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Student government briefs trustees

Brown, Braun, Plamoottil detail state of the Student Union, plans for remainder of term

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

Student body president Liz Brown's administration told members of the University's Board of Trustees Thursday that most of its work this year has been determined by unforeseen and pressing events rather than pre-established goals. But these unexpected issues "did not debilitate our capacity to fulfill campaign promises," student body president Liz Brown said during her administration's second briefing this year to the Board's Student Affairs

Committee.

She cited the South Bend Common Council's proposed party permit ordinance as the best example of an unanticipated situation that required attention. But because her October briefing was devoted to a discussion of the ordinance and community relations, Brown focused Thursday on



Brown

the other pressing events.

These included the increase in prices for course packets, a surge of student interest in environmental issues and the need for a modified follow-up to the Notre Dame Forum on immigration in the fall.

The increase in course packet prices, Brown said, was an issue her administration had to deal with after many students and faculty members started complaining.

Student body vice president Maris Braun said that on average, prices increased by more than 35 percent from the previous year — a result of the University's decision

to transfer course packet sales to the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore and to move the copyright review process to an external corporation.

"It became clear we needed to respond to this issue in a timely and practical fashion and in a way that was representative of how the student body felt," Braun said.

She told the trustees that the Student Senate's Academic Affairs Committee surveyed more than 1,000 students to learn more about the popular opinion regarding the issue.

see TRUSTEES/page 4

ND gives little cash to hopefuls

Edwards gets most donations from campus

By KEN FOWLER
News Writer

Notre Dame's professors and students are donating less money to presidential campaigns than their peers are.

An Observer analysis of federal campaign finance records reveals that with half a year remaining before the Democratic and Republican national conventions, students and employees of the University are lagging behind similar-sized schools in donations to presidential campaigns.

Fifteen Notre Dame employees and students had given a combined \$4,033 to presidential campaigns, while fourteen donors from Boston College had given more than \$11,000 — and nearly 50 people from Duke University had combined to donate more than \$50,000 to campaigns. The disparity was similar when compared to other elite schools.

The government requires donors to list their employer and profession when donating to presidential campaigns, and campaigns had to file their finance statements from the final quarter of 2007 this week. The Observer crosschecked the Notre Dame employees listed on the government documents with the University's directory.

see DONATIONS/page 4

Siegfried holds Day of Man for homeless

Dorm residents don shorts, sandals in second annual campus benefit for South Bend charity

By MAGGIE HAGAN
News Writer

While most students battle the frigid South Bend winters with snow boots, fleece hats, gloves and parkas, 133 men from Siegfried Hall stripped down to their summer clothes for the second annual "Day of Man," an event to raise money for the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

More than half of Siegfried's residents spent the day walking around campus in red T-shirts, shorts and flip flops. The idea was to show their solidarity with the homeless, who often have minimal garments to protect themselves from the snow.

The participants walked around with plastic cups for donations, and they stood outside North Dining Hall at dinner to try to rake in some extra cash for the charity.

Robbie Bernardin, a junior, thought of the event last year as he walked from Farley to Siegfried dressed much the same way as many of the Day of Man participants.

"I was freezing, but I felt like a real man," Bernardin said.

He began brainstorming with his roommate about ways they could test their ability to withstand cold temperatures. They eventually came up with the idea of doing something to benefit a charity, and the

see SIEGFRIED/page 6



BRITTANY BURGESSON/The Observer

Residents of Siegfried Hall show off their T-shirts during Thursday's Day of Man, benefitting South Bend homeless.

GRC launches new gender group

Men of Strength seek to examine masculinity, sexuality at Notre Dame

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

In accordance with its recent efforts to examine sexuality and faith of the Notre Dame student community, the Gender Relations Center (GRC) is sponsoring a men's support group, set to have its first meeting Feb. 13.

It will meet every Wednesday through April 30.

The group, called Men of Strength (MOS), is the brainchild of second year Masters of Divinity graduate student Brian Vassel, who is also a GRC intern.

Vassel, who minored in theology and English during his undergraduate years at Notre Dame, came up with

the idea for MOS last spring.

Masters of Divinity students are required to complete three years of field education after graduation, Vassel said. His first year credit came from his tenure in Carroll Hall as an assistant rector, his second year credit will come from creating MOS.

Vassel said he thought of the support group after considering his undergraduate experience at Notre Dame.

"Sexuality and spirituality came up a lot," he said. "In this group, men can come to integrate their faith and sexuality."

The name of the group comes from the passage in 2 Corinthians 12:10, which reads: "For when I am weak, then I am strong," said

Heather Rakoczy, director of the GRC and supervisor of Vassel's initiative since August.

The two researched if Vassel's group would interest Notre Dame students would be interested by interviewing undergraduate men.

"We wanted to get the pulse of the Notre Dame culture," Rakoczy said.

After receiving enough positive feedback, the pair planned the implementation of the group early last fall.

"There are three main thrusts of the group," Vassel said, "Share, pray and support."

While the group is rooted strongly in its Catholic tradition, it's open to men of all

see MOS/page 6

College celebrates Chinese New Year

By KATLYN SMITH
News Writer

Thursday marked the first day of the first lunar month — the most important holiday in China.

Saint Mary's commemorated the event with China-themed events such as a cooking presentation with College President Carol Ann Mooney, and traditional Chinese foods served in the Dining Hall during dinner.

The final of the celebrations for the first day of the "Year of the Rat" was the College's annual "China Night," sponsored by the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Pacific Asian Islanders Club and Student Diversity Board. It fea-

tured traditional Chinese dances and musical performances.

Jingqui Guan, a first year international student and mistress of ceremonies, performed a peacock dance and "Phoenix Bamboo Under the Moonlight" with a bawu, a customary Chinese instrument.

"I hope to show people in America more about Chinese culture and how we celebrate the New Year," Guan said.

Sophomore Wenwen Bai also performed "Fishing Boat in the Sunset" with a guzheng, a guitar like instrument.

Saint Mary's vice president and dean of faculty, Patricia Fleming, introduced the evening and recognized the college's future partnership with

see CHINA/page 3

INSIDE COLUMN

Hail to the Chief

Like the Saint Mary's executive student body president and vice-president, Chris Hine recently ran unopposed in and won the election for Editor in Chief for The Observer's 2008-2009 term. Maybe he ran unopposed because he intimidated the competition. Maybe it was because no one else wanted to run. Or maybe it was because he was endorsed by the likes of Oprah, Chuck Norris, and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

I can say now that I feel more than honored to be writing this ... and no, Chris is no longer standing over my shoulder.

I was first introduced to this fine individual back in December, when I was informed that he would be my date to The Observer's annual holiday office party.

"Hey, are you Chris?" I asked the strapping fellow sitting behind me one night at work.

"Yes, you must be Katie. Guess what? I am missing a knuckle on my left hand," replied Chris, holding up a left hand with the fourth finger about the same length as the pinky finger.

"Wow, are you serious?" He was. Serious as the ulcer BMac gives Kyle Cassily.

This was my first impression of our new Master and Commander. Since his inception as leader of the finest newsprint this side of the Mississippi (sorry Karen, I am editorializing), Chris has thus far implemented several of his promised initiatives for his minions down in the basement of South Dining Hall.

Chris recently installed hot tubs for the general use of Observer staffers, which is why you may have noticed many of us are spending far more hours down here in the Swamp. This makes those long 12-hour shifts far more bearable — desirable even.

Chris has also made major improvements on the entertainment that many staffers wanted, particularly those who were fed up with South Park and SportsCenter. He recently installed twenty brand new Xbox 360s on which subordinates may engage in Halo, FIFA, and NCAA.

Chris's philosophy is that as long as you keep winning, you do not have to work, but if you lose you have to work. And you get paid by the win. Now you see why we run those Write News ads?

Additionally, Chris has erected a gourmet Texas steak house right across from Shirley the office manager's office. Chris accepts nothing but the highest quality for his faithful staff, which is why he has also switched out The Observer's ancient swirly chairs for new state-of-the-art Sharper Image massage chairs.

To say that I feel fortunate to call Christopher my superior is an understatement. Look out, Hillary. Here comes Hine.

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

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

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: IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BOOKS AND MUSIC, WHICH WOULD YOU GIVE UP?



Andrea Martin

senior
Walsh

"If it gives me an excuse not to do my homework, then I'll give up books."



Charlie Gardner

sophomore
Knott

"Music, because I'm PLS and strange like that."



Jonathan Sarna

sophomore
Carroll

"To sound enlightened, I'm going to go with books."



Katie Gibbons

senior
Welsh Fam

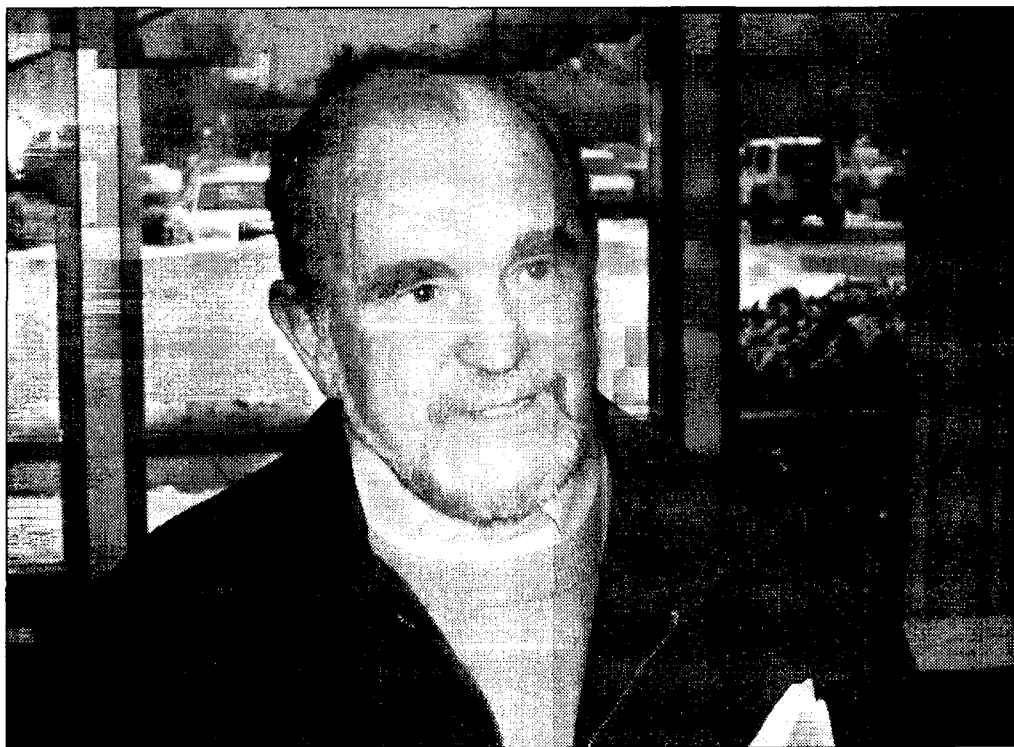
"Music. I'm an English major; I'd fail without books."



Marcia Carranco

freshman
McGlinn

"Books. I need music to work."



BRITTANY BURGESSON/The Observer

Rev. Diego Irarrazaval of the Instituto de Ciencias Religiosas of the Universidad Catolica Silva Henriquez in Santiago, Chile speaks Thursday on the culture of Latin American theology in the Hesburgh Center.

OFFBEAT

Seemingly Immaculate Komodos hatched

WICHITA, Kan. — Two Komodo dragons have hatched at the Sedgwick County Zoo, apparently without the fertilization of a male. The dragons, both males, are believed to be the first in North America known to have hatched by parthenogenesis, which occurs naturally in some species, including invertebrates and lower plants. It happens more rarely in some vertebrates.

Two other known cases in which Komodo dragons hatched by parthenogene-

sis were at the London and Chester zoos in England in 2006.

The zoo in Wichita is having DNA testing done to document the mother's and the babies' genetic structure because of the remote chance that a male's sperm was stored on the female's body.

Komodo dragons are one of the few species capable of storing sperm

School pulls spiked hot chocolate recipe

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa — Officials at a junior high school spiked an edi-

tion of the student newspaper because it contained a recipe for hot chocolate that included peppermint schnapps.

The January edition of Stillwell Junior High School's quarterly Tiger Tracks was pulled off the racks when the boozy recipe was discovered, Principal Tim Miller said. A student at the West Des Moines school submitted the recipe, which slipped through the editing process, Miller said.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Meyo Invitational men's and women's indoor track meet will be tonight at 5 in Loftus Sports Center. Admission is free.

There will be Stations of the Cross tonight at 7:15 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Stations will be held each Friday during Lent.

The Pasquerilla East Musical Company (PEMCo) will present "Kiss Me, Kate" tonight at 7:30. Student tickets are \$6. The show will also be playing Feb. 8, 9, 15 and 16.

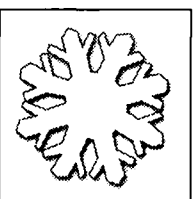
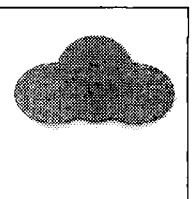
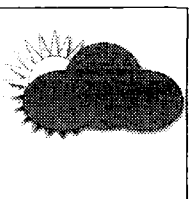
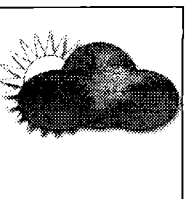
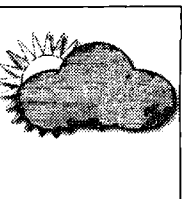
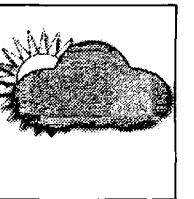
The hockey team will play Ferris State tonight at 7:35 in the Joyce Center.

Men's and women's fencing will compete in the Notre Dame Duels Saturday and Sunday at 8 a.m. in the Joyce Center. Admission is free.

Men's basketball will play Marquette Saturday at noon in the Joyce Center. Television coverage is on ESPN.

Charity Denim will take place Monday from 2-8 p.m. in the conference rooms of the Saint Mary's Student Center. For a \$1 donation for admission, attendees will have access to 500-600 pairs of designer jeans being sold for 40-70 percent off the original price. Ten percent of the proceeds will benefit the Saint Mary's Dance Marathon and Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
						
	HIGH 35	HIGH 25	HIGH 28	HIGH 18	HIGH 18	HIGH 27
	LOW 25	LOW 15	LOW 10	LOW 5	LOW 15	LOW 25

Atlanta 56 / 36 Boston 38 / 29 Chicago 32 / 24 Denver 45 / 20 Houston 78 / 44 Los Angeles 70 / 48 Minneapolis 30 / 18 New York 44 / 32 Philadelphia 48 / 33 Phoenix 71 / 43 Seattle 45 / 39 St. Louis 52 / 32 Tampa 76 / 62 Washington 50 / 30

China

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Chinese educational facilities.

"China is a part of our students' future," Fleming said.

During the event, Marcia Rickard, Saint Mary's art historian, discussed the new Chinese summer program at Creighton University.

"This is the beginning of a long collaboration," Rickard said.

Many local organizations contributed to the New Year celebrations, including the South Bend Chinese Language School and the Granger Chinese Dance Company, who performed traditional ribbon and lion dances.

The Notre Dame Chinese band, Crystal Clear, also presented renditions of "Hey Jude" and "Hotel California."

The band changed their self-entitled song "ND Girl" to "SMC Girl" to reflect the audience.

Other Saint Mary's faculty members delivered poetry readings, and the night concluded with a traditional fashion show showcasing cultural garments.

Contact Katlyn Smith at
ksmith01@saintmarys.edu

**Happy
Friday.**

Siegfried

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benefit a charity, and the Day of Man was born.

Last year's Day of Man raised roughly \$6,000 for the Center for the Homeless.

Bernardin said he was pleased with the turn out for this year's event as well. It's

difficult to know exactly how much this year's event has raised yet because Siegfried residents also get pledges from friends and family, he said.

The event lasted from midnight on Wednesday to midnight on Thursday, but the men will continue to accept outside donations for the cause after the event officially ends.

Bernardin was hoping to raise somewhere around \$5,000.

Participants in the event acknowledged the difficulty of walking around all day in attire more suitable for South America than South Bend, but most were willing to put up with the discomfort for a good cause.

"The worst part was probably our feet because it is still really slushy out there from the snow," said Ian Rangel, a freshman commis-

sioner for the event. "But it was for such a good cause that it gave us a credible reason to do it."

Bernardin agreed with Rangel, saying it was "freakin' freezing," but claimed that once his hands and feet went numb, it "hurt so good."

He says that walking around in the winter weather without protection from

the cold gave him a better appreciation for what the homeless have to go through.

"It was tough, but some people have to do that everyday,"

"I know that when I wake up tomorrow morning, I can put on pants and a coat. Not everyone can say that."

**Robbie Bernadin
Siegfried junior**

he said. "I know that when I wake up tomorrow morning, I can put on pants and a coat. Not everyone can say that."

Rangel also stressed the event's importance in raising awareness on campus for the difficulties of the homeless. He noted that the event was important in helping people see that Notre Dame students care about more than sports and partying.

"People think college kids are here just to have a good time," he said. "We wanted to break that stereotype and show we're here to do much more."

Contact Maggie Hagan at
mhagan@nd.edu

Native American minor considered

By AMBER TRAVIS
News Writer

Members of the Notre Dame Multicultural Affairs Committee have been working on a proposal for the creation of a Native American Studies minor at the University.

Lai-Nin Wan, chairwoman of the Multicultural Affairs Committee, said past students felt that they were not learning anything about their Native American heritage. The committee created a survey, which was randomly distributed to 900 students as a way to get further feedback about the potential minor.

The survey, which had four parts, contained one section about the possible Native American Studies minor. Wan said that her committee would like to present the results of the survey to Student Senate by the middle of February.

She said that the committee was unsure about the exact elements of the minor because the plan was still in its early stages.

"We are basically going to try and structure it in the same way as a number of other minors at the University," Wan said. "Right now we're searching for a department to sponsor us, and once we get the results back from our survey we'll be

able to proposition [the senate] better."

Wan said that a Native American Studies minor would be important to the University.

"The reason why we wanted this minor is because it is something that Notre Dame doesn't have, and we feel that we do need to have it," she said. "In a structural way it's absolutely different from other cultural minors. It's different in that it's addressing a completely different population. It would not only be for the Native American students, but it would be for the Notre Dame population in general."

Co-president of the Native American Studies Association of Notre Dame (NASAND) Anthony Holt agreed with Wan.

"I think it's a great idea," Holt said. "I think [there are] a lot of Native Americans who would be very interested in programs and classes that would be offered at the University."

Being involved with NASAND has given Holt the opportunity to interact with a variety of people from different tribes and backgrounds, he said, but there are few Native American resources or classes offered at the University besides the group.

Contact Amber Travis at
atravis@nd.edu

4th Annual Holy Cross Mission Lecture at Notre Dame

Obstacles and Choices in Christian Mission

7pm, Sunday, February 10th
Moreau Seminary Auditorium

Diego Irazazaval, CSC
Universidad Catolica Silva Henriquez
Santiago, Chile

Discussion and Reception to Follow



Sponsored by Holy Cross Mission Center

Co-Sponsors: Moreau Seminary, Campus Ministry, Sisters of the Holy Cross,
Center for Social Concerns, Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies,
Department of Theology, Institute for Church Life

Trustees

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The committee's chair, senior Carol Hendrickson, presented the survey's results — which said the student body was "overwhelmingly dissatisfied" with the price markups — to the Bookstore, the University Libraries, the Office of Information Technology, the campus copy centers and the faculty.

By the start of the spring semester, several colleges — including the College of Arts and Letters — had placed some of their course packets back in academic copy centers. And the course packets that are still being sold at the Hammes Bookstore don't have a retail markup, Braun said.

But even though course packets are once again available at campus copy centers, she said students are still paying

about 10 percent more than they would've paid in the past — a result of the increased royalty fees to the company that handles the copyright review process.

"The Senate has encouraged faculty members to put their course materials online, using the Libraries' electronic reserves, to keep costs down for the students," Braun said. "That way they can choose if they print out the documents or just read them online."

Executive assistant Sheena Plamootil talked to trustees about the unexpected surge of interest in "green" issues observed among students, faculty members and administrators during the fall semester.

The creation of the Office of Sustainability by Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves, as well as the announcement that next year's Notre Dame Forum will be titled "Charting a Sustainable Energy Future," proved environmental issues were a hot topic, Plamootil said.

Student government worked closely with the Student Advisory Board and the University's Energy and Environmental Issues Committee (E&EIC) to put on the first annual "Energy

Week" and increase student awareness regarding energy consumption. The success of Energy Week facilitated "an unprecedented collaborative effort" between student government, the E&EIC, the Notre Dame Energy Center and Student Activities this semester to host Green Summit, Plamootil said.

And while the environment proved to be a popular topic among students last semester, immigration was not, Brown said. She said she originally expected the issue to take center stage in the same way the global health crisis did after being the focus of the 2006 Notre Dame Forum.

In response, she made immigration the first topic in the first-ever student-faculty contemporary issues debate series, one of Brown's campaign goals for the 2007-08 year.

So she reevaluated her approach to the discussion of immigration at Notre Dame. Brown said she no longer measures the success of the 2007 Forum according to the number of related clubs and task forces born after the actions of students regarding immigration.

"Instead, we're looking at how the Forum has intellectually engaged students," Brown said.

Her administration is preparing the first-ever Student Forum, scheduled for April and focused on immigration. Unlike the Notre Dame Forum, this event will be student-run and will feature students from different ideologies and backgrounds as panelists, in an effort to facilitate further debate on the issue.

Brown said she is looking to bring a nationally recognized moderator to campus to attract as many students as possible.

"We are aware we might not see the outburst of enthusiasm seen after the forum on global health but we hope students who attend this event will walk away intellectually engaged in this discussion and having developed an opinion of their own," Brown said.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

Donations

continued from page 1

Through December, former Democratic candidate John Edwards, who withdrew from the race before Super Tuesday, led in donations from Notre Dame. Edwards had raised \$1,400 from four University employees and students. Democratic Sen. Barack Obama raised \$943 from four such individuals, and Congressman Ron Paul, R-Texas, was third with \$540 from three people.

Rachel Getman, a graduate assistant in chemical and biomolecular engineering, is one of Paul's donors.

"When I finally heard he was running for president, that really excited me," Getman said. "... I will donate to any campaign that I believe will better the political and economic conditions of the country."

Paul, however, has not yet won a state in the Republican primaries and caucuses. But even if Paul fails to win the Republican nomination, Getman believes her donation could make a significant impact in getting out Paul's libertarian message — thus helping future candidates of a similar belief set.

"While the goal ultimately is to get a 'Ron Paul' elected, it will take some time to transition from electing the bureaucratic politician," Getman said.

In past elections, donation totals have been a fairly accurate indicator of a candidate's chances success. But this election cycle has proven the correlation not to be definite.

The top two donors on the Republican side, Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani, combined to raise more than \$150 million by the end of 2007. But with Romney's withdrawal Thursday, Sen. John McCain, who has raised a relatively small total of \$42 million, became the Republican front-runner.

On the Democratic side, however, the vote totals have closely reflected the money battle.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who analysts long pegged as the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, is now fighting Obama's

momentum. According to the data released this week by the Federal Election Commission, Clinton had raised more than \$118 million to Obama's nearly \$104 million.

Professor Catherine Perry, who is a fellow of the Nanovic Institute for European Studies and the Kroc Institute for International Peace, was the only person at Notre Dame that donated to Clinton.

Perry said she donated both time and money to Howard Dean's campaign in 2003 and 2004, but doesn't have the time now to be personally involved with the Clinton campaign. She said that when she hears a candidate asking for money, she takes it seriously because of the costs necessarily involved in a nationwide campaign.

Though Perry typically doesn't discuss her support for Clinton among other faculty members,

she feels strongly that "after the last seven years, we really need a change."

But why donate?

"It's a measure of how committed we are for change," Perry said. "I do feel personally responsible to support a candidate."

Brian Duffy, a junior from Iowa, had similar thoughts about why he donated to the Paul campaign.

"He's definitely the candidate who I most agreed with on principles of freedom and liberty in government," Duffy said of Paul. "I thought he was a genuine can-

didate." Duffy said he was upset that Paul's libertarian message had not changed the debate among the other Republican candidates, but Duffy was happy that his money was used to "raise the consciousness" of the public to Paul's ideas.

