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ND female reports sexual assault

NDSP says case not connected to recent alleged rape on campus, has not found suspect

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

A female Notre Dame student reported being sexually assaulted between Pasquerilla West and Siegfried Halls at 2 a.m. Sunday, director of Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) Phil Johnson said.

Johnson said this case is not related to another sexual assault reported to NDSP on March 23 in which a female student claimed she was raped in her residence hall by an acquaintance.

"We are still investigating that case, but there is no reason to assume that these

events are in any way connected," Johnson said.

Johnson said NDSP did not know the name of the suspect in Sunday's assault.

According to an e-mail NDSP sent to students Sunday, the female told NDSP the suspect followed her and walked with her from West quad to North quad and asked her questions. When she declined to give the suspect her telephone number, he allegedly grabbed her by the hair, held her against the wall and fondled her near the northwest corner of Siegfried hall.

The suspect fled the scene

see ASSAULT/page 4



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

A student said she was assaulted outside of Siegfried and Pasquerilla West at 2 a.m. Sunday.

Phones collected for soldiers

By MARGARET MIRSHAK
News Writer

Administrative assistant for the political science department Elizabeth Tucker began collecting used cell phones in conjunction with the organization Cell Phones for Soldiers as a way to show her gratitude for U.S. troops overseas. So far, she has collected 20 phones.

Cell Phones for Soldiers, which collects old cell phones and sends them to a Michigan-based recycling center, distributes pre-paid calling cards to soldiers overseas in order to defray the massive costs of overseas calls.

"It is a good way to give something back to those who sacrifice for us. It helps soldiers stay in touch with family back home," Tucker said.

Tucker, who is married to a military veteran, came across the Cell Phones for Soldiers Web site and wanted to start a local collection point for the Michiana area. She packages the collected cell phones and sends them to ReCellular, Inc. in Michigan.

Tucker said recycling cell phones is also beneficial to the environment. Americans replace nearly 130 million cell phones each year, filling landfills with discarded phones and producing tons of solid waste.

see PHONES/page 4

Administration takes part in Earth Hour

Lights on Golden Dome, Hesburgh Library turned off to raise environmental awareness

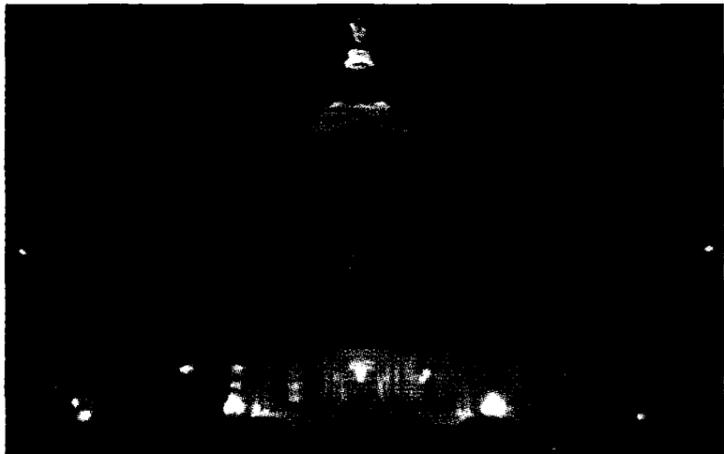


Photo courtesy of Mark McGuire

The lights usually illuminating the Golden Dome were turned off from 8 to 9 p.m. Saturday as a part of Earth Hour.

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame experienced a sight unfamiliar to campus Saturday night—a majestic, stately, but unlit Golden Dome.

In accordance with a project known as Earth Hour, the University turned off the lights of the Golden Dome and the library mural Saturday night from 8 to 9 p.m.

Earth Hour, a global event organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature, began last March 31 in Sydney, Australia in an

effort to decrease the city's carbon emissions, according to AustraliaEnergy.com.

Businesses as well as individuals committed to the hour-long effort to raise awareness about energy conservation, and to help find a way to reduce their impact on the environment, according to EarthHour.org.

Sophomore Mark McGuire learned about Earth Hour when in Chicago at a restaurant that advertised the effort, he said. He returned to campus and researched it, hoping to enact something similar at

see LIGHTS/page 4

University media win ICPA awards

Observer Staff Report

The Observer won five awards in four categories at the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) awards ceremony Saturday held at Indiana State University.

Other Notre Dame publications represented at ICPA included The Dome, named second-best yearbook, Scholastic, which tied for second place for Best News Magazine and The Juggler, which won best literary magazine.

Two Observer sports writers captured first place honors.

Current Editor-in-Chief

Chris Hine won first place in the Best Sports Column category for "Reslife's actions not consistent," which compared and questioned the University's suspensions of former football player Derrell Hand for charges of soliciting a prostitute and current basketball player Kyle McAlarney for charges of marijuana possession.

Current Managing Editor Jay Fitzpatrick won first place in the Best Sports Feature category for "Football for his family," a profile of Irish safety David Bruton and his son, Jaden.

see ICPA/page 4

SMC alum discusses NWP tactics

Taylor claims suffragette protesters innovated new political practices

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

Saint Mary's alumna and curator of the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum Danielle Taylor discussed the protest tactics used by the National Women's Party (NWP) during the suffrage movement in the early 20th century, including peacefully picketing the White House, in her lecture Saturday at the Science Hall.

Sewall-Belmont House & Museum displays permanent exhibits of women's suffrage and equal rights memorabilia in Washington D.C.

According to Taylor, the strategies used by the NWP now serve as models protes-

tors today.

"Their tactics have evolved to be very relevant in today's society," she said.

The NWP was "the first group to peacefully picket the White House," Taylor said.

Over 2,000 picketers were arrested during nationwide demonstrations. They were also the first group to demand status as political prisoners in U.S. history, Taylor said.

In addition, women attempted to dispel the image of "dainty, Victorian figures," Taylor said. Figures such as Joan of Arc became symbols of suffragist parades.

The party also utilized the media, establishing a weekly newspaper called "The Suffragist," to guarantee cov-

erage of women's issues.

Political cartoons in the newspaper portrayed women as bound and gagged by Uncle Sam, Taylor said.

After 1920, when women earned the right to vote, party leaders focused attention on the Equal Rights Amendment.

The party also developed the "Congressional Card Index," which listed the names of the congressmen's favorite restaurants, their wives' names and their positions on women's rights.

The lecture was sponsored by the Saint Mary's College Women's Studies and History Departments.

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@saintmarys.edu

INSIDE COLUMN

Me and my scooter

December 28, 2007: I pulled up to the Dupage Center for Surgery to undergo a bunionectomy on my right foot, surgical procedure to remove a bunion. A bunion, contrary to popular belief, is not excess skin on my foot or a variation of a wart.

My friends at Wikipedia define it as "a structural deformity of the bones and the joint between the foot and big toe, and may be painful."

Basically, I've had bunions on both of my feet since I was 15, but it wasn't until college that the excess walking finally caused the pain to be too much.

January 14, 2008: I remember the day back to school perfectly. My parents pulled into the NDSP parking lot to pick up my candy apple red #4 scooter, little did I know how much that scooter would change my outlook on everything.

Eugenia Alfonzo

Sports Writer

My scooter and I have been through a lot, I mean we've lasted 3 months together, that's longer than most Frosh-O relationships. However, it hasn't been totally easy, our relationship has hit a couple of rough patches.

For example, one time I woke up in the middle of the night with erupting fracture blisters that caused me to go home in the middle of day and use one of my precious gym skips.

My scooter wasn't really involved, but it was still sad leaving it plugged in the Pangborn lobby. Then there was that time that I was just scooting my way to DPAC for my FITT class, when all of a sudden I heard a pop and my scooter immediately swerved off the road. It turned out that one of the tires popped and caused me to be late to my Tuesday night screening.

The only upside to that event happened when NDSP came to pick my debilitated scooter up at Pangborn. I am told that the one NDSP car accidentally bumper kissed the other while trying to back up into the Pangborn staircase. It was apparently hilarious, I was sad I missed it.

There's also the many times that my scooter has skidded on icy sidewalks which have caused several near-crash experiences. Luckily it hasn't been anything too bad. I really can't complain though, I would have been lost without my scooter during these past three months.

One thing I have noticed is that the handicapped doors sometimes don't open when you press the button (going into Reckers, right side of the entrance under the Main Building, sometimes DeBartolo on northwest door.) I then have the choice between waiting for someone to open it or trying to maneuver it myself, which is quite difficult.

However, the first choice has led me to realize how nice the people are here.

The point of this rather long column is to say thanks for these past three months. Thanks to everyone who ever opened the door for me, held the DeBartolo elevator for me and not getting mad when I just had to go to the floor, whoever filled up the huge potholes on that Road between South and West Quad, NDSP and Health Services for letting injured students be mobile during recovery, and the nice ladies at South Dining Hall who had to put up with my indecision to get a pizza or make a salad.

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

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at ealfonzo@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: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT NOTRE DAME MAKING IT TO THE FROZEN FOUR?



Nicole Allen

freshman PW

"It's good that at least one of our teams is doing well this year."



Rebecca Bauman

junior Cavanaugh

"Quack! Quack! Quack! Quack!"



Morgan Schulz

junior Howard

"I think it's great because I'm from Colorado and that's where they're playing."



Danny Nolan

senior Sorin

"Well, if we can't have a good football team ..."



Andy Bulso

junior Alumni

"It's pretty cool."



Jeremy Thornton

law student off-campus

"I would have preferred it if they'd made it to the Final Four."



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Hawaiian Club member Kehau Meyer places a leis on a woman as she enters the 2008 Hawaiian club luau Sunday night at Stepan Center. Several students' parents traveled to campus from Hawaii for the celebration.

OFFBEAT

Missing pastor found in strip club

RIVERSIDE, Ohio — Police say a pastor who was reported missing from his home in western New York has been found at an Ohio strip club.

A police officer patrolling the K.C. Lounge parking lot Friday morning in the Dayton suburb of Riverside spotted out-of-state license plates on 46-year-old Craig Rhodenizer's car.

The FBI and New York authorities had been searching for Rhodenizer, who disappeared Wednesday after telling his

wife he was getting his computer fixed at Best Buy. He is the pastor of a church in Lyndonville, N.Y.

Detective Matt Sturgeon said Rhodenizer was disoriented when confronted by police and said he felt "emotionally guilty."

Man wakes up after night of drinking in garbage truck

MUNCIE, Ind. — William M. Bowen woke up after a night of drinking with friends and realized he was inside a commercial trash-collection truck full of waste.

The driver had just emp-

ty tied a commercial trash bin into his truck and was about to activate its compactor when he heard Bowen screaming.

"He looked up and this gentleman was standing out the top of our truck," said Larry Green, market safety supervisor for the Rumpke waste disposal company. Green said the only thing Bowen said to the driver was that he was cold.

"This gentleman was extremely intoxicated," he said.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Stanley Wells will deliver his lecture entitled "Sex and Literature in Shakespeare's Time" today at 5:00p.m. in Philbin Studio Theatre in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Joan Neal ,Rev. Cyprian Consiglio and Cardinal Francis George of Chicago will deliver lectures as part of a series entitled "Christ is Risen! So Now What?" today. The three will speak at 4:00p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:30p.m. respectively in the LaFortune Student Center ballroom.

The Notre Dame softball team will play Ball State at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday at Ivy Field.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play Western Michigan at 5:05 p.m. Tuesday at Eck Baseball Stadium.

The Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra will perform in its Spring Concert featuring pianist Päivi Ekroth in the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

The film "Blood Diamond," which tells the story of a the diamond trade in Sierra Leone, will be shown at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Thursday at 7 p.m.

The Notre Dame men's tennis team will play Ball State at 4:00 p.m. Friday at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 61 LOW 55	HIGH 55 LOW 50	HIGH 49 LOW 28	HIGH 47 LOW 32	HIGH 50 LOW 35	HIGH 48 LOW 34

Missing soldier's remains found

DNA test confirms identity of 20-year-old private captured in 2004

Associated Press

BATAVIA, Ohio — The father of a soldier listed as missing-captured in Iraq since 2004 said Sunday that the military had informed him that his son's remains had been found.

Keith Maupin said an Army general told him DNA testing had identified the remains of his son, Sgt. Keith Matthew Maupin, or "Matt" as he was commonly known. He said the Army didn't say how or where in Iraq his son's remains were discovered, only that officials found a shirt similar to the one his son was wearing at the time of his disappearance.

"My heart sinks, but I know they can't hurt him anymore," Maupin said, speaking in the soldier's hometown near suburban Cincinnati.

The Army was continuing its investigation, he said.

Lt. Lee Packnett, an Army public affairs officer in Washington, confirmed that the Maupins were notified Sunday that their son's remains had been identified. Packnett said an official statement about the identification would be released Monday.

Matt Maupin was a 20-year-old private first class when he was captured April 9, 2004, after his fuel convoy, part of the 724th Transportation Company, was ambushed west of Baghdad.

A week later, the Arab television network Al-Jazeera aired a

videotape showing Maupin sitting on the floor surrounded by five masked men holding automatic rifles.

That June, Al-Jazeera aired another tape purporting to show a U.S. soldier being shot. But the dark and grainy tape showed only the back of the victim's head and not the actual shooting.

The Maupins refused to believe it was their son, and the Army had listed him as missing-captured. The Maupins lobbied hard for the Army to continue listing their son as missing-captured, fearing that another designation would undermine efforts to find him.

Keith Maupin said the Army told him early on that there was only a 50 percent chance his son would be found alive. He said he doesn't hold the Army responsible for his son's death, but that he did hold the Army responsible for bringing his son home.

"I told them when we'd go up to the Pentagon, whether he walks off a plane or is carried off, you're not going to leave him in Iraq like you did those guys in Vietnam," Maupin said.

Keith Maupin and his ex-wife, Carolyn, held a candlelight vigil Sunday night outside the Yellow

Ribbon Support Center in Batavia, an office they used to package thousands of boxes of donated snacks and toiletries for shipment to soldiers in Iraq.

"It hurts," Carolyn Maupin said of her son's death. "After you go through almost four years of hope, and this is what happens, it's like a let down, so I'm trying to get through that right now."

Two U.S. soldiers remain missing in action in Iraq. Ahmed Qusai al-Taayie, a 41-year-old Iraqi-born reserve soldier from Ann Arbor, Mich., was abducted while visiting his Iraqi wife on Oct. 23, 2007, in Baghdad. Capt. Michael Speicher, a Navy pilot, has been missing since the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Matt Maupin graduated from Glen Este High School, just east of Cincinnati, in 2001 and attended the University of Cincinnati for a year before joining the Army Reserves.

Dan Simmons, the athletic director at Glen Este, remembered Maupin as a quiet but hard-working backup player on the school's football team.

"Matt was a selfless kid on the football field," Simmons said. "He did whatever the coaches told him. He wasn't a starter, but he made the other kids play harder."

"My heart sinks, but I know they can't hurt him anymore."

**Keith Maupin
soldier's father**

French architect wins Pritzker prize

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jean Nouvel, the French architect whose hyper-modern buildings have been acclaimed for their eclectic nature and departure from tradition, has won the 2008 Pritzker Architecture Prize, it was announced Sunday.

Nouvel joins Frank Gehry, Tadao Ando and I.M. Pei in receiving the top honor in the field in recognition of his high-rises, museums and performance halls around the world.

"I think they understood very well that I fight for specific architecture against generic architecture," Nouvel said by phone from his office in Paris. "Every project is an adventure."

Nouvel, 62, became the second Pritzker laureate to be chosen from France after Christian de Portzamparc, the 1994 recipient.

A formal ceremony will be held in June at the Library of Congress in Washington. Nouvel will receive a \$100,000 grant and a bronze medallion.

The Pritzker jury of architects, critics, academics and others praised Nouvel for his "persistence, imagination, exuberance, and, above all, an insatiable urge for creative experimentation."

Nouvel said his structures reflect time, place and occu-

pants rather than simply adhering to stylistic dogma or historical precedent.

"I think every site, every program, has a right to a specific work, to a complete involvement of the architect," he said. "I am always researching the missing piece of the puzzle, and I like to analyze the site and conditions and give my answer after."

Among the 200 projects singled out by the Pritzker jury were Arab World Institute in Paris, which is festooned with motor-controlled apertures to control natural light, and Guthrie Theater, a boxy structure in Minneapolis with exterior screens that show scenes from past performances at the storied playhouse.

Currently planned by Nouvel are a tower alongside New York's Museum of Modern Art that cuts a jagged profile to a height comparable to the Chrysler Building, and a narrow condo building dubbed the "Green Blade" in the Century City area of Los Angeles with verdant gardens visible behind its glass walls.

"He is an architect who is really always pushing the envelope, whose work is uneven — all of us agree on that — but his successes are so spectacular," said architectural historian and author Victoria Newhouse, a Pritzker juror.

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Assault

continued from page 1

on foot once the female informed him she was calling NDSP. The victim then returned to her residence hall.

There is no evidence suggesting the two were acquaintances, Johnson said, or whether alcohol was involved. The case was not classified as a "rape, but as a sexual assault," Johnson said. All the available informa-

tion about the case was released in the e-mail, Johnson said.

NDSP said the suspect is a white male, college age, 6-foot-2 with a medium build and wore a gray-hooded sweatshirt with "Notre Dame" across the front. NDSP said it did not know if the suspect was a student.

Students with information about Sunday morning's assault are asked to contact the NDSP investigations section at 574-631-8340.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

ICPA

continued from page 1

Former Assistant Managing Editor and 2006 Notre Dame graduate Bobby Griffin won second place in the Best Sports News Story category for "University suspends McAlarney," which detailed the University's suspension of McAlarney and included reaction to the suspension from McAlarney's mother, Janice.

Former Editor-in-Chief

Maddie Hanna captured second for Best In-Depth Story for "Suspension recalls past cases, raises questions," a comparison of McAlarney's suspension to other high profile suspensions.

Former Managing Editor Ken Fowler won third place in the Best Sports Column category for "Cause and effect affects smaller schools," an examination of how football coach Charle Weis' proposal for an early signing day would help big-time football programs, but hurt mid-major schools.

Phones

continued from page 1

"Rather than throw [a cell phone] away in a landfill, donating it can help soldiers and the environment," Tucker said.

Cell Phones for Soldiers also collects electronic cell phone accessories such as power supplies and batteries.

Since the beginning of Cell

Phones for Soldiers, the non-profit organization has distributed more than 400,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers. In 2008, the program hopes to collect 15,000 cell phones each month and purchase 12 million minutes of prepaid calling cards for soldiers, according to the program's Web site www.cell-phonesforsoldiers.com.

Contact Margaret Mirshak at mmirshak@nd.edu

Lights

continued from page 1

the University.

"When I heard that Earth Hour was an international event and included great landmarks such as the Sears Tower and Wrigley Field, I thought that we should do something here at Notre Dame," McGuire said.

McGuire, who lives in Keough Hall, said he described the project to his rector, Fr.

Pete McCormick, and convinced him to turn off the dorm's lights.

He then told junior Luke McCormick about Earth Hour and the pair decided to convince the University to take action.

The two contacted Director of Utilities Paul Kempf Friday afternoon asking the University to turn off the lights of some of its buildings.

"The speed with which the University moved clearly attests to the fact that energy conservation and responsibility to the environment are held as high priorities within the Administration," McGuire said.

Junior Lourdes Long echoed

McGuire's sentiments.

"[Turning off the lights of the two buildings] was really a visual commitment to this effort," said Long, a commissioner to the Energy and Environmental Issues Committee.

McGuire said he didn't know if the University would agree to turn off its lights because of the short notification.

"We figured that such late notice would make the task of getting through all the institutional red tape nearly

impossible, but we felt it was at least worth a try," McGuire said.

Long said students played a significant role in spreading the role about the movement.

"Environmental commissioners at each dorm are highly involved. The halls are a great way to spread the word," said Long.

McGuire said Keough Hall president Eddie Kremer helped him to contact the President's Hall Council so it could encourage other dorms to participate.

McGuire said also South Dining Hall manager Dawn Dieter aided in turning off the lights of South Saturday evening.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Bush begins farewell world tour

Despite unpopularity, president will visit NATO, Putin on trip

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Winding down his presidency, George W. Bush is beginning his farewell tour on the world stage trailed by questions about how much clout he still wields.

Unpopular abroad, as he is at home, Bush nevertheless has been a commanding presence among world leaders for the past seven years. Now, with fewer than 300 days left in his term, other presidents and prime ministers are looking beyond Bush to see who will occupy his chair a year from now.

