hype — and when they did mention Notre Dame, they mispronounced

Harangody and McAlarney's names.

Instead, the hype centered on Beasley and Kansas State's other highly renowned freshmen.

Then the Irish proved that experience, teamwork and heart matter a lot more than hype and NBA prospects. This entire team, especially McAlarney, has been through adversity, and it showed.

When it came to crunch time, Notre Dame's veterans stepped up and beat Kansas State's flashy youth. The Irish were more composed, more clutch, and showed more hustle, and they won a game with the nation watching — a game that will be remembered in March.

After taking a big hit in the Virgin Islands, Notre Dame's season is back on track.

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

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

K-Mac

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in their first victory over a major-conference opponent.

"It's a great victory for us. I think mentally, it gives us a lot of confidence," Harangody said by phone. "It was pretty much just like a road game. It was a hostile environment. A lot of people weren't rooting for us."

Notre Dame lost two close games to power-conference schools —

Baylor and Georgia Tech — at the Paradise Jam Tournament in the Virgin Islands in November. Tuesday's game against Kansas State represented Notre

Dame's last chance to defeat a power-conference opponent before beginning Big East play on Jan. 3 against West Virginia. Irish coach Mike Brey said he was pleased with how his team responded to the pressure of the game.

"I thought we were a lot more mentally tough than we were in the Virgin Islands," Brey told ESPN after the game.

With the Irish ahead 59-57 and just over two minutes left to play, McAlarney drove along the baseline and hit a runner to put the Irish up by four. Kansas State freshman forward Michael Beasley hit a pair of free throws on the Wildcats next possession to pull the Wildcats back within two. Beasley, who entered the contest averaging 26.7 points and 15 rebounds per game, finished with 19 points on 8-for-21 shooting and 14 rebounds, but only had four points in the second half.

After junior forward Zach

Hillesland grabbed one of his nine rebounds on Notre Dame's next trip down the floor, he swung the ball to Jackson, who passed to McAlarney at the top of the key. A confident McAlarney, who had scored more than 20 points in his last three games, drained the open shot from just inside the NBA 3-point line, giving Notre Dame a five-point lead.

"It was a broken play, and I knew once that ball was swinging I had a good look and if that went in, that was going to be a huge dagger for us," McAlarney said. "So I have to step up and take that. Luckily, I made it."

Following a Beasley miss, Irish forward Luke Harangody knocked a loose ball out of

bounds in front of the Wildcat bench. Long-armed Irish forward Ryan Ayers got a hand on the ensuing in-bounds pass, which then went out of bounds off Kansas State forward Bill Walker.

"He has really good instincts on both ends of the floor,"

Hillesland said of Ayers. "He has a lot of length for that three-man even that two-man defender. He provides that extra length other players don't have. His instincts in just reading plays really helps us out on the defensive end of the floor."

Kansas State was forced to foul the rest of the way, and McAlarney hit four free throws to seal the victory.

The Irish used a 2-3 zone to

pit multiple defenders against Beasley, the highly-touted freshman, in the first half but switched primarily to man-to-man in the second. The Irish employed a number of defenders, whether in zone or man, to contain Beasley. And even though the Irish often played zone — a defense susceptible to allowing offensive rebounds — they were able to win the battle on the boards 41-36.

"That was our biggest point of emphasis coming into the game," Hillesland said by phone. "... So it was just really big team awareness in terms of blocking out every guy and trying to get every rebound. We haven't done as good a job of that in previous games and I thought that extra attention to that area really paid off tonight."

Harangody dominated much of the first half — scoring 11 of Notre Dame's first 13 points and finishing the period with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The Irish led most of the initial 20 minutes, though their perimeter game struggled — Notre Dame shot just 1-for-12 from beyond the arc in the first half.

Irish guard Tory Jackson, at a mere 5-foot-11, tipped in a Rob Kurz miss over a 6-foot-10 Wildcats forward Luis Colon to give Notre Dame its biggest lead of the half at 28-18.

Beasley took over for Kansas State the rest of the half, using his athleticism inside to score 10 points in the final seven minutes of the frame and pull his team within 36-34 at the half.