Duffy donated to Paul's campaign in September, before the congressman's popularity soared and campaign contributions followed suit. Duffy said he probably would not have donated had Paul already raised the \$28 million he has now, but that donating before the bandwagon picked up members is like finding a "little-known band."

"It's like, 'Hey, I was one of the first ones there,'" Duffy said, "and then it kind of turned into a big thing."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

"The Senate has encouraged faculty members to put their course materials online, using the Libraries' electronic reserves ..."

Marls Braun
student body vice president

Off-Campus Housing Dublin Village

Townhomes offering you:

Security No on-site reports recorded

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Don't Miss The "Whose the Funniest Student on Campus?" Take Contest!!!

Friday, February 8, 2008

10:00 PM

Legends Nightclub

Admission FREE for ND Students and 2 guests!

LEGENDS OF NOTRE DAME

Write news. Call 631-2325.

WORLD & NATION

Friday, February 8, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Archbishop calls for limited Shariah

LONDON — The archbishop of Canterbury on Thursday called for a limited application of Islamic law in Britain. Muslims praised the proposal but the government rejected it.

The unusual suggestion from Britain's highest ranking Christian leader would, if adopted, allow British Muslims to choose to resolve marital and financial disputes under Islamic law, known as Shariah, rather than through British courts.

Archbishop Rowan Williams said in a radio interview with British Broadcasting Corp. that incorporating Islamic law could help improve Britain's flagging social cohesion.

"Certain provisions of Shariah are already recognized in our society and under our law, so it's not as if we're bringing in an alien and rival system," said Williams, who gave a speech on the topic Thursday night.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown's spokesman immediately rejected Williams' proposal.

Leading Shiite cleric reduces workload

BAGHDAD — Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, has sharply reduced his workload in recent months, raising new questions about the health of the aged leader and the prospect of a dangerous power vacuum without a clear and dominant successor.

Any change in al-Sistani's role or reach could have far-reaching consequences for both Iraq and the United States, which consider the Iranian-born cleric as perhaps the most powerful figure in Iraq and a vital stabilizing force in the oil-rich Shiite heartlands of southern Iraq.

NATIONAL NEWS

CIA head debates waterboarding

WASHINGTON — Debate over waterboarding flared Thursday on Capitol Hill, with the CIA director raising doubts about whether it's currently legal and the attorney general refusing to investigate U.S. interrogators who have used the technique on terror detainees.

Vice President Dick Cheney, meanwhile, said "it's a good thing" that top al-Qaida leaders who underwent the harsh interrogation tactic in 2002 and 2003 were forced to give up information that helped protect the country.

"It's a good thing we had them in custody, and it's a good thing we found out what they knew," Cheney told the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington.

Democratic fundraising intensifies

NEW ORLEANS — Battling for every dollar and delegate, Barack Obama raised \$7.2 million in Super Tuesday's wake and Hillary Rodham Clinton pulled in \$6.4 million, stunning totals reflecting the intensity of their neck-and-neck race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Keenly aware of Obama's growing strength, Clinton challenged him to five debates in the next month. Obama put her off.

"We'll have some debates," Obama promised. But first, he said, "I've got to spend time with voters." Clinton, he argued, is better-known to voters in states coming up on the primary calendar.

Clinton, who loaned her campaign \$5 million in the run-up to Super Tuesday, brushed aside the notion she has money problems. She pointed to the roughly even split of delegates still being allocated from Tuesday's primaries and caucuses as evidence her campaign has the financial muscle to compete.

LOCAL NEWS

High school coach admits to child porn

INDIANAPOLIS — A high school swim coach has admitted hiding video cameras in locker rooms and downloading child pornography, according to federal court documents.

Brian D. Hindson, 40, of Carmel was arrested and charged with a felony count of possessing computer video files of child pornography, the U.S. attorney's office for the Southern District of Indiana said Thursday. If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

Investigators found eight pornographic videos involving children on a hard drive in Hindson's apartment, court documents state.

Romney pulls out from GOP race

McCain virtually clinches Republican presidential nomination, aims to win conservatives

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John McCain sought to mend his tattered relationship with conservatives and unify a splintered GOP as he all but clinched the party's presidential nomination Thursday. Mitt Romney, his former chief rival, dropped out, and a parade of prominent Republicans swung behind the Arizona senator.

"We're continuing campaigning and not taking anything for granted," McCain said in an Associated Press interview, still reluctant to call himself anything more than the front-runner. "I certainly think that we have enhanced our chances."

Only Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul remained in what has been a crowded and wide-open nomination fight for the past year. Both have narrow voting constituencies and are far behind in the hunt for delegates to the GOP's nominating convention this summer.

Romney's departure left McCain, whose independent streak rankles many in the Republican rank-and-file, poised to assume President Bush's position as the party standard-bearer. It was a remarkable turnaround for McCain, whose campaign was barely alive last summer, out of cash and losing staff.

"It is my sincere hope that even if you believe I have occasionally erred in my reasoning as a fellow conservative, you will still allow that I have, in many ways important to all of us, maintained the record of a conservative," McCain told a gathering of the party's influential right flank on Thursday a few hours after Romney appeared before the same group to announce he was suspending his faltering bid.

Said Romney, "I must now stand aside, for our party and our country."

"If I fight on in my campaign, all the way to the convention, I would forestall



Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney announced he was dropping out of the race at the Conservative Political Action Conference Thursday.

the launch of a national campaign and make it more likely that Senator (Hillary Rodham) Clinton or (Barack) Obama would win."

Romney's fate had been virtually sealed earlier this week when he failed to stop McCain's coast-to-coast Super Tuesday rout in presidential primaries; McCain and Romney spoke by phone Thursday but no endorsement was sought nor offered.

With weekend contests in Louisiana and Kansas up next, McCain has secured 707 delegates, more than halfway to the 1,191 needed to win the nomination. Romney has 294 and Huckabee 195. Paul, the libertarian-leaning Texas congressman, had only 14 — and no chance to catch

McCain.

Huckabee is still mathematically viable in the race, but he will need a lot of help from Romney's supporters if he doesn't prevail in upcoming contests. Numbers aside, Huckabee also faces a steep challenge. The former Arkansas governor's primary constituency is Christian evangelicals, and he has won only in states where they dominate presidential contests — Iowa, Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee, West Virginia and Georgia.

Privately, some Huckabee aides were eager to see their boss follow Romney's lead. Publicly, Huckabee showed no sign of backing down.

"I still believe that this thing is a long way from

being settled. And, now that the field is down to two, our chances have substantially improved," he said in New York City.

The only other way Huckabee could seize the nomination is if conservative complaints about McCain turn into a full-scale revolt. But that doesn't appear to be happening, if McCain's reception at the Conservative Political Action Conference was any indication. Activists there seemed resigned — if not pleased — at the prospect of McCain's nomination.

Other Republicans said the fight was effectively over, and that Huckabee appeared to be angling more for a vice presidential slot than the top of the ticket.

IRAN

Diplomats say Iran has advanced centrifuge

Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Iran's nuclear project has developed its own version of an advanced centrifuge to churn out enriched uranium much faster than its previous machines, diplomats and experts said Thursday.

They said that few of the IR-2 centrifuges were operating and that testing appeared to be in an early phase, with the new machines rotating without processing any uranium gas.

More significant, the officials said, is the fact that Iran appears to have used know-how and equipment bought on the nuclear black market

in combination with domestic ingenuity to overcome daunting technical difficulties and create highly advanced centrifuges.

Iran's uranium enrichment work has raised concerns in Washington and other Western capitals because it can produce the radioactive material needed for nuclear bombs. Tehran says it is only pursuing lower-level enrichment to make fuel for atomic reactors that will generate electricity.

Iran is under two sets of U.N. Security Council sanctions for refusing to suspend uranium enrichment, which it started developing during nearly two decades of covert nuclear activity built on illicit pur-

chases and revealed only five years ago.

That secrecy heightened suspicions about Iran's intent, but Iranian leaders argued the country has a right to run a peaceful enrichment program and dismissed the U.N. demands, saying they planned to expand the project rather than freeze it.

Up until recent weeks, Iran had publicly focused on working with P1 centrifuges — outmoded machines that it acquired on the black market in the 1980s. Workers set up more than 3,000 of the machines in the large underground hall near Natanz, a city about 300 miles south of Tehran.

Man stabs wife inside school

Suspect charges into fifth-grade class, wounds woman in front of kids

Associated Press

PORTSMOUTH, Ohio — A man charged into a school where his estranged wife was a teacher Thursday morning, firing a gun before stabbing her as her fifth-grade class watched, police said. He later was found dead in his home after apparently shooting himself during a standoff with police.

The teacher, Christi Layne, was in critical condition at a hospital in nearby Huntington, W.Va., a hospital spokeswoman said.

Police originally said William Michael Layne shot his wife at Notre Dame Elementary, but Chief Charles Horner said it was unclear whether a gunshot fired in the school hit her.

Minutes before the teacher was stabbed, police say her husband stabbed and wounded a different woman in an alley about five blocks from the school.

Horner said at a news conference that he did not know whether that victim, Stephanie Loop, 22, knew the teacher. Loop was also in critical condition.

Christi Layne had filed for divorce Jan. 25.

"She was terrified something like this would happen," said Rebecca Bennett, Christi Layne's

attorney.

The shooting happened around 9 a.m. at the Catholic school on Portsmouth's main road. Student Emmaly Baker said she hid in the classroom's coatroom when the gunman came in.

"We heard gunshots, and we heard her yelling. I was scared," she told WSAZ-TV. "The police officer came and got us and she was still laying there and she was hurt really bad."

The suspect fled, and for hours after the shooting, a SWAT team surrounded a house about two miles away. Neighbors saw officers shooting at the house at one point, and police said those shots were with low-caliber bullets used to disable a surveillance camera Layne had installed in his yard.

Neighbor Jack Freeland said police eventually broke through the door with a battering ram and sent in a robot.

Police had been involved in a domestic dispute between the Laynes about two weeks ago, Horner said, but he did not give details.

The 56-year-old suspect, known as Mike, was a retired assistant director at the city's water distribution plant. He apparently shot himself in the

head with a shotgun, Coroner Terry Johnson said. He was found in the garage behind his house near the school, Horner said.

Freeland, 37, who often talked with the suspect, said that the couple had separated last summer and that Layne had been acting strangely for several months.

"At nighttime, he was out digging up his yard at 1, 2 in the morning," he said.

Parents, many with cell phones clutched to their ears, congregated across the street from the school and began leaving with their children around 10:30 a.m., said Kathy Hall, the office manager at the Cornerstone United Methodist Church, which also is across the street.

"I wasn't afraid for my own safety, I was afraid for the children, because these turn out so terrible, you know," Hall said.

The scene was chaotic, with police cars and few ambulances descending on the school, and the fire department blocked off the street.

The school and another Catholic school nearby were locked down, said Deacon Tom Berg, vice chancellor of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus. The diocese was sending a crisis team. Local public schools also were locked down, said Superintendent Jan Broughton, who oversees the community's public schools.

MOS

continued from page 1

faith backgrounds, Vassel said.

"All men struggle with various things," Rakoczy said, citing issues such as masturbation and pornography. "Issues surface in faith sharing groups like [MOS]."

Rakoczy said she has been overseeing the organization of the group.

"It is going to be a kind of ritualized layout," she said. "[It includes] an opening prayer, disclosure of personal stories, discussion and a closing prayer."

"Men of Strength will work to redefine masculinity and examine what kind of strengths define a man," Rakoczy said.

The group has not begun its meetings yet, but it has advertised through posters and dining hall announcements.

MOS is unique in that it's a completely private organization.

"It is a safe and confidential environment," Rakoczy

said.

Vassel said he is open to feedback on the group and wants the men involved to feel welcome to both meetings and emailing him.

Rakoczy said the e-mail system has worked well so far, and they saw a student express interest before the group was publicized.

Vassel plans to weigh the opinions of men who attend meetings in order to decide on the course of the group. He and Rakoczy plan to meet at the end of this academic year to assess the group's progress.

At this post-semester group evaluation, Vassel and Rakoczy will discuss the future leadership of the group.

"We want to leave some kind of legacy so that the group is not solely dependant on me," Vassel said.

The MOS is not the first group that the GRC has sponsored for men.

The Center sponsored the group Men Against Violence, which brought the anti-sexism activist Jackson Katz to campus in November.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

"Men of Strength will work to redefine and examine what kind of strengths define a man."

Heather Rakoczy
GRC director

"We want to leave some kind of legacy so that the group is not solely dependant on me."

Brian Vassel
MOS organizer

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Stocks

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Up: 2,071 Same: 96 Down: 1,235 Composite Volume: 4,115,552,873

AMEX	2,207.34	-5.39
NASDAQ	2,293.03	+14.28
NYSE	8,859.04	+40.93
S&P 500	1,336.91	+10.46
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	13,207.15	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,724.10	-151.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	+0.66	+0.88	133.93
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+0.70	+0.30	43.11
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	+1.30	+0.30	23.38
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-1.40	-0.40	28.12

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+3.38	+0.122	3.736
13-WEEK BILL	+2.94	+0.060	2.100
30-YEAR BOND	+2.88	+0.126	4.500
5-YEAR NOTE	+3.78	+0.101	2.775

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.97	88.11
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.00	910.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.83	97.00

Exchange Rates

YEN	107.5200
EURO	0.6908
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0096
BRITISH POUND	0.5148

IN BRIEF

Wall Street posts modest gains

NEW YORK — Wall Street finished moderately higher in fitful trading Thursday as investors, still nervous about the economy, decided to buy back into a stock market pummeled by three straight days of losses.

With the market having largely priced in the possibility of a recession, many believe there are plenty of valuable stocks at cheap prices. Before Thursday, the Dow Jones industrial average had fallen this week by 543 points, or 4.26 percent, giving up all of last week's sharp gains.

Though the market ended up rising Thursday, trading was extremely fickle due to a batch of gloomy data that included declining January sales at major retailers, a drop in December sales of pending homes, and a disappointing outlook from Internet networking supplier Cisco Systems Inc. The major indexes seasawed throughout the day.

"We're kind of trying to create a silk purse out of a sow's ear here," said Hugh Johnson, chief investment officer of Johnson Illington Advisors. "The earnings are lousy, the economic numbers are lousy."

The Dow rose 46.90, or 0.38 percent, to 12,247.00 after trading down about 80 points and up about 130. The index remains more than 13 percent below its record close on Oct. 9, 2007 of 14,164.53.

Unemployment falls slightly

WASHINGTON — The number of newly laid off workers filing applications for unemployment benefits dropped last week, but not enough to indicate that strains on the labor market are easing.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that 356,000 claims for jobless benefits were filed last week, a decline of 22,000 from the previous week. The decline only erased a part of the huge jump of 72,000 in claims of the previous week.

The four-week average for jobless claims rose to 335,000, which was the highest level in a month.

A severe slowdown in economic growth that has raised concerns about a possible recession has begun to affect the labor market. The government reported last week that the economy shed 17,000 jobs in January, the first monthly job loss in more than four years.

Senate passes fiscal relief plan

Bill advances after Democrats drop demands for heating aid, jobless benefits, tax breaks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed an economic rescue plan Thursday that would speed \$600 to \$1,200 in rebates to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to low-income people, including disabled veterans and the elderly.

The 81-16 vote capped more than a week of political maneuvering that ended only when majority Democrats dropped their demand that the proposal offer jobless benefits, heating aid for the poor and tax breaks for certain industries.

House leaders said they would act as early as Thursday night to send the measure to President Bush.

Bush indicated he would sign the measure and said the Senate made changes "in ways I can support."

"This plan is robust, broad-based, timely, and it will be effective," Bush said in a statement. The compromise, he said, was "an example of bipartisan cooperation at a time when the American people most expect it."

The Senate plan would rush rebates — \$600 for individuals, \$1,200 for couples — to most taxpayers and cut business taxes in hopes of reviving the economy. Individuals making up to \$75,000 a year and couples earning up to \$150,000 would get rebates.

People who paid no income taxes but earned at least \$3,000 — including through Social Security or veterans' disability benefits — would get a \$300 rebate.

If the House follows suit as expected and Bush shortly thereafter signs the measure, the rebate checks would be expected to begin arriving in May. The rebates would be based on 2007 tax returns, which are not due until April 15.

The bill had stalled for more than a week in the Senate. The turnaround came after Democrats fell just one vote short Wednesday of overcoming a GOP filibuster and pressing ahead with their \$205 billion plan.

Democrats decided on Thursday against insisting on their package. Instead, they agreed to speed the



Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill Thursday after the Senate reached an agreement on an economic stimulus package.

bipartisan measure, costing \$168 billion over two years, to Bush.

"It's our responsibility to pass the strongest bill that we can, and so I think it's tremendous what we'll be able to accomplish," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "We had to finish this quickly."

The retreat came after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi sided with Republicans, including Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. Pelosi, D-Calif., urged the Senate to stop its infighting and pass the bill.

"There's no reason for any more delay on this," Pelosi said.

Thirty-three Republicans joined 46 Democrats and the Senate's two independents to pass the measure. Sixteen Republicans voted against the plan.

Reid defended his decision to try to pressure Republicans on the larger proposal by offering it as a take-it-or-leave-it proposition along with the rebates for older people and veterans. "I feel very strongly that we did the right thing," Reid said.

Gift cards redeemed for basic items

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Here's a sign of how shaky the economy has become: Wal-Mart says its shoppers are redeeming their holiday gift cards for basic items — pasta sauce, diapers, laundry detergent — instead of iPods or DVDs.

Merchants had hoped shoppers armed with gift cards would provide a lift after a dismal holiday shopping season — partly because shoppers tend to spend even more than the value of the card. But that didn't seem to happen last month, and retailers are feeling the pain.

On Thursday, the nation's retailers turned in their worst January in almost four decades as high gas and food prices, a slumping housing market, tighter credit and a tougher job market pushed consumers to the edge.

Sales at 43 retailers surveyed by the UBS-International Council of Shopping Centers rose just 0.5 per-

cent in January, well below the original 1.5 percent forecast.

The results — based on sales at stores open at least a year — followed an anemic 0.7 percent pace in December and were below the 2.1 percent gain for all of last year.

Jill Panell, a 26-year-old homemaker from Sterling Heights, Mich., was using a \$20 Wal-Mart gift card on Thursday to stock up on groceries and pet supplies. She wasn't in the market for a present for herself.

"Twenty dollars at Wal-Mart is easy to spend," she said.

Analysts think it's happening in other stores, too.

"Gift cards are being used as a secondary way to save," said Burt P. Flickinger III, managing director of the New York-based retail consulting firm Strategic Resource Group.

Even at department stores, he said, consumers are using gift cards to buy basic apparel such as socks

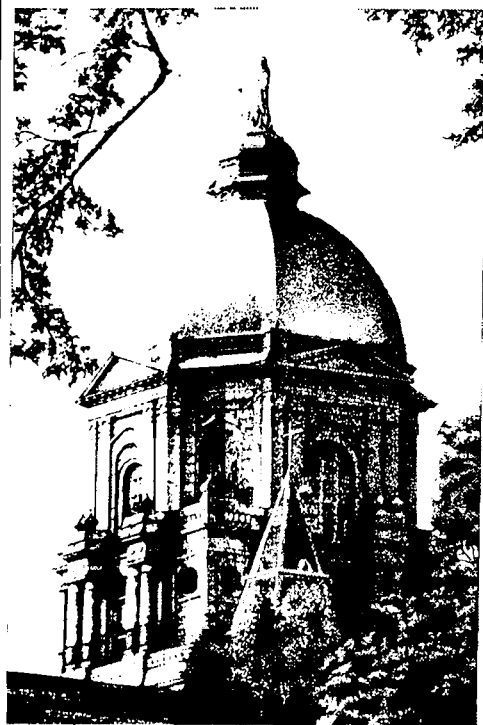
and lingerie.

The assessment by Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, that gift card redemptions were below expectations and people were buying only necessities shook up industry observers. Retailers record gift-card revenue only as cards are redeemed.

"It shows you the level of worry. Even with free money in your hand, (consumers) aren't willing to spend on anything more than necessities," said Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at International Council of Shopping Centers.

Niemira said January's retail sales performance was the weakest for that month since at least 1970, when comparable records started.

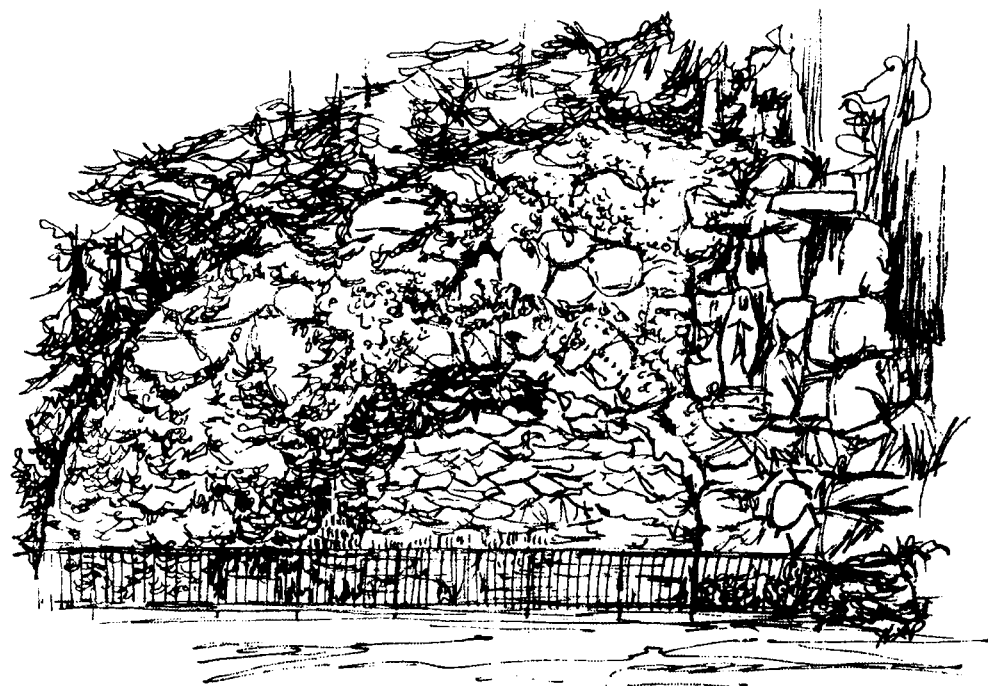
Shoppers appear to be looking at gift cards not as "free money" but rather as their "own personal cash," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, citing his recent surveys with consumers.



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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 - WE HONOR THE PATRONESS OF NOTRE DAME

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - WE HONOR THE PATRONESS OF OUR COUNTRY



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"And our hearts forever, love thee Notre Dame"



Shuttle Atlantis leaps into orbit

Europe's gift to international space station flies despite fuel problems

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — After two months of delay, shuttle Atlantis blasted into orbit Thursday with Europe's gift to the international space station, a \$2 billion science lab named Columbus that spent years waiting to set sail.

Atlantis and its seven-man crew safely roared away from their seaside launch pad at 2:45 p.m., overcoming fuel gauge problems that thwarted back-to-back launch attempts in December.

The same cold front that spawned killer tornadoes across the South earlier in the week stayed far enough away and, in the end, cut NASA a break. All week, bad weather had threatened to delay the flight, making liftoff all the sweeter for the shuttle team. The sky was cloudy at launch time, but rain and thunderstorms remained off to the west.

"Three, two, one, zero, and liftoff of space shuttle Atlantis as Columbus sets sail on a voyage of science to the space station," NASA's Launch Control exclaimed.

Probably no one was happier than the 300 Europeans who gathered at the launch site to see Atlantis take off with their beloved Columbus lab. They celebrated with Belgian and French chocolates and sparkling grape juice, in keeping with NASA's no-alcohol rule at the Kennedy Space Center.

"It's not very European," observed Italian astronaut Paolo Nespoli, smiling, as he popped open bottles of juice and filled plastic wine glasses. He flew on the last shuttle mis-

sion.

Twenty-three years in the making, Columbus is the European Space Agency's primary contribution to the space station. The lab has endured space station redesigns and slowdowns, as well as a number of shuttle postponements and two shuttle accidents.

"We're all as excited as heck," said an emotional Alan Thirkettle, Europe's space station program manager. "I've lost about 500 grams (about 1 pound) so far, and that's just been tears."

Columbus will join the U.S. lab, Destiny, which was launched aboard Atlantis exactly seven years ago.