It's an open question whether Bush's foreign policy priorities will be embraced by his successor in the Oval Office. Other world leaders have to calculate how far they should step out on the ledge with a president whose days are numbered and whose legacy had been darkened by the long and costly war in Iraq.

Air Force One will roar out of Andrews Air Force Base on Monday to whisk Bush to the first in a long-planned series of global goodbye events. After a brief stop in Ukraine, Bush stops in Romania to attend his last summit with NATO leaders. A few days later, Bush will

land in the Black Sea resort city of Sochi for his probable final meeting with Vladimir Putin as Russian president; his successor takes over in May.

Relations between Washington and Moscow have plummeted in recent years amid a welter of bitter disputes, and the talks in Sochi have raised hopes that Bush and Putin can lay the foundation for repairing ties.

This is busiest travel year in Bush's presidency in terms of the sheer number of trips.

He went to the Middle East in January and to Africa in February. After he returns from NATO and Russia, he has five more major excursions on the books — from Europe to Asia, the Middle East to South America.

In June, he will travel to Slovenia for his final summit with the European Union. He will attend his last summit of Group of Eight leaders of major industrial economies in Japan in July. He will go to Peru in November for his final meeting with Pacific Rim leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

More trips may be added as Bush moves closer to the exit and his successor emerges.

Around the world, there are hopes the next president will adopt a different style from what critics have called Bush's

cowboy diplomacy and go-it-alone foreign policy.

"There seems to be a great deal of enthusiasm, particularly for (Barack) Obama but also Hillary (Rodham Clinton) on the other side of the Atlantic, that there's going to be some revitalization of the trans-Atlantic partnership and we start with a clean slate and a new chapter and all the rest," said Julianne Smith, Europe program director for the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"I think a lot of these European countries have found a way to get past the dark shadows of 2003 and '04 when we had divides over Iraq and all the rest," she said. "And many of them are looking forward now to the next president in Washington and are already thinking about what the 2009 (NATO) summit will bring."

A change of leaders in Germany and France — which led the opposition to the war in Iraq — helped improve sour relations between Europe and the United States. But there still is some lingering ill will. There has been much trans-Atlantic bickering and finger-pointing, most notably about the purpose of NATO and its commitment to Afghanistan.

The U.S. has criticized Germany and other European allies that have refused to allow their troops in Afghanistan to be deployed to the southern heartland of Taliban insurgency alongside U.S., British, Canadian, Dutch and other contingents. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has proclaimed himself "a nag on the issue."

"There seems to be a great deal of enthusiasm, particularly for [Barack] Obama but also for Hillary [Rodham Clinton]."

Julianne Smith
Europe program director
Center for Strategic
and International Studies

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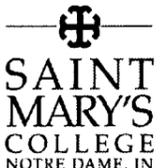
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WORLD & NATION

Monday, March 31, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Shiite cleric orders militia off streets

BAGHDAD — In a possible turning point in the recent upsurge in violence, Muqtada al-Sadr ordered his Shiite militiamen off the streets Sunday but called on the government to stop its raids against his followers.

The government welcomed the move, which followed intense negotiations by Shiite officials, including two lawmakers who reportedly traveled to Iran to ask religious authorities there to intervene.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, whose offensive that began Tuesday in the oil-rich southern city in Basra sparked the crisis, called al-Sadr's statement "a step in the right direction."

But fighting continued in the Basra area after the announcement. Seven people also were killed when a mortar struck a residential district in Baghdad's Karradah district, and witnesses reported clashes in the Shula area in a northern section of the capital.

Islam now world's largest religion

VATICAN CITY — Islam has surpassed Roman Catholicism as the world's largest religion, the Vatican newspaper said Sunday.

"For the first time in history, we are no longer at the top: Muslims have overtaken us," Monsignor Vittorio Formenti said in an interview with the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano. Formenti compiles the Vatican's yearbook.

He said that Catholics accounted for 17.4 percent of the world population — a stable percentage — while Muslims were at 19.2 percent.

NATIONAL NEWS

New York Times photographer dies

NEW YORK — Dith Pran, the Cambodian-born journalist whose harrowing tale of enslavement and eventual escape from that country's murderous Khmer Rouge revolutionaries in 1979 became the subject of the award-winning film "The Killing Fields," died Sunday. He was 65.

Dith died at a New Jersey hospital Sunday morning of pancreatic cancer, according to Sydney Schanberg, his former colleague at The New York Times. Dith had been diagnosed almost three months ago.

Dith was working as an interpreter and assistant for Schanberg in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, when the Vietnam War reached its chaotic end in April 1975 and both countries were taken over by Communist forces.

Man kills his own three children

BALTIMORE — A man killed his three young children at a downtown hotel Sunday, then called the front desk to report the killings, police said.

Mark Castillo, 41, of Silver Spring, called the desk at the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards at about 1:15 p.m. Sunday and said he had just killed his two sons and daughter, said police spokesman Sterling Clifford. Police identified the children as Anthony, 6, Austin, 4, and Athena, 2.

LOCAL NEWS

Clinton speaks at Mishawaka school

MISHAWAKA — Aaron Honchell was unhappy when he learned Hillary Rodham Clinton wouldn't be speaking at his South Bend school because officials thought a town hall meeting there would disrupt students.

But that didn't stop the Washington High School junior from seeing the presidential candidate in person Friday.

Honchell was among dozens of Washington High students who made the short trip to Mishawaka to hear the former first lady speak as part of a two-day, six-city swing through Indiana in her quest for the Democratic nomination.

"We wanted to show Hillary that we approve of her and we wanted her there," Honchell said.

About 4,000 people turned out at Mishawaka High School for Clinton's appearance, her second swing through Indiana in just over a week in a state that finds itself a political battleground for the first time since 1968.

Women voters support Clinton

Top democrats want former first lady to exit race, clear path for Obama

Associated Press

NEW ALBANY — Debra Starks has heard the calls for Hillary Rodham Clinton to quit the presidential race, and she's not happy about it.

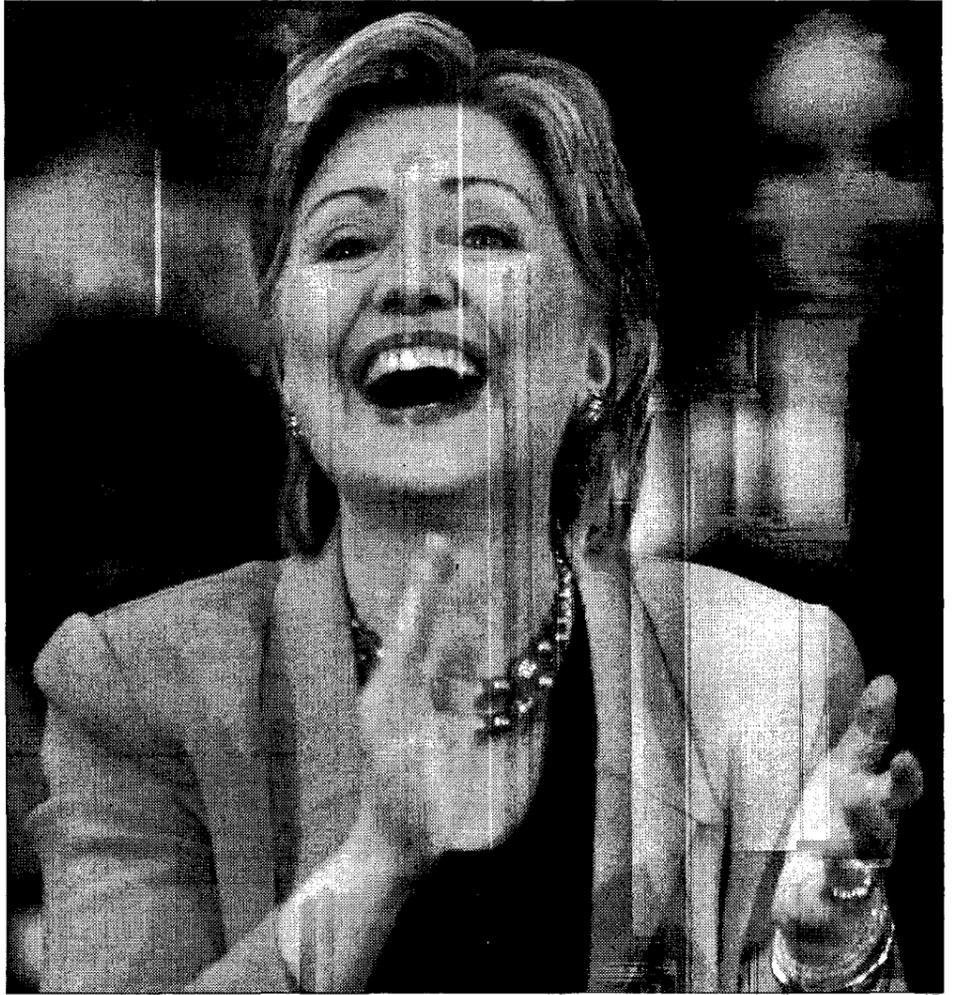
The 53-year-old Walmart clerk, so bedecked with Clinton campaign buttons most days that friends call her "Button Lady," thinks sexism is playing a role in efforts to push the New York senator from the race. Starks wants Clinton to push back.

"The way I look at it, she's a strong woman and she needs to stay in there. She needs to fight," Starks said at a Clinton campaign rally. "If you want to be president, you have to fight for what you want. If she stays in there and does what she's supposed to do, I think she'll be on her way."

Amid mounting calls from top Democrats for Clinton to step aside and clear the path for rival Barack Obama, strategists are warning of damage to the party's chances in November if women — who make up the majority of Democratic voters nationwide, but especially the older, white working-class women who've long formed the former first lady's base — sense a mostly male party establishment is unfairly muscling Clinton out of the race.

"Women will indeed be upset if it appears people are trying to push Hillary Clinton out of the way," said Carol Fowler, the South Carolina Democratic Party chair who is backing Obama. "If you are going to ask her to withdraw, you'd better be making a strong case for it — both to the candidate and the public."

Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy last week became the first leading Democrat to openly call on Clinton to abandon her bid and back Obama, a sentiment shared by many activists



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton tells supporters she will remain in the presidential race at a rally in Louisville, Ky. Saturday.

worried that a drawn-out nominating contest only bolsters Republican nominee-in-waiting John McCain.

Other Obama supporters have echoed that view while stopping short of asking Clinton to withdraw.

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson on Sunday called Obama's lead all but insurmountable, while Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry said the contest would be reaching "a point of judgment" very soon.

"I don't think it's up to our campaign or any individual to tell Hillary Clinton or their campaign when that is," Kerry, the 2004 Democratic nominee, said on ABC's "This Week" on Sunday. "But there will

be, I think, a consensus about it, and I think it's going to occur over these next weeks."

To be sure, Clinton campaign officials concede her path to winning the nomination is not at all clear.

She almost certainly will end the primary season narrowly trailing Obama in the popular vote and among pledged delegates unless the nullified primaries in Florida and Michigan are counted — an unlikely scenario at best. But Obama is unlikely to end the race with the 2,024 pledged delegates needed to win outright either, meaning the nominee will be determined by roughly 800 "superdelegates" — elected officials and party insiders who can back whichever candi-

date they want.

Most observers believe the superdelegates are unlikely to risk an intra-party uproar — not to mention the ire of black voters thrilled to support a black candidate — by siding with Clinton if Obama maintains his lead among pledged delegates.

But Clinton advisers believe many superdelegates remain at least persuadable, due in no small part to the influence of women voters on the party and in the general election.

"My e-mail is bursting with women who are furious, and it's grown in the last week," said Ann Lewis, Clinton's director of women's outreach and a longtime Democratic activist.

SOUTH KOREA

Threat of nuclear attack increases tension

Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea threatened South Korea with destruction Sunday after Seoul's top military officer said his country would consider attacking the communist nation if it tried to carry out a nuclear attack.

The statement from North Korea's official news agency marked the third straight day of bellicose rhetoric from the North, which is angry over the harsher line the South's conservative new president has taken against the country since assuming office last month.

"Our military will not sit idle until warmongers launch a pre-emptive strike," said an unidentified KCNA military commentator. "Everything will be in ashes, not just a sea of fire, if our advanced pre-emptive strike once begins."

On Friday, North Korea test-fired a barrage of missiles into the sea and warned it would "mercilessly wipe out" any South Korean warships that violate its waters near their disputed sea border.

Such rhetoric by North Korea at times of increased tensions is not rare, and it comes just two days before a scheduled visit to South Korea by the chief U.S. negotiator

in North Korean nuclear disarmament talks.

South Korea's Defense Ministry reacted calmly.

A senior military officer at the ministry said officials were working "to ensure the public would not worry about" the North's recent actions and statements. He declined to elaborate and asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak to media.

Sunday's KCNA statement also warned that the North would suspend all scheduled inter-Korean dialogue unless Seoul retracts and apologizes for the remark by its new top military leader.

SWEDEN

Stricter asylum laws affect Iraqis

Nation tightens immigration regulations to preserve welfare system

Associated Press

SOLLENTUNA — The fear of being sent back to Baghdad has taken its toll on Mustafa Aziz Alwi.

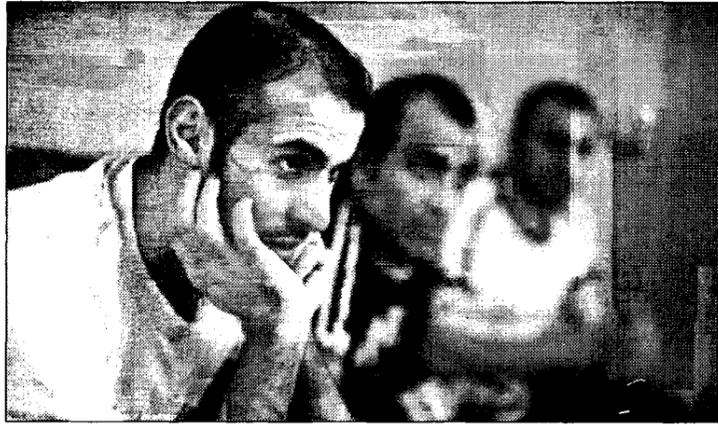
He says he cannot sleep and has lost about 20 pounds since his claim for asylum in Sweden was rejected in January.

"They told me it's because it's calmer in Iraq now, that I can go back and be happy. But they don't know that it's death there," said Aziz Alwi, 25, wiping away tears in an interview at his cousin's apartment in the Stockholm suburb of Sollentuna.

Had his case been decided a year earlier, he would probably already hold a residence permit. Sweden has given shelter to about 100,000 Iraqis, 40,000 of them since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003. That's far more than any other Western country including the U.S., which admitted just over 1,600 Iraqi refugees in the 2007 fiscal year, nearly 400 short of the annual goal of 2,000, and a big reduction from an initial target of 7,000.

But Sweden has gradually tightened its asylum rules, worried that its generous welfare system can't cope.

The effects became evident this year, when immigration statistics obtained by The Associated Press showed only



Iraqi asylum seeker Mustafa Aziz Alwi, left, may be sent back home to Iraq due to changes in Sweden's immigration policies.

28 percent of the claims were approved in January and 23 percent in February — down from 85 percent in January 2007.

While Sweden has won praise for the welcome it extends to Iraqis, the government sees the surge of newcomers as out of control and has appealed in vain to fellow European Union states to share the burden.

"We find it totally unacceptable that some countries do a lot while others do very little," Migration Minister Tobias Billstrom told the AP.

"When very many people arrive within a very short period of time, it puts an enormous strain on the system, like

schools and health care," he said.

In 2007, more than 18,000 Iraqis applied for asylum in Sweden — four times more than in Germany and 10 times more than in Britain, according to figures compiled by the European Council of Refugees and Exiles, an advocacy group.

But the numbers dropped sharply this year, with only 835 asylum-seekers coming to Sweden in February — down nearly 40 percent from the previous month to the lowest level since July 2006. In the first three weeks of March, only 376 Iraqis sought asylum in Sweden, suggesting the downward trend continues.

Obama stops by Penn State campus

Associated Press

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Shivering in blankets of Penn State's colors, some 20,000 people filled a campus lawn Sunday to hear Barack Obama say he can win the Democratic nomination even if rival Hillary Rodham Clinton stays in the race.

Supporters stood in long lines for hours to hear Obama ahead of the April 22 Pennsylvania primary.

On a sunny day with temperatures in the low 40s, most bundled up for the type of large-scale rally that has become the candidate's trademark.

"It's been a while, and it's a little cold, but we really like Barack. He's inspiring," said 19-year-old Caitlin McDonnell, wrapped in a blue Nittany Lions blanket.

Pennsylvania's primary is the next contest in the Obama-Clinton fight for the Democratic presidential nomination. The Keystone State,

which will allocate 158 delegates, is the biggest single delegate prize remaining in the Democratic primaries.

Some Democrats, particularly Obama's supporters, have voiced concern that the hard-fought, drawn-out race is already hurting the party's chances to win in November. The Illinois senator told the crowd not to worry.

"As this primary has gone on a little bit long, there have been people who've been voicing some frustration," Obama said.

"I want everybody to understand that this has been a great contest, great for America. It's engaged and involved people like never before. I think it's terrific that Senator Clinton's supporters have been as passionate as my supporters have been because that makes the people invested and engaged in this process, and I am absolutely confident that when this primary season is over Democrats will be united."

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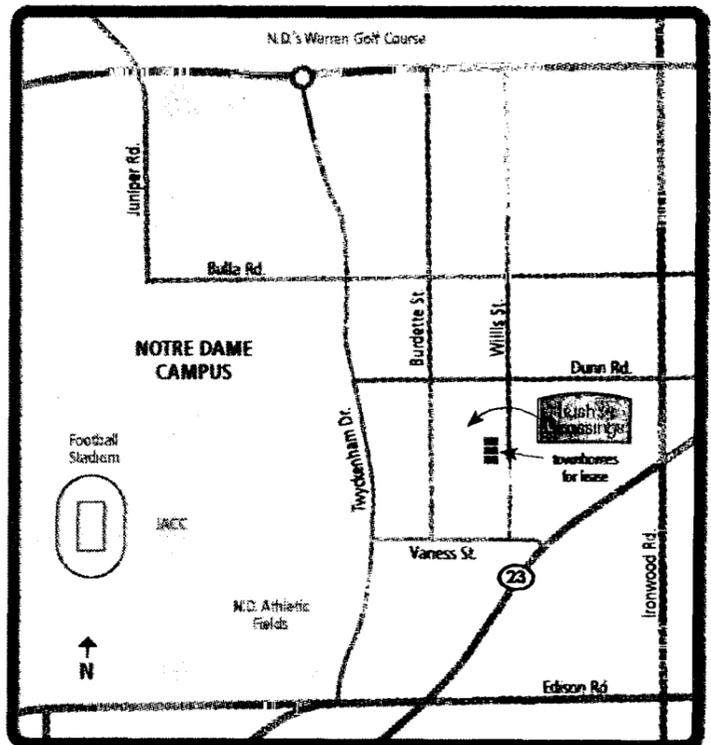
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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	12,216.40	-86.06	
Up: 1,111	Same: 102	Down: 2,204	Composite Volume: 3,691,156,260
AMEX	2,222.93	-13.11	
NASDAQ	2,261.18	-19.65	
NYSE	8,762.12	-55.05	
S&P 500	297.17	-2.44	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	12,682.11	-138.36	
FTSE 100 (London)	5,692.90	-24.60	
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-0.96	-1.27	131.51
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.50	-0.22	43.49
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	-2.26	-0.57	24.65
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-4.41	-0.96	20.83
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.92	-0.068	1.350
13-WEEK BILL	+8.00	+0.10	4.345
30-YEAR BOND	-0.71	-0.031	2.535
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.59	-0.041	
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.96		105.62
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-17.50		936.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.00		70.50
Exchange Rates			
YEN			99.7300
EURO			0.6343
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0231
BRITISH POUND			0.50

IN BRIEF

Film, TV actors to negotiate separately

LOS ANGELES — Unions representing film and television actors will negotiate separately with producers in upcoming contract talks after board members of the TV actors union voted Saturday to sever a long-standing agreement between the two guilds.

The vote by the board of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists came hours before a meeting with the Screen Actors Guild and just three months before the expiration of the contract covering movies and prime-time shows.

Despite a sometimes rocky 27-year relationship the unions had shown recent signs of peace as they prepared for the upcoming talks.