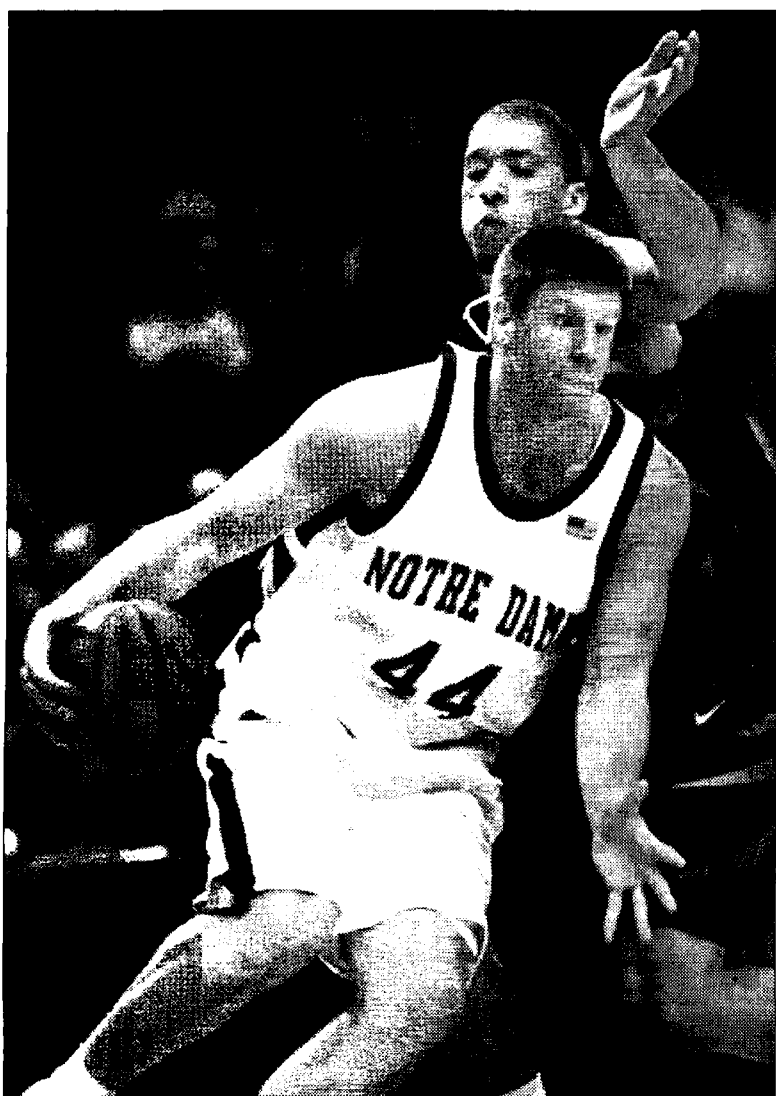
Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

"I thought we were a lot more mentally tough than we were in the Virgin Islands."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

"It was pretty much just like a road game. It was a hostile environment."

Luke Harangody
Irish forward



Irish forward Luke Harangody drives during Notre Dame's 68-59 win over Kansas State Tuesday. Harangody had 19 points in the game.

A Film by Ellen Spiro
& Phil Donahue

BODY OF WAR

Director Phil Donahue, former talk-show host and Notre Dame graduate ('57) will be present to introduce the film and answer questions after the 7 pm showing. A reception with Phil Donahue will take place between the showings.