The much bigger Japanese lab Kibo, or Hope, will require three shuttle flights to get off the ground, beginning in March.

Atlantis' commander, Stephen Frick, and his U.S., German and French crew will reach the space station on Saturday and begin installing Columbus the very next day. Three spacewalks are planned during the flight, scheduled to last 11 or, more likely, 12 days.

"Certainly, no launch can be any more momentous than the launch of Columbus, which brings to the space station truly international capability and participation," said NASA Administrator Michael Griffin.

Besides Columbus, Atlantis will drop off a new space station resident, French Air Force Gen. Leopold Eyharts, who will swap places with NASA astronaut Daniel Tani and get Columbus working. Tani will return to Earth aboard the shuttle, ending a mission of nearly four months.

To NASA's relief, all four fuel gauges in Atlantis' external fuel tank worked properly during the final stage of the countdown. The gauges failed back in December because of a faulty connector, and NASA redesigned the part to fix the problem, which had been plaguing the shuttles for three years.

NASA was anxious to get Atlantis flying as soon as possible to keep alive its hopes of achieving six launches this year. The space agency faces a 2010 deadline for finishing the station and retiring the shuttles. That equates to four or five shuttle flights a year between now and then, something Griffin considers achievable.

"We're coming back, and I think we are back, from some pretty severe technical problems that led to the loss of Columbia. We understand the foam now," he said, referring to the chunks of insulating foam that kept breaking off the fuel tanks.

"Certainly, no launch can be any more momentous than the launch of Columbus, which brings to the space station truly international capability and participation."

Michael Griffin
NASA administrator

ND theater buff dies at 96 at HCH

Special to the Observer

Father Arthur S. Harvey, 96, died Monday at Holy Cross House on the Notre Dame campus, where he had lived since 1993.



Harvey

A native of Washington, D.C., Harvey was educated at St. Paul grade and high school and worked briefly for the Washington Railway and Electric Company before coming to Notre Dame in 1942 to study for the priesthood in the Congregation of Holy Cross.

After graduating from Notre Dame in 1947, Harvey returned to Washington to study theology at Holy Cross College and was ordained on June 5, 1951, at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. He studied drama at Catholic University, earning a graduate degree in 1953, and returned to Notre Dame to embark on a long and celebrated career teaching drama and directing plays on campus. His many productions included, "Hamlet" and "Long Day's Journey Into Night," "My Fair Lady" and "South Pacific." He retired in 1969, and began to serve for many years as an assistant to Father Edmund P. Joyce, then Notre Dame's executive vice president, but twice returned to Washington Hall to direct highly acclaimed productions of "Death of a Salesman" and "The Crucible."

"Perhaps more than any other person, Father Arthur Harvey is considered the father of theater at Notre Dame," said Mark C. Pilkinton, professor of film, television and theater. "Trained as an accountant but blessed with an abiding interest in the theater, Harvey worked tirelessly to achieve both artistic merit and academic integrity. With such student actors in his early years as Phil Donohue, Reg Bain and Gene Gorski, and supported by a faculty that included Fred Syburg, he oversaw a remarkable period of serious and good theatre at Notre Dame."

"During his tenure, Father Art famously recreated on the Washington Hall stage the grandest of Broadway dramas and musicals of the day. He modernized and updated Washington Hall in 1956, turning the heavily decorated 19th-century interior into a modern fully functional theater. Imperious, disciplined, and hard working, he was also a master stage director known for his careful attention to detail and his work ethic that consistently produced work of the highest merit. No one loved Notre Dame more, and no one loved theater more. All of us who worked with Father Art will be forever grateful."

The Notre Dame Alumni Association named an award in honor of Harvey in 2000 to be given annually to a graduate for outstanding contributions to the performing arts. The first recipient of the award was Harvey.

Mary at Lourdes Mass to be held

Special to the Observer

A Mass marking the 150th anniversary of the apparition of Mary at Lourdes will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m. Feb. 11 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

University president emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh will preside at the Mass, which will be followed by a reception in the Coleman-Morse Center's Hammes Student Lounge.

Preceding the Mass, special prayer services will be held in the Basilica at 6:15 p.m. today and Saturday. The services will include an opening prayer, a scriptural reading and the recitation of the rosary.

The first of the 18 reported apparitions of Mary to the 14-year-old St. Bernadette Soubiroux took place Feb. 11, 1858 in a cranny of Massabielle Rock near Lourdes, France. St. Bernadette, scavenging for firewood with her sister and a friend, reported seeing a young and beautiful

woman who summoned her again and again to the site. During one apparition, a hitherto hidden spring began to flow from beneath Massabielle, and reports began to circulate of miraculous cures experienced by people who drank from and bathed in its waters. During another, the woman identified herself to the largely illiterate St. Bernadette as "the Immaculate Conception."

Skeptical at first, Church authorities eventually assured the pilgrims who had begun to flock to Lourdes that they were "justified in believing the reality of the apparition" and a large church was built on the site as the devotion became nationally and internationally famous.

Among devotees of "Notre Dame de Lourdes" was Notre Dame's founder, Father Edward Sorin, who enthusiastically commemorated the apparitions by building Notre Dame's Grotto in 1896.

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Friday, February 8, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna.

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Thinking about grad school?

One of the "Indicators of Excellence" on the Notre Dame website (which advertises its ranking as a top 25 school and a "New Ivy") is the fact that Notre Dame is "first among U.S. Catholic colleges and universities in the number of undergraduates who have gone on to earn a doctorate since 1920."

In spite of its historical success, Notre Dame isn't producing future scholars at the same rate it once did. In September, Father Jenkins reported to the faculty that less than five percent of Notre Dame graduates have gone on to Ph.D. and other research-based doctoral programs between 1995 and 2004, the lowest rate among any of the top 25 schools. Statistical quibbling aside — the number excludes those who take time off before postgraduate study, but so do the figures for other schools — the point is that Notre Dame's graduates are less likely than those of our peer institutions to become the next generation of researchers, teachers, and intellectual leaders.

After Father Jenkins's speech, other administrators suggested that graduate students could become an "additional mentoring resource" for those students considering Ph.D.s. However, the graduate students who do have regular contact with undergrads, TAs, are not in the best position to be the kind of resource the administration envisions. In the classroom, undergraduates are under the academic authority of the TA, and because the relationship is by nature subordinate rather than supportive, few people are going to look to their TA for informal career advice.

Because TAs have to maintain a strictly professional relationship with their students, and because they have to be impartial judges of students' academic performance, students have a vastly different

relationship with their TA than they would with, say, a guidance counselor or academic adviser. Not surprisingly, there is little informal interaction between TAs and their students.

For example, TAs get five free dining hall meals so that they can meet in a casual setting with their students, but very few students take advantage of this opportunity (even if they know about it). It's the academic equivalent of having lunch with your boss; you probably aren't going to have a completely free conversation or exchange of ideas with the person who decides your final grades. The combination of authority and professional distance makes TAs poorly suited to give out career guidance.

And yet there are almost no other opportunities for graduate students and undergrads to interact, except for the 54 assistant rectors in residence halls — many of whom come from the professional schools, which already attract plenty of undergrads.

Basically, grad students are a part of Notre Dame's classroom life exclusively, and otherwise invisible in its residential or social life (occasional appearances in the Observer notwithstanding). As a result, most undergrads probably think that grad students really are all the stereotypical hopeless shut-ins who are incapable of talking about anything non-academic.

There are plenty of graduate students who would be happy to have the opportunity to simply talk to anyone thinking about pursuing graduate work, myself included. But if the University wishes graduate students to be this "additional mentoring resource," it will need to set up a way for undergrads and graduate students to have this kind of dialog to happen in a setting that isn't regimented and hierarchical; only in such an environment can the discussion honestly address the pros and cons of graduate school, and

allow prospective graduate to make a sufficiently informed choice.

Until undergrads can look to grad students not just as graders and discussion leaders but as sources of advice or even mentors — in short, until grad students become a part of student life outside of just the classroom — they will never become the resource that the University wants.

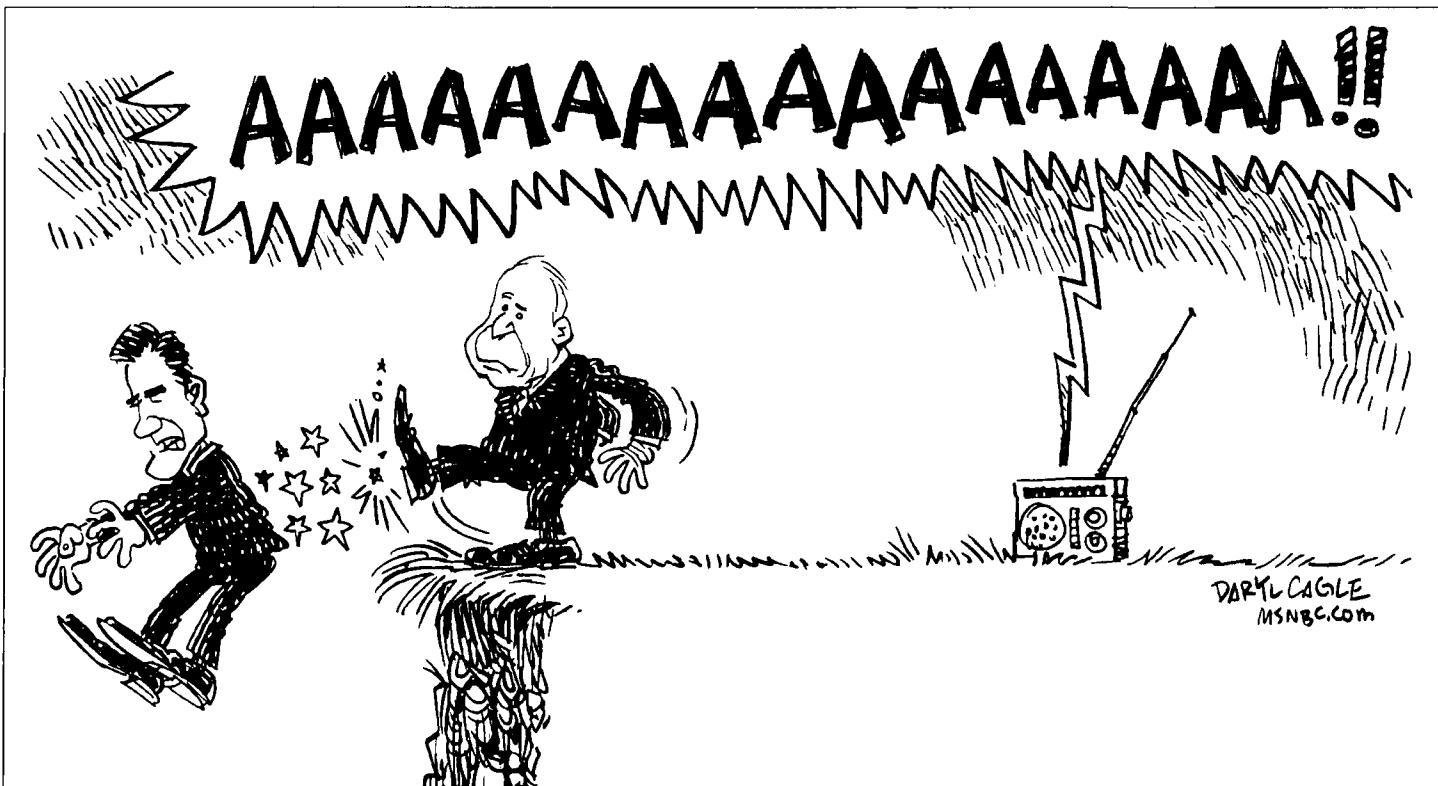
An 800-word column is barely enough space to outline the problem, but let me suggest some potential solutions anyway. Getting more Ph.D.s to serve as ARs seems like an obvious solution, but one that might be constrained by lack of space or interest. What about having graduate students affiliated with each hall as a sort of non-resident adviser, with whom students could discuss their coursework, academic progress, skills related to their discipline, or even future plans for grad school, with someone from their department? Or having grad students within each department hold occasional "office hours" for the same sort of interaction?

There is, of course, no single reason why so few newly-minted graduates go on to graduate school, and likewise there is no guarantee that having this sort of advising, or any other scheme, will result in more undergraduates going on to graduate school. But at the very least, it will give people thinking about postgraduate study an additional resource for information and advice, and it will put doctoral research on more peoples' radar screens. Above all, any opportunity for undergrads and grad students to have open discussions about graduate school is a positive step.

Darryl Campbell is a first-year graduate student in history. He can be contacted at dcampbe6@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Observer Poll

What was your favorite Super Bowl commercial?

	Votes	Percentage
Budweiser Clydesdales	151	53%
Doritos Mousetrap	54	19%
Bridgestone Squirrel	43	15%
Fed-Ex Pigeons	37	13%



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A torn jacket is soon mended;
but hard words bruise the heart
of a child."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
U.S. poet

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fear over climate change justified

In his letter entitled "Stop the Climate Change Propaganda," (Feb. 7) Matt Gore throws a bunch of stats and studies at us in an attempt to undermine the "fear mongering" techniques of a professor who was rightly spreading the word about the importance of environmental issues. Even if the statistics that Gore references are valid, he is failing to see the big picture.

Statistics and studies can be slanted to support any argument, but the fact that humans are putting an unnatural strain on the environment is undisputable. The level of foreign chemicals and man-made pollutants in the environment has been increasing at an alarming rate for quite some time now, obviously changing the dynamics of our environment. Animal and plant life, not to mention entire ecosystems, will not be able to adapt quickly enough to keep up with the current rate of environmental degradation.

Change is needed now, and maybe "fear mongering" is exactly what we need. The average person is surprisingly complacent and uncaring when it comes to the impact we are having on the

future of our planet. If we continue along our current path, our actions will compromise not only the futures of a couple exotic species off in some forest somewhere, but the well-being of future generations and quite likely our current generation will also be at stake.

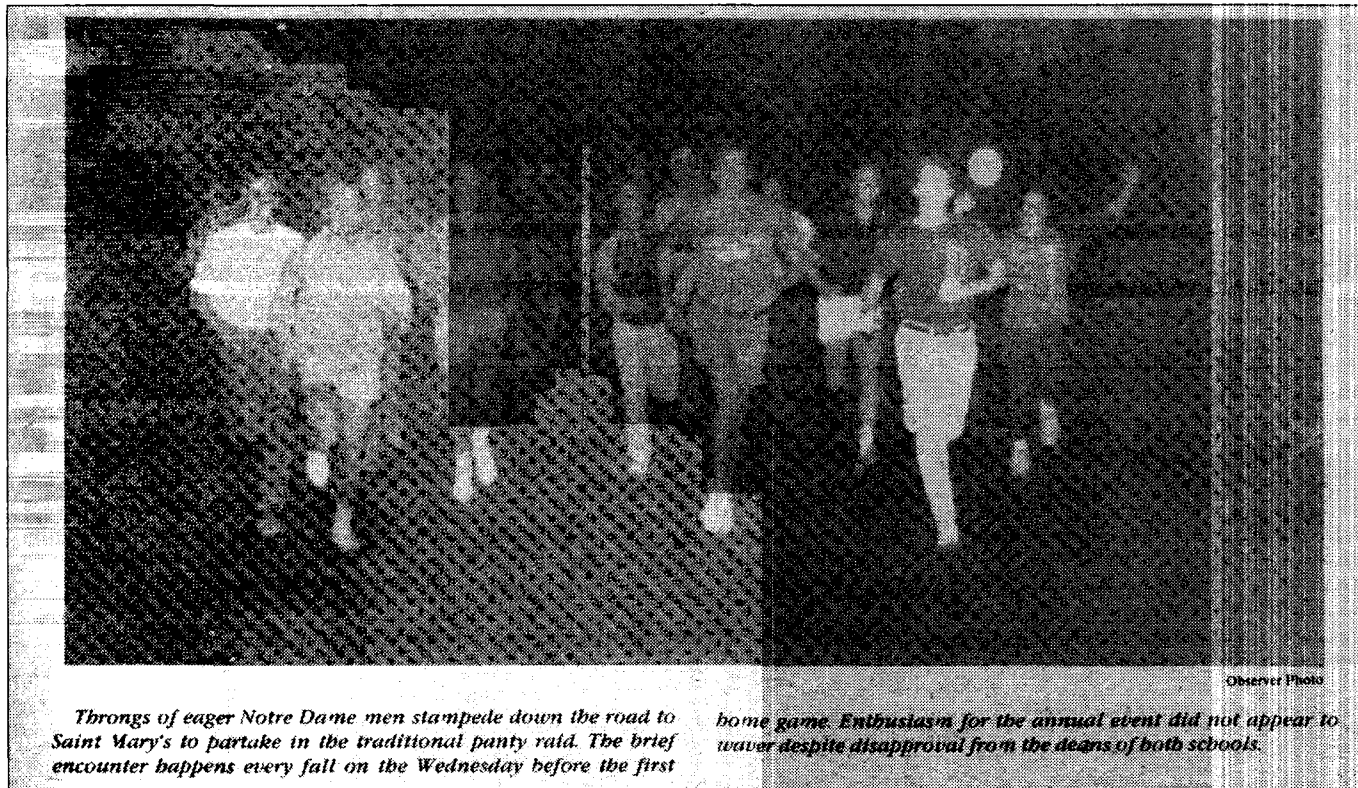
Look around you: The writing is on the wall. It is becoming pretty clear that the time for fear is now. In the end of Gore's letter, he claims to support conservation and the use of alternate energy sources based on potential short-term and long-term benefits. If that is so, then why did he even write his letter? The only part that anyone will read is the headline "Stop the climate change propaganda," which, on a base level, contradicts this point. It seems to me that his article was an unneeded attack against a sentiment of "fear" that is definitely warranted when it comes to the future of our planet. I know I'm scared, and maybe he should be too ...

Daniel Collins
sophomore
Alumni Hall
Feb. 7

EDITORIAL CARTOON



PERSPECTIVE: SEPT. 14, 1983



Throngs of eager Notre Dame men stampede down the road to Saint Mary's to partake in the traditional panty raid. The brief encounter happens every fall on the Wednesday before the first

home game. Enthusiasm for the annual event did not appear to waver despite disapproval from the deans of both schools.

This image first appeared in the Sept. 14, 1983 edition of The Observer.

PERSPECTIVE: SEPT. 29, 1969

Grass famine

The following letter was forwarded to us to forward to you
-Ed. Board

Dear President Nixon,

For several years now I have been smoking grass (marijuana to you I suppose) with my happy collection of oft-stoned friends. We dutifully followed your warnings and fearfully resisted those evil characters who tried to push us down the long road towards dirty-ten-emnet heroin death. Now, great father, what are we to do? Our grass has run out and there's a dark man with a black shirt and white tie sitting near me in the huddle. Oh well, no one cares for me.

Signed,
Phil Welchman

The above letter first appeared in the Sept. 29, 1969 edition of The Observer.

Submit a Letter to the Editor.

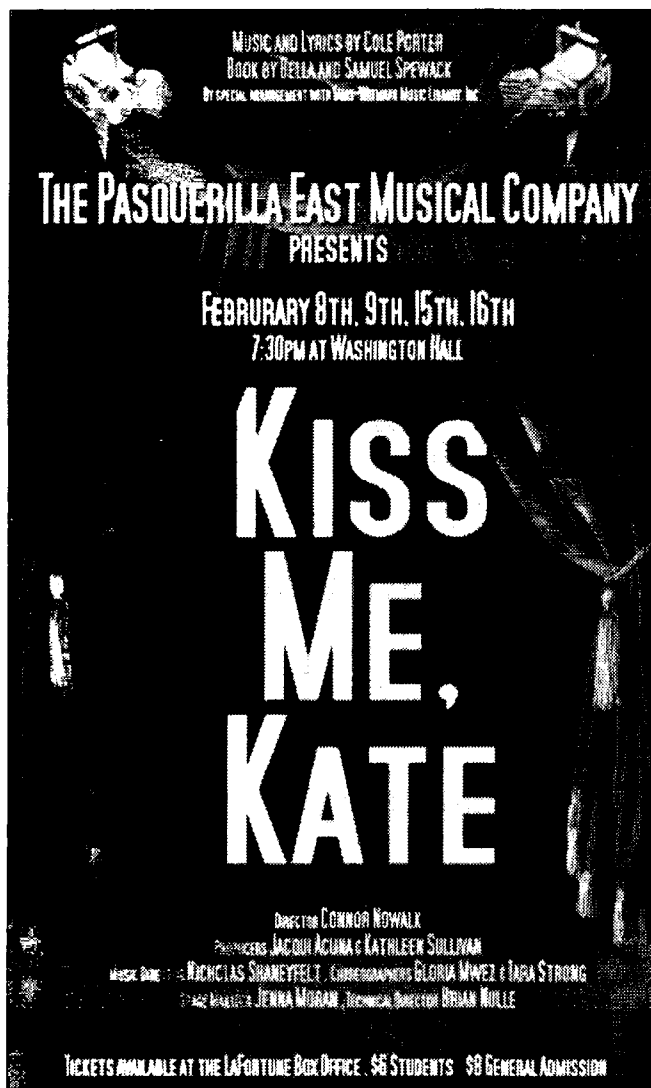
Letters to the Editor should be no more than 350 words in length and submitted by 3 p.m. to be considered for publication the next day.

www.ndsmcobserver.com

PEMCo Producers Bring "Kiss Me Kate" to Stage



MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic



By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

A casual theater-goer might wonder what a producer does. A better question would be, what doesn't a producer do?

As one half of PEMCo's team of co-producers along with Jacqui Acuna, Kathleen Sullivan differentiates between the role of the director and the role of the producer by separating the creative from the administrative.

"The creative team [including the director, music director, choreographers, set designer, stage crew, etc.] is in charge of how the show looks and sounds," she said. "We take care of everything else. The producers are there to support the staff, handle the budget, and, especially, keep everyone on a timeline. Basically, the producers make sure PEMCo puts on a show every year."

Acuna and Sullivan also double as the club presidents of PEMCo. After winning election last February to a one-year term, Sullivan and Acuna chose Connor Nowalk as their direc-

tor through an interview process last spring.

Over the summer, the producers and the director chose the show. After the success of last year's show, "Ragtime," Sullivan said she wanted to take PEMCo in a different direction this year.

"We decided to do 'Kiss Me, Kate,' a show with great Cole Porter music, because we wanted to do something upbeat and fun this year, as a contrast with last year's very dramatic production," she said. "We like to vary the type of shows we do, to keep it fresh for the audience and for the company."

"Once we decide on a show, the producers are responsible for the administrative side of the company," she said. "There's a lot of work that goes into a musical, and most of it happens behind the scenes."

Some of the many items on Sullivan's never-ending laundry list include getting the legal rights to do the show, finding rehearsal and performance spaces, getting publicity, arranging ticket sales, determining the budget, making up programs and

working with Student Activities.

Despite her current gig moonlighting as the woman working behind the scenes to make it possible for others to act on it, Sullivan originally got her start in show business as a performer. After performing since grade school, Sullivan joined PEMCo her freshman year as an actress.

Ever since, "the company has become very dear to me," she said.

Sullivan also said that she has found purpose in producing for the good of the company that trumps even the experience of performing onstage.

"I see producing as a way to really work for the best interest of the company, to be able to influence its path more so than when I was a cast member," she said. "Musical theatre is definitely an adrenaline rush, and I love being in the shows, but I've found producing almost more fulfilling."

"PEMCo producers are often in the cast my — co-producer is this year — but I like being able to take a step back and see the big picture. I get to sit in the audience on opening night and watch my entire cast and crew's work pay off in a wonderful way. It's a great feeling, knowing that I helped get them up on that stage giving great performances, and to me is actually more fulfilling than being in the show myself."

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Sullivan relishes the 'blonde role'

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Carolyn Sullivan seems to think blondes have more fun, even if she isn't a natural one. To prepare for her twin roles as Lois/Bianca in "Kiss Me Kate," Sullivan watched what she calls "dumb blonde" roles — performances from actresses in other musicals, including Lena Lamont from "Singing in the Rain," Marilyn Monroe's performance as Lorelei Lee in "Gentleman Prefer Blondes" and the character Lilly from "Annie."

During her time at Notre Dame, Sullivan has enjoyed an acting career that has seen her go from bit parts to starring roles. She performed in PEMCo's production of "Ragtime" last fall as the Irish housemaid

Bridget.

"I had a grand total of three lines," she recalls. Sullivan also had roles as il servitore in last spring's "La Locandiera," an Italian play, and as Denise Savage this past fall in "Savage in Limbo."