The two groups had hoped at Saturday's meeting to set a start date for negotiations. Instead of discussing strategies the sides swapped accusations.

"For the past year SAG leadership in Hollywood has engaged in a relentless campaign of disinformation and disparagement," AFTRA president Roberta Reardon said in a written statement.

Vytorin fails to improve heart disease

CHICAGO — Leading doctors urged a return to older, tried-and-true treatments for high cholesterol after hearing full results Sunday of a failed trial of Vytorin.

Millions of Americans already take the drug or one of its components, Zetia. But doctors were stunned to learn that Vytorin failed to improve heart disease even though it worked as intended to reduce three key risk factors.

"People need to turn back to statins," said Yale University cardiologist Dr. Harlan Krumholz, referring to Lipitor, Crestor and other widely used brands. "We know that statins are good drugs. We know that they reduce risks."

The study was closely watched because Zetia and Vytorin have racked up \$5 billion in sales despite limited proof of benefit. Two Congressional panels launched probes into why it took drugmakers nearly two years after the study's completion to release results.

Candidates devise economic plans

Democrats support stimulus packages; McCain proposes to protect markets

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain have diagnosed the swooning U.S. economy and have come up with rival plans to revive it. If the downturn lasts as long as some economists predict, one of the three will get a chance to try to sell his or her proposal to Congress as president.

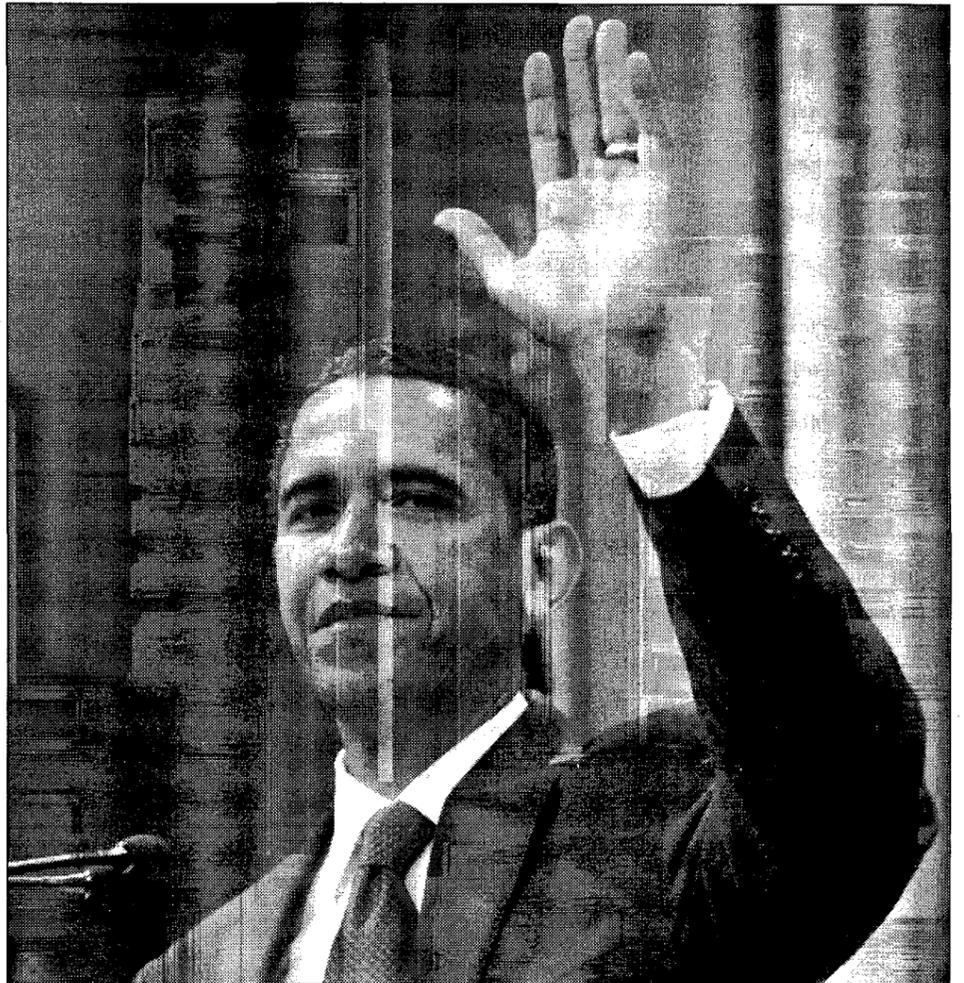
Or if the economy hits bottom before Inauguration Day and then turns up, the victor may be handed a rare gift: the chance to begin a presidency presiding over the early stages of a rebound.

Take your pick. Who knows where the economy will be in nine and a half months?

As economic clouds darkened last week, all three candidates delivered major speeches on the economy while the Bush administration prepared a plan to give the Federal Reserve new regulatory powers over the financial system.

Democrats Clinton and Obama outlined competing \$30 billion stimulus packages to help homeowners facing foreclosure and other victims of the financial crisis. This would be on top of the \$168 billion stimulus package of rebates and temporary tax cuts passed by Congress last month and signed by President Bush. Both Clinton and Obama also called for broader financial regulation.

Republican John McCain advocated voluntary action by lenders, more transparency in the lending process and the



Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama gives a speech about the economy at Cooper Union in New York Thursday.

convening of a national conference of accountants and mortgage lenders to review how real estate is valued. He opposed large, taxpayer-financed bailouts but backed cuts in corporate tax rates and making permanent expiring Bush tax cuts.

The two Democrats are calling for a more activist role for the U.S. government to protect individuals. McCain is echoing standard GOP dogma of protecting markets and opposing

bailouts.

All three praised recent intervention by the Fed and the Treasury Department to calm the financial storm, including sharp Fed interest rate cuts and a \$29 billion rescue plan for investment giant Bear Stearns.

Since all three are members of the U.S. Senate, they can influence congressional action now. But political reality being what it is, their time for impact — at least for one of them

— probably lies in the future, not the present.

And there already is a welter of antirecessionary proposals pending in Congress — including major bills by Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., and Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., to let the government step in and back up to \$400 billion in troubled loans. Both Clinton and Obama have endorsed this legislation.

Economic statistics last week painted a bleak picture, reflecting continuing housing, credit and

Review responds to financial problems

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In proposing the broadest overhaul of financial oversight since the Great Depression, the Bush administration has kicked off a fierce debate. It pits those eager to revamp an antiquated system against an industry opposed to excessive regulation.

The administration is aware of the hardening lines. The 200-page plan set for release Monday comes with the financial system in the midst of the most severe credit crisis in two generations.

That crunch has meant billions of dollars of losses for big banks and investment houses. It has caused the near-collapse of the country's fifth largest investment bank, made it harder for consumers and businesses to get loans and pushed the country to the brink of a recession.

The market turmoil has presented an opening for critics to make the

case for strong federal rules to crack down on abuses that they believe were at the heart of the current crisis.

But Treasury Secretary Paulson, who has led the effort to rewrite regulations, rejects that criticism.

"I do not believe it is fair or accurate to blame our regulatory structure for the current turmoil," according to a draft of a speech he planned to give Monday when he outlines the administration's proposals.

In interviews over the weekend, administration officials sought to frame the proposals as an effort to devise a system that would help keep U.S. companies competitive in an increasingly connected global economy.

"Despite the fact that there will be a temptation to view this through a lens of what is happening now in credit markets, this has been a process that has been going on for a

year," said David Nason, Treasury's assistant secretary for domestic finance. "These are very complex issues that require a serious amount of debate."

Treasury began work on the review in early 2007. It came in response to complaints from the financial services industry that U.S. businesses were losing their edge in global competition because of over-regulation by Washington.

The yearlong review produced a plan calling for the greatest changes in financial regulation since many of the current oversight institutions were created in the 1930s.

The Federal Reserve would be a big winner, gaining new powers to serve as the protector of stability for the entire financial system. The plan would abolish some institutions such as the Office of Thrift Supervision and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; their responsibilities would shift to other agencies.

NIU police chief reflects on shootings

Associated Press

DEKALB, Ill. — The police chief at Northern Illinois University replays the chaos over and over in his mind: sprinting, pistol in hand and reading glasses still on, through waves of screaming students at a lecture hall.

Donald Grady remembers kneeling over the wounded and dying as the gunman's body lay on stage, dead of a gunshot wound.

And he still wonders weeks later: Could he have done more to prevent the deaths of five students when a former student opened fire in the crowded hall on Valentine's Day?

"I know intuitively there's nothing I could have done to protect them," he told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "But it doesn't change the fact that, inside, I feel like I wanted to be able to do something."

Grady has SWAT team training and has advised governments and militaries in war-torn countries, but the shooting, he said, was the "ugliest" test of his career. And it was one that reinforced and, in some ways, softened the gruff persona that had sometimes caused him trouble.

Crises aren't new to the Beloit, Wis., native.

Grady scrambled to rescue trapped peacekeepers during a riot in the Balkans in the late '90s, when he led a 300-person United Nations peacekeeping

force.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, he played a central role in creating a police force composed of civil war foes — Muslims, Croats and Serbs. He helped set up police schools in Kosovo and the former Yugoslavia.

He spent most of 2007 in Iraq advising that country on building a new police force.

When it came to domestic police work, though, characteristics that helped him excel in a military environment sometimes caused problems.

After he became Wisconsin's first black police chief in the mostly white town of Bloomer in 1989, he created a stir by issuing nearly 300 tickets, including to himself, for violations of a snow-shoveling ordinance.

When he became Santa Fe, N.M., chief in 1994, he ordered officers to stop accepting free cups of coffee on the job and banned bolo ties, popular among police in the West. He further infuriated officers by imposing longer shifts.

"He was like watching the movie 'Patton,'" said Greg Solano, who headed Santa Fe's police union when Grady was there. "He was always like, 'Things are done my way or the highway.'"

Police officers responded by adopting a 103-5 no-confidence vote in their boss. Grady later resigned, saying his reforms had encountered too much resistance.

PAKISTAN

Militant leader open to peace talks

Maulvi Faqir Mohammed says 'Our war is with America'

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — A militant leader with alleged ties to al-Qaida welcomed an offer by Pakistan's new prime minister to negotiate with Islamic fighters accused of launching terrorist attacks from tribal regions bordering Afghanistan.

Maulvi Faqir Mohammed also said Sunday his fighters were not "enemies" of Pakistan. "Our war is with America," he said.

Speaking in the Bajur tribal region, Mohammed told more than 4,000 supporters — hundreds of armed militants among them — "We welcome the government's announcement of talks with the Taliban."

Pakistani authorities claim Mohammed has ties with al-Qaida No. 2 leader Ayman al-Zawahri. His comments came a day after Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani said in his inaugural speech that fighting terrorism was his government's top priority.

But in a rebuke to the strong-arm anti-terrorism policy of the U.S.-allied President Pervez Musharraf, Gilani also said his government was willing to talk to militants who are ready to lay down their arms and "join the path of peace."

Expanding education and development in the impoverished region would be a "key pillar" of the government's

strategy against militants in the tribal zone, he said.

The United States has criticized past efforts to reach out to militants, saying it has allowed hard-liners to tighten their grip along the border.

Many Pakistanis believe Musharraf's reliance on large-scale army operations, as well as his tacit approval of U.S. airstrikes inside Pakistan, have endangered civilians and produced a spike in domestic terrorism.

Also Sunday, a leader in Gilani's administration called for Musharraf to step down.

"The sooner he resigns the better it is for himself and for the democratic process," said Ahsan Iqbal, a lawmaker from the Pakistan Muslim League-N party who is tipped to become education minister in the new Cabinet.

"On Feb. 18 people have voted against his policies and have voted for change," Iqbal said.

Opposition parties swept last month's parliamentary elections amid resentment over Musharraf's increasingly authoritarian rule, Pakistan's mounting economic problems

and a surge in militant attacks. The defeat has triggered calls for Musharraf — a former army chief who seized power in a military coup eight years ago — to resign.

Parliament elected Gilani, a loyalist of slain opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, as prime minister last week. On Monday, Musharraf was expected to swear in more than 20 members of the new Cabinet.

Mohammed, the militant leader, said the government should not cooperate with the United States.

"Whenever Pakistan will work for American interests as its ally, we will have our opposition to that matter," Mohammed said amid chants of "death to America."

Maulana Fazlur Rehman, a pro-Taliban cleric and member of Gilani's coalition government, said the new administration will try to prevent the U.S. military from launching further airstrikes inside Pakistan.

"We will try our best to stop America from making any further attacks in our border areas," Rehman told reporters in the eastern city of Multan.

"The sooner [Musharraf] resigns the better it is for himself and for the democratic process."

Ahsan Iqbal
Pakistan Muslim League-N Party lawmaker

MILES FROM THE SIDELINE

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FRANCE

Young French Muslims fight in Iraq

Seven men accused of criminal association with terrorist enterprises

Associated Press

PARIS — Boubakeur el Hakim traded his Paris neighborhood of boulangeries and halal butcher shops for the insurgent camps of Iraq. When he came home, he told his war stories to other young men on the forgotten edges of French society, allegedly persuading some to follow in his footsteps.

His younger brother did, and died fighting U.S. forces.

After years of investigation by French authorities, el Hakim, 24, went on trial this month in a case exposing how the Iraq war has sucked radical youths from Europe to a battlefield where they have learned skills that officials fear may one day be used in domestic terror attacks.

Along with four other young Frenchmen, a Moroccan and an Algerian, el Hakim is accused of funneling French Muslim fighters to Iraq. All the Frenchmen except

suspected ringleader Farid Benyettou, 26, have acknowledged going to Iraq or planning to go. All deny inciting others to go.

All seven men are accused of criminal association with a terrorist enterprise, a vague charge that carries a maximum 10-year sentence, though the prosecutor only asked for between three and eight years.

The case is a delicate one in France, which strongly opposed the U.S.-led campaign in Iraq but has long struggled against homegrown terrorism. It also highlights a dilemma in many European nations with growing Muslim populations: Cracking down hard risks alienating or radicalizing moderate

Muslims and betraying western ideals of tolerance.

The suspected nucleus of the network, janitor-turned-street preacher Benyettou, told the court the case against him was "fantasy" and an affront to his freedom of speech. He told the judge he had served only as a friendly ear to young people in his neighborhood, answering questions about Islam that went ignored by France's secular schools and institutions.

In one interrogation session with anti-terrorist agents, however, Benyettou said: "I taught that suicide attacks are legitimate under Islam."

"Jihad is justified," he said in another session in the days following his January 2005 arrest, according to the depositions viewed by The Associated Press.

El Hakim described placing and detonating roadside bombs with equipment that resembled a cordless phone, the transcript of one deposition says. He claimed 10 American troops were killed in the last three operations he took part in, it says.

In a French radio interview broadcast from Baghdad in 2003, he urged Parisian friends to join him on the battlefields. "I'm ready to set off dynamite and boom! Boom! We kill all the Americans!" he said on RTL radio.

In court, while he didn't deny his radio appeal, el Hakim said some of his statements to police were made under duress and that his role in Iraq was primarily "humanitarian."

Investigators say the alleged network funneled about a dozen French fighters to camps linked to al-Qaida in Iraq head Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, and sought to send more before he was killed in a U.S. airstrike in 2006. At least seven French insurgents have died, some in suicide bombings, police say.

"I taught that suicide attacks are legitimate under Islam."

Farid Benyettou
suspected ringleader of terrorist enterprise

Mayor responds to city's struggles

Associated Press

OAKLAND — At a high school in a struggling neighborhood in this violence-scarred city, Mayor Ron Dellums stood on tiptoe and congratulated a basketball player who led his team to a state championship.

"In a community where we find ourselves more often than not mourning, we are rejoicing," the former congressman told the grinning teenager and hundreds of other screaming students.

Such celebrations have been rare during Dellums' 15 months in office.

In recent months, a 10-year-old boy was paralyzed by a bullet that struck him during a piano lesson, a powerful state politician was carjacked by a masked man, a popular community journalist was gunned down in broad daylight, and a 13-year-old was shot in the foot outside a rosary service for another teen who was killed by police after allegedly drawing a gun.

In the past three months alone, the city of 400,000 people across the Bay from San Francisco has logged 34 homicides, more than double than during the same period last year.

"It's very frustrating," the mayor said in a rare sit-down interview. "I get up every morning praying that I don't open the newspaper and there's somebody dead."

The Democrat, 72, was swept into office after a stint on the Berkeley City Council in the 1960s and nearly three decades on Capitol Hill, including chairmanship of the House Armed Services Committee. He had been ready to retire when resi-

dents and local politicians recruited him to run for mayor.

No one denied he faced a bumpy road. Oakland's mix of guns, poverty, pollution and crime had undermined the administrations of previous mayors, including Dellums' immediate predecessor, former California Gov. Jerry Brown.

"Anyone attempting to take this challenge on would run into extreme difficulties," said Terry Jones, a professor of sociology and social work at California State University, East Bay. "As storied as his career has been, I think Jesus would catch hell in Oakland."

Dellums is realistic about what lies ahead.

"We work diligently here, constantly, trying to deal with these issues. You get on a plane, you go to Washington, you beg for money. You go to foundations and you beg for money. You say 'Give us the resources to help us do the job every day.'"

Ron Dellums
Oakland mayor

"I think we're putting in place the pieces that I think will ultimately create a better community for everybody."

"I think people in our community need to understand what we're up against, and that's not simplistic," the mayor said.

Dellums and his staff have made progress toward getting Oakland's police force up to full strength, a step that previous mayors had failed to achieve. The department is currently more than 70 officers short and losing five more each month to retirement.

He oversaw an agreement between the officers union and the city that will return authority for deploying officers to Police Chief Wayne Tucker. Before the agreement, that power resided with the union.

Brown, who is now California's attorney general, cautions that the police department has many more hurdles to overcome: "The crime rate is extremely high and it's dangerous work, and in Oakland you have a number of individuals who are not sympathetic to police."

Dellums, a staunch liberal who successfully ushered anti-apartheid legislation through Congress that helped free political prisoners, isn't so naive to think progress will be made overnight.

"I think we're putting in place the pieces that I think will ultimately create a better community for everybody," he said.

While the mayor has been portrayed as aloof and criticized for leaving the city to campaign for Hillary Rodham Clinton in her bid to become the Democratic nominee for president, he gets support from people like Richard Rodriguez, whose son is the one paralyzed by a stray bullet that struck him during a piano lesson.



MORRISSEY

— MANOR —

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The Manor Medallion Hunt is a week long campus-wide search for a single three-inch medallion. The Medallion is located somewhere on the Notre Dame campus — not in a residence hall, church, or at the Grotto. A new riddle will appear daily in the Observer and at the Morrissey website:

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ZIMBABWE

Opposition party leads in elections

Associated Press

HARARE — Zimbabwe's main opposition party claimed an early lead Sunday in elections, seeking to thwart any possible vote rigging by President Robert Mugabe amid silence from the Electoral Commission and the deployment of security forces.

Earlier people celebrated in the streets, dancing, singing and giving each other the openhanded wave that is the opposition party's symbol.

But by sundown, as frustrations grew more than 24 hours after polls closed, riot police and other security forces were patrolling the capital's densely populated suburbs, according to independent election monitors.

In previous elections, partial results have been announced within hours of voting ending.

"Why are we not getting the results? It's very clear to me Mugabe wants to steal this election," said Hapison Mate, a 23-year-old first-time voter.

The head of the Pan-African Parliament observer mission warned the delay was creating "anxiety" and warned of a scenario similar to Kenya, where a delayed announcement of results from a disputed December election led to an explosion of violence. More than 1,000 people were killed.

"These are the delays that start causing problems," Marwick Khumalo, head of the Pan-African Parliament observers, told South African Broadcasting Corp. TV.

Discontent with Mugabe has grown nationwide and the election was seen as the toughest challenge to his 28-year rule. Unemployment stands at 80 percent — the same percentage that survives on less than \$1 a day. Inflation is the highest in the world at more than 100,000 percent and people suffer crippling shortages of food, water, electricity, fuel and medicine.

"The Mugabe regime is a disgrace to the people of Zimbabwe and a disgrace to southern Africa and to the continent of Africa as whole," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday while in the Middle East for peace talks.

Mugabe calls his opponents stooges of former colonial ruler Britain and says the nation must make sacrifices to overcome its colonial legacy.

Running against Mugabe are chief opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai, 55, who narrowly lost disputed 2002 elections, and former ruling party loyalist and finance minister Simba Makoni, 58. If no presidential candidate wins 50 percent plus one vote, there will be a runoff.

Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change said he was leading the presidential race with 67 percent of votes, basing its unofficial count on returns from 35 percent of polling stations nationwide.

The party also claimed to have

taken some of Mugabe's rural strongholds. The claims were based on results posted overnight on the doors of polling stations.

But the outcome of the race was impossible to predict without results from other rural areas, where three-quarters of Zimbabwe's population live and Mugabe garners most of his support.

Security and government officials loyal to Mugabe have warned Tsvangirai against declaring a victory. "It is called a coup d'etat and we all know how coups are handled," chief presidential spokesman George Charamba was quoted as saying in the state-controlled Sunday Mail newspaper.

Two officials of the ruling party said Mugabe was consulting with his security chiefs Sunday night amid fears of how they might react to any news of his defeat. The chiefs all have said they would serve only Mugabe. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Western diplomats, who also spoke on condition of anonymity for that same reason, reported that many younger army officers showed open defiance of orders that they had to vote for Mugabe.

On Sunday, commission chairman Judge George Chiweshe was forced to flee from a Harare hotel after he was mobbed by journalists and ordinary people. "We want results," they yelled.

"This has been a more complicated election," Chiweshe said. "We will be releasing the results as soon as we can." He said it was taking time because Zimbabweans — for the first time — voted for president, the two houses of Parliament and local councilors, so four ballots have to be counted for each voter instead of one.

Observers from the South African Democratic Alliance opposition party said accounts from observers and others indicated the opposition "has won a majority in most areas."

"If this is not reflected in the results, this will be yet another indication that the election was rigged," they added.

Mugabe has dismissed allegations of vote rigging. "We do not rig," he said Saturday after voting and promising to respect results. "If you lose an election and are rejected by the people, it is time to leave politics."

Observers from the Pan-African Parliament, though, have questioned thousands of names on the official voter roll, and the government has barred several international media organizations and some observers from the U.S. and Europe.

The Southern African Development Community's observer mission said it was concerned by the threats made by the country's security chiefs, delays in producing the voters' roll, the presence of police officers in polling stations and lack of impartiality in the state media.

GREECE

Beijing accepts Olympic torch

Pro-Tibetan protesters chant, hold banners before police intervention

Associated Press

ATHENS — Chinese spectators cheered Sunday as Greece handed off the Olympic flame for its journey to Beijing and relay through 20 countries. But protesters brandishing Tibetan flags stole the limelight.

Some two dozen activists chanted "Save Tibet!" and unfurled a banner reading "Stop Genocide in Tibet" before police intervened, detaining 21 protesters outside the Panathenian Stadium. Most were later freed.

A police cordon prevented the demonstrators from disrupting the final leg of Greece's relay from the Acropolis to the marble stadium, the venue of the first modern Olympics in 1896.

About 7,000 Greek and Chinese spectators cheered as Greek triple jumper Hrysopigi Devetzi carried the torch into the stadium, lined with the flags of both countries. Greek presidential guards and actresses dressed as ancient priestesses looked on.

"It was an emotional experience for me," Devetzi said. "I hope the flame will bring light to all athletes, especially those from Greece and that everything with the Games goes well."

The president of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, Minos Kyriakou, delivered the flame to chief Beijing organizer Liu Qi. The torch later left Athens on a specially equipped Air China flight expected to arrive in Beijing on Monday.

Qi promised a "grand welcoming ceremony" in Tiananmen Square, where the government



Cauldron with the Olympic torch burns at Panathenian Stadium in Athens, Greece Sunday.

has increased security. The torch will then travel through 20 countries before returning to mainland China, covering 85,100 miles.

Kyriakou appealed for respect for a "timeless symbol which stirs admiration, pride and faith" in the Olympics. "I hope the world community welcomes the flame and honors it," he said.

The relay has become a magnet for Tibetan protesters and human rights activists, who disrupted the March 26 flame-lighting ceremony in Athens and dogged the weeklong Greek leg of the relay.

"We just wanted to show our support for Tibet, peacefully, and when we displayed the flags we were taken away by police," said Klara Vrhova, a Czech member of the Students for a Free Tibet group.

Marina Staroyianni, a Greek member of the group, said protesters wanted "to let the whole world know that China is violating human rights" in Tibet.

"A lot of people are now talking about the problem, throughout the world," she added.

The flame goes Tuesday to Almaty, Kazakhstan, and then on to Istanbul, Turkey, and St. Petersburg, Russia. Those stops are not expected to bring problems, but the following three could: London, Paris and San Francisco.

London's route on April 6 is sure to be lined by thousands of demonstrators, who are expected to have a wreath-laying ceremony to commemorate those killed in Tibet's recent unrest. Tibetan exiles say almost 140 people have died, while the Beijing government puts the number at 22.

Pro-Tibet demonstrators are expected to be just as numerous in Paris on April 7. French President Nicolas Sarkozy is the first European leader to suggest a boycott of the opening ceremony as a possibility to protest China's handling of the unrest in Tibet.



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Katrina victims to repay grants

Company may collect up to \$150,000 from hurricane survivors

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Imagine that your home was reduced to mold and wood framing by Hurricane Katrina.

Desperate for money to rebuild, you engage in a frustrating bureaucratic process, and after months of living in a government-provided trailer tainted with formaldehyde you finally win a federal grant.

Then a collector calls with the staggering news that you have to pay back thousands of dollars.

Thousands of Katrina victims may be in that situation.

A private contractor under investigation for the compensation it received to run the Road Home grant program for Katrina victims says that in the rush to deliver aid to homeowners in need some people got too much. Now it wants to hire a separate company to collect millions in grant overpayments.

The contractor, ICF International of Fairfax, Va., revealed the extent of the overpayments when it issued a March 11 request for bids from companies willing to handle "approximately 1,000 to 5,000 cases that will necessitate collection effort."

The bid invitation said: "The average amount to be collected is estimated to be approximately \$35,000, but in some cases may be as high as \$100,000 to \$150,000."

The biggest grant amount allowed by the Road Home program is \$150,000, so ICF believes it paid some recipients the maximum when they should not have received a penny. If ICF's highest estimate of 5,000 collection cases — overpaid by an average of \$35,000 — proves to be true, that means applicants will have

to pay back a total of \$175 million.

One-third of qualified applicants for Road Home help had yet to receive any rebuilding check as of this past week. The program, which has come to symbolize the lurching Katrina recovery effort, is financed by \$11 billion in federal funds.

ICF spokeswoman Gentry Brann said in an e-mail Friday that the overpayments are the inevitable result of the Road Home grant being recalculated to account for insurance money and government aid given to Katrina victims.

Brann said there was a sense of urgency in paying Road Home applicants, and ICF and the state knew applicants would have to return some money.

"The choice was either to process grants immediately or wait until the March 2008 deadline (for submitting Road Home applications) before disbursing any funds," Brann said in her e-mail.

Brann pointed out that 5,000 collections cases would represent a 4-percent error rate for the Road Home that is "quite good for large federal programs."

Frank Silvestri, co-chair of the Citizen's Road Home Action Team, a group that formed out of frustrations with ICF, sees it far differently.

"They want people to pay for their incompetence and their mistakes. What they need to be is aggressive about finding the underpayments," he said. "People relied, to their detriment, on their (ICFs) expertise and rebuilt their houses and now they want to squeeze this money back out of them."

The prospect of Road Home grant collections comes less than

two weeks after the Louisiana inspector general and the legislative auditor said they were investigating why former Gov. Kathleen Blanco paid ICF an extra \$156 million in her waning days in office to administer the program. With the increase, ICF stands to earn \$912 million to run Road Home, a contract that also sweetened its initial public stock offering, and helped it buy out four other companies. It now reaches into government contracting sectors that include national defense and the environment.

Paul Rainwater, executive director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority, the state body that asked for the Blanco-ICF investigations, acknowledged the collections could be painful for applicants, many of whom have used up their nest eggs to rebuild.

"The state must walk a fine line of treating homeowners who have been overpaid with fairness and compassion and ensuring that all federal funds are used for their intended purpose," said Rainwater, an appointee of new Gov. Bobby Jindal.

Upon receiving money from Road Home, grantees sign a batch of forms, including one that says they must refund any overpayments.

Melanie Ehrlich, co-chair of Citizen's Road Home Action Team, which has documented Road Home cases that appear littered with mistakes, said she had no confidence that ICF had correctly calculated overpayments. She charged that the company was more likely using collections as retribution against people who had appealed their award amounts in effort to get the aid they deserved.

Officials cope with ballot shortage

Associated Press

It's a simple question with no simple answer: Why do polling places across America keep running out of ballots when it's no secret that this contentious primary season keeps breaking voter turnout records?

For one, even the best-made plans have gone awry; officials in state after state have ordered more ballots, only to see turnouts exceed their most ambitious estimates.

Some states — California, for example — extended registration deadlines, in part to give would-be voters more time to sign up for the first Democratic presidential nomination race between a black man and a woman.

But some election officials say those extensions have necessitated a form of fortune telling when it comes to deciding how many ballots to order.

Not helping is the fact that ballot printing is a highly specialized field with a limited number of companies willing to take on the heavily monitored and time-consuming burden of producing and delivering voting cards. Price per ballot can range from 20 cents to more than \$1, depending on complexity. Lead times for printing can range from months to weeks to days, depending on circumstances, including the proximity of Election Day.

So with Pennsylvania's important April 22 primary looming, and nine other state nominating contests scheduled for May, election activists wonder if even more voters could be subject to huge lines and disenfranchisement caused by an insufficient supply of ballots.

"We're going to keep having this problem," said Doug Lewis, director of the Election Center, which represents voting officials across the country. "Running an election sounds pretty simple until you try to do it. Folks just don't understand how much advance planning goes into setting this up."

"If you run out of ballots, it's because your crystal ball isn't good enough," Lewis said. "Every time you cut the time between the voter registration deadline and the election, you severely impact the voting system."

California discovered that on Super Tuesday, Feb. 5, when massive numbers swarmed the polls and record-setting votes were cast by mail. In the Bay Area, ballots ran out. State officials, who had closed registration rolls only two weeks before, were admittedly not prepared for such a surge and were still counting ballots weeks later. California's vote was certified March 15.

On March 4, precincts in Texas and trouble-prone Ohio ran out of ballots, too. In Cuyahoga County, home to Cleveland, Barack Obama's campaign obtained a federal court order to keep polling places open an extra 90 minutes because of ballot short-

ages.

"If you run out of ballots," said the Election Center's Lewis, "God help you."

Lawrence Haake, general registrar of Virginia's Chesterfield County, outside Richmond, well knows that sentiment. His was the state's only county to run out of ballots on Feb. 12. Since then, he has been vilified by critics who say he mismanaged the primary and failed to heed warning signs from other states where polling places were deluged by turnout that reached as high as 80 percent.

"I've been called everything but a Christian, which I am," said Haake. "This county has a pitiful, pitiful history of voter turnout. I thought I'd ordered enough to cover."

He hadn't. More than 38,000 Democratic voters showed up, nearly four times the number that cast ballots in the last presidential primary. Obama won by a large margin. Republican turnout — with John McCain way ahead in opinion polls, was very

low in comparison — about 23,000 votes.

Despite his disbelief, Haake said he did increase his Democratic ballot orders — from 30,000 in January to 42,000 in February after nervously eyeing Super Tuesday contests in 24 states. Virginia is an open primary state, meaning registered Democrats can vote a GOP ballot, and vice versa.

"I had no way of knowing which way they'd vote," Haake said. He thinks he understands what happened: After distant-second GOP candidate Mitt Romney withdrew right before the primary, "the Republicans came in and voted Democratic," just to have some influence in the overall nominating process, he said.

Nine precincts ran out of ballots. "We had enough, we just didn't have them in the right places," he said.

Haake printed more ballots in his office and sent them out. But some people couldn't wait for delivery. Those voters were allowed to leave paper slips indicating their preference, but the state disqualified those slips.

Haake said he's learned his lesson. For November's general election, he's ordering 110 percent of the voter registration total. "We're going to have enough ballots even if everybody on the rolls shows up," he said.

Candice Hoke, an elections monitor and Cleveland State University professor, said some states, including North Carolina — where the primary is May 6 — require that ballot numbers reflect 101 percent of the registered voter total. But many states have no such requirements.

Also, she said, most county governments across the country have experienced some form of cutbacks. "Printing up hundreds of thousands of ballots, just to junk them afterward, is not something a county wants to carry. Budgets are being cut. Costs are being cut."

"We had enough [ballots], we just didn't have them in the right places."

Lawrence Haake
general registrar of
Virginia's Chesterfield
County

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Monday, March 31, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine

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How about a bookstore of ... books?

I sometimes wonder if the proposal for Eddy Street Commons really is going to create the "college town" atmosphere it's supposed to. After all, the centerpiece of the development are supposedly the two hotels and the condominiums in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, which most people here don't really need and probably can't afford — unless the goal of the developing company is to try and recreate the Granger experience closer to campus.

But questionable residential choices aside, it seems that the real potential for creating that college town feel is in its retail sector. And the cornerstone of any college town is its bookstore. Of course, Notre Dame already has the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, and by all accounts it's doing quite well for itself. After all, it just put up that billboard right on the road from Barnes & Noble on Grape and it's expanding its southern wing so that it will soon have over 2,500 more square feet, which will be used to create dedicated space for, among other things, Steiner Sports Marketing & Memorabilia Inc., Adidas apparel, a gelato machine and pretzel bar for the café.

Now, this might be an outdated concept, but I was under the impression that bookstores were supposed to mostly sell books rather than merchandise. Right now, it seems like the area of Hammes dedicated to books is roughly equal to that dedicated to apparel, merchandise, and other non-bookish things. Granted, the expansion

will free up another 1,000 square feet in the textbook area (which is only fully stocked for a few weeks every term), but once it's complete, it will be hard to make the case that Hammes isn't a giant gift store with a book section attached. After all, the bookstore has demonstrated that their primary goal is making a killing off of merchandise and overpriced coursepacks (just to take an example from personal experience, charging \$35 for a 100-page packet of bibliographical information that was not under copyright). And now Hammes (whose parent company is Follett, an international corporation with annual revenues of \$2.3 billion) has also expressed interest in opening up a bookstore in the Eddy Street development.

I'm not trying to engage in shrill anti-corporate hysteria or demanding that we transplant Powell's from Portland or The Strand from New York (although Powell's does have branches in Chicago — maybe they'd be open to one in South Bend, too). Instead, I'm just trying to make sense of the fact that in the University's bookstore, there are shelves of Notre Dame rugs and beer steins alongside cases of signed football helmets and babydoll Ts with "Notre Dame" in that faded baseball-jersey font in such school colors as pink and sky blue, but no sections for used, remainder, rare or out-of-print books, a rather stingy buyback policy, no membership or rewards program that I know of, no posted best-selling or

prize-winning lists or even staff recommendations. The books section is well-stocked and well-organized, but still feels sterile and just a little bit neglected, and really if someone wants a no-frills book browsing experience, they might as well go to Amazon.com, where the selection is larger and you might even get a bit of a price break to make up for the five-day free shipping. As far as bookstores go, Hammes is doing the Tchotchke's-from-Office-Space bare minimum in terms of, well, pieces of flair.

There's nothing wrong with selling school merchandise and memorabilia. What would be nice, however, is that we get a bookstore where you actually want to spend time browsing and reading, one that makes you want to come back to it and not just to go once a term for your required textbooks. If Hammes or its parent company can shift gears from trying to make our collective wallets a little lighter to actually setting up a good bookstore, then it wouldn't be so bad to have them in Eddy Street Commons. But if not, the space should go to an independent retailer, or at least someone who dedicates more floor space to books than to footballs.

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 are you most excited about for football season?

Jon Tenuta's arrival
Mike Haywood taking over play-calling duties
Jimmy Clausen's new haircut

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

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The only thing that makes one place more attractive to me than another is the quantity of heart I find in it."

Jane Welsh Carlyle
author

Tomatoes give a new perspective to Easter

Every Lent, I am struck by the fact that at places like Notre Dame we have to remind ourselves of the suffering of Christ on His way to the cross when there are people who identify most with Christ's suffering every single day of the year.

Laura Bradley

Guest Column

This spring break, I went on the Migrant Seminar, sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns, in Immokalee, Florida. The main industry is agriculture and the main crop is the tomato. The farm workers, who are the backbone of our society, do not have to set aside a specific time in their liturgical calendar to reflect on suffering — they suffer every day, living under the poverty line.

In Immokalee, I encountered the worst poverty I have ever seen in the US. The normal living condition is 15 men living in a tiny, rat and roach-infested trailer, for which they pay \$1600 a month. I stayed in one of these trailers for a night with a family of three and I cannot even imagine how 15 people sleep in one.

The conditions in the fields are even worse. Farm workers wake up at 4

a.m. so they have time to walk to a parking lot where they will be picked up to be bussed to the fields. There is no guarantee anyone will get work, so they must get to the parking lot as early as possible. When the workers get to the fields, they may have to wait up to three hours because they cannot start picking any tomatoes until they are completely dry. They are not paid for this period of waiting. The workers must pick the tomatoes as quickly as possible, as they are paid by the bucket. For each 32-pound bucket, they are paid 40-45 cents. In order to make Florida's minimum wage, they must pick 2 tons of tomatoes each day. This kind of pace is impossible for an entire workday. After more than 12 hours from when they were picked up, the workers return home to sleep so they can wake up and do it all over again. This is their life.

Through this seminar, we got the chance to work in the fields alongside some of the farm workers. We only worked for three hours and we were exhausted by the end of it. This was the most intense, backbreaking work I have ever done in my life and it was even worse with the sun beating down on us in the humid 80-degree Florida

heat. Everyone had to wear long sleeves, pants and heavy work boots to protect us from the pesticides. We talked to some of the workers afterwards and most told us that they had dropped out of school and had begun working in the fields when they were 13 or 14 years old. Can you imagine starting this work at age 13, knowing that the only way to survive would be to do this every day of your life for the next 50 years or more?

This problem may seem far removed from our daily lives, but really, we are intimately connected to the farm workers of America. Have you ever thought about why your food at fast food restaurants or grocery stores is so cheap? Our agricultural system is able to keep the prices down because in giving us the cheap food we desire, businesses cut down on the wages of the farm workers — their wages have not increased in 30 years. We as consumers have the power (and the responsibility) to make sure the farm workers are given the wages that they deserve. We all ignore this systematic problem because we want our food cheap and we don't care how we get it.

As consumers, Christians and (most

importantly) people, we have a choice to make. We must decide if the food we eat or the people who pick the food are more important.

After reflecting the effects of my decisions as a consumer (unjust wages, inhumane working and living conditions, extreme poverty), I cannot simply be a passive consumer and give into the system anymore and I challenge you to do the same. We need to look beyond the brand names and the slogans and open our eyes to the injustices of the agricultural business. We must recognize the role we play in this unjust business every day.

Let us remember the farm workers who carry Christ's cross every day as they work in the fields in the hot sun to provide us all with the cheap food we so covet, getting nothing but ridicule and degradation in return.

Laura Bradley is a senior Psychology and Theology double major. If you are interested in actively working to give the farm workers what is theirs, please contact her at lbradley@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rethink SAO

Cancer Efforts Impeded Relay for Life is a national event sponsored by the American Cancer Society that was established as an event to bring people together to celebrate those who have survived cancer and remember those who have lost the battle. It is a community event that serves not only to raise money for cancer research but also fosters hope in those affected by the disease, both for victims and their loved ones.

In the past, this event here at Notre Dame has been primarily run by faculty. This year we have formed a student committee in the attempt to gain more student involvement and excitement about the event, as so many students are affected by this disease. However, in our attempts to make this a more student-oriented event, we have hit several road blocks. Many Notre Dame students are familiar with the difficulties of dealing with the Student Activities Office (SAO) and Student Affairs. We understand that these particular offices exist for the regulation of student clubs on campus, but an office so unwilling to give any leeway to this, a national event as opposed a student club event, seems to us to be more of a hindrance to students than a help. A few weeks ago, SAO halted our efforts of selling T-shirts to fundraise and advertise Relay on the grounds that they did not have a club name on them.

Another problem we have encountered is that, since Relay is an event that lasts throughout the entire night, every Relay around the country has tents for people to rest in. However, the vice president of student affairs banned the use of camping tents at Relay because of parietals. We would like to know why Habitat for Humanity's Shack City is allowed to take place, with students of both genders sleeping in enclosed cardboard shacks for the entire night. Shack City is also a national event which has been allowed to take place in its intended form here at Notre Dame. Why not Relay for Life? We do not understand the inconsistent policy or SAO's lack of leniency toward this national event.