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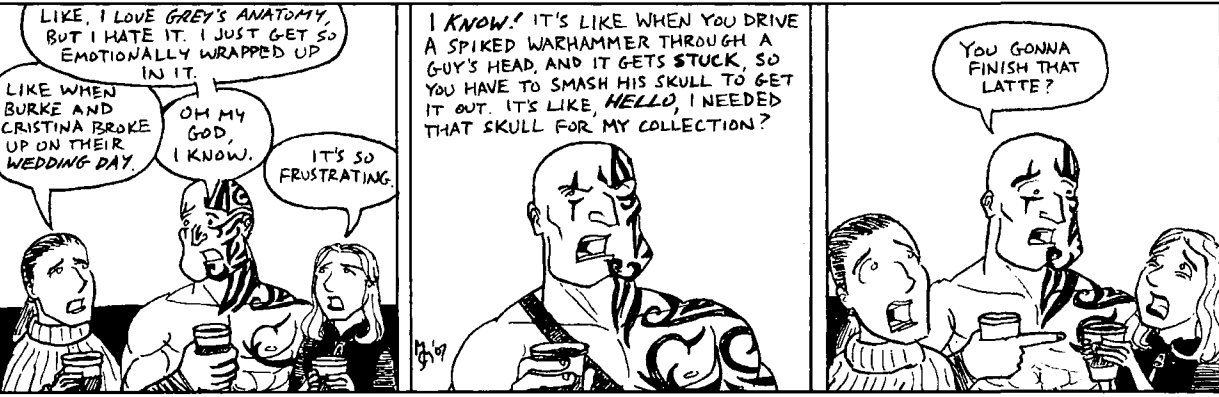
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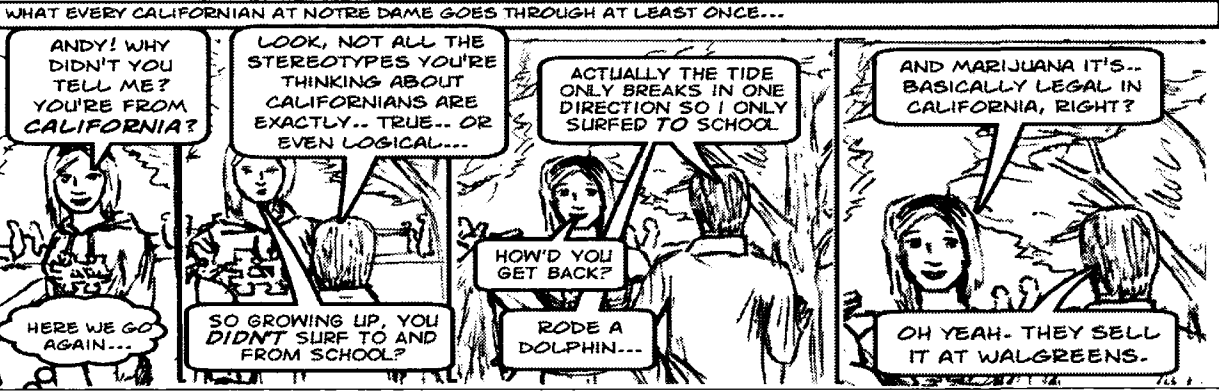
DEUCES MANOR