Since making the transition from smaller roles to the status of a leading lady, it would appear that fame

has gone to that blonde head of hers.

Sullivan said her burgeoning celebrity has made her reluctant to divulge inti-

mate details to the media, but she maintained that she has made good friends on the set.

"Being a big star and all, I don't really like sharing my personal life with the general public," she said. "Let's just say [co-star] Kelly [Rice] and I have gotten particularly close over the past few months. I'm

quite fond of her."

Sullivan, who also goes by the nickname "Sully," said her favorite number from the musical is "Tom, Dick, or Harry."

"Not only do I get to sing it," she said, "but it's an up-tempo tune with a four part harmony and a swingin' beat. [Kiss Me Kate] composer and songwriter Cole Porter knows what's up."

After "Tom, Dick, or Harry" Sullivan said her second favorite song is "Too Darn Hot."

"It's got great music," she said. "Our choreographers really nailed it, and I love watching the cast dance. They just have a blast with that number, and I think it shows."

Upon being asked to describe "Kiss Me Kate" in three words or less, Sullivan replied, "Odds bodkins."

With her mix of quirky humor, talent and research, it's safe to say Sullivan is having fun with her role.

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Getting into character no problem for versatile Rice

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Kelly Rice doesn't have a lot of difficulty getting into character.

"I really just try to think about everything that is going on in Lilli's [her character's] life at each moment during the show," she said. "She is very difficult to play because she is always very conflicted and there are very few times where there is only one thing she wants that she can actually have. She may be a diva, but her occasional animosity stems from her very deep emotional confusion."

Rice has been singing since the tender age of six. She participated in her first musical at age 12 and started vocal training at age 13. Rice was also a member of the ensemble of last year's PEMCo production of Ragtime and performed in PEMCo's 2007 "Revue Beyond the Curtain."

Rice also said that she has revealed in working opposite Carolyn Sullivan (Lois) because of the onstage feud between their characters.

"It's really fun to be angry with

Lois because Lilli sees her as extremely inferior to herself, yet she still envies her. Carolyn does a fabulous job of playing Lois, and makes it very fun to interact with her character."

On the flip side of the coin, she also said she has developed considerable chemistry with fellow castmate Kyle Carter, who plays Fred Graham.

"Kyle and I have had a wonderful time getting to know each other better during the course of the show, and I think that my close relationship with him has helped us create a sincere stage relationship for Fred and Lilli."

Like many of the performers in the show, Rice said her favorite songs from the show are "Too Darn Hot" and "Tom, Dick, or Harry."

"They are both very fun and energetic and really draw the audience in," she said.

Upon being asked (how she would describe the show in three words or less), Rice replied, "There is no doubt in my mind that this show is spunky, sassy and sincere."

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MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

A job description for the position of director of "Kiss Me Kate" might read something like this: Must have an eye for talent, flexible creativity and the vision to put it all together.

As the man running the show behind the scenes, Connor Nowalk has all that and more.

"Casting is an interesting thing, because for any given role there are several people who could play it well," Nowalk said.

Given the sheer amount of talent on display during the auditions, he said that the casting process amounted to matching various talents to roles.

"Joe [Jurasko] excelled in all three areas of performance: singing, dancing and acting," he said. "We knew we wanted to utilize his talents, but we weren't quite sure how."

Nowalk also found himself playing matchmaker in order to pair off actors to ensure that they had onscreen chemistry. Carolyn Sullivan's smooth jazz voice and commanding stage presence made her a perfect fit for the part of Lois.

"When we put the two of them together in a scene during callbacks, the chemistry was there, and we knew we had our pair," he said.

Nowalk also paired Kyle Carter and Kelly Rice as the characters Fred and Lilli.

"Kelly showed us power, control and sweetness in her voice, which works perfectly for the incredible vocal demands of the role," he said. "Kyle showed us the charisma and magnetism required of Fred, with the voice to match. As if those qualities weren't enough, the two looked great and acted well together."

For the uninitiated, "Kiss Me, Kate" features a play within a play, as the characters within the show put on a show of their own, a Broadway musical version of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew."

"A really interesting aspect of 'Kiss

Me, Kate' is the way the two plays are intertwined," he said. "The characters offstage are all very similar to the characters they portray in 'the Shrew.'"

Add to that a couple of mistaken identities, misunderstandings, and hurt feelings, and characters start jumping in and out of character, blurring the line between what is 'supposed to be happening' and what is just happening and encouraging the audience to get lost in the mayhem. We made some decisions, both in terms of set and otherwise, to develop that ambiguity."

As such, the action moves around quite a bit. Keeping everything in perspective required some innovation and creativity from the crew.

"What is neat about the set for this show is that it all occurs in one building," Nowalk said. "During the scenes from 'The Taming of the Shrew,' the action takes place on the stage itself. All the other action occurs behind the scenes in the backstage corridor or dressing rooms. At least conceptually speaking, instead of moving the set, we wanted to 'move the audience.'"

To accomplish this, the production has a mobile set which takes the audience backstage with the rest of the characters within the show. As such, set pieces are "set" in name only — the production has a lot of moving parts to create the backstage corridors and dressing rooms of the mock production of "The Taming of the Shrew," Nowalk said.

"By taking the audience on this trip to see exactly where they are going, we hope that people will know exactly where they are in the theater."

After holding auditions in mid-October, Nowalk and co. got into the swing of things with rehearsals starting after Fall Break. Excluding breaks and finals, the production has had about 10 weeks of rehearsals.

In a production featuring so many parts, Nowalk said he hasn't further muddled things up by trying to put his own take on the material in the show.

"Kiss Me, Kate is not really the kind



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA | The Observer
Margie Janiczek and Joe Jurasko face off during PEMCo's "Kiss Me, Kate."

of show that lends itself to 'directorial interpretation,'" he said. "Sure, you can taste a little bit of 'Connor Nowalk' in it, especially in the humor, but for the most part, I wanted to let the show speak for itself."

Nowalk, who did his first musical in fifth grade, has been unable to keep himself out of theater ever since.

"Singing was what got me interested in the first place, but the more shows I was in, the more I started to love all aspects of theater," he said.

Starting primarily as a performer, Nowalk made his directorial debut as a freshman at the Cleveland Institute of Music. After transferring here to Notre Dame, Nowalk knew that he wanted to direct a show here before graduating.

"I am glad that my first opportunity was with a group I love," he said. "Though I will never direct a PEMCo show again, I am sure that this will not be the last show I direct."

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tandrew1@nd.edu



MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By JESS SHAFFER
Scene Writer

Need to warm up from your February chill? Escape pre-Midterm stress? Low on cash? Once again Legends and SUB brings some much needed relief, this time with Ben Lee. On Saturday, The Ben Lee duo takes the stage at 10 p.m. on campus at Legend's Nightclub. With melodic tunes and a relaxed vibe that will no doubt calm the iciest basket case, Ben Lee promises to be yet another ND concert success.

Lee is best known for his single "Catch My Disease," which hit the airwaves in the spring and summer of 2007. You may know him from his contributions to soundtracks for "Grey's Anatomy" and "John Tucker Must Die."

But he is not a novice to the industry. The Australian's discography includes six albums, including the most recent release, "Prime." Lee was only in his teens, living in his hometown of Sydney, when he first signed with an independent label. Slowly garnering success internationally he now shares producer, John Alagia, with greats like Dave Matthews and John Mayer.

Ben Lee has been compared to Bob Dylan with his laid-back, honest vocals and guitar accompaniment. But Lee is best known for his catchy love songs. Evading a nauseating melodrama, Lee is coy with his works, creating a distinctly fresh and young take on a romantic musical staple. Now in his late 20s, Lee maintains an age-appropriate perspective that appeals to fans, especially college audiences.

Using playful lyrics and coquettish instrumental Lee's songs cover the full spectrum of love. From crush to lust to flirting to adoration, Lee explores the passions the heart. With refreshing honesty, his music taps into the reality of human affection with lightheartedness.

Ben Lee is all about having fun music that doesn't bog down his talent with fluff or fuss. He's toured with other popular "Bens," including Ben Folds Five and Ben Kweller. "Prime" is testament to his experience in the industry.

Other artists were more than willing to contribute to his new work. Mandy Moore, with her newly revamped indie image, Benji Madden, from Good Charlotte, and members of Rooney all make appearances on the album. On Saturday, Notre Dame gets a first-hand glimpse as to why.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA | The Observer

The cast of "Kiss Me, Kate" strike a group pose. The PEMCo production opens tonight at 7:30 in Washington Hall.



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA | The Observer

Kyle Carter and Carolyn Sullivan share a moment during PEMCo's musical.

NHL

Canucks rally in close one over Thrashers

Ducks continue goal-scoring 'streak' against Rangers; Stars salvage late win on the road over wobbling Wild

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Atlanta's Eric Perrin delivered an unintentional assist on Alex Burrows' game-winning goal for Vancouver, and Thrashers goaltender Kari Lehtonen was left with a painful mark on his chest as evidence.

Burrows' goal midway through the third period completed a rare third-period rally for Vancouver and the Canucks ended a frustrating four-game road trip by beating Atlanta 2-1 on Thursday night.

Burrows' goal 11:14 into the third period came after contact between teammate Ryan Kesler and Perrin in front of the net. Perrin's stick hit Lehtonen below his right collarbone, knocking the goalie off his feet. Lehtonen was sitting on his backside in front of the net and was unable to defend Burrows' shot.

After the game, Lehtonen showed a 6-inch red streak on his upper chest.

"Perrin's stick hit me right here," Lehtonen said, pointing to the mark. "That's why I went on my butt. I couldn't get up fast enough."

"I was complaining a lot because I thought it was their player's stick, but I was wrong. Sometimes things like that happen."

Daniel Sedin scored on a power play for Vancouver early in the third period after a second-period goal by Pascal Dupuis gave the Thrashers a 1-0 lead.

The Canucks had been 1-19-1 this season when trailing after two periods.

Vancouver ended a streak of four straight losses by one goal, including three on its road trip to Tampa Bay, Florida and Dallas.

"We really wanted to find a way to win tonight," Burrows said. "After that second period we got together and played a really strong third period."

Roberto Luongo stopped 27 shots for Vancouver.

The Thrashers dropped their second straight game at home.

"It's bad to lose two in a row, especially when we're in both games," Lehtonen said. "It's the time of year when we really

have to get the points, and it's terrible that we didn't."

Atlanta's Ilya Kovalchuk was shut out on six shots.

"Our number one priority was to shut him down and try to get under his skin," Burrows said. "... I think just going at him is part of my game."

Said Luongo of Kovalchuk: "Obviously, he is a big part of their team. We put a lot of focus on him. We didn't want to give him much room."

Ducks 4, Rangers 1

Jean-Sebastien Giguere is enjoying the Anaheim Ducks' newfound offense, and not only because it makes his job much easier.

Giguere stopped 32 shots in his third straight solid effort and was the beneficiary of the Anaheim Ducks' most potent production in eight games in beating the New York Rangers on Thursday night.

Before a 3-0 win against the New York Islanders on Tuesday night, the Ducks had scored only five goals during a six-game losing streak (0-5-1).

Giguere posted consecutive shutouts in the two games prior to Thursday's visit to Madison Square Garden, but only had one win to show for it since the Ducks dropped a 1-0 shootout loss in St. Louis.

Seven goals in two games is a windfall for the team that came in averaging only 2.37 per night — second-fewest in the NHL.

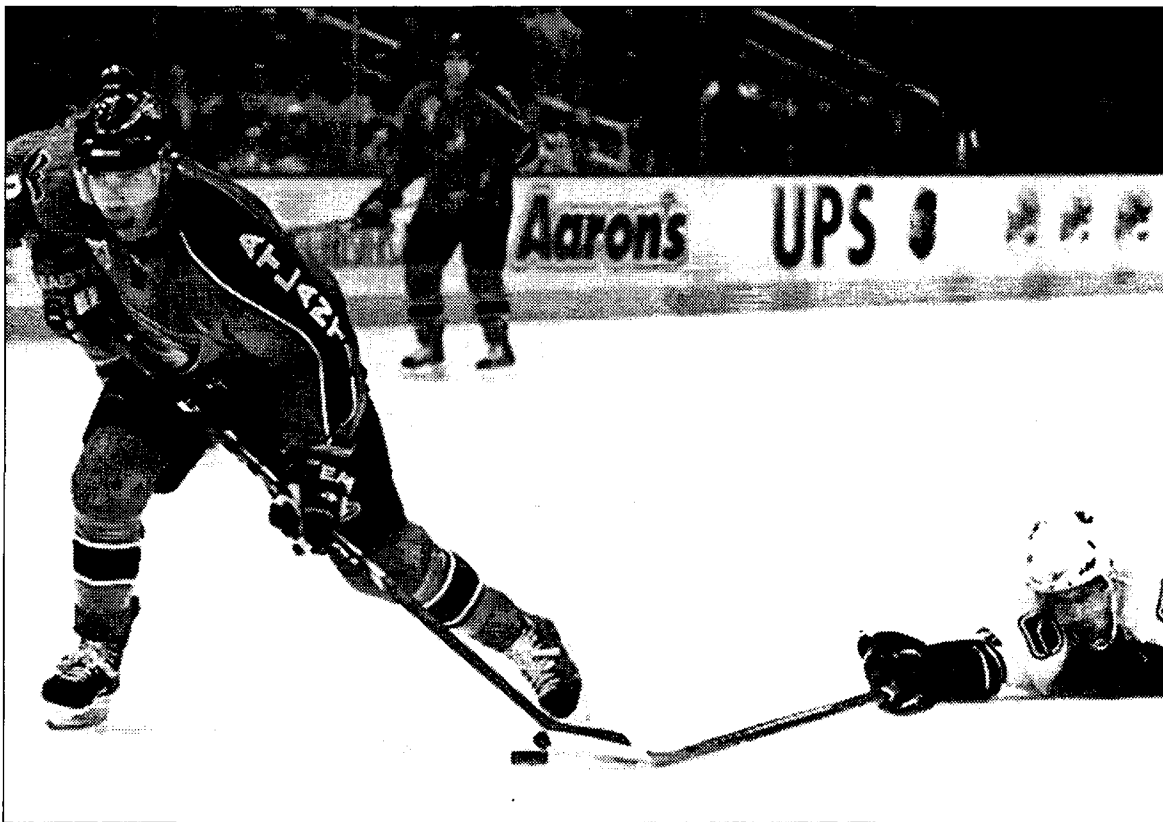
"It's much easier to win when you get that many goals," Giguere said. "It's never fun not to score. I'm sure the guys are having a lot more fun now."

Corey Perry and Chris Kunitz scored 1:27 apart to break open a tight game in the second period.

Mathieu Schneider staked the Ducks to a lead in the first before Ryan Callahan tied it for the Rangers, who dropped their second straight home game to a team from Southern California.

Los Angeles topped New York 4-2 on Tuesday, and the Rangers are winless against the Western Conference this season (0-7-2). They got 33 shots but couldn't make them count.

"They're a smart team," said



Vancouver defenseman Jason Jaffray, right attempts to stop Atlanta forward Pascal Dupuis on a breakaway during the first period Thursday. The Canucks scored two late goals to win 2-1.

Rangers captain Jaromir Jagr, who has no points in five games. "When they don't have anything, they stay back. They play like a champion. They have the talent and they believe."

Todd Bertuzzi made it 4-1 with 7:47 left, 15 seconds after a Rangers power play created lots of pressure but didn't click. Anaheim is 2-3-1 on its club-record, nine-game trip that continues Friday in New Jersey.

The Ducks moved into a second-place tie with San Jose in the Pacific Division. Once Anaheim returns home, it will have only seven away games remaining in its final 21.

"We still have a lot of road trip left," forward Ryan Getzlaf said. "We need to get as many points as we can."

The Ducks, who hadn't played at Madison Square Garden since Oct. 28, 2003, improved to 12-3-4 against the Rangers — 6-2-2 in New York.

Stars 1, Wild 0

Niklas Hagman's 20th goal of the season was a memorable

one.

Hagman scored early in the third period, Mike Smith stopped 25 shots and the Dallas Stars beat the Minnesota Wild Thursday.

Dallas has won five straight and eight of 10. The Stars also have won five straight on the road.

"Anytime you can get two points it doesn't matter where you get them," Hagman said.

Minnesota lost its second straight and is 1-2-2 in its last five home games.

Hagman scored his second goal in three games when he took a pass in the left circle from Loui Eriksson, fought off a check from Martin Skoula, cut across the crease and put a backhand past Niklas Backstrom at 3:11 of the final period. It was his seventh game-winning goal, one off Alexander Ovechkin's league-leading eight.

"It seemed like a game where one goal was going to decide it," Dallas coach Dave Tippett said. "Both teams were playing hard and we were fortunate to

get it."

Hagman's previous career best was 17 goals last season with the Stars.

"I've been able to play a little bit more offensively, and get the chance to play on the power play," Hagman said. "Of course, scoring 20 is nice, but the whole year overall I've been pretty happy with the way that things have gone, and the way the team is playing right now has helped a lot."

The goal came moments after Smith stretched to make a right pad save on Marian Gaborik, who tried to tip a feed from Pavol Demitra into the Dallas net on the Wild's best scoring opportunity.

"I don't do the splits too often, but it was a moment that called for it," Smith said.

It was the second shutout of the year for Smith, who started for the first time in six games. Marty Turco, who has started 41 games, did not accompany the team on the trip after injuring his neck when he collided with teammate Jeff Halpern in Tuesday's win over Vancouver.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

Minor League soccer club looking for part-time intern.

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AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, February, 8, 2008

page 15

AP Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

rank	team	points
1	Memphis (72)	1,800
2	Duke	1,682
3	North Carolina	1,637
4	Kansas	1,574
5	UCLA	1,552
6	Georgetown	1,433
7	Tennessee	1,394
8	Wisconsin	1,211
9	Stanford	1,170
10	Butler	1,065
11	Michigan State	975
12	Texas	910
13	Xavier	889
14	Indiana	885
15	Drake	817
16	Marquette	726
17	Washington State	683
18	Texas A&M	591
19	Connecticut	476
20	Kansas State	361
21	Pittsburgh	258
22	NOTRE DAME	224
23	Vanderbilt	171
24	Purdue	143
25	Saint Mary's	125

USA Today/ESPN Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

rank	team	points
1	Memphis (31)	775
2	Duke	727
3	North Carolina	709
4	UCLA	669
5	Kansas	668
6	Georgetown	626
7	Tennessee	590
8	Wisconsin	517
9	Stanford	504
10	Michigan State	466
11	Butler	453
12	Texas	391
13	Indiana	364
14	Xavier	338
15	Drake	334
16	Marquette	317
17	Washington State	310
18	Texas A&M	227
19	Connecticut	192
20	Vanderbilt	121
21	NOTRE DAME	107
22	Florida	106
23	Saint Mary's	96
24	Kansas State	91
25	Pittsburgh	72

NCAA Women's Basketball Big East Standings

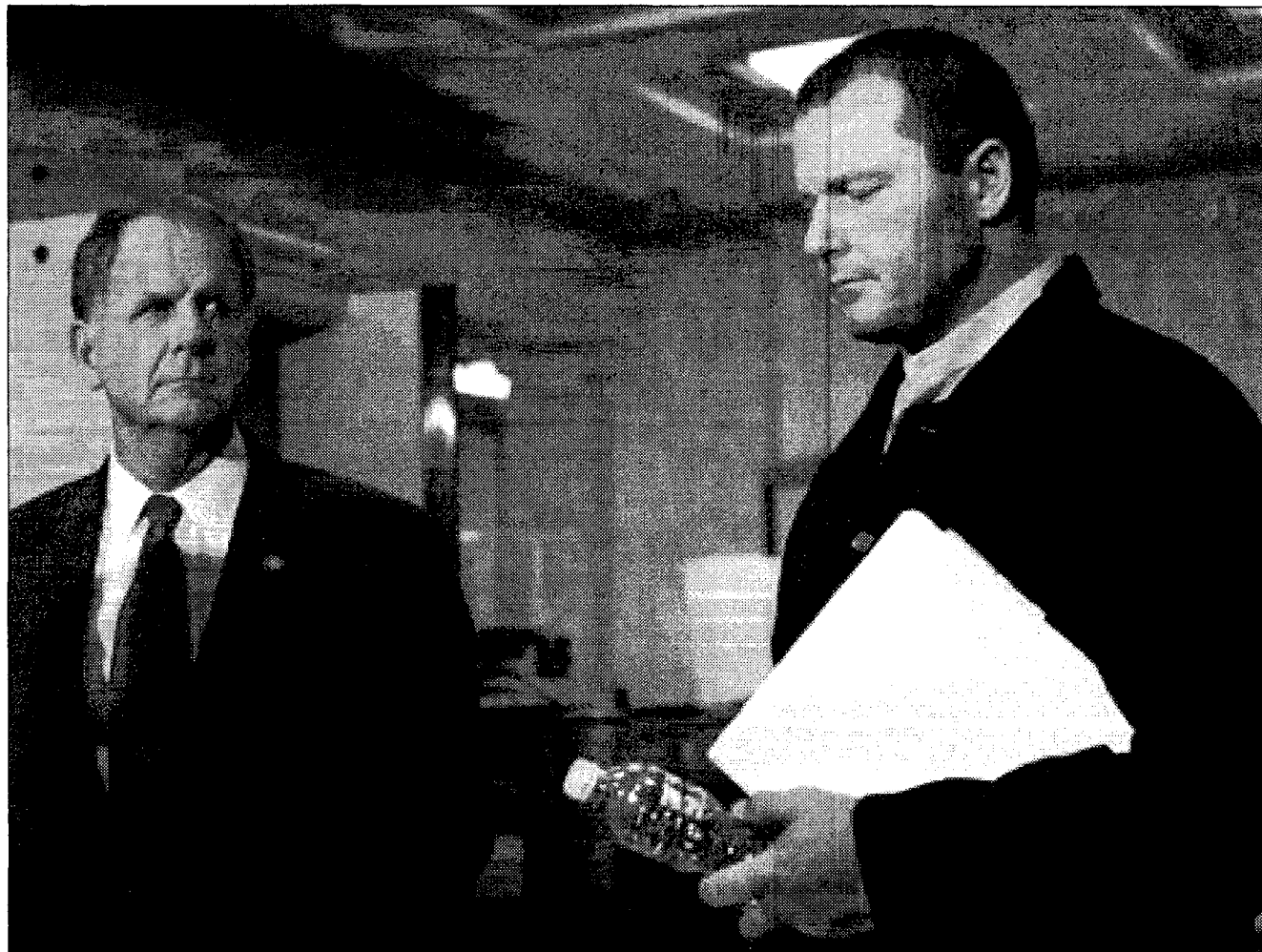
rank	team	conference	overall
1	Rutgers	9-1	19-3
2	Connecticut	8-1	21-1
3	Pittsburgh	8-1	18-4
4	West Virginia	7-1	18-3
5	Syracuse	5-3	17-4
6	NOTRE DAME	5-3	17-5
7	DePaul	5-4	16-6
8	Marquette	5-4	13-9
9	Louisville	4-5	15-7
10	Seton Hall	3-6	13-8
11	Georgetown	3-6	13-9
12	St. John's	3-6	12-10
13	South Florida	2-7	12-10
14	Villanova	2-7	12-10
15	Providence	1-7	11-10
16	Cincinnati	1-9	10-12

around the dial

NBA

Boston at Minnesota
8 p.m., ESPN

MLB



Roger Clemens, right, stands with Rep. Ted Poe, R-Texas, at a news conference on Capitol Hill on Thursday. Clemens visited individual congressmen on Thursday to deny Brian McNamee's claim that he took steroids.

Rocket begins his lobbying on the Hill

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens spent Thursday going door-to-door on Capitol Hill, lobbying congressmen investigating whether he used drugs. His accuser, Brian McNamee, gave a seven-hour deposition behind closed doors, and the trainer's lawyers presented photographs of evidence they said prove the star pitcher was injected with steroids.

McNamee headed straight for an exit, not speaking a word to reporters, when he emerged from his interview with lawyers from the House Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform. His attorneys wouldn't discuss the deposition, but they did talk at length about two color photographs they showed the committee for the first time.

"Roger Clemens has put himself in a position where his legacy as the greatest pitcher in baseball will depend less on his ERA and more on his DNA," said one of McNamee's lawyers, Earl Ward.