We feel that Student Affairs and SAO should reevaluate their policies. We understand that it is important to regulate student events; however, perhaps the various University offices should reflect on the true purpose of each of their policies. Why is it so important, for example, that a club name be on a T-shirt?

Sarah Lane
 junior
 Farley Hall
 Mar. 18

A statement of protest

Many of you have heard about the walk-out protest that occurred at the opening performance of this year's production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues." Being that our statement has not been accurately represented in *The Observer* thus far, I, independent of my fellow protesters and objectors to the play's presence on campus, would like to take this opportunity to clarify our intentions to you. The following is a reprint of the statement we left in our seats following our Mar. 26 departure from the Monologues. I hope that this might help you to understand our reason for our actions and, if not, I wish you my very best in your academic and personal quest for truth.

A Statement of Protest

We have chosen to attend, and immediately depart from, this performance of "The Vagina Monologues" in order to protest its performance on campus for seven out of the past eight years. We sincerely hope that this will be the last time.

The argument back and forth is interminable and we feel no need to give one more explanation of why we hold this play's annual performance at Notre Dame to be unacceptable; as a Catholic University, the instruction of the local bishop on issues of faith and morals ought to be sufficient, all the more so when it has been so thoroughly explained (see <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/COMMUNICATIONS/statements.htm>).

Rather, we are leaving this statement in our empty seats in order to clarify the intent of our protest. We mean no disrespect to our fellow students who have chosen to perform this play, nor to those others who have come to attend it. For this reason, we have sought to minimize the disruptiveness of our protest. Yet we feel compelled to visibly demonstrate our opposition to the play — because it in turn shows such disrespect for the true nature and dignity of woman.

Our Lady's University can do better than this. It is particularly upsetting that the play's performance has been scheduled during Easter Week, the central focus of the liturgical year. We have been told that this timing occurred not at the request of the student organizers, but at the particular instruction of the administration. It encourages us to learn that our fellow students were not seeking to deliberately antagonize the rest of the community in this way — but all the more causes us to question the prudence of those of our University's leaders who have been responsible for making a string of decisions in open defiance of Bishop D'Arcy.

Upon leaving the play, we are headed as a group to the Grotto, where we will pray for the students, faculty and administration of the University of Notre Dame, and particularly that our institutional participation in such a demeaning cultural fad will come to an end. As loyal sons and daughters of Our Lady, we are confident that she will hear our prayer.

Mary K Daly
 sophomore
 Welsh Family Hall
 Mar. 30

Support for troops requires support for war effort

Countless people seem to believe that it is possible to support our troops in Iraq without supporting the war effort. Undoubtedly, most who are against the war would claim that they support the troops; an excellent example of this is Chris Rhodenbaugh, author of the Mar. 26 editorial "Support the troops, not the war." However, such a claim is complete nonsense. One cannot possibly support the troops without supporting the war effort, because to do so is self-contradictory. How can someone claim to support the troops if he or she does not support their goals, effort, and continuing

effort? Clearly, war protesters call for immediate pullout of Iraq, but an immediate pullout would not give troops sufficient time to achieve their goal, namely establishing stability in the country. Imagine a pre-med student had the goal of getting into a great medical school; the war protesters would be like a friend of this student who claimed to support him or her, but openly wished he or she would not accomplish this aspiration. Obviously, this is not true support. Certainly, the war protesters are not hoping for success in Iraq, but failure.

This premature pullout they call for shows that they

are hoping to see our troops fall short of their goals. Support for a person requires desire for their success. On the other hand, hope for their failure is called "opposition," not "support." If war protesters "support" our troops, they must not know the definition of the word "support."

Daniel Gonzalez
 sophomore
 Knott Hall
 Mar. 26

KALING & ROBINSON TAKE THEIR ACT OUTSIDE THE OFFICE



On Saturday, SUB brought the comedic stylings of Mindy Kaling and Craig Robinson, better known as Kelly Kapoor and Darryl Philbin from the hit comedy series "The Office" to Washington Hall.

Kaling, who has appeared in the films "License to Wed," "Unaccompanied Minors" and the "40 Year Old Virgin," began the show with

Caitlin Ferraro

Scene & Heard

a bang by joking about a recent Observer headline involving "The Vagina Monologues." Kaling is also a writer and producer for the show and this led to several jokes about boredom during the writers' strike. She poked fun at perezhilton.com and the Megan's Law Web site.

Kaling's character Kelly is known for her high-pitched and annoying voice, but this made her pretty atrocious impression of deep-voiced actresses Scarlett Johansson and Julia Stiles even better.

Just to mix things up, Kaling made an 'impromptu' phone call to B.J. Novak, a fellow writer, and portrayal of her on-screen ex-boyfriend, Ryan Howard. While I may have been wishing it was going to be Steve Carrell or Jim Krasinski on the other end, Novak amped up the crowd by reminding them that he will be coming April 12 to perform at Notre Dame. Novak kept asking to speak to Craig Robinson, who joined Kaling on stage. After missing out on Novak's joke because of bad Blackberry reception, (Novak was attempting to say, "Battered women. Sounds delicious") Kaling finished up her bit and it was time for Robinson.

Robinson, whose character Darryl works in the warehouse of Dunder Mifflin, came out sporting an Notre Dame T-shirt and immediately began working the crowd. For a while, Robinson was silent, only adeptly working his keyboard when he began playing "If You're Happy and You Know it..." He finally broke his silence when the audience failed at the song, breaking into a wild grimace and exclaiming, "It's stomp your feet [mother ...]!"

He made a lengthy joke about how every song should include the phrase "take off your panties," and got the entire crowd to sing along to some favorites. He also shared his distaste for Barry White, because he makes everything sound so sexy. Women, he said, get the best of

everything including walking down the aisle all by themselves with a special song, "The Wedding March." However, he said during that part of the ceremony, all the groom hears is funeral music. Instead, he said when he gets married he will walk down the aisle to "Eye of the Tiger." And he 'revealed' to the crowd that every man hears the intro music for Michael Jordan before making love. Robinson's use of audience interaction was excellent and he even astutely pointed out that the guards at Notre Dame take their jobs "way too seriously."

Following Robinson's bit, Kaling rejoined him onstage for a Q&A. While I thought many of the questions were a bit pointless, some interesting information was learned about the show, and two girls even got up on stage and asked the stars to sign their T-shirts, which sported "Office" slogans. Kaling called the remaining six episodes of this season "the best yet" because the action from what should have been 10 to 12 episodes had to be packed into half that amount. She also noted that Angela Kinsey (who plays Angela) was hiding her real-life pregnancy by always holding her purse in front of her, making her look like "a leprechaun hoarding her gold."

Kaling and Robinson seemed down to earth as they discussed the joy they got from watching "The Office" episodes on airplane flights. They seemed genuinely pleased and proud of their work. Robinson said his favorite episode was "The Coup," in which Michael gets in trouble once again as Jan busts him for declaring it's "Movie Monday," allowing everyone to watch a movie and neglect work. Subsequently, Angela pushes Dwight to make a move on Michael's job. Robinson laughed about the confrontational scene in which Michael and Dwight come face to face. Kaling said it was difficult for her to pick just one episode but loves "Booze Cruise" and basically "every episode [she is] in."

Overall, the duo was a riot. I look forward to seeing Robinson in the film "Pineapple Express" out in August starring James Franco and Seth Rogen. And be sure to catch the next part of "The Office Comedy Series" with B.J. Novak April 12 to join in on the Dunder Mifflin fun.

The views and opinions expressed in Scene & Heard are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Observer.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferraro1@nd.edu





By CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA
Scene Writer

Matthew Bellamy's interest in global conspiracies has been a long-standing theme in Muse's songs, and it continues to show in the title of their latest album, H.A.A.R.P.

The name comes from the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program. The band's own version of this project is a two-disc album of its live performance at Wembley Stadium on June 16 and 17, 2007. The third compilation and seventh album from Muse is one that doesn't cease to deliver.

The first disc is a mix of live tracks recorded from the first of two concerts at Wembley by Muse, ranging from its first album, "Showbiz," to its most current, "Black Holes and Revelations." The band's members have found a good mix of the old stuff and the new stuff for all their fans. The set kicks off with a classical intro track and leads straight into the energy-infused Knights of Cydonia, complete with trumpets courtesy of Dan "the trumpet man" Newell.

The energy continues into "Hysteria," "Supermassive Black Hole" and "Map of the Problematique" (a favorite track of this reviewer), and slows down for "Invincible," providing a break in the action for the listeners to catch their breath.

The album picks back up where it left off with "Time Is Running Out" and continues strong into the last track, "Take A Bow," the intro track from "Black Holes and Revelations." The first disc is a solid mix of well-known tracks in a live setting, and is sure to be well received by Muse fans everywhere.

The second disc is where H.A.A.R.P. shines and makes the album worth buying. It is a DVD of the band's second concert in Wembley Stadium on June 17 — a day after the audio-only first CD was recorded. For those who have not seen Muse live in concert, the DVD comes very close to recreating brilliant madness that is Muse.

Matthew Bellamy's vocals resonate through the entire stadium as he hypnotizes the masses with his crooning. The impromptu guitar solos and extended intros throughout are delightful additions, especially in the song "New Born," going from a quiet piano introduction to a riff-loaded, distortion-filled guitar solo courtesy of Bellamy. His artistic talents really shine in this one as we see him go from guitar to piano back to guitar deftly and smoothly, never providing for a break in the energy or momentum.

"Soldier's Poem," "Unintended," and "Blackout" provide for a slow moment in the show, with Bellamy taking center stage on the acoustic guitar during "Unintended," a rarely-played single from the band's first album, "Showbiz."

The camerawork is excellently done, featuring shots of the band and crowd, along with aerial clips of the stadium and stage at night, which is quite a sight to see. Fast zooms and angles of Bellamy, Christopher Wolstenholme (bass), and Dominic Howard (drums) add to the energy of the more intense songs. In the end, it's the wild riffs and beautiful lyrics that leave the audience stunned in awe. This is Muse at its best, putting on an amazing performance while producing such a wide range of emotions in its listeners.

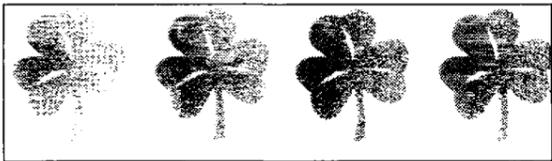
They have found a good mix of the old stuff and the new stuff for all their fans.

The second disc is where H.A.A.R.P. shines and makes the album worth buying.

H.A.A.R.P.
Muse

Label: Warner Bros.

Recommended Tracks: "Unintended," "Map of the Problematique" and "Hysteria"



Contact Christian Sagardia at christian.sagardia@gmail.com



NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Davidson's cinderella run ends against KU

Rose, Memphis run past Texas; each No. 1 seed advances to Final Four for first time in NCAA history

Associated Press

DETROIT — Stephen Curry darted this way, faked that way. Nothing open, and the bright red numbers on the clock getting close to zero.

He was the right guy — the only guy — to take the biggest shot of the NCAA tournament.

But there wasn't one. All he could do was the pass the ball and watch as Jason Richards' desperation try thudded off the backboard.

Davidson was done. Kansas was in.

"It hurts a lot to get this far, be so close to get to the Final Four," Curry said after top-seeded Kansas held off little Davidson 59-57 Sunday.

The Jayhawks' win in the Midwest Regional final sent all four No. 1 seeds to the Final Four for the first time.

"I'm definitely proud of what we've accomplished and what we're about and what we've just proven all year," Curry said. "... But it's going to hurt. This game's going to hurt a lot for the next however long."

Curry, the son of former NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry, had made the tournament his own little party, scoring at will with his silky-smooth shot and carrying Davidson to one improbable victory after another. He looked as if he might do it again, drilling a 3-pointer from NBA range to cut Kansas' lead to 59-57 with 54 seconds left.

After Kansas' Sherron Collins missed with 21 seconds left, the 10th-seeded Wildcats got one last chance.

And of course they gave the

ball to Curry.

"Kansas had four guards out there and they just switched. It kind of defeated the purpose of the play," he said. "I gave them a pump fake to try to get a look, but I was off-balance when he fell down. So I saw Jay open at the top of the key, so I swung it to him."

But Richards was off-balance a bit — just enough to send make it clang rather than swish.

"I kind of had a feeling in my heart that it wasn't going in because the way he shot it. It looked like he was leaning to the left a little bit," Kansas guard Mario Chalmers said. "When I turned back, I saw it hit the backboard. I was just relieved."

Richards dropped to his back at midcourt while the Jayhawks celebrated with a measure of relief.

"Trust me, I was on both knees," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "You picture the way you win a big game like that, it would be you make a shot, you celebrate or something happens and you're able to go congratulate all your coaches and players. This was not one of those deals. I just wanted to make sure that I hurried up and shook hands and the officials left the court so they couldn't put any time back on the clock."

Kansas (35-3) moved on to play overall No. 1 seed North Carolina — and former coach Roy Williams — on Saturday, and UCLA and Memphis will round out the party at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Three No. 1s have advanced three times, most recently in 1999.

"That means a lot to us," Chalmers said. "It makes us part of history. We wanted to come in here and be part of history and be part of our first Final Four, and we were able to do that tonight."

The win also rids Self of that dreaded "best coach never to make a Final Four" label. Self had fallen short with three different schools, including last year's edition of the Jayhawks. But this year's bunch had too much talent, depth and experience to be denied.

"It feels good just for him," said Brandon Rush, who scored eight of his 12 points in the second half. "He's been stuck in the Elite 8 for the last few years. This feels good just to make that push into the Final Four for him."

Curry, who became only the fourth player to hit the 30-point mark in his first four NCAA tournament games, finished with 25 on 9-of-25 shooting and was picked No. 25 Outstanding Player of the Midwest Regional. His roommate, Bryant Barr, was the only other Davidson player in double figures, scoring all 11 of his points in the second half.

The loss snapped Davidson's 25-game winning streak, longest in the nation.

"The agony of this is that we came so far," Davidson coach Bob McKillop said. "We've seen and touched our dream, and we missed. We came two points away from the Final Four with a 1,700-student school in the Southern Conference."

Memphis 85, Texas 67

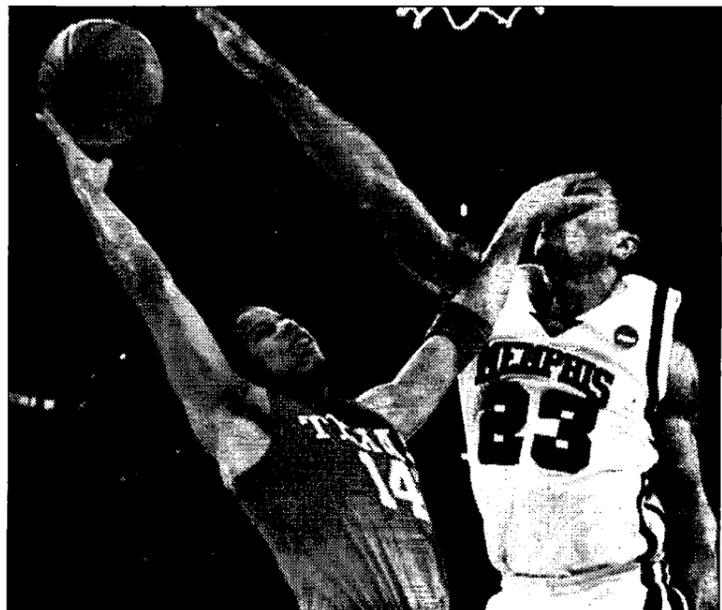
The freshman from Chicago who wears No. 23 and soars all over the court just finished getting Memphis into the Final Four when fans began chanting "One more year!"

Then Derrick Rose picked up his South Regional MVP award, clipped a piece of the net and called his mom to the scene and moment. He kept it brief, though, because he didn't want his teammates to see him cry.

It might be the only thing they've never seen him do.

Driving, dishing and dunking, going above the rim for rebounds and flying around to block shots, Rose led Memphis past Texas Sunday for its first trip to the Final Four since 1985.

"I'm just living the dream right



Texas guard D.J. Augustin fends off Memphis guard Derrick Rose in their Elite Eight matchup Sunday. The Tigers went on to win 85-67.

now," said Rose, who finished with 21 points, nine assists and six rebounds. "Everybody back home happy for me and our fans back in Memphis are happy, so we're just living it up."

They should.

The Tigers tied the NCAA Division I record for wins in a season, with their only loss coming to a team ranked No. 2 at the time. They've been first, second or third in the poll all season. And to all the people who keep saying they'd be the first No. 1 seed to lose, leading scorer Chris Douglas-Roberts can say, "See you in San Antonio."

"I'm not sure if we'll get the respect we deserve, but if we don't, it doesn't matter," Douglas-Roberts said. "It's four teams left now."

Memphis will play UCLA and its freshman phenom, Kevin Love. The Tigers and Bruins have a nice little history, having met in a regional final two years ago and in the 1973 title game.

Memphis has only been back to the Final Four once, with Keith Lee leading the way in 1985. But that trip was vacated according to the NCAA record book because of rules violations. Ditto for the only other time John Calipari coached a team to the Final Four, UMass in 1996.

This March, Memphis has treated the NCAA field like it a continuation of Conference USA play. This 18-point finish was the second-closest final margin.

"We just try to go out there and prove everyone wrong," said bruising big man Joey Dorsey, who had 11 points and 12 rebounds.

The Tigers were a win away from the final weekend of the NCAA tournament each of the last two years, but couldn't get over the hump. Then again, Dean Smith never won a title at North Carolina until that other No. 23 came along, Michael Jordan.

Calipari even compared Rose to another icon of greatness, Tiger Woods. Actually, Calipari brought it up last weekend, when he passed along an article about Woods to Rose, telling him, "This is who I believe you can be, physically, skill-wise."

"He's got to improve, got to get on the range a little bit and get that stroke right, but he also has the mental capacity and the mental toughness and the intelligence to be unique and special. And it sets him apart," Calipari said.

"He's been that way since we got him, so it's nothing I've done with him. He just has a will to win. It may be with a defensive stop. It may be with a rebound that he nicked his head on the rim as he went to get it. It may be outrunning the entire field when he started behind everybody. It may be a steal, a dive, a tip out of nowhere, and then again it may be a drive, baseline and dunk on their team."