MATT HUDSON, ANDY MANZA & PAUL TASSINARI



TASTES LIKE FAILURE

RICH PROTIVA & ANDY SPANGLER

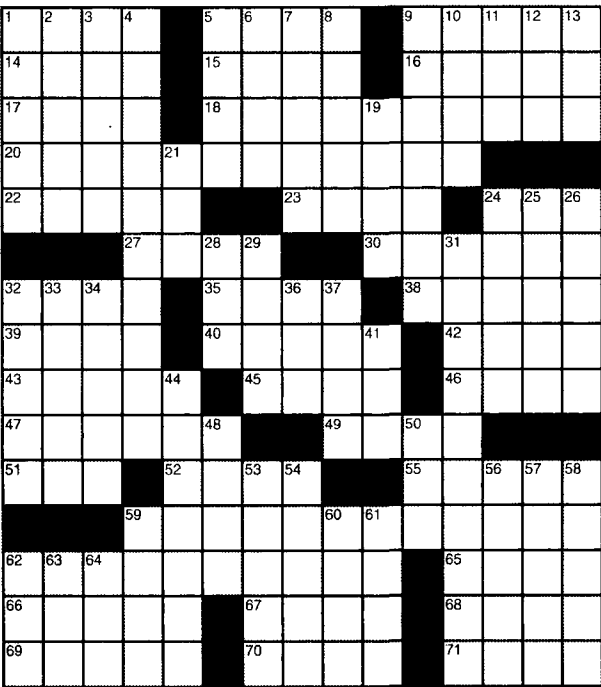


CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 7-Up flavor
 - 5 Easter serving
 - 9 Funny ones
 - 14 "Just ___"
 - 15 Succulent plant
 - 16 Clinker
 - 17 Locker room supply
 - 18 Solid ground
 - 20 You should have the body
 - 22 Online currency
 - 23 Catches in the act
 - 24 Pro at balancing
 - 27 Big pet food brand
 - 30 Pageant wear
 - 32 Erica who wrote "Any Woman's Blues"
 - 35 Bottom of a lily
 - 38 Bank rights
 - 39 Schoenberg's "Moses und ___"
 - 40 From the beginning
 - 42 Gray-brown goose
 - 43 "The Taming of the Shrew" setting
 - 45 Sport whose name means "gentle way"
 - 46 Formerly, once
 - 47 Kind of number
 - 49 7'1" N.B.A. star, informally
 - 51 Pince-___
 - 52 Shout to a team, maybe
 - 55 Fall colors
 - 59 The die is cast
 - 62 Always the same
 - 65 "Warm"
 - 66 They're rather pointless
- Down**
- 1 Wood-turning tool
 - 2 Stern that bows
 - 3 Nellie of opera
 - 4 Behold the proof
 - 5 Back muscles, for short
 - 6 "The Black Stallion" boy
 - 7 Idiot
 - 8 He said "Slump? I ain't in no slump. I just ain't hitting"
 - 9 Turndown
 - 10 Van Gogh floral subject
 - 11 Bobby of Boston
 - 12 Male cat
 - 13 Title in S. Amer.
 - 19 Getaway alerts, for short
 - 21 Cry before "It's you!"
 - 24 All alternative
 - 25 ___ Grove, N.J.
 - 26 Money in the bank, e.g.
 - 28 Part of a C.E.O.'s résumé
 - 29 Topic: Abbr.
 - 31 Without which not
 - 67 "Camelot" actor Franco
 - 68 Other, in the barrio
 - 69 Charges
 - 70 Innovative 1982 Disney film
 - 71 Like a busybody

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Puzzle by Patrick Blindauer

- 32 Black lacquer
- 33 Filibuster, in a way
- 34 Alertness aid
- 36 Bud's comedy sidekick
- 37 Briefs, briefly
- 41 "Isn't that beautiful?!"
- 44 Lacking purpose
- 48 Round dance official
- 50 Gallery display
- 53 Canonized figure
- 54 One who's not "it"
- 56 Look after
- 57 Some Peters
- 58 Homeless animal
- 59 Mimicked
- 60 Pertaining to flying
- 61 "Follow me!"
- 62 Leave in stitches?
- 63 Air quality org.
- 64 Debussy's "La ___"

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

BELAC
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FRYOT

GUTONI
www.jumble.com

GLOANO

A: " " " " IT
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: DROOP VILLA EXEMPT PRISON
Answer: This can happen to "models" — "SELDOM"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tyra Banks, 34; Jay-Z, 38; Marisa Tomei, 43; Jeff Bridges, 58