The seven-time Cy Young Award winner's repeated denials of McNamee's allegations in the Mitchell Report about drug use drew Congress' attention. Clemens spoke under oath

to the committee Tuesday — the first time he addressed the allegations under oath, and therefore the first time he put himself at legal risk if he were to make false statements.

There is a public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, when Clemens, McNamee and other witnesses, including New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte, are to testify.

McNamee's attorneys said their client turned over physical evidence to a federal prosecutor for the Northern District of California last month, shortly after Clemens held a Jan. 7 nationally televised news conference at

which he played a taped conversation between the two men with conflicting accounts at the center of the issue.

"At that point," Ward said, "(McNamee) decided there was no holds barred."

One photo shows a crushed beer can that Richard Emery, another of McNamee's attorneys, said was taken out of a trash can in Clemens' New York apartment in 2001. Emery said the can contained needles used to inject Clemens. That picture also shows what Emery said was gauze used to wipe blood off Clemens after a shot.

IN BRIEF

Angry bar owner decided not to open fire at Super Bowl

PHOENIX — A would-be bar owner angry at being denied a liquor license threatened to shoot people at the Super Bowl and drove to within sight of the stadium with a rifle and 200 rounds of ammunition before changing his mind, federal authorities said.

Kurt William Havelock, who ultimately turned himself in, had vowed to "shed the blood of the innocent" in a manifesto mailed Sunday to media outlets, according to court documents. "No one destroys my dream," he wrote.

The documents say he was armed with an AR-15 assault-style rifle Sunday when he reached a parking lot near University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, where pre-game activities were happening.

"He waited about a minute and decided he couldn't do this," FBI agent Philip Thorlin testified.

Bullet ripped through both of Taylor's legs, autopsy says

MIAMI — The bullet that killed Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor ripped first through his right leg and then the left, and possibly came from a 9mm handgun, an autopsy released Thursday said.

The report, obtained by The Associated Press through a public records request filed after Taylor's Nov. 27 death, notes a bullet perforated the soft tissues and muscles of the right groin and the right femoral artery, a crucial pathway for blood.

The bullet tore through muscles of Taylor's upper right thigh, according to the report from the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner, then exited the leg and entered the athlete's left thigh.

A Miami-Dade police report to the medical examiner identified the weapon as a handgun, possibly a 9mm.

U.S. ready to defend its title in Davis Cup

VIENNA, Austria — Andy Roddick will face Jurgen Melzer on Friday in the opening match when the United States defends its Davis Cup title against Austria on indoor clay.

James Blake and Stefan Koubek will play in the second match of the best-of-five series. The pairings were announced Thursday.

"I don't see it as an advantage nor as a disadvantage to start," said Roddick, who is 6-0 against Melzer and hasn't dropped a set against the Austrian.

Still, Melzer is glad to get out on the court first.

"I am pretty happy to be out there first as it gives me some more time to recover for the doubles on Saturday," said Melzer, who expects a loud home crowd of about 6,500 boisterous fans. "But the spectators alone won't win matches — we have to be at our best."

NCAA FOOTBALL

Willingham makes last stand at Washington

Former Notre Dame coach remains stoic despite pressure; encouraged by high-ranked recruiting class

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Tyrone Willingham has had better months.

The coach who has already been dumped abruptly by Notre Dame after just three years knows adversity. But even this has been unique.

"This year has had a lot of special hurdles to it," Willingham said with a wry smile this week, a rare good one for the Washington Huskies recently.

This lightning rod from South Bend, Ind., to Seattle was seated inside the University of Washington's Founder's Club, a conference room the school's donors use for pregame hobnobbing.

Many of them wanted him fired months ago.

"If it doesn't kill you, it makes you stronger. And I think this has made our program stronger," Willingham said of a Huskies program that currently has more negativity surrounding it than Britney Spears.

In an interview with The Associated Press, the stoic Willingham brushed off the turmoil surrounding his floundering program: "I've been faced with controversy all my life, in some form or fashion," he said.

He quoted pioneering newsman David Brinkley. He referred to chats he's had with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, the provost at Stanford when he was the coach there, and with President George W. Bush, when he visited Notre Dame.

Willingham, whose demeanor is as even as his 76-76-1 record in 13 seasons as a college coach, said he might have been an elementary-school teacher instead, because those kids need male role models. He said he and his family love Seattle enough to make Washington the last stop on a football journey that began as a walk-on athlete at Michigan State in the early 1970s.

He has graduated his players. Most have stayed out of trouble at UW. He just hasn't won enough games.

Wednesday brought rare victories: 26 of them, recruits that included five of the consensus top seven prospects in Washington and some from Southern California. Many experts rank Washington's incoming class among the nation's top 25.

That's a measure of Willingham's resolve and ram-rod persona. It also fuels his belief he will get Washington back to the perennial Rose Bowl days of Don James.

"I tell my football team — I use this quote from David Brinkley: 'A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.'," Willingham said.

"And that's what I want our young men to understand. The people who stop us from being successful, that will be ourselves. Not any outside forces."

Those forces have been working overtime recently.

In December, Willingham became the first Huskies coach to finish three consecutive losing seasons as UW went 4-9. Washington lost to Washington State for the third time in four years — the last time that had happened was 1982-85. It then blew a lead at undefeated Hawaii in the finale, missing a huge upset that would have provided some positive momentum heading into the offseason.

Willingham is 11-25 at Washington. He was 21-15 in the same span at Notre Dame, and the Irish fired him.

Many Huskies fans want the same for the hard-to-crack man they derisively call "Paint Dry Ty."

In December, school president Dr. Mark Emmert, formerly of football power LSU, wavered for a few days over Willingham's future. Emmert then announced the coach would return for the 2008 season.

No mention of 2009. That's the final year of the five-year deal that pays Willingham \$1.4 million a year.

"Isn't that normal for most football coaches?" he said.

Just the nature of the business?

"Always has been."

So is what happened next: Emmert forced out Willingham's top advocate, athletic Todd Turner, instead.

That did stun Willingham. He said he was never even given a heads-up.

"Nope," the coach said. He was away on a recruiting trip and got a call that the man who hired him was leaving. He still doesn't know who his new boss will be.

"It did take me by surprise," he said. "But ... I'm expecting coach Willingham to step up. When you lose your athletic director, I'm expecting myself to step up and still produce a winner."

It would seem unsettling that his top supporter is gone.

"Well, the truth of the matter is, I think I have a lot of top supporters, OK," Willingham said. "And I think it's impossible for a football coach to be at any place if he didn't have a lot of top supporters."

"But do I think the guy who hired me, is it important to have him around? Yes, I think it is. But I also hope the next man will see the value of what we are doing. And then we will be in a situation in which winning makes everyone's decisions a lot easier."

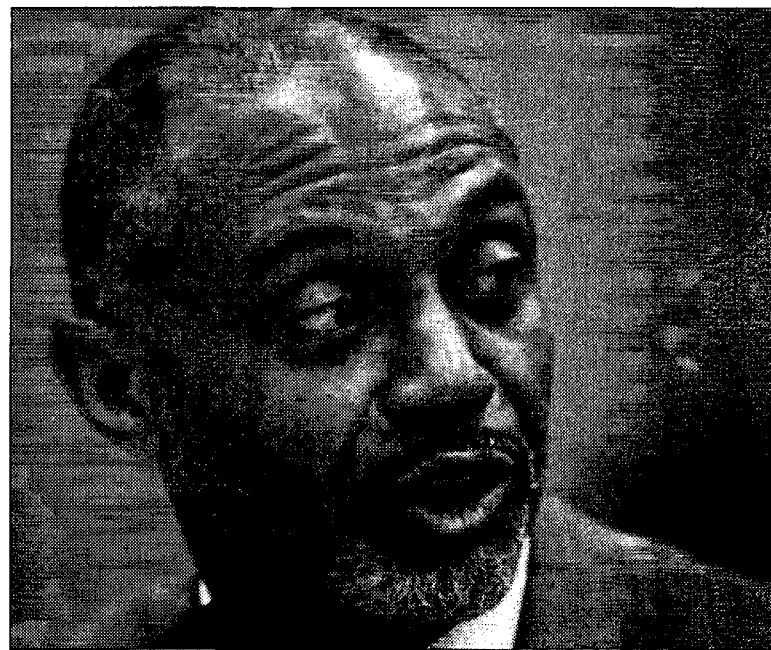
Easier than last month's, when he fired defensive coordinator Kent Baer, a friend who

had been his assistant for all 13 years of his head-coaching career. Soon after, The Seattle Times published an embarrassing, front-page, four-part series on past violent crimes of players from Washington's last winning teams, Huskies, before Willingham arrived, and the community's penchant for largely turning the other cheek to those crimes as UW won.

That was also around the time the school proposed using \$150 million in public money to renovate 88-year-old Husky Stadium. The plan is getting criticized and drawing little interest in a state Legislature consumed with tight financial times. Willingham testified inside the state Capitol in Olympia, Wash., on Tuesday to try to jump-start interest.

Amid all this, he found time to celebrate his 54th birthday. He was also elected as the president of the American Football Coaches Association. The cruel joke around Seattle is that's the only job Willingham will have beyond the coming season.

"We believe in ourselves ... (that) we will have a great pro-



Washington coach Tyrone Willingham testifies Tuesday before a state senate committee requesting funds for stadium upgrades.

gram, that we will win championships," he said, his voice low and steady as always.

"Maybe at some point we collect all this information and

gather it together and throw it on a table in front of the players and say, 'Our backs are against the wall. Let's go. It's us against the world.'"

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish golfers tee off season in sunny Fla.

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

No. 20 Notre Dame looks to refocus as it kicks off the season this weekend at the annual Florida Fling Alumni Golf Tournament.

Hosted by the Notre Dame Club of Tampa, the Florida Fling offers a chance for the Irish golfers to pair up with alumni and play a friendly 18 holes at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa on Saturday.

"This is an opportunity for the student-athletes to get to know some Notre Dame alumni and establish some relationships," Irish coach Susan Holt said. "We had a good time last year in Orlando, involving quite a few of our former athletes."

Notre Dame begins its spring slate after a strong first half of the season, winning its first three tournaments and finishing second and fourth in its final two. In its mid-season awards, Golf World named the Irish the most surprising women's team and freshman So-Hyun Park the surprising female player. Park leads the team with a 72.53 scoring average over 15 rounds, on pace to break the single-season Notre Dame record of 74.71.

"As a group, we're right on target," Holt said. "As a team, at the beginning of the year, we set high goals. People on the outside might

be surprised, but we aren't. We made a commitment to do exactly what we're doing. We're on track."

The Irish enter the Fling after a three-month break during which Holt inked a solid recruiting class — recruits Katie Allare (Xavier Prep, Ariz.) and Becca Huffer (Littleton High School, Colo.). Huffer is ranked 17th nationally in the 2008 class, according to GolfWeek and was named the 2006 Colorado Player of the Year.

"Both [Allare and Huffer] are great players," Holt said. "They're both going to make an immediate impact and continue the trend we're on right now, which is good, we're getting better."

Neither the three-month break nor the miserable South Bend weather has slowed Notre Dame's practice schedule, and Holt looks optimistically at Notre Dame's spring season.

"We're able to work on our short game indoors at our new practice facility and work on our driving outdoors," Holt said. "We're still able to get solid practice in spite of the weather. We're keeping focused on each tournament as it approaches. We're trying to get better every day. We were successful in the fall and we're trying to keep doing what we're doing."

Contact Michael Blasco at
mblasco@nd.edu

NBA

Shaq aims to silence critics

O'Neal hopes to bring Phoenix first title in team's 40-year history

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Shaquille O'Neal flashed that wide smile, and took on the critics who say he's too old and too slow to fit in with the sleek, speedy Phoenix Suns.

"I look forward to making people eat their words," he said at a news conference Thursday. "I really do."

Wearing a Suns' purple shirt and tie with his immaculate dark suit, O'Neal met the media for the first time since the stunning deal Wednesday that sent the 14-time All-Star from the Miami Heat to Phoenix in exchange for Shawn Marion and Marcus Banks.

He charmed the jam-packed room at US Airways Center.

Someone asked if he knew he looked good in purple.

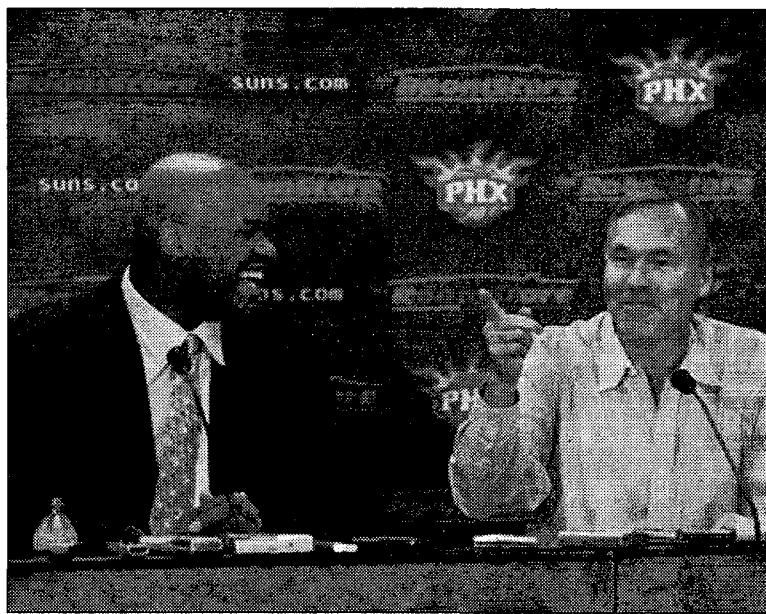
"I already knew that," O'Neal said. "But thank you very much."

He acknowledged a new motivation after going from a team with the worst record in the NBA to one with the best record in the Western Conference. Widespread criticism of the deal has not gone unnoticed.

"I'm very upset," he said. "You just don't really want to get me upset. When I'm upset, I'm known to do certain things — like win championships."

Phoenix is without a title in the team's 40-year history.

The Suns have had the most



Recently traded center Shaquille O'Neal laughs with Suns coach Mike D'Antoni during an introductory news conference Tuesday.

entertaining team in basketball since Steve Nash arrived three-plus seasons ago to orchestrate coach Mike D'Antoni's ultra-fast style. But they have never made it to the finals, and the trade confirmed the belief that this version of the Suns, despite its record, wasn't going to be able to do it, either.

"I think with the addition of me it gives the guys the extra that we can make it," O'Neal said. "The first thing it takes in winning a championship is belief. If you can believe that you can do it, you can get it done. If there's ever a doubt that 'Hey, we can't do it,' you will never win. Now I think the guys really, really believe that we have a shot."

The presence of a 7-foot-1, 325-pound man in the middle

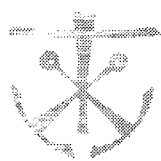
should go a long way toward erasing Phoenix's image as a "soft" team. His four championship rings give him extra credibility, and his personality should, as he put it, "amp up" what has been a joyless Suns team this season.

He will energize the locker room, he said, "just by being me."

O'Neal, out for two weeks with a hip injury, said his new teammate Grant Hill, who has a long history of injuries, told him how good the Suns' training staff is.

"I've given a full commitment to the medical staff that I will be there every day before and after practice, doing whatever it takes to keep me going for the next 10 years, he said. "And I look forward to my next \$200 million contract."

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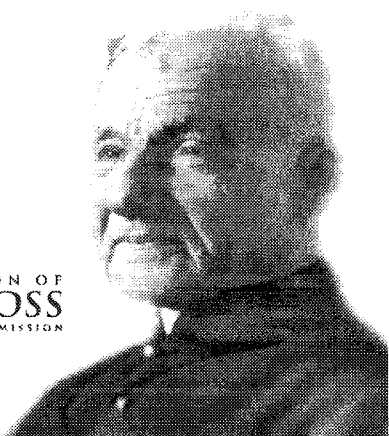
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ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Irish to run in Meyo event

Top freshman working hard to get back to full health for ND

By ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writer

It is not often that teams lean on freshman to make a major impact, but that is what the Notre Dame women's track team is doing this season with freshman distance runner Marissa Treece.

Treece won the mile run last week at the Indiana Invitational, logging a time of 5:04.00. Irish coach Tim Connelly sees that as just the beginning of her accomplishments.

"Obviously, our hope is that she will reach her full potential as a runner and become a big time competitor on the national level, as have a number of our top runners in the past," Connelly said. "I think that she still has a lot of work to do to get there, but if she is persistent and patient, she certainly will have the opportunity to reach that level."

After a strong start in training early in the year, Treece was sidelined for the remainder of the semester with an illness.

"She is healthy now and working hard to get fit able to race at a high level," Connelly said.

Treece and the rest of the Irish will be in action today and Saturday at the Meyo



Notre Dame freshman distance runner Marissa Treece competes in the Irish indoor season opener on Jan. 18.

Invitational, one of the top track events in the country. The competition will include many teams from major conferences such as the Big East and Big Ten like Wisconsin and Iowa.

"It will be a big step up in competition, so our kids will really have to be confident and compete at their best if they expect to be competitive in such a strong field," Connelly said.

The meet will carry a special

meaning for many involved in the Notre Dame community. There will be the annual running of the "Meyo Mile," and this year's event will also include the first Ryan Shay 3000-meter run.

Shay was the former Notre Dame standout who died on Nov. 3 during U.S. Olympic marathon trials.

Contact Andy Zicarelli at
azicare@nd.edu

MEN'S TRACK

Squad to pay tribute to Shay with race at meet

Notre Dame goes up against tough foes in Loftus this weekend

By PAT STYNES
Sports Writer

The annual Meyo Invitational will be more than just a track meet this year.

The event will honor former Notre Dame standout Ryan Shay with the first Ryan Shay 3,000-meter run. Shay died on Nov. 3 during U.S. Olympic marathon trials in New York City's Central Park.

The Irish will host the 21st annual Meyo Invitational this weekend. The event will run over the course of two days, the competition beginning at 5 tonight and the second half beginning Saturday morning at 9:30.

This event will be the toughest competition Notre Dame has seen yet, with teams such as Purdue, Iowa, Wisconsin and Alabama in the field. Ready to step up to the challenge, however, will be the talented group of runners Irish coach Joe Piane has put together this year.

Senior Kurt Benninger will look to defend his home turf during the annual Meyo Mile. The standout runner posted

the provisional mark of 4:02.90 in the mile at the Loftus Center on Jan. 25 at the Notre Dame Invitational. Benninger will look to make strides in the 3,000-meter event as well. He posted a 8:05.22, a 20 second margin, when he last time ran the even at the Blue/Gold Invitational on Dec. 7.

Notre Dame's Hungarian one-two punch of freshman Miklos Szebeny and sophomore Balazs Molnar will look to continue to build on their fantastic start to the year, as both sprinters hold the fastest time on the team in their respective main events, the 200-meter and 400-meter dash.

For the throwers, the duo of senior Mike Schubert will look to perform well in the shot put, and up and coming freshman Greg Davis to shine in the weight throw. Schubert has been a perennial shot put specialist since his freshman year on the team, and Davis looks to carve out a similar path. Both men have qualified for the Big East and are the best on the team in their events. Schubert threw 15.94 meters at last year's Meyo Invitational; he posted a career best of 16.79 meters last weekend at Indianapolis.

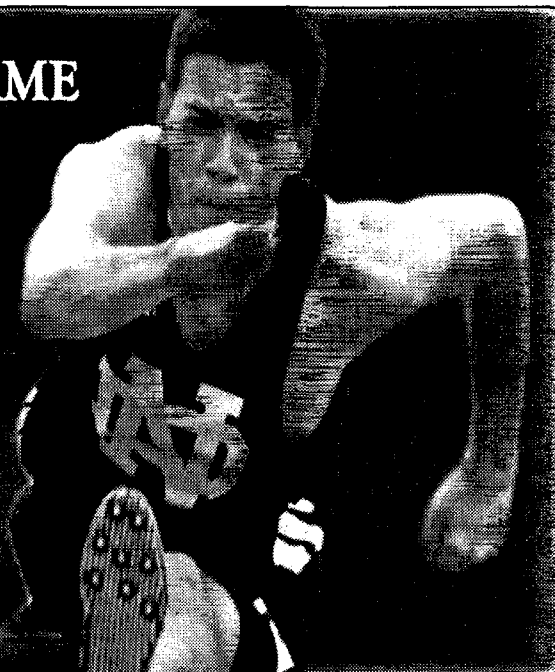
Contact Pat Stynes at
pstynes@nd.edu

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MEYO INVITATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD

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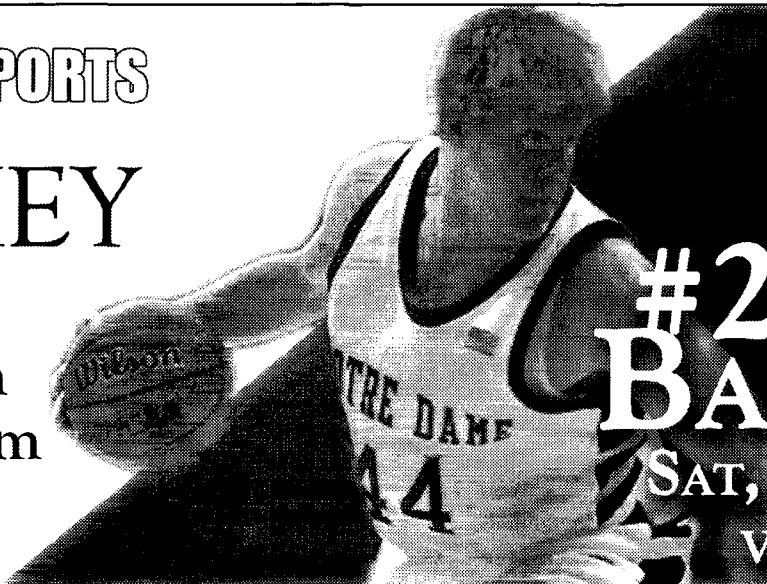
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8 HOCKEY

vs. Ferris State
Friday @ 7:30pm
Saturday @ 7:00pm



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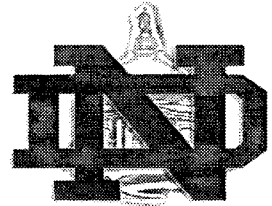


#21 MEN'S BASKETBALL

SAT, FEB. 9TH @ 12PM
VS. MARQUETTE



Write for Scene. E-mail Tae at tandrew1@nd.edu



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NFL

Redskins continue search for coach

*Giants 'D' coordinator
to stay with New York*

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With the rising star from the Super Bowl out of the running, the Washington Redskins spent Thursday planning their next move.

Will their new coach be Jim Fassel? Ron Meeks? Steve Mariucci?

Or how about another mystery candidate? After all, owner Dan Snyder has kept the process well under wraps since Joe Gibbs resigned Jan. 8. At least two contenders, Fassel and Pete Carroll, weren't known to be on Snyder's list until more than a week after their initial interviews.

And, of course, it was a mystery candidate who got the job four years ago, when Gibbs emerged out of nowhere after Snyder had higher-profile talks with other prospects.

One certainty is that the next Redskins coach will not be New York Giants defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, who withdrew his name from consideration Thursday, citing his desire to remain with the Super Bowl champions.

"His heart is in New York City," Spagnuolo's agent, Bob LaMonte, told The Associated Press. "He loves the ownership. He loves the players. He feels he has to stay there."

The Giants promptly rewarded Spagnuolo with a three-year, \$6 million contract, making the defensive coordinator one of the highest-paid assistants in the league.

Meanwhile, Snyder spent the day conferring with advisers to consider his options following a month's worth of interviews, a person familiar with the selection process told AP. A decision could be imminent,

or the owner might instead arrange follow-up interviews with one or more candidates, the person said. The owner has said he hopes to have a coach in place by the end of the week.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the club has preferred to keep details of its search private.

Spagnuolo became a hot coaching commodity during the Giants' championship run, culminating when his defense stifled the New England Patriots in a 17-14 victory in Sunday's Super Bowl. The 48-year-old coordinator left the Washington Redskins Wednesday night after two days of interviews lasting some 16 hours at Snyder's house, then

called Snyder on Thursday morning to withdraw.

"I was happy to have the opportunity to explore that situation," Spagnuolo said in a statement released by the Giants. "But I am equally happy to be staying in New York and look forward to continued success with the Giants."

Spagnuolo has been a coordinator for only one season, and the Giants want to keep him.

Also, he wouldn't have had his choice of top assistants with the Redskins because the team already has assembled nearly an entire coaching staff.