Kansas guard Sherron Collins goes up for a shot against two Davidson defenders in the first half Sunday. The Jayhawks won 59-57.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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PERSONAL

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AROUND THE NATION

Monday, March 31, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NCAA Men's Tennis Top 25

rank	team	record	prev
1	Virginia	19-0	1
2	Ohio State	18-1	2
2	Georgia	16-1	3
4	USC	13-3	9
5	Texas	13-3	4
6	UCLA	12-1	6
7	Mississippi	13-4	5
8	Florida	10-4	18
9	North Carolina	10-3	13
10	Florida State	13-3	7
11	Tulsa	14-3	8
12	Tennessee	15-2	10
13	Michigan	13-2	13
14	Pepperdine	9-6	15
15	Arizona State	12-0	11
16	Texas Tech	16-2	21
17	Illinois	9-5	12
18	Baylor	10-7	16
19	LSU	9-6	NR
20	Washington	11-4	25
21	Texas A&M	9-6	19
22	Rice	12-5	17
23	Oklahoma State	9-5	24
24	Alabama	14-6	23
25	Auburn	9-7	22

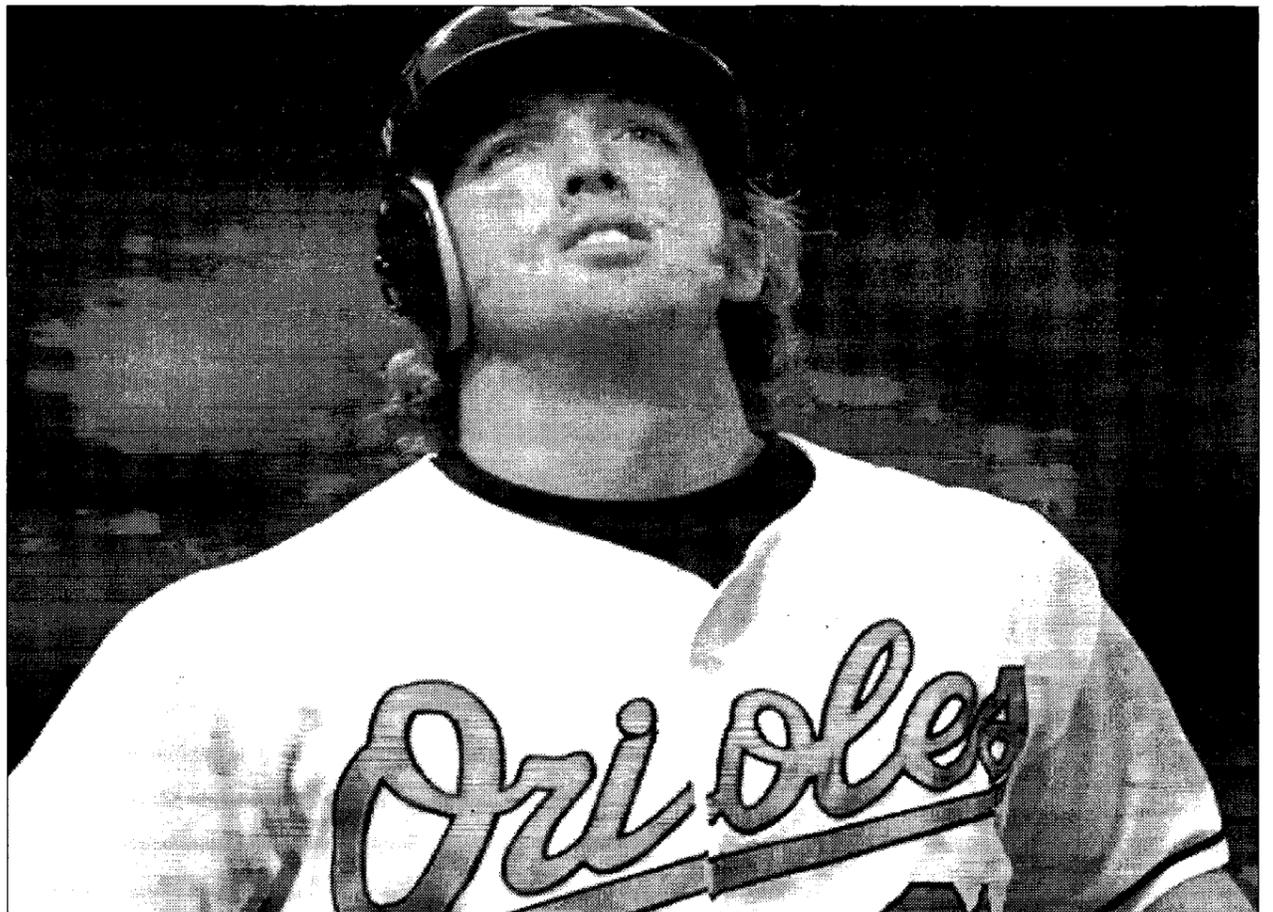
NCAA Women's Tennis Top 25

rank	team	record	prev
1	Northwestern	13-1	1
2	Georgia Tech	11-4	2
3	Baylor	17-1	3
4	Florida	12-1	4
5	Stanford	10-3	5
6	California	11-3	8
7	Duke	11-2	9
8	Georgia	12-4	6
9	UCLA	12-4	8
10	USC	12-4	10
11	Vanderbilt	13-3	11
12	North Carolina	12-5	13
13	Arkansas	12-5	22
14	Miami	10-4	12
15	Arizona State	11-3	14
16	Fresno State	9-5	16
17	Texas	8-3	17
18	Pepperdine	13-3	18
19	NOTRE DAME	12-7	24
20	Florida State	12-3	15
21	TCU	10-4	19
22	Tennessee	11-5	20
23	Kentucky	12-5	23
24	William & Mary	11-8	25
25	Indiana	14-3	NR

Women's Lacrosse Big East Conference Standings

team	league	overall
Georgetown	2-0	8-2
Syracuse	2-0	8-2
NOTRE DAME	2-1	8-3
Rutgers	1-1	4-6
Loyola (Md.)	1-3	3-7
Connecticut	0-3	1-9

MLB



Baltimore Orioles outfielder Jay Gibbons was released on Sunday after a Spring Training where he hit .189 with no home runs. Gibbons has battled constant injuries since hitting 26 homers in 2005.

Struggling Gibbons released by Os

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Jay Gibbons was released Sunday by the Baltimore Orioles, who lost patience waiting for the oft-injured outfielder to regain the form that enabled him to hit 26 home runs in 2005.

Gibbons batted .189 with no homers and four RBIs in 16 games this spring training after playing in only 84 games last season. Baltimore owes him \$11.9 million for the next two seasons as part of a \$21.1 million, four-year contract he agreed to in January 2006.

Gibbons, 31, was suspended for 15 days on Dec. 6 by commissioner Bud

Selig following a media report that he received a shipment of the human growth hormone after January 2005, when it was banned by baseball. Kansas City outfielder Jose Guillen also was suspended for 15 days.

On Friday, the commissioner's office and players association put the penalties on hold for 10 days to allow for further negotiations over their drug agreement. If a deal is struck, the suspensions likely would be dropped.

That, however, appeared to have nothing to do with the Orioles' decision to cut Gibbons. The team didn't see him getting much time

as a reserve outfielder and left-handed designated hitter, and keeping the more versatile Scott Moore as a utility player made far more sense.

"The decision was essentially down to two players, and we made a baseball decision," said club president Andy MacPhail, who delivered the news to Gibbons.

"We laid it out pretty clearly," MacPhail said. "For you to be a productive player you need to play, and that opportunity just doesn't exist here absent some horrific injury. His words were, 'I agree completely.'"

Gibbons also did not fit into MacPhail's decision to

rebuild the team with youth. "We just need to move forward ... along the path we've decided we need to take," MacPhail said. "I'm convinced that it's the right thing for us to do."

MacPhail, however, did not make the decision without first discussing it with owner Peter Angelos.

"I gave him the ramifications and what my thinking was. I hadn't really reached any conclusions myself; I was really wrestling with this one," MacPhail said. "His advice was, 'You gotta do what you gotta do.' Those were the last words he left me with, and I took the position that this is what we had to do."

IN BRIEF

Knicks' Thomas not in the running for Indiana job

ATLANTA — Embattled New York Knicks coach Isiah Thomas sidestepped whether he's interested in talking with Indiana University about its head coaching position.

Thomas, whose Knicks have lost five of six and 13 of 15, has a 53-101 record in two seasons with the Knicks. Though he helped Indiana win the 1981 NCAA championship, Thomas has never coached in college.

He indicated the Hoosiers haven't consulted him.

"No, I have a job," Thomas said before the Knicks played the Atlanta Hawks on Sunday.

Thomas, also the Knicks' team president, said he hopes interim coach Dan Dakich is named full-time at Indiana.

In February, Dakich replaced Kelvin Sampson, who resigned following the release of an NCAA report that said he committed five "major" violations involving recruiting.

Pettitte throws six scoreless innings, will open on DL

TAMPA, Fla. — New York Yankees left-hander Andy Pettitte allowed one hit over six scoreless innings in a minor league game Sunday.

Pettitte struck out six and walked one.

"I threw 77 pitches, and that's what I needed," Pettitte said. "It's exactly what I wanted to do."

Originally slated to start the Yankees' second game of the regular season, Pettitte has been slowed by back spasms and is scheduled to make his first start Saturday against Tampa Bay. He was placed on the 15-day disabled list Sunday, retroactive to March 21.

"I feel great," Pettitte said. "Everything felt good today. Got a lot of work in. Did I have to get to 77 pitches today because I'm a little short and behind everybody? Yeah. I'm ready for my start and just looking forward to continuing to build my strength up."

Hanging hair among rules discussed at NFL meetings

PALM BEACH, Fla. — Mike Nolan thinks there are reasons beyond safety for the proposal that could lead to an NFL ban on hair hanging from the back of helmets.

"The nameplate is on his back; the number is on his back," the San Francisco 49ers coach said Sunday, the day before the NFL's meetings officially begin. "That's what we want the fans to see. Not his hair."

This might be a year when fans actually take interest in what owners do at these gatherings. Many meetings are filled with arcane proposals, like changing the positioning of offensive linemen's arms during blocks. This season, at least, there is some meat among the suggestions.

Or at least some hair. The idea of banning long hair — players would be allowed to tuck it under their helmets — was proposed by the Kansas City Chiefs.

around the dial

MLB OPENING DAY

Toronto vs. New York Yankees
1:00 p.m., ESPN

Milwaukee vs. Chicago Cubs
2:20 p.m., ESPN2

San Francisco vs. Los Angeles Dodgers
4:00 p.m., ESPN



Lady Vols forward Candace Parker, right, attempts to block Irish forward Becca Bruszewski's shot during Tennessee's 74-64 win Sunday.

Lady Vols

continued from page 28

Lady Vols' 74-64 win over Notre Dame in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen Sunday.

But the Irish never planned to try and completely shut down Parker. They knew they couldn't and instead they focused on defending the three. "We were trying to guard the 3-point line and we didn't really think that [Parker] would get that many because we didn't want to guard her inside," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But we did a nice job in the first half of guarding the 3-point line. I was really pleased with that at half time."

Defending the three worked for the Irish in the first half — they kept the Lady Vols to 1-for-5 from the arc to enter the locker room with the 33-31 lead.

"We felt great [going into the second half], we felt that we could play with them. We believed in each other, we believed in ourselves," Irish senior guard Charel Allen said. "We just lost the game."

Lindsay Schrader put in a lay-up in the first minute of the second half and the Irish defense continued to guard the three as Tennessee missed its first two shots from beyond the arc.

But a lay-up by Parker at 18:09 put the Lady Vols right back in it and they trailed by two at 37-35. Under a minute later, the Irish defense managed to drive Parker out of lane only to have her answer with two as she drew a foul from Schrader for the tie at 37-37.

Parker grabbed the go-ahead point from the line and Notre Dame never regained the lead.

Parker's layup at 18:09 was the beginning of a 14-0 Tennessee run that diminished Notre Dame's chances of getting back in the game.

Tennessee senior Shannon Bobbitt — who couldn't be more unlike Parker, measuring 5-foot-2 — managed to break through the Irish defense beyond the arc and shoot 2-for-4 from the 3-point line in the second half.

"Bobbitt's threes really were kind of like daggers for us," McGraw said.

If Parker's presence at the low post and Bobbitt's shot

from beyond the arc weren't enough for the Irish defense could contain. Tennessee found another force in senior center Nicky Anosike. It seemed as though every time Notre Dame's defense denied Parker the layup, Anosike answered with a jumper from the paint. Anosike had for 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The Irish squad refused to back down, nearly matching the Lady Vols in rebounds. (Tennessee grabbed 45 to Notre Dame's 42). Notre Dame pulled down 11 offensive boards and 31 defensive boards in comparison with Tennessee's 14 and 31.

Even with Notre Dame threatening at the end of the first half, Tennessee never lost its composure — that speaks to the team's experience.

"This team is full of seniors. We've been in the same positions that we've been in before," Parker said. "Against North Carolina we were down by 12 with eight minutes to go. There's no panic, we just come together, figure out what's broken, and fix it."

"[Parker's] the best offensive player. She has the size, skills, mindset to take over a game. She wants it."

Pat Summitt
Lady Vols coach

Without Parker on the court in the first half, Tennessee would have done little damage to the Irish — Parker had 19 of the team's 31 points in the half.

"I think [Parker] just knows that's her role on our team. She's the best offensive player," Lady Vols coach Pat Summitt said. "She has the size, skills, mindset to take over a game. She wants it."

"She's willing to step up and make the plays for us. She's obviously talented enough and has the size inside to make the type of plays that obviously you have to have at certain moments."

It was Tennessee's ability to remain composed that allowed it to stay in the game. Once Bobbitt started hitting the three in the second half and the rest of the Lady Vols offense responded, there was no looking back.

The Irish just couldn't stop Parker from reaching over the top and continuing to put it away.

Notes

♦ Attendance at the game was 10,032 — the highest in the 2008 Tournament so far.

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Parker

continued from page 28

it couldn't stem the Lady Vols' offensive flow.

The simpleton could attribute Tennessee's performance to Lady Vols forward Candace Parker, who ripped through Notre Dame's defense like the tornadoes that swirled around Oklahoma City during the game. She tied a career high with 34 points and had 13 boards, four blocks, three assists and three steals. And without a doubt, Parker's stat line reigned supreme in determining the outcome.

At times, however, it was what Parker didn't do that boosted Tennessee above the Irish, and that's how Notre Dame found itself in a three-way Catch-22.

The Lady Vols have scorers all over the floor. Against Notre Dame's zone defense, they put Parker on the post, center Nicky Anosike at the top of the key and guards Alexis Hornbuckle and Shannon Bobbitt out on the perimeter. Cover the wings and Anosike near the foul line, and Parker gets the feed down low for the easy bucket — of which she got many.

"I did not feel like she could be stopped in there unless they wanted to double-team her," Tennessee coach Pat Summitt said. "She did a great job of establishing position and finishing

shots."

Notre Dame had no one to match up with Parker 1-on-1 in the post. Parker, at 6-foot-4, has three inches on Irish forward Becca Bruszewski, who played the majority of the game in the post after center Erica Williamson ran into foul trouble. So rather than let her drop 60, the Irish would collapse on Parker and leave Anosike open at the free throw line. Instead of forcing the shot, Parker would dish to Anosike, who would sink the

15-foot jumper. She finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said she switched from the 2-3 zone to the 1-3-1 zone to limit Anosike's effectiveness from

the key, but Anosike kept making the shots.

"We were giving them to her at the beginning of the game, and then she started making them and I thought, we're gonna have to change defenses to be able to guard her at the high post, and so I went to the 1-3-1 for that," McGraw said.

The 1-3-1 zone, McGraw said, had the drawback of leaving a smaller defender at the low post to deal with Parker. McGraw recognized the relative futility of planning to stop Parker in the post.

"Parker, she's gonna score no matter what defense you're in when she's on the block," McGraw said. "She's a tough match-up inside with her size."

"Parker, she's gonna score no matter what defense you're in when she's on the block."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Guard Parker, Anosike sinks the jumper. Double Anosike, Parker owns a smaller defender.

What to do? Double them both? Shut down the two main scorers? In the first half, that was a sound option (Parker and Anosike combined for 24 of Tennessee's 31 first-half points.) But in the second half, when Bobbitt and Bjorklund started hitting threes? That's a bold strategy, Cotton.

Tennessee's ball movement was too quick for the Irish guards, who had either stepped inside to lend a hand in taming Parker or collapsed on Anosike at the top of the key, to get outside and get a hand in the shooter's face.

The irony is, Notre Dame's offense played well against a bigger, more athletic Tennessee team. Four players scored double figures. Bruszewski tied a career high with 16 points. Guard Lindsay Schrader had 13 points and nine rebounds. The stats are similar between the two teams. Tennessee had 45 boards to Notre Dame's 42. The Irish shot 39.7-percent on the game; Tennessee hit an even 40-percent.

But the reason the Lady Vols advance to face Texas A&M and Notre Dame heads home lies in the versatility of Tennessee's offense. The Lady Vols played like a Hydra — cut off one source of points, and two more quickly appear in its place.

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

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SMC GOLF

Belles falter in Kentucky

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's ran into a speed bump this weekend in its pursuit of a qualifying for a spot in the Div. III National Championship Tournament.

The Belles finished 16th out of 21 teams at the Northern Kentucky Spring Invitational tournament this weekend in Perry Park, Ky.

"We made a lot of progress

on the second day of play," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "But we still need to improve."

Captain Katie O'Brien was the leading performer for the Belles, shooting an 86-84, placing her in the top 20 of the individual standings. Freshman Rosie O'Connor also finished with the second best score on the team.

The Belles have more than a week off before they compete in the NCAA qualifying

tournament.

"The way I see it, we have a week and a half to shave off about 10 strokes from our total before the qualifier tournament," said Hamilton.

Saint Mary's will play in the Tri-State Invitational next weekend in Angola, Ind., before playing in the qualifying tournament on April 9.

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SMC TENNIS

SMC falls to Olivet, Wheaton

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's (4-8, 0-2 MIAA) went 0-2 this weekend at the Jack Swartz Invitational at Wheaton College, Ill. The Belles lost Friday 6-3 to No. 16 Olivet Nazarene and 8-1 on Saturday to No. 28 Wheaton College.

Against Olivet Nazarene, Saint Mary's won three of the six singles matches. No. 1 singles sophomore Camille Gebert defeated Olivet's Jill Haas 5-7, 6-4, 6-0. At No. 2, freshman Jillian Hurley beat Erica Engelbrecht in two sets, 6-3, and 6-1. No. 4 freshman Jessica Kosinski overcame Alicia Cullen in two sets as well, winning 6-3, 6-4.

At No. 3, Betsy Reed, a freshman, lost to Lily Gonzalez from Olivet Nazarene 6-1, 2-6, 6-1. At No. 5, sophomore Lisa Rubino went down 7-5, 6-1 to Jen

Ramsey, and at No. 6, freshman Jessica Camp lost 6-1, 6-1 to Jade Stanlick.

The Belles were unable to come through on the doubles side on Friday. The No. 1 team of Gebert and Hurley lost 8-5 to Erica Engelbrecht and Alicia Cullen. The No. 2 duo of Betsy Reed and Lisa Rubino lost 8-2 to Lily Gonzalez and Jen Ramsey, and were followed by the No. 3 team of Jessica Camp and Franca Peluso losing 8-2 to the Tigers' Jill Haas and Jade Stanlick.

Saturday's match wasn't any more successful for the Belles as they took on Wheaton College.

Reed won the only singles match for Saint Mary's on Saturday, 6-3, and 6-0 over Wheaton's Brooke Parrish.

No. 1 Gebert lost 6-0, 6-0 to Jordan Hook. No. 2 singles Hurley lost for only the second time this season to Shannon Hale, 6-4, 3-6,

6-4.

No. 4 Kosinski lost 6-4, 6-1 to Brittney Dunn. No. 5 Rubino was defeated 6-2, 6-2 by Sara Federschmidt. To finish off the Belles singles lineup for the weekend, No. 6 Laura Arnold lost 6-0, 6-0 to Kayli Edwards.

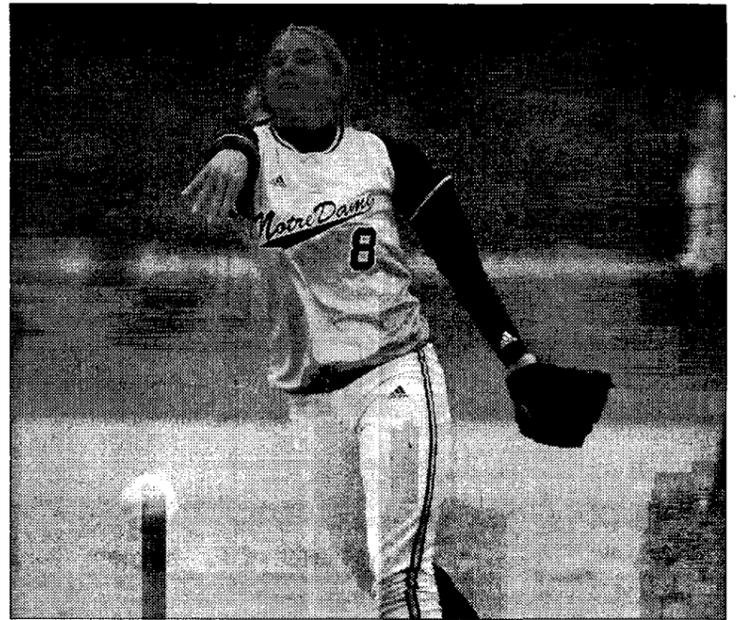
The Thunder won all three doubles matches. The team of Gebert and Hurley were defeated 8-0 by Hook and Federschmidt, bringing their record to 5-7 as a duo. Reed and Rubino lost 8-2 to Parrish and Lindsey Hallet, and Mary Therese Lee and Peluso were defeated 8-1 by Dunn and Edwards.

"It was a tough weekend, but our team played well," Rubino said. "We stepped up our competitiveness, and I think it will pay off for conference matches later in the season."

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish earn split, snap Blue Demons' streak



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Junior pitcher Brittany Bargar pitches in last season's matchup against Ball State. Bargar pitched in both games Sunday.

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Behind strong pitching performances from freshman Jody Valdivia and junior Brittany Bargar, the Irish split a doubleheader with 17th-ranked DePaul and ended the Blue Demons' 25-game conference winning streak.