Happy Birthday: This is a great year to rethink your strategy and consider your personal and professional options. You can make changes involving location, schooling or development of new skills. Being earnest about your goals will bring you the success you desire. Don't let anxiety slow you down and confuse your future goals. Your numbers are 4, 9, 28, 34, 42, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Rely on experience to make the right decisions regarding relationships, partnerships and finances. A problem will arise if you lead people to believe you can do something you can't. Focus on what's reasonable. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take care of matters that concern others. Getting too close to someone you work with will probably lead to problems. Don't take financial risks or lend someone money. Tighten your purse strings. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't get hogged down by what others want you to do. You can help out but not if it jeopardizes your own projects. Love is on the rise and using your charm will definitely help you out with romance and capturing someone's heart. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't take anyone too seriously, especially if he or she is giving you an ultimatum. Pick your arguments wisely or you will waste time you should be putting to better use. Look for an advancement that will bring in more cash. 2 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do what you want, take what you want and go after what you want. You can't lose today if you let your Leo charm lead the way. Love, romance and entertainment are all riding high and should lead to a day full of fun, networking and talking about potential deals. 4 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): As long as you do your homework, know the facts and are ready to take action, you will do just fine. This is a day to reflect, consider past experience and be cautious. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can make some worthwhile reforms or changes today that will benefit others. Don't be afraid to talk about your plans and intentions; you will get support and help to follow through. Love is in the stars. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If a deal is not on the table or a chance to make extra cash in the works, don't hesitate, wondering if you have what it takes to pull it off. Don't second-guess your talent. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You don't have to make a lot of noise or changes to be noticed. Love is in the stars and, if you get involved in a community activity, you will meet someone special who can share your ideas, thoughts and intimacies. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful: This is not the day to let your heart rule your head. Make decisions based on facts, not hearsay or emotions. A strict budget and discipline will be required if you want to come out on top financially. 2 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your Aquarius charm and entrepreneurial attitude will bring great results. Money, contracts, settlements and legalities can be put to rest. New commitments can be made and a new way of saving put into play. 5 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't make changes based on what you hear. Instead, slow down and look at what everyone else is doing before you make your final assessment. You'll be up for a challenge but, before you jump, size up what's involved. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are sophisticated, worldly and open to try new things. You are unpredictable, motivated, a strong competitor and a little stubborn.

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

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Teamwork over talent

Harangody's 19 points, 14 boards keep team from blowing late lead

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

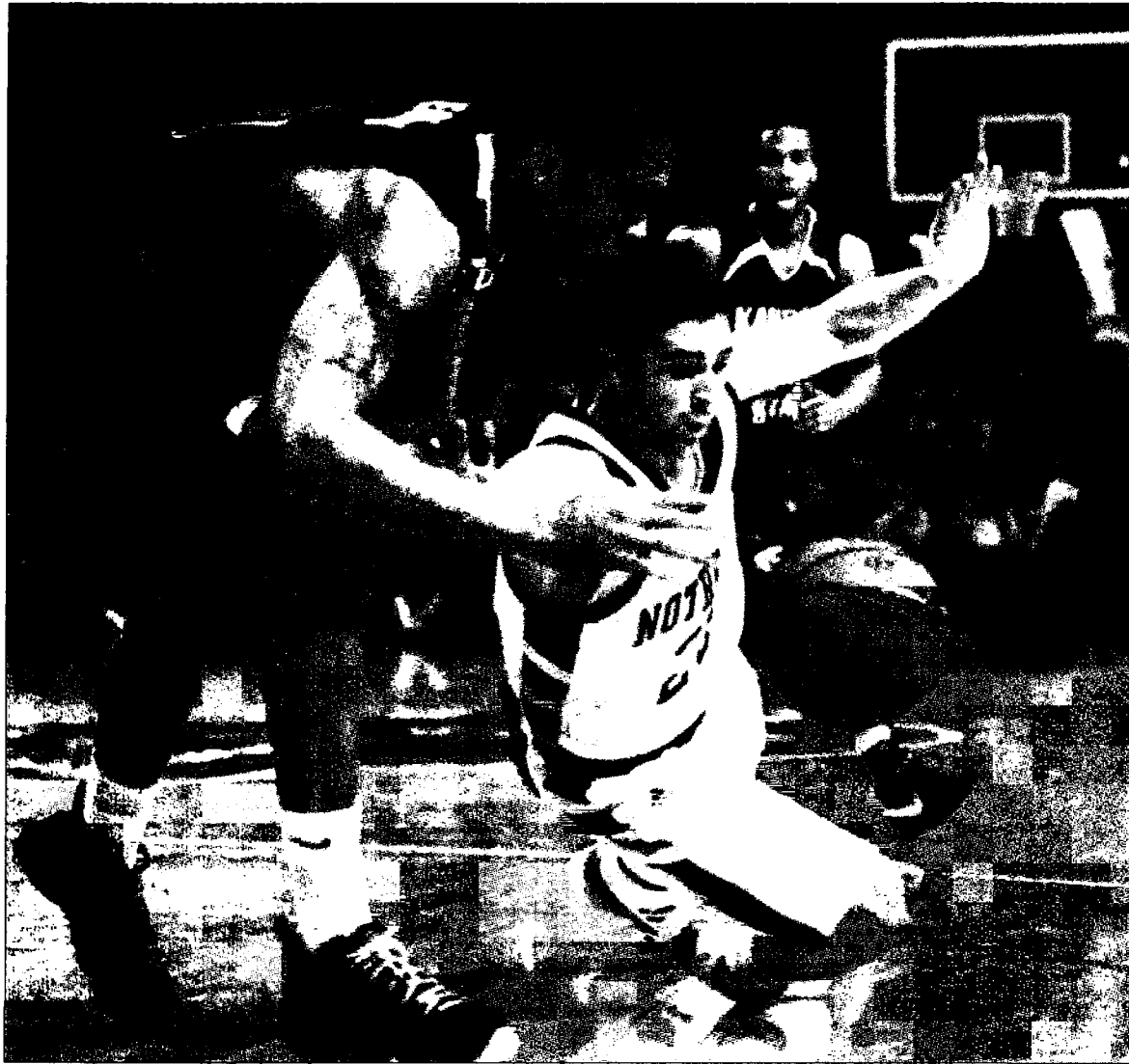
More than 200 friends and family members went to Madison Square Garden Tuesday to see Kyle McAlarney's homecoming, and McAlarney didn't let them down.