Fassel, a former Giants coach, and Meeks, the Indianapolis Colts defensive coordinator, voiced approval of Snyder's decision to hire Jim Zorn to run the offense and promote Greg Blache to take charge of the defense. Snyder has met several times with Fassel and Meeks.

Mariucci, a former coach of the San Francisco 49ers and Detroit Lions, had one interview last week in Arizona, putting him behind Fassel and Meeks on the list of favorites.

*"His [Spagnuolo's]
heart is in New York."*

Bob LaMonte
Steve Spagnuolo's agent

*"I am equally happy to
be staying in New York
and look forward to
continued success with
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Steve Spagnuolo
Giants defensive coach

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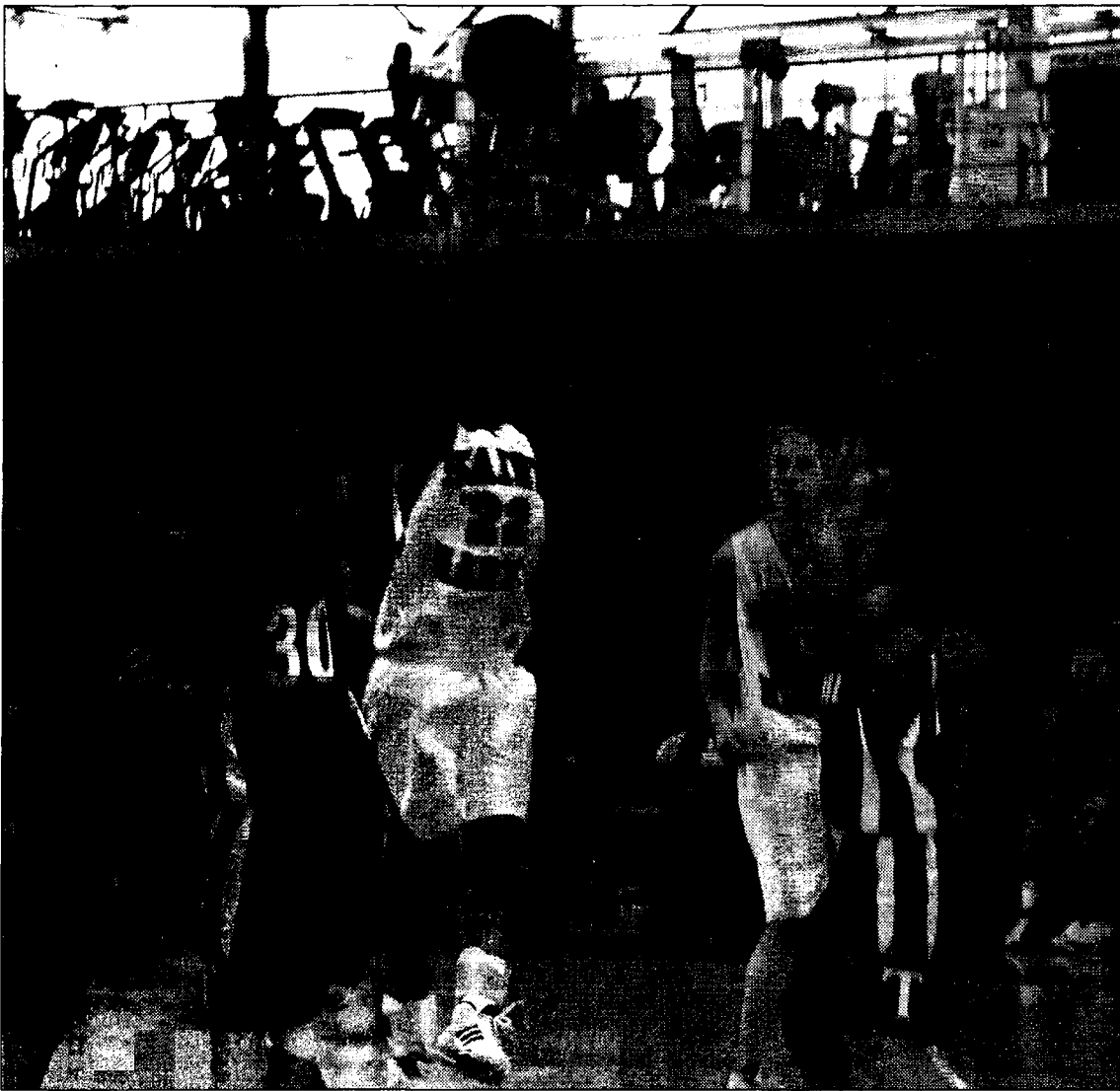
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SMC BASKETBALL

Team narrowly falls to Alma



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Senior guard Allison Kessler puts up a shot in the Belles' Jan. 19 win over Tri-State. Kessler scored a team-high 18 Thursday in Saint Mary's 68-64 loss to Alma.

Scots hold off late rally, top Belles

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's came close to pulling away with a win over Alma, but the Scots claimed some key final free throws to seal a 68-64 win.

After falling behind 7-2 early, the Belles battled back to take the lead for 14 minutes in the first half. Despite the long stretch in front, they were unable to pull away as the Scots always seemed to make a shot when they needed one. Saint Mary's never managed to jump ahead of the Scots by more than seven points.

Late in the first half, Alma

made a quick run to take a two-point lead with 1:35 left. But then, on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by junior guard Katie Rashid (12 points, eight assists), the Belles headed into the locker room with a 31-30 lead.

The second half, though, was a much different story.

The Scots (8-10, 5-6 MIAA) went on a tear, jumping out to a quick five-point lead three minutes into the half. From there, they slowly but surely built up to an eleven-point lead with 11:53 left in the game. The Belles failed to catch Alma — the Scots led by 12 at one point after a 3-pointer by sophomore guard Lacey Best-Rowden. With 7:12 left in the game, Saint Mary's was down 60-48 and in dire need of a run.

The Belles' starting five tried to answer the call. After Best-Rowden's triple, Saint Mary's went on a 12-3 run over 4:31, culminating in a pair of free-throws by Rashid to make the score 65-63 with 2:41 left. A minute and a half later, Alma's lead fell to one when Belles senior guard Alison Kessler scored two of her team-high 18 on free throws with 1:07 left.

The Scots secured the 68-64 win with a few key free throws, dropping Saint Mary's to a 5-7 record in the MIAA and 9-11 overall mark.

The Belles now look ahead to Saturday, when they will take on Kalamazoo at home.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

FENCING

Notre Dame ready to host first home duals

Irish must compete without top epeeists

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hosts the best of the Midwest this weekend — with an important pair of exceptions.

Wayne State, Northwestern, Detroit Mercy and Cleveland State are among the competitors for the two-day Notre Dame Duals, but Penn State and rival Ohio State are taking the weekend off from action.

Notre Dame, ranked No. 1 on the women's side and No. 3 among men's teams, is coming off a strong performance at the Northwestern Duals last week. The Irish women went 11-0, while the men finished 8-2 at the event.

Though the Notre Dame women probably won't compete against No. 6 Northwestern — they will only bout if the event moves fast enough to get in an extra round of duels — things might be a little bit tougher on the Irish this week.

Top epeeists Kelley Hurley and Ewa Nelip will be competing in Europe to gain qualifying points for the U.S.

Olympic squad.

"Others have to step in and show that without these two fencers, we still are strong," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "And I believe that this will happen. ... I believe that they will have enough courage and enough skill."

In fact, one of Bednarski's biggest concerns is that the young team might be overconfident after its performance at Northwestern. He said he has been telling the fencers to stay focused all weekend, especially against teams they have not yet faced.

"We have a lot of freshmen, so they have to learn that the best idea to have ... is that it's a big danger to be overconfident," he said.

Bednarski considers the Notre Dame Duals the team's last truly regular-season event. Fencers will compete individually next week at the Junior Olympics, and the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships from Feb. 23-24 determines qualifiers for the NCAA Midwest Regional competition.

Women will compete Saturday in the Joyce Center, and the men's competition will be on Sunday.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

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GOLF

Jones takes lead in Pebble Beach Pro-Am

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — The celebrity watch at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am took place everywhere but the top of the leaderboard Thursday.

Kent Jones birdied the two most famous par 3s at Pebble Beach and kept bogeys off his card for a 6-under 66 and a one-shot lead, an encouraging start for someone who has played 270 tournaments on the PGA Tour without finishing in the top five.

Nationwide Tour grad Roland Thatcher was a shot back along with Q-school grad Brad Adamonis and John Mallinger, third at Pebble Beach last year as a rookie.

The star gazing took place at Poppy Hills, and while it didn't always produce great golf to match the spectacular sunshine on the Monterey Peninsula, it was entertaining.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson was on the verge of shooting himself out of the tournament until a birdie-eagle-birdie-birdie burst enabled him to recover with a 71.

Greg Norman, playing on the PGA Tour for the first time in 18 months, was holding steady until a four-putt on the 13th hole for a double bogey. He finished with a 76. His fiancée, tennis great Chris Evert, flew in from Florida and didn't make it out to the golf course until Norman was on the 16th.

Evert has no plans to take up golf, saying it was too time-consuming with three boys — "It's like four boys with Greg," she said — and a tennis academy to run.

"Tennis only takes one hour," she said, laughing.

These rounds take close to six hours with two pros and two amateurs in every group, and it was a slow, steady grind.

Norman struggled with that and the bumpy greens, but he had no complaints about how he hit the ball.

"It's a long day of concentration, which I'm not used to," Norman said. "You get past four hours, you really have to stay locked in."

Jones, a 41-year-old from New Mexico who has yet to finish in the top 100 on the money list, has been around long enough to realize that one round is too early to get excited, especially in a format that uses three courses, and in a tournament where the leaderboard doesn't begin to sort itself out until Sunday.

"I think I'm just satisfied that I played well and putted well," Jones said. "When everyone is playing different golf courses, being in the lead isn't every important. But it's nice to be playing well, obviously."

J.B. Holmes, coming off a play-

off victory over Mickelson last week in Phoenix, had a 68 at Spyglass Hill to join a group of 10 players that included Todd Demsey, who recently recovered from having a tumor removed from his brain.

The top 14 players on the leaderboard have combined for 10 career victories, and that doesn't include the California State Amateur that Demsey won in 1992.

Davis Love III, returning to the PGA Tour for the first time in four months after a severe ankle injury, overcame an early gaffe on the par-5 14th at Spyglass with three birdies on his back nine for a 70. Vijay Singh also had a 70.

Mickelson was thrilled to even be remotely near the lead.

Lefty had big expectations for his week as he tries to become the first back-to-back winner at Pebble Beach since Mark O'Meara in 1989-90. But he

bogeyed his first two holes, had to save par from the fringe on the par-5 ninth, then clipped a tree and went into the water on the par-5 10th, taking another bogey, putting him at 4 over for the round.

Poppy Hills has five par 5s, and Mickelson played the first three in 2 over.

"I was just trying to get back to even par," Mickelson said. "If I shot 3 or 4 over, I would be shooting myself out of the tournament."

Instead, he shot himself back into it.

After holing a 30-foot birdie on the 11th, Mickelson hit a hybrid from 240 yards that covered the flag and settled 4 feet away for eagle. Then came a wedge that landed 10 feet beyond the flag and spun back slowly to a foot, followed by another approach to 3 feet on the 14th that put him 1 under for the tournament.

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Badgers

continued from page 24

Methodist failed to meet last year in April as the match was cancelled due to cold weather conditions.

The Mustangs (4-1) have been successful in the early weeks of the season. The team's only loss came on Jan. 26 when it dropped the contest 5-2 to No. 7 Texas.

Notre Dame topped the Mustangs 5-2 when the two squads last faced of two years ago. Then sophomore Sheeva Parbhu defeated Alex Skrypko in a tiebreaker 7-6 (9-7), 7-6 (7-5). Now senior Skrypko is just one of four seniors on the experienced Mustang squad.

"Our record so far has been determined by a lot of close matches," Bayliss said. "Duke, Michigan State and Penn State all could have gone the other way. It's showing that our young guys don't feel as much pressure in tough situations."

The Irish have been struggling lately in the doubles positions. Losing the doubles points puts the Irish in an early

hole.

"We try to emphasize to the singles players that we should have won the doubles point," Bayliss said. "We served for the match twice at two doubles against Duke. We want to put ourselves in a position to win at all times, in both singles and doubles."

Junior Santiago Montoya has stepped up big for the Irish at the No. 3 doubles position, along with freshman Tyler Davis. Bayliss said that Montoya has become more stable on his returns, in addition to having always been solid at net. Bayliss also said Montoya has taken a lot of the coach's constructive criticism to heart and is very coachable.

Assistant coach Ryan Sacchire noted that Davis competes like a "lion" and compliments Montoya well on court.

Winning the doubles point, and competing well will be key for the Irish in both matches this weekend. The first serve is set for noon Saturday against Wisconsin at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at kgrab01@saintmarys.edu

ITA

continued from page 24

pairs of sophomores Kali Krisik and Colleen Rielley, and sophomore Cosmina Ciobanu and freshman Kristen Rafael.

Headed into singles play, Notre Dame needed to catch up with some individual wins.

"We were in every match," Louderback said. "We dropped the first two long three-setters, before Kelcy [Tefft] won her match. When there are four total three-set matches, you know the competition is close. It really was a tight, tight matchup."

Tefft needed a tiebreak in the first set over Dancevic, but convincingly won the second set to win 7-6, 6-2 and tie the team scores at 1-1.

Notre Dame took a lead at 2-1 with Krisik's defeat of Bulldog sophomore Adrienne Elsberry 6-2, 6-2. But Georgia did not allow the Irish to score another point.

In the first of the three-setters, Ciobanu fell to Hyndman 6-0, 5-7, 6-3 to bring the Bulldogs even to 2-2. Georgia sophomore Yvette Hyndman then defeated Buck in 7-6, 4-6, 6-4 — giving the Bulldogs the lead for good.

After one match was suspended, junior Katie Potts fell to freshman Cameron Ellis 2-6, 7-6, 6-4 in the deciding match, sealing the Bulldog win.

Although Notre Dame dropped the first round, the Irish are still looking to finish strong throughout the tournament against some tough competition.

"We're looking to win the rest of our matches," Louderback said. "We want to win. Either way we look at it, we're going to be playing a top-15 team so we're going to need to be focused."

Notre Dame's next opponent had not been determined Thursday night.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

CCHA

continued from page 24

sharper around the net offensively, especially on the power play," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "We had a good transition game against Bowling Green and those are the things we're going to have to deal with against a team like Ferris State."

The Bulldogs play a suffocating defense that clogs the slot for the opposition, a system that Michigan State employs to a large amount of success.

"It's a matter of efficiency and execution of getting through the neutral zone," Jackson said. "We have to show patience and be smart when we do get an opportunity in and around the net. Those are the things that we work on all the time."

Junior goalie Jordan Pearce will start in net for the Irish on Friday. Pearce didn't play last weekend as freshman Brad Phillips got the start and sophomore Tom O'Brien played for a period against the Under-18s.

Spotlight on Hanson

Hanson, the junior center from the Pittsburgh area with a propensity for shootouts, has become something of a media

star for the Irish.

Hanson was interviewed and filmed by ESPN on Monday and Tuesday for a 7 1/2 minute Sportscenter feature that will air March 2. Hanson's mug is also gracing the March 2008 cover of Irish Eyes magazine, the first time the hockey team has ever been on the magazine's cover.

ESPN came calling for Notre Dame's leader in penalty minutes because his father, Dave Hanson, was one of the Hanson Brothers in the famed hockey movie "Slapshot." That, combined with Hanson's development into full-time impact player, sparked the idea that came after ESPN's "The Schwab" saw a story about Hanson in the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times.

Hanson also posed for Irish Eyes in the Buddy Holly glasses his father sported in "Slapshot." The younger Hanson wasn't able to take the picture while smashing Ogie Ogilthorpe into the boards, however.

"Christian is starting to come into his own as a player, so it's good for him to get a bit of attention," said Jackson, who also said he likes the bonus attention the program is getting through it.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu



Junior center Justin White fights for the puck in Notre Dame's 2-1 overtime win over the U.S. Under-18 team. The Irish take on Ferris State in a two-game home series beginning tonight. WU YUE/The Observer

Challenge

continued from page 24

freshman forward Chelsea Cole started in her place. Cole scored 17 points in the game and averages 4.8 points and 5.4 rebounds per game.

Walker also missed Pittsburgh's 64-60 loss to No. 4 Rutgers on Feb. 2, and it is unclear whether Walker will play Sunday. She averages a double-double, scoring 14.1 per game and grabbing 10.1 boards.

After losing to Penn State early in the season, Pittsburgh's only losses have come against No. 3 Maryland, No. 15 Duke and Rutgers. Before losing to the Scarlet Knights, the Panthers accumulated 11 straight wins.

In seven of those 11 victories, junior guard Shavonte Zellous led Pittsburgh in scoring. Zellous averages 20.1 points per game this season and shoots 45 percent from field goal range.

The Panthers offense thrives in conference play. In their nine games against Big East opponents, all five starters have averaged at least 10 points.

Sophomore guard Jania Sims is the only true 3-point threat the Panthers have. Sims has made 43.8 percent of her 3-point attempts.

In their last meeting, Pittsburgh beat Notre Dame 71-62 at the Peterson Events Center in Pittsburgh on Jan. 31, 2007. Zellous scored 17 points, and Walker had 16.

The Panthers as a team shoot 45 percent from the field and average 75 points a game. They also average 43.4 rebounds per game, 9.1 more than their opponents.

After a great start to the season, the Irish have struggled lately, losing four of their last nine games. Notre Dame won its last two games by large margins — 85-54 over Providence at home on Jan. 30, and 73-41 over Cincinnati on the road on Feb. 2. The Irish shot just 36 percent in the first half and went into the break tied at 26, but they hit all 17 free throw attempts in the second period en route to the win.

All four Irish losses in the last nine games, however, came against ranked opponents — which doesn't bode well against the ranked Panthers.

The Irish have three players who average over 10 points per game. Senior guard Charel Allen leads the team with 14.2 points per game, followed by sophomore guard Ashley Barlow, who scores 12.9 per game.

Freshman forward Devereaux Peters averages 8.9 points per game and, despite the fact that Notre Dame lost to Connecticut and DePaul, led the Irish in rebounding in both games. She averages 5.6 per game.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw's weekly Big East conference call with reporters was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts, and The Observer was unable to contact the coach.

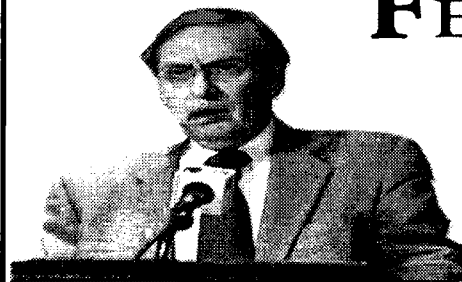
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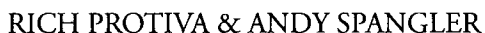


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by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Pooh and Roo are in a tight spot...Can Kanga help them? Text your vote to (231) 838-6046. Your vote will be confidential.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Step up your mountain-climbing game. Then, when you're finished, step up your sweater game.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If you wish to find out the status of the White Ranger, call (773) 909-9349. But speak in code. Ask, "Where's Tommy?"

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) If you can express your love of pineapple in 3 words or fewer, you damn sure love pineapple.

Aries (March 21-Apr. 19) If you want to sound more sophisticated when you're making restaurant reservations for Valentine's Day, just add the suffix -igan to your last name. For instance, if your name is Smith, make it Smithigan. If you're a Johnson, be a Johnsonigan for the week.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20) Tom Brady's goals for the week: 1) Recover from Super Bowl loss. 2) Recover from Giselle leaving him. 3) Recover from the pain he feels as he reads this horoscope.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Call Rolf's 'Rolfy's.' Isn't that better? Now doesn't it sound like a diner from 'Happy Days' or something?

Cancer (June 21-July 22) If you go to Notre Dame, tell a Saint Mary's girl that yours are smarter than hers. Clarify by telling her that you mean your school's boys are smarter than the boys at her school.

Leo (July 23-Aug.22) Ask yourself if Leo's horoscope made a lick of sense. If it did, then find yourself a Cancer and wife/ husband it up.

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HOCKEY

No days off

Notre Dame takes on Ferris State in late-season home series

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

College hockey doesn't get better than this weekend.

Too bad it's happening over in Ohio.

While No. 1 Miami and No. 2 Michigan claw it out in the RedHawks' gorgeous new rink in Oxford, Notre Dame and Ferris State will play a two-game set in the Joyce Center. The fact that the nation's top two teams are meeting in a two-game series in February speaks to the power the CCHA has in college hockey this season — and the difficult schedule the No. 8 Irish have had this season.

Michigan State, last year's national champions, are also ranked sixth nationally.

The Irish (20-9-1, 13-6-1 CCHA) will face the Bulldogs

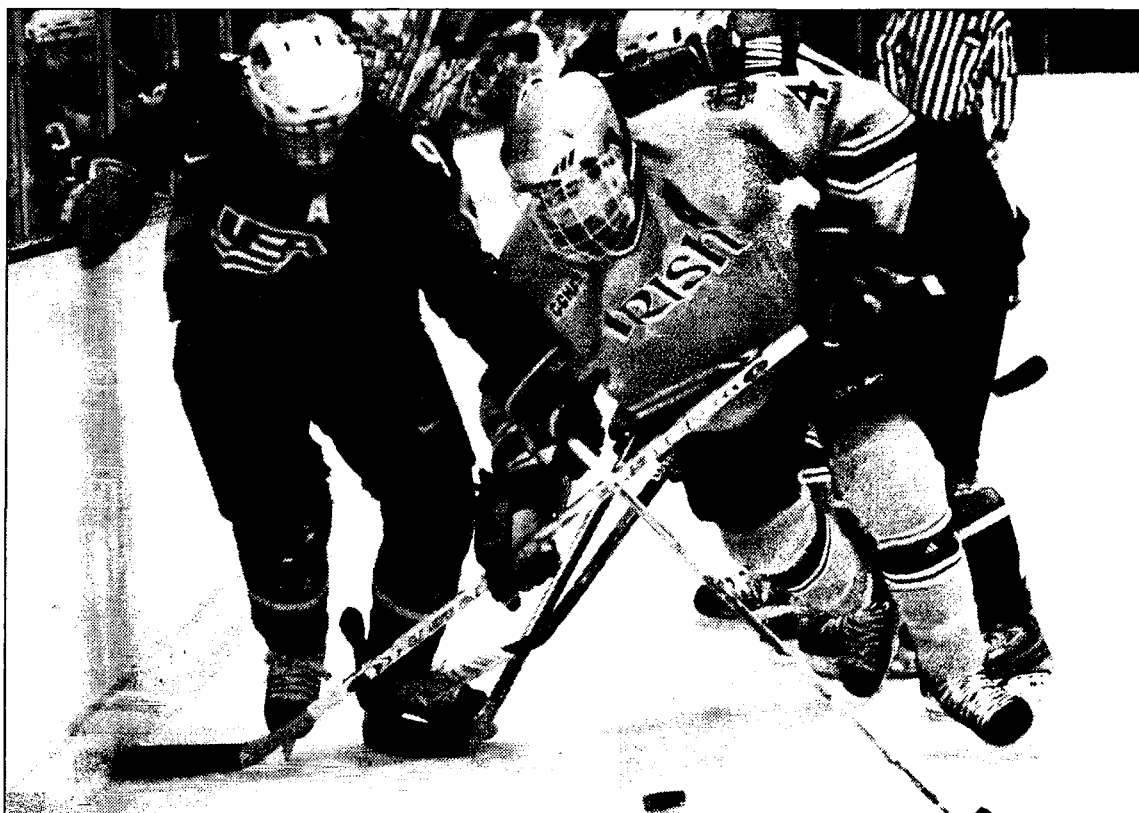
(10-12-4, 7-10-3 CCHA) at the start of the final month-long stretch of the regular season, during which Notre Dame will try to improve its fourth-place league standing and its NCAA Tournament seeding (now at around a No. 3).

"We just got to play our own game," Irish center Christian Hanson said. "It's coming down to the stretch, and the focus is more on us to do what we got to do to win then worry about the other teams."

Notre Dame hasn't played a regular season game in two weeks because the team hosted an exhibition with the U.S. National Under-18 team last weekend that it won in overtime 2-1. The exhibition game came a weekend after the Irish found their groove again in a sweep of Bowling Green. They had struggled mightily in the eight games after Christmas break.