"I think taking one from DePaul is always a good win" Notre Dame coach Deanna Gumpf said. "They're a tough team and we have quite a history with them."

The Irish nearly managed a sweep of the twinbill, losing the first game on a walkoff single by Jackie Tarullifisher. Two errors in the final inning spelled doom for the Irish. The fielding woes were especially frustrating for Gumpf, who has been trying to stress the importance of defense to her team this season.

"Our defense hurt us in the first game," Gumpf said. Bargar earned the loss

despite allowing only four hits over 6 and 2/3 innings and allowing no earned runs while striking out 12.

In the second game, Notre Dame was determined to give its pitching more support. Linda Kohan crushed a solo home run to center field in the top of the second to put the Irish up 1-0. Notre Dame added an unearned run in the fourth, and a 2-0 lead was all Valdivia needed. The freshman struck out three in 5 and 2/3 innings to get the win, and Bargar pitched the final 1 and 1/3 for her first save of the season. The biggest stat from the second game for Gumpf, though, was that the Irish defense made no errors in the field.

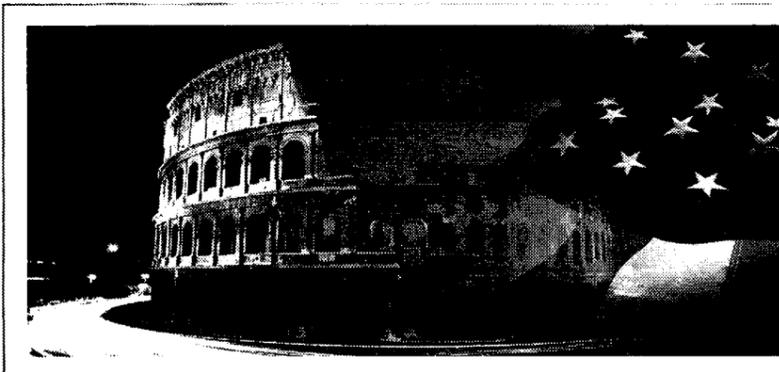
"We really picked it up," Gumpf said. "I'm really proud of the way the girls bounced back."

The Irish (17-10 overall, 1-1 Big East) will play at home against Ball State Tuesday.

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WOMEN'S ROWING

Notre Dame rows to victory in California

Varsity boats defeat Stanford, UCLA

By LULU ZHANG
Sports Writer

Notre Dame claimed victory in two of three races against both Stanford and UCLA on the first day of the Pac-10 Challenge in California. The women's second varsity eight and varsity four crews beat Stanford, while the varsity eight and second varsity eight boats beat UCLA.

Notre Dame's varsity eight boat crew of Lauren Buck, Allison Marsh, Laura Pearson, Amanda Polka, Mary Quinn, Kendra Short, Julie Sobolewski, Christine Trezza and coxswain Kelsey Otero competed against Stanford in its first race of the day. The Irish went into the race ranked No. 14 by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association/US Rowing poll, and the Cardinal were ranked No. 10. However, the Irish finished with a time of 7:02.45, falling short by seven seconds to the Cardinal's time of 6:55.0. The Irish regrouped and were able to claim victory in the afternoon against 13th ranked UCLA. The Bruins finished in 7:31.6, while the Irish claimed victory with a time of 7:25.1.

Notre Dame's second varsity eight crew of Erica Copeland, Emily Crosby, Elli Greybar, Brittney Kelly, Kristan Madison, Carol Ann Michel, Anni Nowhitney, Casey Robinson and coxswain Stephanie Szeged defeated Stanford in the opening race, and UCLA in the second race. Notre Dame beat Stanford by just less than 13 seconds in the first race, posting a time of 7:13.8, and beat UCLA in the second race by just over two seconds, posting a

time of 7:28.9.

The varsity four boat of Mallory Glass, Ankica Jedry, Bridget Leone, Mary Kate McNamara and coxswain Sarah Keithley beat Stanford by more than 30 seconds in its opening race. The Irish finished with a time of 8:38.0, while the Cardinal finished in 9:11.6. In its second race, the crew fell short to UCLA with a time of 8:54.1, while the Bruins finished in 8:41.1.

Notre Dame also competed in the Lubbers Cup in Michigan this past weekend. The Irish claimed victory in the varsity eight, 2/3 varsity eight, varsity four B, and novice four races.

The Irish took first and fourth in the varsity eight race. The A crew won the five boat race with a time of 6:55.40, while the B boat finished fourth with a time of 7:11.31.

The Irish crew also won the second/third varsity eight race. Notre Dame posted a time of 7:09.28, which was well ahead of the second and third place teams of Rochester and Grand Valley State.

Notre Dame won the varsity four B race with a time of 7:49.98, more than 20 seconds ahead of Rochester and Grand Valley State A and B.

The novice four boat beat Grand Valley A, Grand Valley B, Grand Valley C, and Rochester with a time of 7:50.10.

The novice eight boat finished second to Grand Valley in the three-boat race with a time of 7:38.27.

The Irish varsity four A crew of finished third in its race with a time of 7:59.36.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Saint Mary's sweeps Calvin



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Senior infielder McKenna Corrigan snags a grounder in Saturday's 6-5 win over Calvin. The Belles defeated Calvin 5-0 in the second game of the doubleheader to improve to 2-0 in the MIAA.

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The Belles had a busy weekend, sweeping a doubleheader against league opponent Calvin Saturday and splitting another at Rose-Hulman Sunday.

Saint Mary's raised its overall record to 13-3 and 2-0 in MIAA competition.

Saint Mary's started MIAA play Saturday by defeating Calvin 6-5. Senior McKenna Corrigan hit a three-run home run in the third inning to put the Belles up 5-2.

The Knights, however, chipped away at the lead and tied it in the top of the seventh

inning. In the bottom of the frame, sophomore Ashley Peterson scored the winning run on a single by junior Katie Rashid.

Peterson, a rising offensive star, had two hits in the game. Junior Calli Davison pitched a complete game for the win.

The Belles won their second game against Calvin 5-0. Corrigan pitched a complete game.

The Belles amassed 13 hits, including a 4-for-4 effort by Peterson and a 3-for-3 performance by junior Ashley Fusaro.

On Sunday, the Rose-Hulman Engineers defeated Saint Mary's 10-4 in the first game of the doubleheader.

Saint Mary's held the lead 3-2 until the bottom of the fourth inning, when the Engineers scored seven runs.

Davison again pitched a complete game and took the loss, bringing her record to 7-3.

The Belles won the second game 4-2 as Corrigan pitched another complete game. Corrigan now holds a 6-0 record.

The teams took a 2-2 tie into the fifth inning, when Peterson scored what proved to be the winning run off a single by sophomore Sarah Montelongo.

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WTA TENNIS

Davenport upsets Ivanovic at Sony

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — When an infant in the stadium stands began to cry during a rally Sunday, Lindsay Davenport won the point anyway. Motherhood hasn't diminished her focus at work.

Still gaining momentum in her career comeback after becoming a parent, Davenport upset second-ranked Ana Ivanovic 6-4, 6-2 in the third round at the Sony Ericsson Open.

Davenport left the women's tour in late 2006 to have her first child, then came back last summer. The three-time Grand Slam champion is 17-3 this year with two titles, and she rated the win over Ivanovic as her best since returning.

"It's quite rewarding," said Davenport, 31. "In this comeback, for lack of better words, I've not made a fool of myself. I've done pretty well for my age and for

what I've been through. Obviously days like today just give me more incentive to keep going."

Hampered by injuries in recent years, Davenport is playing at Key Biscayne for the first time since 2003. She next faces No. 13 Dinara Safina, who rallied past No. 18 Sybille Bammer 4-6, 6-1, 6-0.

Serena and Venus Williams also reached the fourth round, as did top-seeded Justine Henin. Four-time champion Serena Williams had the toughest time, overcoming 60 unforced errors and a 3-0 deficit in the second set to beat No. 27 Flavia Pennetta 6-7 (6), 6-3, 6-2.

Williams said a rain delay when she trailed 3-2 in the second set helped.

"My mom called me," Williams said. "She knows my game really well. She was like, 'Stay up. Don't get behind the baseline.' I'm like, 'Are you here? Are you watching on TV?'"



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ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Women look strong at ASU Invitational



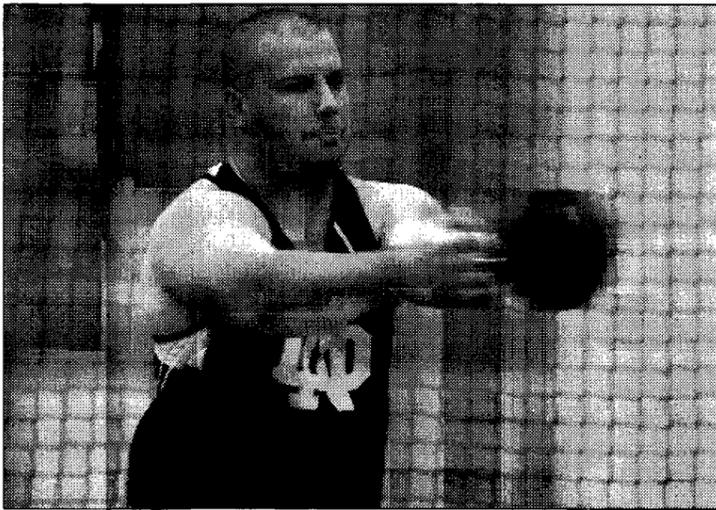
WU YUE/The Observer

Sophomore Joanna Schultz competes in the 400-meter sprints on Dec. 7. Schultz finished second this weekend.

MEN'S TRACK

Runners impress in Arizona

Schipper earns NCAA Regional qualification in pole vault



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Freshman Greg Jones competes at Notre Dame's meet on Jan. 19 at Loftus Sports Center.

By EUGENIA ALFONZO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame produced an impressive finish as they traveled to Tempe, Ariz., this past weekend for the Arizona State Invitational.

Although some members were not present for the meet, composing of mostly distance runners, the team had a good showing against the 12 other teams present, including top-ranked Arizona State.

The Irish had 10 athletes earn 11 Big East qualifications and one NCAA Regional qualification, along with many performances that missed the mark by a small margin.

On Friday, only the throwers participated in the meet since the

hammer throw was the first and only event of the day. Freshman Greg Davis came in 13th place in the preliminaries with a throw of 54.70 meters, well over the Big East qualifying distance of 48 meters. He now ranks first for the Big East conference in the hammer throw, past indoor champion Andrew Hackney.

Junior Jeff Mensch also participated in the hammer throw, ending up with a 48.68 meter distance and a Big East qualification.

On Saturday morning, the first event for the Irish was the 400-meter dash, with freshman Miklos Szebeny and junior Billy Buzaid finishing seventh and tenth, respectively. Senior Austin Wechter followed with an impressive finish in the 400-intermediate hurdles. With a time of 53.72 seconds, Wechter's time ranks in the

top four in all of the Big East. The 4-by-400-meter relay consisting of Szebeny, Wechter, Buzaid and sophomore Balazs Molnar ran to fourth place with a time of 3:13.57. Their time is ranked third, following close behind Rutgers and Seton Hall University.

For field events, sophomore Brandon Denon threw 50.74 in the Discus throw, landing him with a Big East qualification and an 11th place finish. As for shot put, The Irish throwers picked up three Big East qualifications. Senior Mike Schubert, freshman Denes Verez and John Belcher placed sixth, ninth, and tenth in the event respectively, and are in the top seven of Big East standings. Sophomore Eric Quick finished well for jumps, finishing second in both the long jump and the triple jump, earning another two Big East qualifications for the Irish. In the high jump, junior Blair Majcina performed well and finished fourth with a Big East qualifying jump of 2.05 meters.

The Notre Dame NCAA Regional qualification belongs to sophomore pole vaulter Matt Schipper, who earned a sixth place finish with a jump of 5.05-meters. Schipper finished fifth last year at the Big East outdoor championships with a jump of 4.85-meters. His previous best this season had been at the Meyo Invitational, with a jump of 5-meters.

The Irish compete again at the Mike Poehlein Invitational next weekend at West Lafayette, Ind.

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By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame jumpstarted the outdoor season in a big way this weekend by grabbing seven top-three finishes at the Arizona State Invitational meet this weekend in Tempe, Ariz.

Senior Brienne Davis turned in the best performance for the Irish by handily winning the 100-meter dash and taking third in the 200-meter dash.

Junior Alyssa Hasan also had a great meet for the Irish taking third in the 100-meter hurdles to go along with her 14th place finishes in the 200-meter dash and the javelin throw. Hasan's time of 13.91 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles was enough to qualify her for the NCAA regional

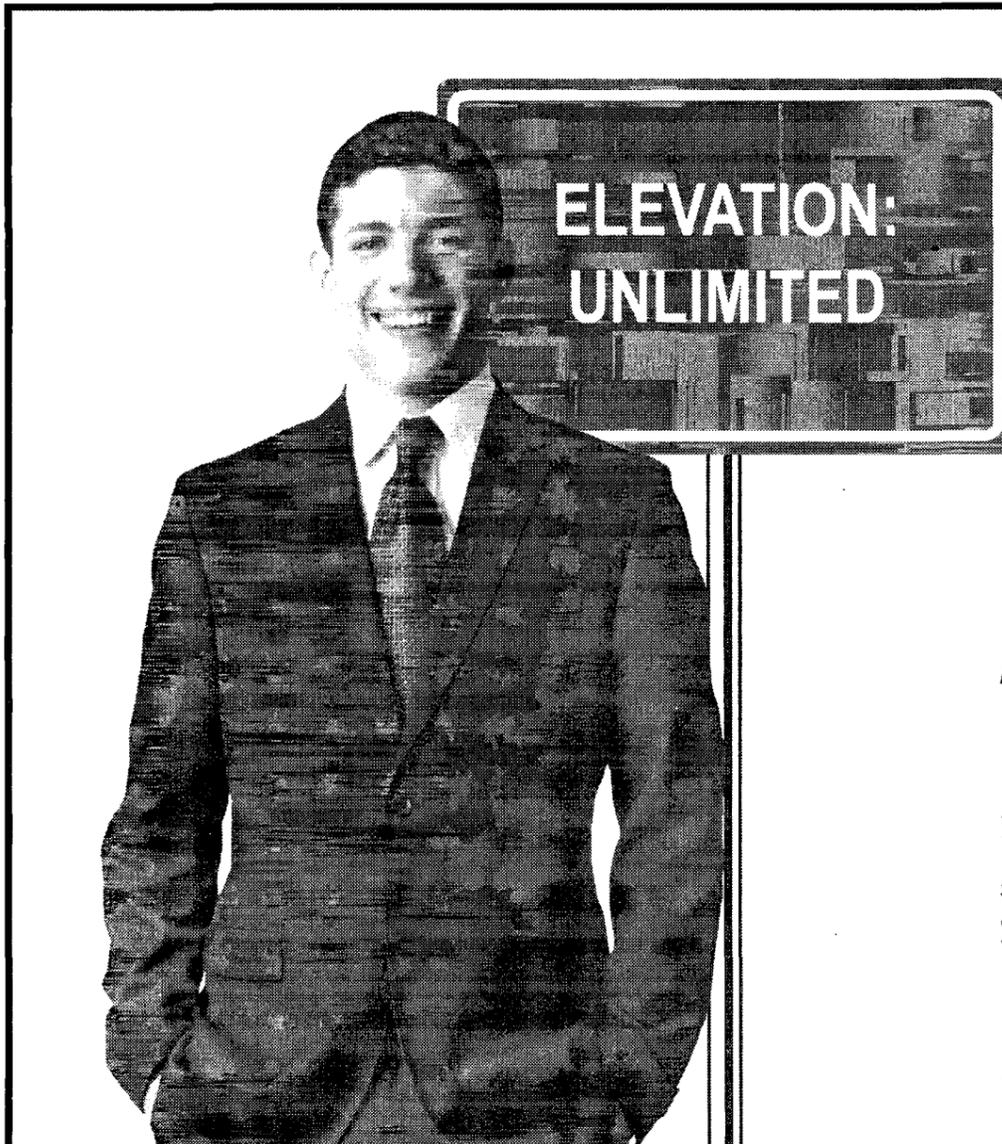
meet at the end of the year.

The Irish 4-by-400-meter relay team took first place at the meet and also qualified for the NCAA regional meet. Members of the relay team also found success in other events. Sophomore Joanna Schultz, freshman Cora Dayon, and senior Crysta Swayzer finished second, sixth and eighth-place respectively in the 400-meter dash event.

Freshmen Kelly Langhans and Natalie Johnson finished second and third-place respectfully in the 800-meter run rounding out an outstanding performance by the Irish.

Next weekend, Notre Dame will send athletes to both the Stanford and Purdue Invitationals.

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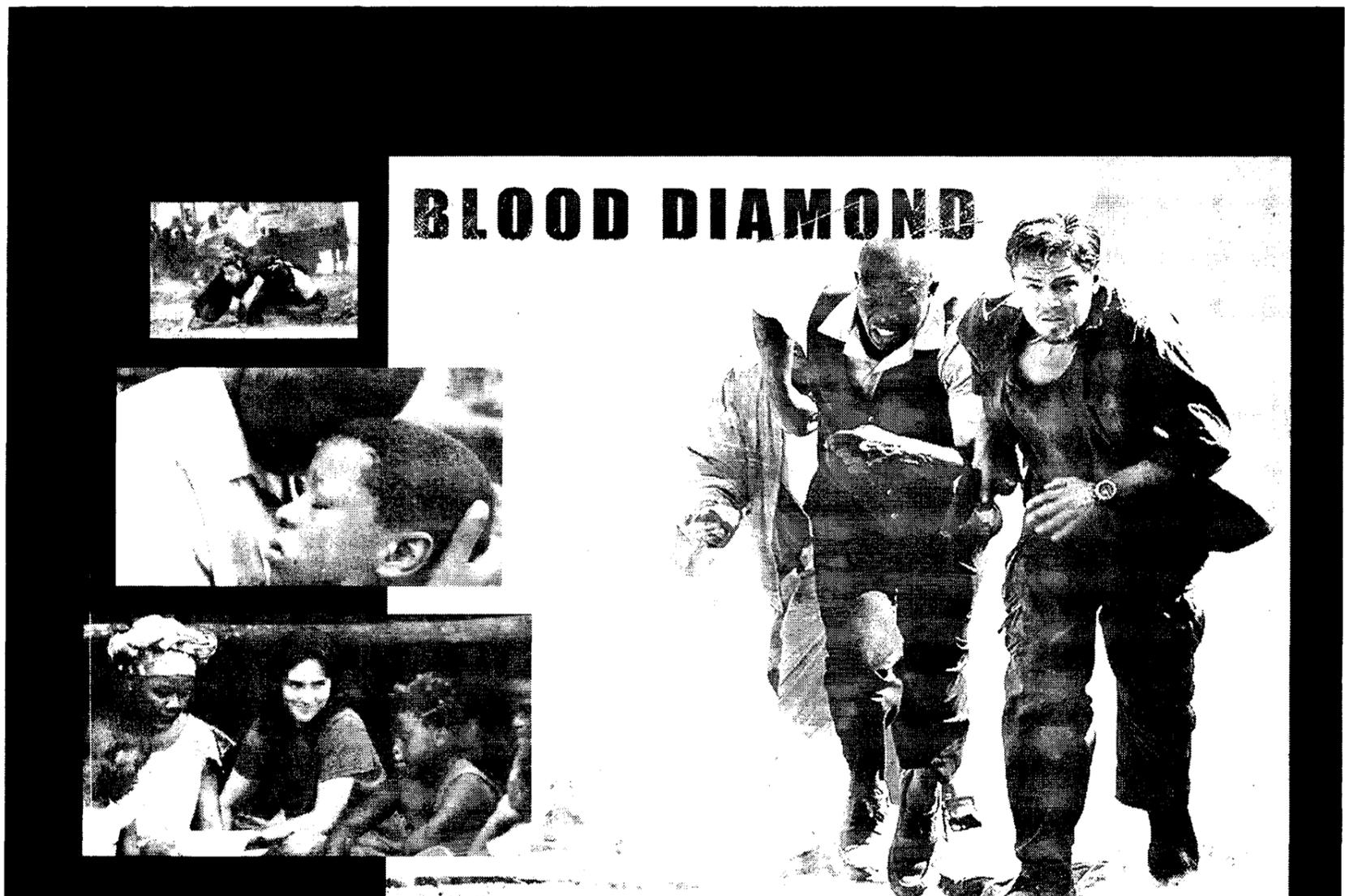


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MEN'S TENNIS

Team loses fourth in a row

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

No. 27 Notre Dame found itself overmatched against No. 2 Ohio State Friday, and the Buckeyes defeated the Irish 6-1 at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The loss was Notre Dame's fourth straight and only the second at home this season.