The Staten Island native scored Notre Dame's final nine points, including a clutch 3-pointer with 1:32 remaining, to lift Notre Dame (6-2) to a 68-59 victory over Kansas State (5-3) in the Jimmy V Classic. McAlarney finished with 18 points in his first game in New York since his semester-long suspension following a January arrest on charges of marijuana possession.

"It was a great feeling," McAlarney said in a phone interview after the game. "Those were all the people that were behind me through the tough times, and it just feels so good that I could come back and play in front of them and just give them a good show."

Forward Luke Harangody added 19 points and a career-high 14 rebounds for the Irish.

see KSU/page 18



Irish guard Kyle McAlarney fights for a loose ball with Wildcats guard Jacob Pullen during the first half of Notre Dame's 68-59 win Tuesday over Kansas State in the Jimmy V Classic.

McAlarney steps up to give squad big win

After being suspended for most of last season, after struggling in Notre Dame's two losses in the Virgin Islands and after 38 minutes of frustrating basketball, McAlarney put the Irish on his shoulders and got them a huge win over Kansas State.



Chris Khorey

Sports Editor

With a little over two minutes remaining Tuesday night, Notre Dame was hanging on to a tenuous lead. The Irish were up 59-57, but they hadn't scored in nearly five minutes. The situation was all too reminiscent of the end of the Baylor and Georgia Tech games, where the Irish struggled to score down the stretch and blew big leads.

But McAlarney made sure that wouldn't happen again.

He took the ball on the wing, drove baseline, and threw in a runner to put the

see K-MAC/page 18

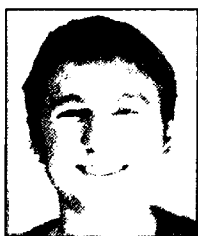
FOOTBALL COMMENTARY

A Christmas list for the Irish

The biting wind whistles down South Quad, the early-morning ice on the sidewalks adds an exciting tinge of danger on your walk to class, frostbite is

in the air and the music of Mariah Carey and Darlene Love is in heavy rotation in the dining halls. That's right, it's yuletide at Notre Dame.

And in the Christmas spirit, I've prepared a small wish list for Notre Dame this off-season.