"We need to carry on from Bowling Green. ... It was good to see our team be a little bit

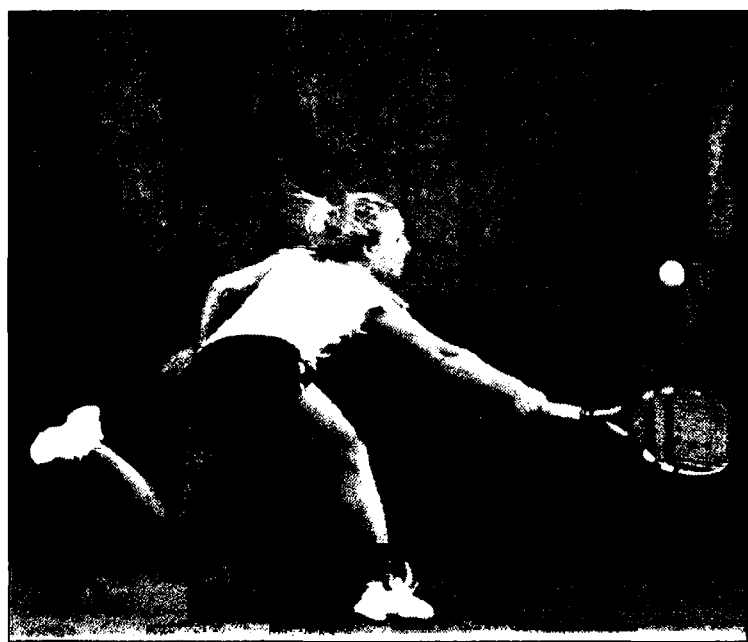
see CCHA/page 22



Senior defenseman Dan VeNard battles on the boards in Notre Dame's 2-1 overtime win over the U.S. Under-18 team Friday. The Irish take on Ferris State in a two-game series this weekend. WU YUE/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish fall to Georgia in ITA Championship



Irish junior Kelcy Tefft races to the line during Notre Dame's 7-0 win over Wake Forest on Feb. 18, 2007. VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Imagine putting forth your best effort all season — and losing.

That's how No. 19 Notre Dame felt after dropping its first-round match 4-2 to No. 6 Georgia at the ITA National Women's Team Indoor Championship in Madison, Wis., Thursday night.

"That's the best we've played as a team all season," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "We played hard with a

lot of emotion. It was a really hard fought battle. We were right there the whole time with the sixth-ranked team in the nation."

Notre Dame won the first game of the doubles portion as the national No. 3 duo consisting of senior Brook Buck and junior Kelcy Tefft took care of No. 36 Kelly Hyndman and Monika Dancevic 8-2.

The Bulldogs fought back to win the doubles point, outlasting in identical 8-5 results the Irish doubles

see ITA/page 21

MEN'S TENNIS

Young squad returns home

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After taking down No. 15 Duke 4-3 on the road last Sunday, the No. 9 Irish return home to host No. 28 Wisconsin and Southern Methodist this weekend.

"It is tremendously empowering to know you can beat a good team," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Tobacco road has not been kind to us recently, although we have a better

record against them there, then we do here."

Notre Dame is a young team, but it hasn't shown up too much in their match scores.

"We are a little ahead of my expectations," Bayliss said. "It's early and we are young, hopefully later we can cease our dialogue with the Gerber Company."

Last year the Irish beat the Badgers 4-0 in the Round of 32 of the 2007 NCAA Tournament held at Notre Dame.

"The doubles was very con-

tested, and all of the unfinished matches ended in a tiebreaker," Bayliss said. "It was good that we won."

Wisconsin is led by German sophomore Moritz Baumann.

The Badgers strength rests in their experience, with three seniors and just two freshmen.

"Baumann is a lefty, and a great all court player," Bayliss said. "They are more experienced than we are."

The Irish and Southern

see BADGERS/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Panthers challenge winning streak

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

After the Irish knocked two straight change-ups out of the park, the Panthers will bring some chin music.

No. 16 Notre Dame will face No. 15 Pittsburgh Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center, a tough game for the Irish after two easy wins. The Panthers (18-4, 8-1 Big East) will be Notre Dame's biggest challenge since it lost to No. 1 Connecticut at home on Jan. 27.

In the Panthers' most recent game, they defeated Seton Hall 64-44 at home. Senior center Mercedes Walker did not play because of a sprained ankle;



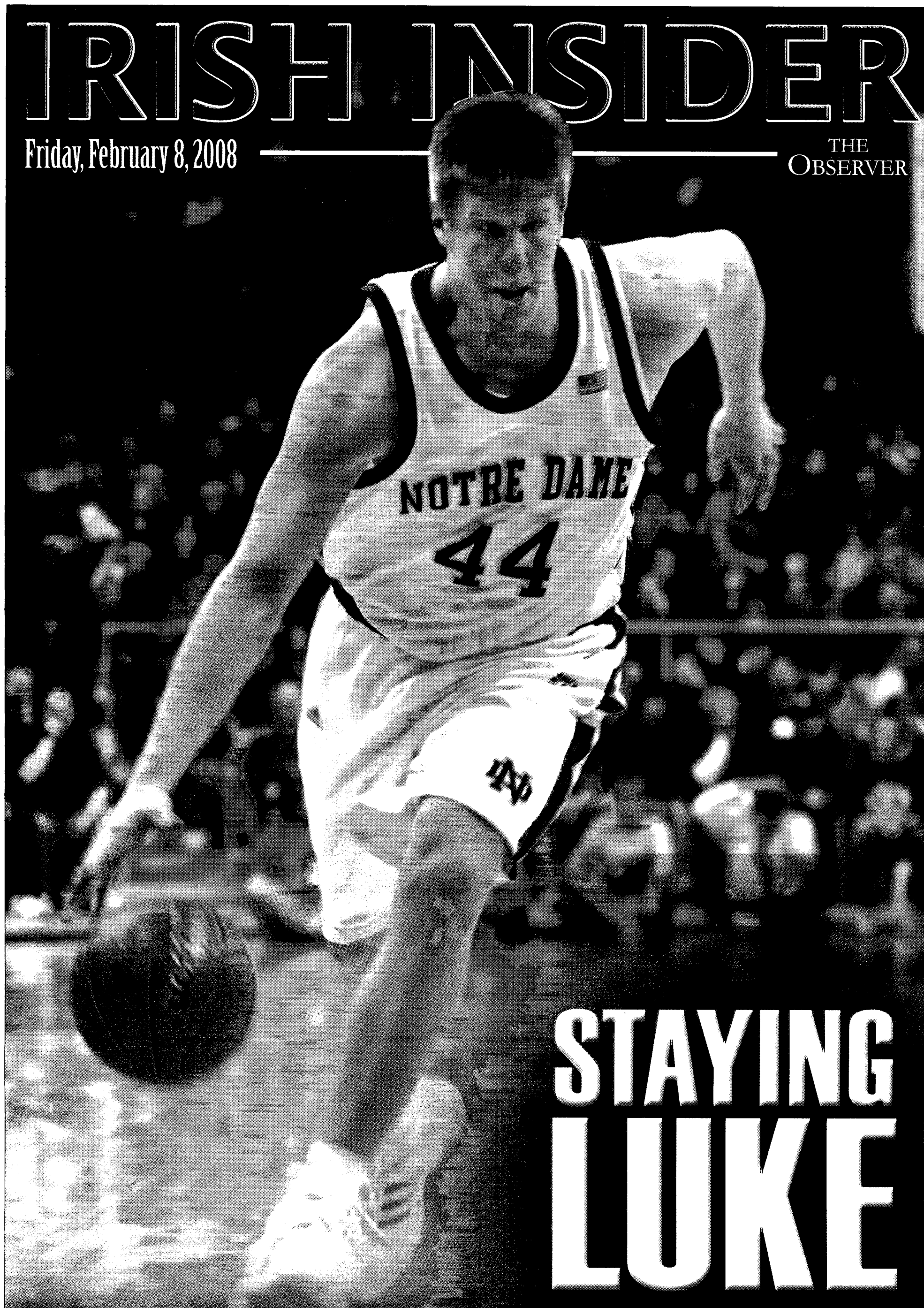
Irish guard Tulyah Gaines drives to the net during Notre Dame's 81-64 loss to Connecticut on Jan 27. The Irish face Pittsburgh Sunday. WU YUE/The Observer

see CHALLENGE/page 22

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, February 8, 2008

THE
OBSERVER



STAYING LUKE

On the court, **LUKE HARANGODY** is a rising star.
Off the court, he hasn't changed a bit.

Photo: Illustration by Madeline Niles The Observer

COMMENTARY

Harangody needs help from K-Mac

I have heard many times that Notre Dame will go as far as Luke Harangody will take it this season. That statement pins the team's fate on the wrong player.

Generally, the Irish go as Kyle McAlarney goes.

Harangody has been good for a 25-and-10 stat line virtually every game. But McAlarney's numbers have fluctuated and are usually a good indication of whether the Irish win.

Look at Notre Dame's biggest victories of the season. McAlarney hit the game-winning shot against Kansas State on Dec. 4 at Madison Square Garden. The junior poured in 32 as the Irish topped Connecticut early in the Big East season. He also garnered player of the week honors after scoring 30 when the Irish beat Villanova on Jan. 26.

McAlarney's effectiveness in the four Irish losses provides us with just as much evidence of how his play affects the team's fate. In Notre Dame's two losses at the Virgin Islands Paradise Jam, McAlarney mustered respective point totals of only three and seven. To be sure, those early-season performances are excusable for McAlarney, who was possibly still rusty in some of his first games back from his suspension last season.

But McAlarney also struggled in blowout losses to Marquette and Georgetown.

Against Marquette, Harangody notched 29 points but had little help, partly because McAlarney was held to eight points by Golden Eagles guard Jerel McNeal.

In the loss to Georgetown, Harangody had a rare poor showing. But even if the big man had played well, the Irish would not have been able to compete — McAlarney managed only 10 points on 4-of-15 shooting.

You get the idea. The Irish can beat top-flight teams but only if their starting shooting guard brings his A-game.

The flow of Notre Dame's win over Providence last Thursday illustrates the team's need for production from the New York native.

McAlarney nailed two 3-pointers in the first six minutes of play as the Irish jumped out to a 21-9 lead. But he barely touched the ball for the remainder of the first half, and the Friars took the lead for much of the period.

It wasn't until the Irish scored baskets on their final two possessions of the half that they regained the lead. Harangody drilled a jumper and Tory Jackson made a layup as the Irish took a 32-31 margin into the locker room. Guess who had his first two assists of the game on that pair of buckets. That's right: McAlarney.

And while the Irish went on to beat Providence in overtime with a limited contribution from McAlarney, Providence is not Marquette or Georgetown. In order for Notre Dame to beat the best teams in the Big East, the junior needs to step up and play at his top, elite level.

Call it the Allen Iverson Corollary. Carmelo Anthony will give the Denver Nuggets 20 points almost every game. But if Iverson shoots 6-of-22 from the field, the Nuggets are hard-pressed to beat any of the best squads in the NBA.

The same is true of Notre Dame; they need both Harangody and McAlarney to shine. Harangody is likely to come up big much more often than not. But the real question for the Irish is whether McAlarney can consistently outplay top defenders. His next test will arrive Saturday when McNeal and his teammates come to town.

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

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu.



















Fran Tolan
Sports Writer



Irish junior guard Kyle McAlarney sets up to play defense in Notre Dame's 81-74 win over Providence Jan. 31.

2008 Big East Standings

		Last game	Next game
	(9-1)	W, 63-53, USF	at Louisville
	(7-2)	W, 95-69, SHU	vs Marquette
	(7-3)	W, 63-61, 'Cuse	vs Georgetown
	(7-3)	W, 71-57, MU	vs Georgia Tech
	(6-4)	L, 57-71, L'ville	at Notre Dame
	(6-4)	L, 61-63, UConn	at South Florida
	(5-4)	L, 53-60, UConn	vs Providence
	(5-4)	W, 77-65, Pitt	vs Rutgers
	(5-5)	L, 69-95, ND	at Villanova
	(5-5)	L, 60-75, MU	at Rutgers
	(4-6)	L, 65-79, Prov.	vs South Florida
	(4-6)	W, 79-65, DePaul	at St. John's
	(3-6)	L, 55-77, St. Joe's	vs Seton Hall
	(3-7)	W, 52-45, Rutgers	vs Providence
	(2-9)	L, 45-52, St. John's	vs Cincinnati
	(1-9)	L, 53-63, G'Town	at DePaul

Standings as of Wednesday, Feb. 6

Crunching the numbers

BIG EAST STATISTICS

Points per game	MARQUETTE 71.0	ND 78.0
Points allowed per game	MARQUETTE 68.4	ND 75.9
Field goal shooting	MARQUETTE 40.9%	ND 42.3%
3-point shooting	MARQUETTE 34.8%	ND 38.1%
Free throw shooting	MARQUETTE 72.7%	ND 77.7%
Rebound margin per game	MARQUETTE +2.6	ND +4.5

*Stats accurate as of Feb. 5

Turning heads

Irish forward Luke Harangody's sensational season has garnered national acclaim

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

Every week, Notre Dame comes together to study film – and to laugh at the antics of Luke Harangody.

In between critiques of their play and studying the patterns of their opponents, the Irish can't help but crack up at Harangody, who always manages to get the room laughing.

"One time, he was just running and it looked like someone yanked the carpet out from under him and he hit the deck," junior forward Zach Hillesland said. "We usually have one or two plays every week that we just die laughing about."

But the laughs don't end there.

"He tried to dramatically draw a foul and threw his hands up," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said. "[He did] the, 'Look ref he fouled me' and threw his hands up in the air, and our guys were like, 'Get out of here, come on, the guy was like 170-pounds that hit you.'"

Harangody's teammates may be laughing at him, but the rest of the Big East certainly isn't.

Harangody averaged 11.2 points and 6.2 rebounds per game in his freshman campaign.

This season, the sophomore trimmed down and overcame a torn ligament in his right thumb in October to lead the Big East in scoring with

20.4 points per game. He is second in rebounding in the Big East with 10.4 per game. His play this season earned him a spot in the top-30 for both the Wooden and Naismith Awards, two honors given to the best player of the year nationally. And he has opposing coaches, like Providence's Tim Welsh, saying he's the Big East player of the year.

How did Harangody elevate his play? By playing with high intensity (Harangody can be seen yelling and seeking out chest-bumping teammates every time he has the potential for a 3-point play), and by playing a little "crazy."

"When I step on the court, it's a different feeling," Harangody said. "I feel like you have to be kind of crazy, you have to be a little off to play in this league. You have to lose it out there."

With the added attention comes extra ribbing from his teammates, who said they love to poke fun at the "sensitive" Harangody.

"The guys on the team keep me focused," Harangody said. "They joke around with me. Zach, Ryan [Ayers], and Kyle [McAlarney] make fun of it all. So that just keeps me grounded and I try to stay humble. I have really good guys around me."

But for all the fun they have at Harangody's expense, the Irish certainly don't take for granted how Harangody has helped them to a 7-2 record in the Big East this season.

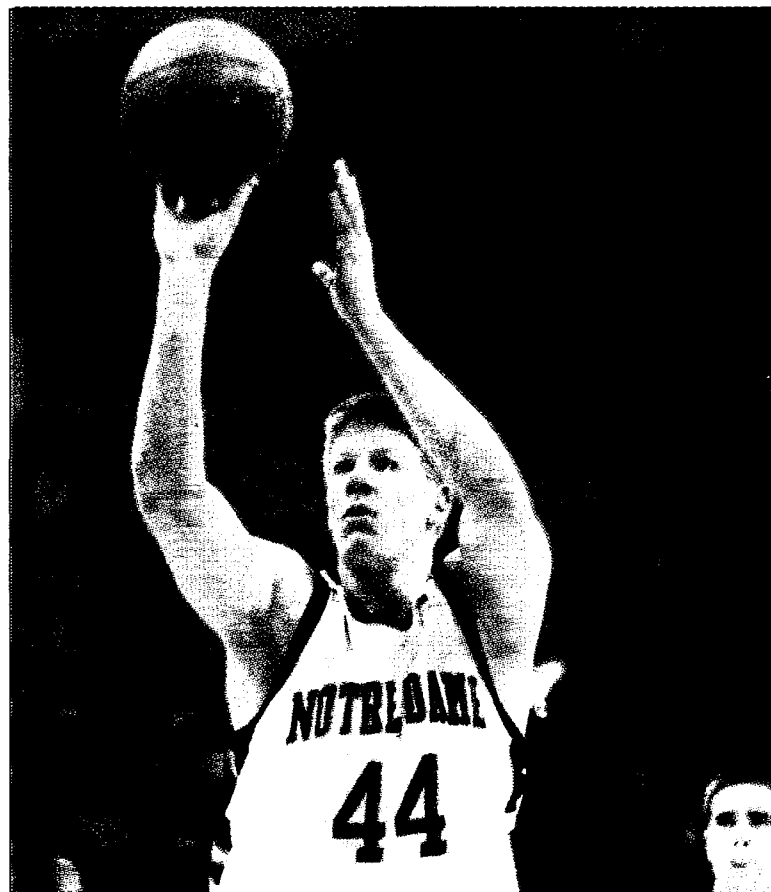
"He's never too cocky. The thing with him is, he's always about the team," Hillesland said. "He puts up big numbers, but it's all within the context and the framework of what we want to do. We want to go down low to him because it helps out everything else for us offensively. He's never too cocky, but we do a good job of bringing him down to earth even if he doesn't need the reality check. We need him to keep performing like that because he's having a great year and if he keeps it up we have great things ahead of us."

Last season, Harangody made an impact immediately, something he didn't expect to happen.

"When I got here as a freshman, I didn't see myself playing any minutes at all," Harangody said. "I didn't even know if I could play in this league. So that was the hardest hump to get over confidence-wise ... I think right when we started practice, I started off with a couple of good practices and that gave me a lot of confidence and let me know I could play."

With the help of his coaches and teammates, specifically senior forward Rob Kurz and former guard Colin Falls, Harangody learned to cope with the difficulty of the college game and developed into a consistent threat in the paint.

"I don't think a lot of people understand how much you learn, how much more relaxed you get as you play more and more," Harangody said. "And it's the same thing this season."



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish sophomore forward Luke Harangody shoots a free throw in Notre Dame's 81-74 overtime win over Providence on Jan. 31.

It was an easy transition because I learned how to do the little things."

After entering Notre Dame a year and a half ago, not knowing when or how much he would play, Harangody and his coach are now talking about ways to improve his game so he can play in the NBA.

"I think he's going to be a prospect one day," Brey said. "It's crazy that you have to talk about that, but that's the reality

of the business we're in and there's no question he has a very bright future after college. But he's the first one to raise his hand and say, 'There's still a lot of things I need to learn and do better,' but he has a bright future playing the game."

First on Harangody's to-do list for the NBA is improving his defense.

"I think he could always improve defensively," Brey said. "Both in man and zone, his awareness not guarding his guy but helping his teammates, that is still a process for him and we come back to that everyday."

Harangody said he's well aware that his 6-foot-8 frame would be a disadvantage in the NBA, where he'd frequently face post players who are quick and in the neighborhood of seven feet tall, but he said he's determined to not let his height prevent him from accomplishing his goal of playing in the NBA.

"People always talk about how I'm undersized and maybe they don't think I'll make it, but I don't think that's going to stop me at all," Harangody said.

And he's well aware that he didn't play his best games against Georgetown's Roy Hibbert and Connecticut's Hasheem Thabeet, who are each over seven feet tall. Harangody scored 13 against

Georgetown and scored 14 on 5-for-23 shooting against Connecticut.

"The media's always asking, 'Oh, those were your only two bad games in conference,' and it had something to do with their size, but I just had two off games," Harangody said. "But I've watched tape and saw where I could use my body to get around them and bring them away from the basket. I'm learning. This is the first year I've really played against players like that. That's one of the things this year that I've had to deal with the most and learn the most from."

Harangody described himself as "shy" off the court and Brey has tried to help him deal with the increased attention by meeting with him frequently to keep his primary focus on basketball.

"We just need to limit his distractions, because it is happening fast for him," Brey said. "He's really level-headed and I have full confidence he can handle it, but I just want to make sure we're not overwhelming him and distracting him because we need him focused down the stretch."

Harangody is not your typical college basketball star. He's not one of the one-and-done freshmen who blanket ESPN, and he certainly isn't going for style points night in and night out. But he's a consistent, hustling, and dominating presence in the paint.

"He is so focused and every objective, mission or goal or assignment, he meets with what you see," Brey said.

And if the success ever goes to his head, he has his teammates, like Hillesland, to keep him grounded.

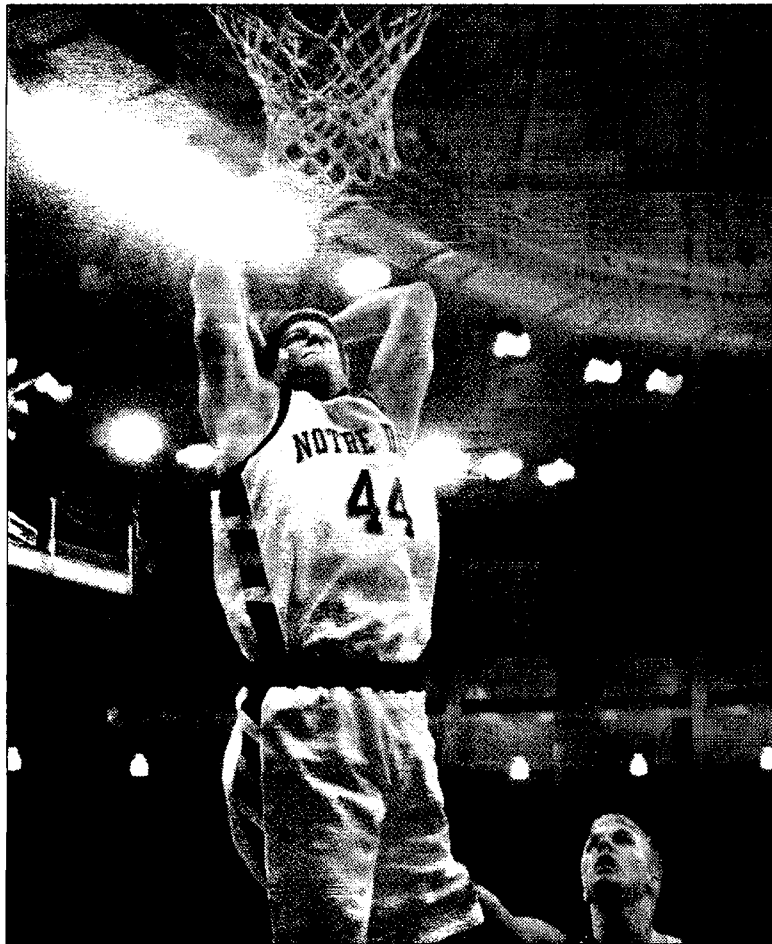
"He's just a big bear. He's a big bear of a man on the court and he's a sensitive bear off the court. He even has bear hair," Hillesland said. "But he's just a really good kid and we're happy for all the success he's having."

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HARANGODY by the numbers

Freshman Year Sophomore Year

Pts./game	11.2	20.4
Reb./game	6.2	10.1
FG%	45.9%	52.2%
FT%	81.9%	79.5%



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish forward Luke Harangody goes up for a dunk in Notre Dame's 108-62 win over Northern Illinois on Dec. 8.

Bad blood runs deep between Irish and Eagles

Rivalry between Phelps, McGuire set stage for modern series

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

Last-second shots. Technical fouls. Crazy coaches. Packets of mustard. Notre Dame and Marquette have played 109 times, but they share 1,000 games worth of history.

The Irish have played the Golden Eagles more than any other opponent. The series between the two teams used to be an annual affair — often with an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament on the line for the two independents.

But since 1995, when Notre Dame joined the Big East and Marquette joined Conference USA, the teams have met only eight times.

Reunited in the Big East, the Irish and Golden Eagles are back at each other's throats. During Marquette's 92-66 win at the Bradley Center on Jan. 12, Notre Dame sophomore forward Luke

Harangody could feel the emotion emanating from the crowd.

"It's definitely different," he said. "We're both Catholic schools ... but we could definitely feel the rivalry."

Geography and religion

The Notre Dame-Marquette series began in the early 20th century, at a time when the Irish scheduled mostly regional Catholic schools.