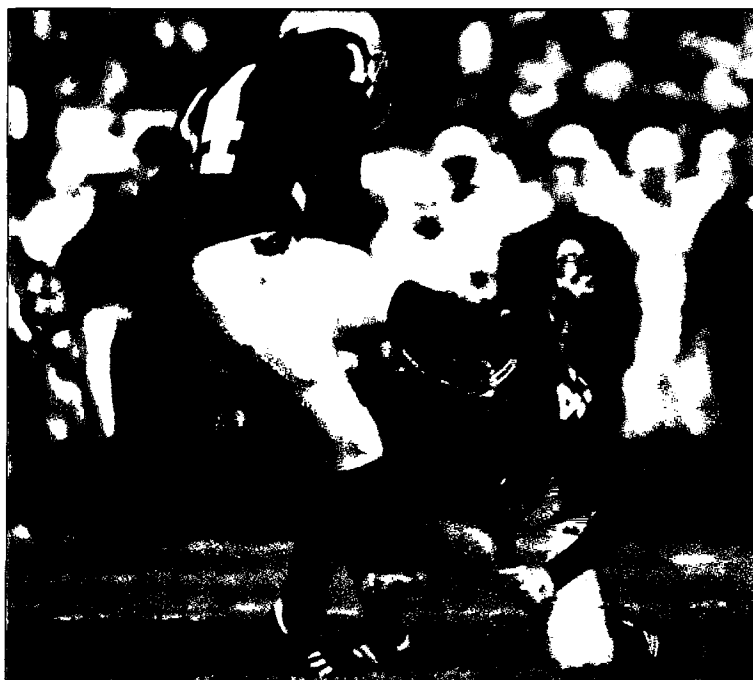
Chris Hine

Sports Editor

◆ Fix special teams.

Notre Dame's special teams need work. The Irish gave up too many yards on kickoffs and didn't gain nearly enough. This hidden yardage can win games, but that hidden yardage was harder for the Irish to find than the toys my pare ... er, Santa Claus bought me each year.

Before the season, Weis said he and every assistant coach had a role in special teams. That system, however it



Irish kicker Brandon Walker, left, attempts a field goal during Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 10.

worked, didn't. Luckily, Christmas came a little early on this one. Weis said at a news conference Monday that he will re-evaluate the special teams and do things a little differently in 2008. That can only help, if only because they can't get much worse.

◆ Get Golden Tate the ball.

The freshman wide out nearly swung Notre Dame's 33-19 loss to Purdue in Notre Dame's favor. Tate had 104 yards on three go-routes, which only require the receiver to run as fast as he can down the field. There are no cuts, slants, posts — nothing like that. It just requires Tate

see THE LIST/page 17

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ND faces tough defense against Bowling Green

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will face its toughest opposing defense since it played No. 3 Maryland when it travels to Bowling Green tonight to face the Falcons at 7 at Anderson Arena.

Last season, it took an overtime period for Notre Dame to beat Bowling Green, 85-81. Notre Dame is 3-0 in the all-time series. The Irish, ranked No. 16 in this week's Associated Press poll, will travel for the first time since Nov. 20, when they lost 75-59 at then-No. 3 Maryland. The Falcons hold opponents to 56.5 points per game, despite losing six seniors from a 2006-07 team that reached the Sweet 16.

"They're an experienced team in some ways because their point guard [Kate Achter] has sweet sixteen experience," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "She was great last year, and she's running the team really well this year. She's their leading scorer, she's playing really well."

The Falcons defeated Cornell in the championship game of the Cornell Classic on Saturday. They have won their games this season by an average of 14.2 points. Achter leads the team in scoring

with 17.2 points per game. Lauren Prochaska is second with 14.3 points and three steals per game and averaged 15.5 points in two games during the Cornell Classic.

McGraw isn't worried about her team's ball control, however, saying she had faith in the team's point guards, Tulyah Gaines and Melissa Lechlitner.

"I think Tulyah is experienced, and she's playing really well, she's got a pretty good assist to turnover ratio," McGraw said. "I think she'll handle herself well, as will Lech. I'm confident in our point guards."

But McGraw said Bowling Green has the toughest defense the Irish will face since Maryland and that they need to take care of the ball. The Bowling Green defense has held opponents without a field goal for five-minute stretches in each of its first six games.

After its loss to Maryland in the semifinals of the preseason WNIT, Notre Dame blew out its next four opponents. Even though the team has five wins by 30 points or more, McGraw said the Irish never look past opponents.

"They don't look at last year," McGraw said. "They don't say well, last year was an easy game, this year will be a tough game or vice versa."

see BGSU/page 17