"They played Marquette, they played DePaul, they played Detroit-Mercy, they played Saint Louis," said Mike Coffey, author of the book, "Echoes on

"Marquette was a more residential campus. It was a little more similar to Notre Dame."

Mike Coffey
author
"Echoes on the Hardwood"

the Hardwood."

But while the other schools were generally competitive, games between the Irish and Warriors — Marquette changed its mascot in 1993 — often decided

who played the best basketball among Midwest Catholic schools.

What's more, Marquette and Notre Dame were simi-

lar in their residential and community atmospheres.

"While DePaul is closer, it's more a commuter school, especially back in

"We're both Catholic schools, but we could definitely feel the rivalry."

Luke Harangody
Irish forward



The competition between Irish coach Digger Phelps, above, and Warriors coach Al McGuire ignited the Notre Dame-Marquette rivalry.



Irish guard Russell Carter drives to the basket in Notre Dame's 85-73 win over Marquette Feb. 24, 2007. The game was the first win for the Irish over the Golden Eagles since Marquette joined the Big East.

those days," Coffey said. "Marquette, on the other hand, was a more residential campus. It was a little more similar to Notre Dame."

Hickey cancels the series

The series took on a more antagonistic nature in the late 1950s, when Marquette hired Saint Louis coach Eddie Hickey to lead the team.

Coffey said Hickey hated Notre Dame, an emotion traced back to the 1940s when Hickey and then-Irish coach Moose Krause were both recruiting St. Louis-area high school star Dick Rosenthal. Rosenthal chose to play for the Irish and would eventually become Notre Dame's athletic director.

"That drove Hickey crazy, and he ended up canceling the Notre Dame-Saint Louis series," Coffey said.

Hickey got the Marquette job in 1958 and canceled that series with Notre Dame.

In the mid-1960s, the rivalry restarted when Marquette hired Al McGuire as its new coach. McGuire was known as much for his showman's antics as his winning basketball teams — and his team's won a lot.

Al versus Digger

In 13 years in Milwaukee, McGuire went 295-80, winning an NIT championship in 1970 and a national title in 1977.

McGuire's flair for showy tactics added another legend in the rivalry's history. Before every Marquette game, the Warriors' starters would shake hands with the opposing coach. Irish coach Johnny Dee saw this as a "hot dog" gesture and, before one game, he handed each Marquette starter a packet of mustard.

The rivalry reached its peak when Digger Phelps replaced Dee after the 1970-71 season. Phelps, nearly as big a showman as McGuire, added to the crazy-

ness that had already been part of Notre Dame-Marquette games.

"The most colorful time of the rivalry was when Maguire was at Marquette and Digger was at Notre Dame," Coffey said. "It almost seemed, when

"It almost seemed, when Notre Dame would play Marquette in those days, that they would get into a race to see who could get a technical first."

Mike Coffey
author
"Echoes on the Hardwood"

they would get into a race to see who could get a technical first. It created a great subplot to some great games."

The games were exciting on the court. In 1973, Notre Dame ended Marquette's 81-game home-court winning streak on a buzzer beater by Dwight Clay.

By the late 1970s, both teams were fixtures in nation top 10. Marquette's title in 1977 came in McGuire's final game and Notre Dame got to the only final four in school history in 1978.

Drifting apart

Throughout the 1980s, the teams continued to play a home-and-home every year, entering into a deal with Dayton and DePaul to play a four-way round robin.

But the landscape of college basketball was changing.

With more and more independents joining an ever-increasing number of conferences, at-large bids for non-conference members were becoming scarce.

In 1995, the Irish and the newly-christened Golden Eagles joined separate conferences. Between that year and 2006, when Marquette

joined the Big East, the teams played only four times.

"They fell off the schedule entirely for a good part of the '90s," Coffey said.

Back together

Since joining the Big East, Marquette is 3-1 against Notre Dame.

On Jan. 20, 2006, the first meeting of the two teams as conference brethren, the Golden Eagles topped the Irish 67-65 on a last-second runner by guard Steve Novak.

Later that year, Marquette won again, this time by eight at the Joyce Center.

Last season, Notre Dame got its revenge with an 85-

73 win in the only meeting.

Marquette's win earlier this season was the widest margin of victory in series history, at 26 points.

Saturday, with both teams ranked and the 33-

game Irish home winning streak on the line, the series is back to the stakes it had in the 1970s. What's more, the game is being played during ESPN's "Rivalry Week."

Marquette and Notre Dame are back together again, and the forgotten rivalry is back in the national spotlight.

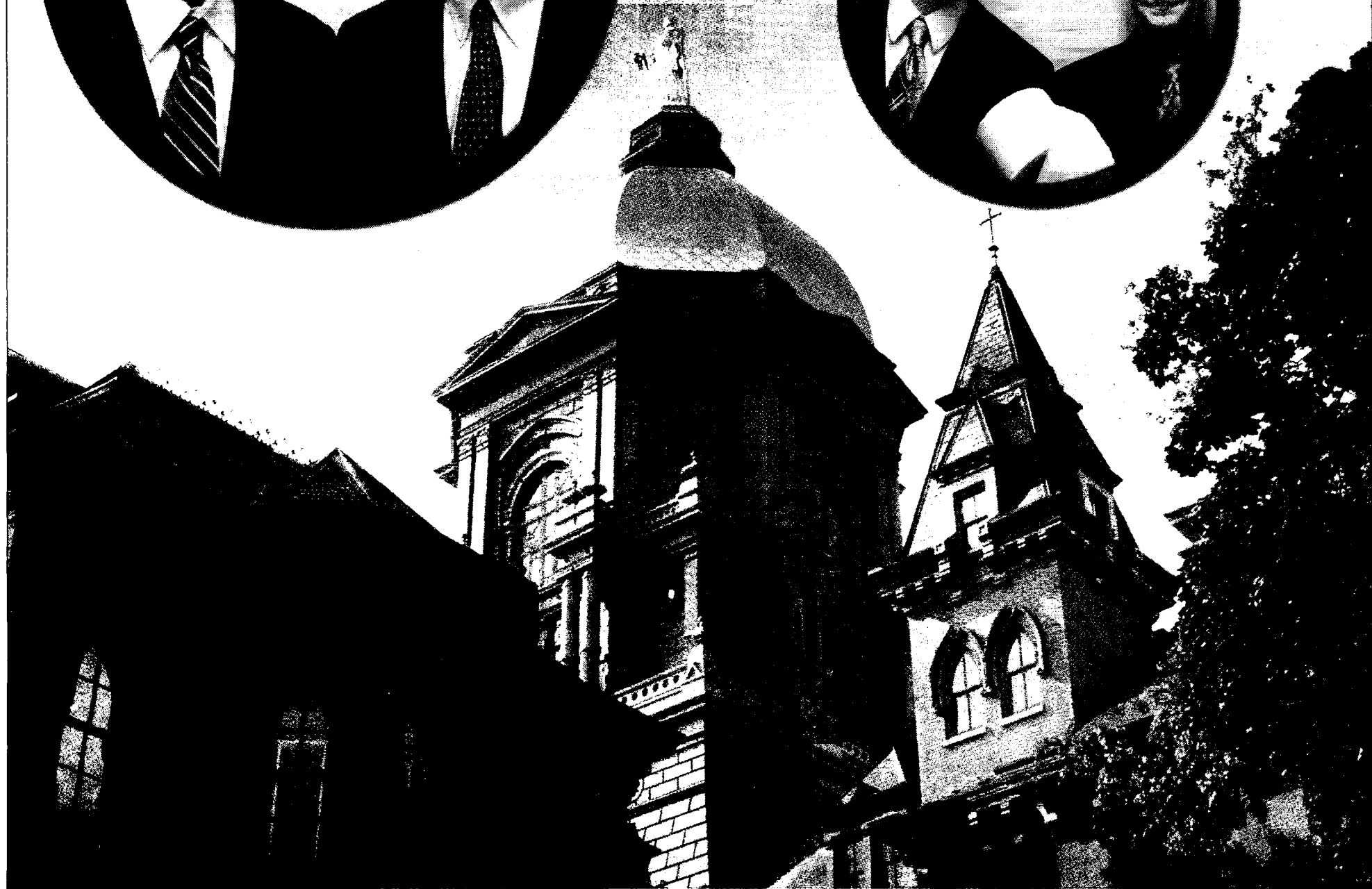
Contact Chris Khorey at
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Friday, February 8, 2008

THE
OBSERVER

ELECTION 2008

IN FOCUS



Maris Braun *president* vice president George Chamberlain

Who They Are

Braun, student body vice president, is a junior in Breen-Phillips Hall majoring in finance and history. Chamberlain, Sorin senator, is a junior majoring in political science and psychology

In Their Words

◆ **Top Priority:** Student-life issues. "The biggest things are those that affect students every day."

◆ **First Priority:** Implementing book delivery from the Bookstore to dorms.

In Our Words

◆ **Best Idea:** Easier access to caffeine in the library.

◆ **Worst Idea:** Incorporating environmentalism into Freshman Orientation

◆ **Most Feasible Idea:** Sustainability issues: reusable bags at Grab-n-Go and more game day recycling.

◆ **Least Feasible Idea:** Student-initiated classes.

◆ **Fun Fact:** Braun is a "diehard" Bengals fan. "This is going to lose me votes, but I hate the Pittsburgh Steelers." Chamberlain "really, really" likes Notre Dame monogram waffles from the dining hall. "I think the monogram makes it taste better."

◆ **Notable Quote:** "Experience taught me that things being feasible ultimately comes down to funding, and support of the administration" (Maris Braun)

Bottom Line

Veterans of the system, they throw around the student government catchphrases — pursuing the presidency as "a way to give back" and vowing to "make a tangible difference" — better



than anyone. They know what goals are practical and what students respond to most strongly. But for Braun to claim "nothing about this is about resumes" only sounds hollow. The pair does have extensive experience, and it shows; when asked about a shuttle bus, Braun quickly recognized the University's hesitation and suggested a bus that just covered the bars, implying that students using the shuttle would be of age. And the relationship Braun established this year with members of the South Bend Common Council would likely be valuable next fall, when the issue of student partying could once again rankle the sensibilities of neighborhood residents. But it's unclear what they bring that Reish and Schmidt don't — except, maybe, excessive confidence.

Bill Ehrlich *president* vice president Mike Roscitt

Who They Are

Ehrlich is an off-campus junior majoring in finance. Roscitt is a junior in Stanford Hall majoring in finance and economics.

In Their Words

◆ **Top Priority:** Making student government more laid back. "If it's silly, I'm not going to do it."

◆ **First Priority:** Erect tetherball poles on the quad.

In Our Words

◆ **Best Idea:** Convince the University to recognize a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning student club.

◆ **Worst Idea:** Turn the reflecting pool in front of the library into an ice skating rink. The money needed to retrofit the pool to accommodate expanding ice water and frozen pipes would be well-spent elsewhere.

◆ **Most Feasible Idea:** Continue addressing issues with development in Africa.

◆ **Least Feasible Idea:** Convince the University to recognize a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning student club.

◆ **Fun Fact:** Ehrlich had never fenced before when he walked onto the varsity fencing team.

◆ **Notable Quote:** "Rules are for people who don't hold themselves to a higher standard." "No one thinks they're bad at tetherball — it's kind of like beer pong."

Bottom Line

When asked why he's running for president, Ehrlich responded, "Why not, right?"

He views his campaign with Roscitt as partly a "social experiment" — an alternative to the Braun and Reish tickets. ("Two sides of the same



coin," he said.) His attitude is different. Whether the student body would rally around tetherball poles on the quad, however, isn't clear. Whether the University would turn the reflecting pool into a skating rink also isn't clear, though he considers it feasible. ("We put a man on the moon and we have a \$4 billion endowment. I don't know why we wouldn't do it.") Ehrlich's focus on getting Notre Dame to officially recognize a gay-lesbian student group is admirable, and he's right that it should seriously be addressed. Except that it is, year after year, and the University continues to stonewall. It's unclear what he would do to make it work.

Roscitt was unable to meet with The Observer.

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT ELECTIONS

Primary Election:
Monday, February 11

Run-off Election:
Thursday, February 14

CLASS COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Primary Elections:
Monday, February 25

Run-off Elections:
Thursday, February 28

NOTRE DAME S *President and Vice P*

Rick Hollowood *president*

Who They Are

Hollowood is a sophomore accounting major in Knott Hall. Tomala is a sophomore computer engineering major in Knott Hall.

In Their Words

◆ **Top Priority:** Improve the quality of toilet paper supplied on campus.

◆ **First Priority:** Improve the quality of toilet paper supplied on campus.

In Our Words

◆ **Best Idea:** Add The Wall Street Journal to the College Readership Program in place of USA Today.

◆ **Worst Idea:** Use student government funds to purchase toilet paper and muffins.

◆ **Most Feasible Idea:** Convince Food Services to serve a greater number of muffins in the dining halls.

◆ **Least Feasible Idea:** Renovating the Rock.

◆ **Fun Fact:** In high school, Rick sold T-shirts with his name on it to almost everyone in his small, rural high school.

◆ **Notable Quote:** "We want students to decide whether they want double ply or triple ply."

Bottom Line

If you're going to be a joke ticket, at least be funny. The Brauns and Reishes of the student government world display a polish and

Cooper Howes *president* vice president Daniel Rimkus

Who They Are

Howes is a Zahm freshman. As is Rimkus.

Their Platform

◆ Installing the Temple Guards from the Nickelodeon show "Legends of the Hidden Temple." Offenders may elude the Guards with a pendant of life, which they can acquire through a

feat of strength performed in front of head of ResLife — Olmec the stone head.

◆ Construct a nuclear power plant bullet trains running from Zahm Hall Mary's.

◆ Buy Club 23 with \$700,000 worth of Points. Instead of a cover charge, add Flex Points.

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT DEBATES

Run-off Election Debate:
Wednesday, February 13
LaFortune Main Lounge

Peter Kelly *president*

vice president Jon Poelhuis

Who They Are

Kelly is a junior living in St. Edward's Hall majoring in economics and mathematics. Poelhuis is a junior living in St. Edward's Hall majoring in mathematics and Arabic.

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Instituting a free shuttle bus to take students from off campus locations to campus on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

♦ **First Priority:** Pass a Senate resolution allowing them to work with the administration to bring the shuttle bus to campus.

In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Screen SUB movies during the week as well as on the weekends. At little to no extra cost, SUB could capture the party-going audience for its events by mixing up the schedule.

♦ **Worst Idea:** Change Freshman Orientation to focus on events bringing just a few freshmen together. Sure, large group events can be awkward, but orientation is unavoidably so. Let the freshmen mix.

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Weekday SUB films would require little extra expenditure, and students would likely attend cheap flicks rather than study all night.

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** The shuttle bus. It would be great, but the Board of Trustees is unlikely to change its veto from the last time student government tried this.

♦ **Fun Facts:** Ask Kelly to sing Macy Gray's "I Try." Just do it.

Poelhuis has a tattoo on his left upper arm that reads "My family" in Arabic.

♦ **Notable Quote:** "There's no monopoly on good ideas."

"We think safety's paramount to everything else."



Bottom Line

The pair calls its idea to institute a shuttle bus for students heading back to campus on late weekend nights "ambitious, but doable." If only. While Kelly and Poelhuis are perfectly sincere when they say they'll do it, they may be unaware of just how quickly a similar idea tanked in 2004. Kelly and Poelhuis's plan is even broader than the 2004 "SafeBus" proposal, which did not include the Thursday night service Kelly and Poelhuis propose. Still, the Board of Trustees didn't go for the "drunk bus" then, and it's doubtful any of those liability issues have disappeared. That doesn't mean it's not a worthy idea, however, just not enough to base a platform on. Their lack of experience at the campus wide level of student government could also stand in their way, despite their emphasis on their strong communications skills.

Bob Reish *president*

vice president Grant Schmidt

Who They Are

Reish, junior class president, is a finance major living in Sorin Hall. Schmidt, sophomore class president, is a psychology major living in Knott Hall.

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Organize a Midwest Intercollegiate Council of student government leaders from universities throughout the region.

♦ **First Priority:** Enact free DVD rentals through student government. And conduct in-depth surveys of student bodies to find out what students want.

In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Off-campus discounts — low prices and prompting students to get off campus is a winning combination. Also, the Last Lecture series would allow students to get to know the great professors they can't have in class.

♦ **Worst Idea:** The senate student outreach committee is well-intentioned but unnecessary. Deepening the bureaucracy of student government is not the way of the future.

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Free DVD rentals. The DVDs are sitting unwatched in the student government offices.

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Improve the quality of drinking water in the Rock.

♦ **Fun Fact:** Reish ate sticks of butter as a child. Schmidt can put 20 sunflower seeds in his mouth and spit them out — seeds and shells separated — 10 seconds later.

♦ **Notable Quote:** "If we accomplish only two of these platform ideas, but students feel their voice was heard ... I think that's so much more successful"

Bottom Line

These guys take student government seriously — too



seriously, some might argue. (Reish has been involved ever since he was student body president in high school, and Schmidt looked at student government opportunities on different campuses before choosing Notre Dame.) But that means they're taking this campaign seriously. The amount of research they've conducted is impressive, and they've already begun forming the administrative and intercollegiate contacts they'll need to get their often-ambitious ideas off the ground. Reish and Schmidt would bring perhaps the most comprehensive plan to office, complete with ideas for improving academic, athletic, community relations, social, student government and other areas of student life. They plan to conduct a survey to choose which initiatives to focus on. Look out for the Midwest Intercollegiate Council to boost Notre Dame's reputation.

STUDENT BODY President Candidates

vice president Alex Tomala



passion that make it easy to mock the process, but Hollowood and Tomala can't find their punch line. That said, The Observer does approve of muffins.

Notable Quotes:

- ♦ "Only the strong break parietals."
- ♦ "The administration will cave to our will."
- ♦ "The only thing louder than these pants should be the voice of the student body."

Howes and Rimkus declined to meet with The Observer for further interviews.

Vote for
student body president and vice president
Monday.

MAJORITY OPINION

The Observer endorses Ehrlich-Roscitt ticket

During its endorsement discussion, the editorial board of The Observer found itself engaged in a debate not over the merits of the candidates but a discussion over the very nature of student government.

Supporters of the traditional profile of student government candidates argued against others who have grown dissatisfied with the state of student government today.

Student government has grown distant from the wants and needs of its constituents. Students' opinion of their government ranges from apathy to outright mockery. Now, more than ever, typical students have little idea that student government actually does, why it does it, and how its actions help the student body in any way.

Some actions, like student body president Liz Brown's work with the South Bend Common Council to reach a compromise on the proposed party ordinance, have had positive outcomes for the student body. But when many students look at student government, they see an elitist club focused more on résumés than results.

When some of the biggest

headlines Student Senate has produced in the past year have been a senator's impeachment for using the wrong copier and another senator's "master plan" for "puppet rule," something is wrong.

Current student body vice president Maris Braun and running mate George Chamberlain are practiced and professional. They know how to work student government, and they would do a competent job while steering the student body clear of danger. Their ideas for quality of life issues are commendable, but their potential contributions do not match the confidence with which they've approached this campaign.

Rick Hollowood and Alex Tomala assert that student government should either "step it up" or disappear. When asked which route they intend to pursue if elected, they didn't know. Their suggestion that College Readership should include The Wall Street Journal is perhaps their most compelling stance — much more so than their will-

ingness to using student government funds to provide high-quality toilet paper.

Cooper Howes and Daniel Rimkus, the traditional Zahm Hall freshman ticket, boast the most outrageous plans, including a TV-show-inspired guard force to prevent parietals and the acquisition of Club 23 through Flex Points. Their participation has lightened a campaign against contestants who can take themselves quite seriously.

Peter Kelly and Jon Poelhuis are smart and sincere, but their main issue — providing a shuttle to transport students home from off campus parties and bars — fell flat three years ago. There is little to suggest they've found a way to convince the Board of Trustees of the plan's efficacy.

Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt are prepared and invested, but their most emphasized idea is to enact free DVD rentals. They are student government lifers who will shake hands and make connections without cease. They have good ideas, but they will not bring new life to the

office.

Into this void steps presidential candidate Bill Ehrlich, who has laid out a platform featuring a series of concrete, tangible goals which are both realistic and feasible — and which, most importantly, will make every day life at Notre Dame more enjoyable.

Rather than remaining tethered to the archaic rules and regulations of student government, Ehrlich proposes putting tetherball poles on the quads.

Rather than skating around issues, Ehrlich says he'll turn the reflection pool into an ice skating rink.

There are few reasons why student government would not be able to achieve those objectives. And the proposals would have a direct impact on student life at Notre Dame.

Ehrlich's platform isn't all fun and games. He also proposes to push for long-overdue University recognition of an official gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and questioning student organization. Vice presidential candidate Mike Roscitt recently returned from Uganda and hopes to continue University and student govern-

ment efforts to aid developing nations.

To better ascertain the voice of the student body, Ehrlich says he'll use old-fashioned retail politics: the lost art of talking to students and asking what they'd like to see student government do. In person, he's intelligent, articulate and personable — the right mix of personality traits for the job.

The 2008 elections represent a watershed moment for both our national government and our student government. Students can avoid furthering their own alienation from student government by choosing wisely.

Student government is not about lofty and slogans, complex procedural details and high-minded resolutions that carry no force and impact nothing. Student government is about improving life at Notre Dame, whether that be through tetherball poles or recognition of a long-marginalized group.

We, the majority of The Observer Editorial Board, endorse Bill Ehrlich and Mike Roscitt for Notre Dame's 2008 student body president and vice president.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE PROGRAMMING BOARD

Student Union Board
Hall Presidents' Council
Class Councils
Off-Campus Council
Club Coordination Council

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Financial
Management
Board

STUDENT SENATE

EXECUTIVE POLICY BOARD

Academic Affairs Committee
Community Relations Committee
Gender Issues Committee
Multicultural Affairs Committee
Oversight Committee
Residence Life Committee
Social Concerns Committee
University Affairs Committee
Ad-Hoc Committees

DISSENTING OPINION

Reish and Schmidt for president and vice president

Student government can catch a lot of flack. When you take the most polished and ambitious of a fairly polished and ambitious student body and give them a limited arena in which to apply their talents, the results can seem a bit forced.

Bill Ehrlich would indeed bring a breath of fresh air to the stuffy, programmed and oh-so-sincere world of student government. After all, he forswears power suits. His goal of pressuring the administration into recognizing a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student group is laudable, though it remains unclear how he plans to enact the negative publicity campaign he says will force the change. His other campaign goals are limited but harmless.

Ehrlich has endeared himself

to student government cynics by showing witty disregard for the office he aspires to hold, but his overbearing confidence is likely to turn off administrators and prevent productivity within government and collaboration with-out.

Bill Reish and Grant Schmidt offer a different skill set. Reish and Schmidt are passionate and prepared — and, yes, polished.

They are also a break from the present student government dynasty, a line of three presidents each elected from within the executive council. Reish and Schmidt, the president of their respective classes, are ready to approach the executive level of

student government with an outsider's perspective but an insider's knowledge and ability.

The research and networking they've used to create their extensive platform is impressive — but not as impressive as their commitment to hearing the student voice through conversation and census.

Reish and Schmidt's innovative plans, if enacted, will have real consequences beyond campus borders. Their plans to arrange discounts at off-campus businesses will appeal to students' frugality while encouraging greater discourse with the South Bend community.

The pair has shown discernment in prioritizing relationships with the South Bend Common

Council, even in a time without crisis, by attending multiple Council meetings in preparation for their run for office. After the party permit ordinance debates this fall, these relationships have proven more important than ever.

And on a broader level, the pair's ideas for a Midwestern Intercollegiate Council could enhance student life at Notre Dame while contributing to the University's reputation as a leader among institutions of higher learning. In the Northeast, the Ivy Council has allowed Ivy League universities to enact more rapid changes in campus life through an open exchange among peer institutions.

The real key to success for Reish and Schmidt will be their ability to pursue good ideas that

are not already found in their extensive platform. They should consider ways to realize Ehrlich's goal of pressuring the University to recognize a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student group; Kelly and Poelhuis's suggestion that SUB screen films during the week and Hollowood and Tomala's push for inclusion of The Wall Street Journal in the College Readership Program.

After a year marked by a need for real student government leadership, it is essential the student body choose a capable and committed ticket with the drive to make changes and the desire to hear student voices.

For these reasons, a minority of The Observer Editorial Board endorses Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt for student body president and vice president.

THE OBSERVER Editorial