Ohio State got on the board first with a win in the doubles point. The Buckeyes then went on to win the first set in all six singles matches, and the Irish could not recover.

The Notre Dame pair of senior Sheeva Parbhu and junior Brett Helgeson registered a 9-7 win over the No. 25-ranked Buckeyes pair of sophomore Mike O'Connell and freshman Matt Allare.

The Buckeyes earned their first singles point with a win at the No. 1 spot from junior Bryan Koniecko, who defeated Helgeson in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2. Helgeson looked good early and jumped out to a 4-2 lead in the first set, but then lost 10 of the next 12 games to drop the match.

Ohio State increased its lead to 3-0 as 27th ranked Buckeye junior Steven Moneke defeated 83th ranked Parbhu 6-3, 6-4. With the loss, Parbhu fell to 21-10 on the season and 5-6 against ranked opponents.

The Buckeyes clinched the match at the No. 3 spot as 19th ranked sophomore Justin Kronauge defeated Irish senior Andrew Roth in straight sets, 6-2, 7-6 (4). Roth was competitive in the second set and had an early 2-1 lead, but he dropped four of the next five games en route to the loss. Roth fell to 8-14 on the season with the loss.

At the No. 5 position, Irish freshman David Anderson fell into an early hole against Ohio State freshman Balazs Novak and could not recover, as he dropped the first set 6-1 fell 6-4 in the second set. Anderson was in a 4-1 hole early in the second set, but he closed the gap to one at 4-3 before losing two of the next three games. Anderson's record stands at 15-11 on the season.

The lone Irish point was

registered by freshman Daniel Stahl, who pulled off a come from behind win at the No. 6 singles spot. Stahl dropped the first set against O'Connell 7-5 after blowing a 4-1 lead. Stahl took the second set, 6-3, to even the match, and avoided dropping two match points to win the final set 1-0 (11-9). With the win, Stahl improved to 20-8 on the season.

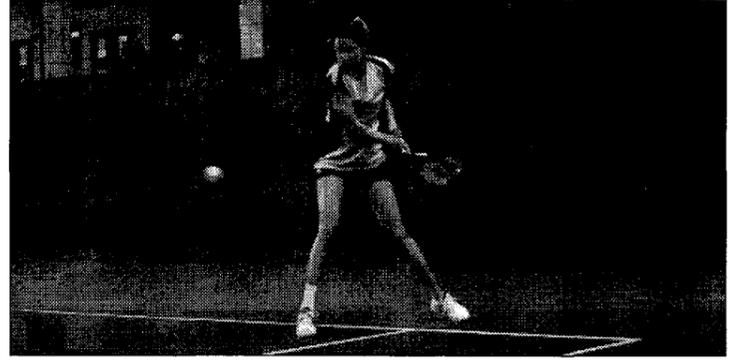
Fellow Irish freshman Stephen Havens had a chance to replicate his teammate's feat, but fell in the third set to Buckeye freshman Shuhei Uzawa. After dropping the first set 6-2, Havens rebounded to win the second set 6-3, but dropped the third set 6-4 to fall to 17-15 on the season.

The loss dropped to Irish to 10-8 on the season while the Buckeyes improved to 19-1. Notre Dame will try to stop the bleeding on Friday against in-state rival Ball State, whom the Irish have defeated in 17 straight contests.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish extend winning streak to six matches



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Irish sophomore Kali Krisik prepares to send a backhand return over the net during Notre Dame's 6-1 win over Indiana Saturday.

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

For No. 19 Notre Dame, March was an excellent month.

The third month of the dual match season saw the Irish extend their season-long win streak extended to six at the Eck Tennis Pavilion against in-state rival No. 25 Indiana 6-1.

Things looked bleak for the Irish early on, with all the Hoosiers doubles pairs getting off to an early lead. The Irish made some mid-match adjustments, however, and eventually won the doubles point.

"Indiana played well early on in the doubles portion," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "They came out more aggressive than we thought they'd be, and they got off to an early lead. They usually hang back and volley a bit more than they did [Sunday]. Our kids hung in there, though and we made some changes and played more aggressive."

Part of the credit in the doubles come back goes to the No. 1 duo in the nation of senior Brook Buck and junior Kelcy Tefft, who bounced back after some early struggles against Hoosier senior Brianna Williams and freshman Katya Zapadalo to win 8-4.

The tandem dropped three of the first four games of the match, but rallied to grab six straight, helping them claim the win and improve their record to 27-5. Louderback could tell that his top doubles team needed to rebound after losing its first match as the nation's top pair to SMU last week.

"They started a little slow," Louderback said. "The Indiana pair played well against them early on, but Brook and Kelcy got more aggressive as the match developed. They needed a 'W' after last week, so they took care of business."

In another tight battle, the sophomore tag team of Colleen Rielley and Cosmina Ciobanu secured the doubles point with a hard-fought victory over Indiana junior Alba Berdala and sophomore Lindsey Stuckey, 8-6. The Irish team seemed to be controlling the match at 5-2, but dropped the next three games, allowing the Hoosiers to tie.

With a 7-6 lead, Rielley and Ciobanu only allowed one point in the game to pro-

pel Notre Dame to a 1-0 lead. The pair now is 13-1 on the dual match season, claiming the squad's best winning percentage.

Stepping in for injured freshman Kristen Rafael, junior Katie Potts and sophomore Kali Krisik couldn't combine for a win. The duo fell 8-7 to junior Sigrid Fischer and freshman Myriam Sopel, giving the Irish pair their second loss in three matches as a doubles team.

With Notre Dame up 1-0 in the match, the momentum from the doubles point carried over to singles play, with the Irish taking five of the six matches, including four in straight sets.

Ciobanu looked focused in her match against Fischer, ousting her 6-1, 6-1 in convincing fashion. The sophomore improved to 19-15 overall and 8-11 in dual match play.

Indiana scored its only point of the day, cutting the Irish lead to 2-1 with Stuckey's defeat of Rielley 6-4, 6-2.

Buck extended her winning streak to six matches with her dominant 6-1, 6-1 win over freshman Charlotte Martin. Her doubles partner, Tefft, looked just as solid, and clinched the Irish victory at 4-1 with her win over Berdala 6-3, 6-0.

With the win already in hand, Notre Dame still didn't let up. Krisik improved on her team-best singles record, winning 6-3, 6-4 over Williams. The sophomore's mark is now an impressive 25-6, and has taken eight of her past 10 matches.

Potts finished off the Hoosiers with a 6-4, 0-6, 1-0 (10-4) win over Sopel. Potts dropped six games in a row before regaining her composure and claiming the victory in the tiebreak. Notre Dame is clicking on all cylinders and Louderback said the increased quality of performance is due to the right chemistry and pairings in the lineup.

"We are playing better," Louderback said. "We just have our lineup where it sets the kids who are playing in the right position to win, and it's making all the difference."

Notre Dame will put its six-game win streak on the line in West Lafayette when it faces Purdue Wednesday, followed by a contest at Iowa Friday.

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BASEBALL

Notre Dame drops two of three to Bearcats

By FRAN TOLAN and
LORENZO REYES
Sports Writers

After Notre Dame's Friday game with Cincinnati was postponed because of rain, the Irish and Bearcats played a double-header Saturday and finished up their series on Sunday.

The teams split the double-header before the Bearcats won the set with a 4-3 win in the rubber match.

Bearcats 5, Irish 3

Irish ace David Phelps threw 132 pitches but all his effort was canceled out by one swing of Cameron Satterwhite's bat. The Cincinnati right fielder hit a towering home run in the eighth inning to give the Bearcats the lead for good as Notre Dame fell in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Lefthander Dan Osterbrock got the complete game win for Cincinnati, allowing just two earned runs on six hits. Phelps took the loss for the Irish despite going eight innings and striking out three batters.

"He gave us a chance to win," Schrage said of Phelps. "We talked in [the dugout] and he wanted to go back out there in the eighth. I thought he pitched fine."

With the game tied 3-3 in the eighth, Satterwhite capitalized on sloppy defense by the Irish and put Cincinnati on top. With one out and no runners on base, Irish shortstop Brett Lilley committed an error on a slow grounder off the bat of Tyler Goodro.

"We didn't play good defense. We misplayed a ball in [center field] and misplayed a ball at [shortstop]," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "When you're facing a guy like Osterbrock, you have to make all the plays."

After Goodro reached on the error, Michael Obyc was inserted as a pinch runner but simply needed to trot around the bases after Satterwhite's blast. Satterwhite, the next batter, pulled an offering from Phelps over the trees behind the left-field fence to give the Bearcats a two-run edge.

Notre Dame manufactured a first-inning run and jumped out to an early lead. After Lilley was hit by Osterbrock's first pitch, he moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by designated hitter David Mills and advanced to third on a groundout. Junior second baseman Jeremy Barnes roped a two-out single up the middle to score Lilley and give Notre Dame the early edge.

But in the second inning, Satterwhite knocked in a run on a groundout to tie the contest at 1-1. The game continued in back-and-forth fashion as the Irish scored in the third and Cincinnati pushed a run across in the fourth.

Lilley led off the third with a single and Mills reached on an error. The next batter, Irish center fielder A.J. Pollock, walked to load the bases for Jeremy Barnes. The junior ripped a ground ball right at Bearcats third baseman Mike Spina, who knocked it down and fired home to cut down Lilley. But the Irish did not come away from the inning empty-handed as they scored on a double play. Ross Brezovsky followed Barnes with a deep flyout to right-center field that was tracked down by

Bearcats centerfielder Tony Campana. Mills tagged up and scored easily from third base but Pollock was thrown out as he tried to score from second on the play.

"The play that Campana made on Brezovsky was huge and then the relay to get the guy at the plate was big, too, because I would send Pollock 10 out of 10 times," Schrage said.

In Cincinnati's half of the fourth inning, the team again put together a rally to tie the score as Satterwhite picked up the second of his four RBI. Bearcats second baseman Josh Harrison was hit by a pitch and moved to second on a wild pitch by Phelps. Later in the frame, Satterwhite sent a ball over Pollock's head for a run-scoring double that tied the contest 2-2.

Thanks to the speed of Harrison and some timely hitting, Cincinnati took its first lead of the game in the sixth inning. Harrison legged out an infield hit and stole second and third after drawing countless pickoff attempts by Phelps. With two outs in the frame, Bearcats catcher Ryan Baker scorched a single into left field to knock in Harrison and give Cincinnati a 3-2 advantage.

It took just one inning for the Irish to counter. With one out, Lilley was plunked for the third time in the game to move just two beanings from tying the NCAA record. He has been hit 90 times.

"It's just like a walk if I can get hit [by a pitch] and get on base to just get things going," Lilley said. "I don't mean to [get hit] but it happens a lot when I'm up there."

Mills followed Lilley with a seeing-eye single that bounced off Harrison's glove into shallow right field. Lilley moved to third on the play to bring up Pollock, who lined out to left field but got the ball deep enough to score Lilley and tie the game.

But Notre Dame could not muster another offensive surge as Osterbrock retired the Irish in order for the last two innings.

"He's pretty good ... he spotted up pretty well and he changed speeds a lot, and put his fastballs where he wanted them," Lilley said of Osterbrock. "He's tough to hit. I didn't hit him too much, I just got hit a lot."

Irish 4, Bearcats 3

Many people have speculated that the ejection of a coach can provide motivation for a team. Schrage provided some evidence in support of that claim in Saturday's second game as his early exit preceded Notre Dame's completion of a 4-3 win over the Bearcats.

After Irish starter Wade Korpi loaded the bases in the fifth inning, Bearcats left fielder Jamel Scott ripped a single into center field to knock in a run and cut the Notre Dame lead to 3-1.

Korpi then walked Cincinnati first baseman Kevin Johnson to push across another run. The normally good-natured Schrage, who was visibly irate with the home plate umpire's call, was ejected from the game.

"I was arguing balls and strikes and should have been thrown out," Schrage said. "You can't argue balls and strikes."

Korpi responded to the incident by notching a strikeout and flyout to end the inning and leave the Irish with a 3-2 edge. Schrage laughed as he said that

"maybe" his ejection "lit a fire under" Korpi.

Korpi notched his fourth consecutive win while striking out four and surrendering two unearned runs in 6 and 1/3 innings of work.

"He picked us up. That's the best way I can put it," Schrage said of Korpi. "He's a senior and he's put together some nice games back-to-back."

The Notre Dame offense gave Korpi an early cushion as it put together a two-out rally in the second inning. After Evan Sharpley and Jeremy Barnes were retired, Brezovsky smacked a single to left field and Irish catcher Sean Gaston reached base on an error. Right fielder Billy Boockford knocked in the first run of the game with a slow single to right. Greg Sherry then got a single that produced two runs — albeit thanks to some sloppy defensive play by Cincinnati. Satterwhite misplayed the hit, allowing both Gaston and Boockford to score and put the Irish ahead 3-0.

The Irish added a run in the sixth inning after Barnes led off by smashing a line drive to the wall for a double, Notre Dame's first extra base hit of the doubleheader. Barnes moved to third on a wild pitch then scored on a sacrifice fly to center field by Brezovsky.

The Irish bullpen duo of Steven Mazur and Kyle Weiland finished off the Bearcats and earned Notre Dame a split in the doubleheader.

"In the second game, we only had six hits. I'll give our bullpen a lotta credit and Korpi," Schrage said. "I think that was the key to the second game, shutting them down with good pitching."

Mazur replaced Korpi in the seventh frame and tossed 1 and 2/3 innings. The righty gave up one run but struck out four and did not surrender a walk.

When the fire-balling Weiland entered the game in the ninth, the slew of scouts in attendance got their radar guns ready. The junior was unable to record a strikeout but did close out the victory.

Weiland got his 20th career save, tying the Notre Dame record. He gave up a two-out hit and a walk but eventually quelled Cincinnati's last-gasp rally. Weiland got Dustin Alvey to ground out weakly to end the game. The Irish improved to 13-8-1 overall and 4-1 in Big East play.

But Schrage said the Irish were lucky to salvage the second game of the doubleheader.

"I think we were very fortunate to split today," Schrage said. "We didn't do a lotta things very well [even though] we had been playing well [recently]."

Bearcats 4, Irish 3

Below a cold and misty sky, Notre Dame's chances to win the series came down to the last play of the game. With the Irish chances of winning looking bleak, the squad mounted a two-out rally that fell just short.

Bearcat junior Jake Geglein retired the first two batters of the ninth frame, looking to seal the victory and series for Cincinnati. Notre Dame, however, was on a mission to spoil the weekend for its Big East rival.

Mills delivered a two-out single to get on base. After a Geglein wild pitch allowed the sophomore to advance to second base, Pollock connected on a check-swing dribbler in the infield.

With the game now seemingly over, Bearcat third baseman Spina failed to bare-hand the grounder, allowing the play to stay alive. As Mills approached third base, however, there was a miscommunication between Schrage, who was stationed at third, and the sophomore base runner. Cincinnati shortstop, freshman Chris Peters, adeptly got to the loose ball and fired home to loose catcher Ryan Baker.

With the game on the line, Baker hauled in the throw and successfully tagged out Mills, ending Irish hopes of a come-from-behind victory to take the series.

Schrage tried to make sense of the play at the plate, but couldn't come up with any explanation as to why Mills ran past his sign.

"I don't know if there was really any confusion," Schrage said. "I'm not sure why he ran, but he did. I was just yelling 'Right here, right here,' but he just ran right past it. It's a shame the game ended that way, but it did."

With the close loss, and the pair of defeats to start the conference season at home, a certain amount of frustration is building within the team.

"It's just frustrating that we lost two of three to open conference play at home," Schrage said. "We're in the top-10 in the nation in fielding, top in our conference in ERA, and seven of our nine batters are hitting over .300, and when you have all that, but don't win games, it gets frustrating. It tells me that we're not getting our playmakers to step up and get the big hit."

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MEN'S LACROSSE

ND clobbers Bellarmine

By ELLYN MICHALAK
Sports Writer

No. 7 Notre Dame (7-1) opened league play this weekend with a dominant win over Bellarmine University.

The Irish scored 15 goals in the first half en route to a 19-7 victory over the Knights.

"We shot the ball very well. I thought we played very well offensively," coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We created lots of opportunities for ourselves and defensively we were good enough to get the win."

Three Irish midfielders posted career-highs in goals. Senior Michael Podgajny led the offense with four goals while sophomore Grant Krebs scored three times and junior Peter Christmas twice.

Senior goalkeeper Joey Kemp recorded 10 saves for his 33rd career victory. He now holds the Irish record for wins. Junior attack Ryan Hoff scored his team-best 19th goal of the season.

Bellarmino sophomore attack Andrew Wolford scored the first goal of the game, putting the Knights on the board first with 12:46 remaining in the first quar-

ter. "We played a little bit erratically at the beginning, but we settled down about 10 minutes into the game and played very well for the rest of the first half," Corrigan said.

The Irish quickly retaliated with back-to-back goals from sophomore attack Neil Hicks and Krebs. Podgajny and Krebs each scored again by the end of the first, giving the Irish a 4-2 lead entering the second quarter. The Irish dominated the second stanza. Podgajny first scored two goals followed by a goal from senior attack Alex Wharton. The Knights then scored to make it 7-3, but the Irish when on an 8-0 run to take a commanding 15-3 lead.

Senior midfielder and face-off specialist Taylor Clagett started the run, scoring his second goal of the season. Christmas scored next, followed with a goal by freshman midfielder Zach Brenneman. Christmas, sophomore

attack Matt Ciambella, freshman defenseman Andrew Irving and Hoff completed the final four goals of the first-half run. During the third quarter, Bellarmine scored twice before junior attack Ducas Swezey scored giving the Irish a 16-5 lead. Podgajny scored again early in the

"We created lots of opportunities for ourselves and defensively we were good enough to get the win."

Kevin Corrigan
Irish coach

fourth quarter to give the Irish a 17-5 lead. Bellarmine scored twice more before two Irish freshmen, Tom Connor and Patrick Maloney, earned the last goals, making the final score 19-7 in favor of the Irish.

The Irish will continue league play against Denver next Saturday at 3 p.m. at Toyota Park in Bridgeville, Ill.

"Denver is very good team and they are playing well," Corrigan said. "They have recently gotten a couple of big wins after struggling very early on. They are very good team offensively."

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish get Big East road win at winless UConn



WU YUE/The Observer

Freshman midfielder Shaylyn Blaney, right, tries to get by a Canisius defender during a 22-10 Irish win on Feb. 15.

By ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writer

Notre Dame (8-3, 2-1 Big East) stormed out to an early 6-0 lead and maintained its momentum throughout, beating the winless Connecticut 18-11 Saturday in Storrs, Conn.

Coming out to a fast start was something the Irish had focused on throughout the week, coach Tracy Coyne said.

"Out of the gates, we needed to come out with more intensity," she said.

Freshman Shaylyn Blaney opened the scoring for the Irish, and she was followed by Jillian Byers just 15 seconds later, taking an immediate 2-0 lead. Throughout the run, Byers would pick up two more goals, but she was not done. She added three more in the first half to bring her total to six and would finish the game with seven goals, bringing her season total to 49, which leads the team by 21 goals.

Robin Pastuch led the Huskies with three goals, while Whitney Michele and Laura Eichert each scored twice.

The game was decided in that first half, which saw Notre Dame take a 14-4 lead into the break, which allowed Coyne, among other moves, to give sophomore goalie Amy Winik a chance to see action for the second time in her career.

All season long, Coyne has stressed the

importance of conference games, noting that the team's main goal is to win the Big East. The Irish are a half-game behind first-place Georgetown and Syracuse, who each sport 2-0 conference records.

Notre Dame will play at Duke on Thursday, followed by a trip to top-ranked Northwestern and then a Big East showdown with Georgetown on April 12.

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"Out of the gates, we needed to come out with more intensity."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

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Frozen

continued from page 28

10. The Irish faced the Wolverines twice in CCHA play this season, falling 3-2 on a last-minute goal in Ann Arbor and 5-1 at The Palace in Auburn Hills, Mich. Jackson called the Wolverines "probably the most explosive team in the country offensively."

None of this could have been expected when Jackson arrived at Notre Dame three seasons ago. The Irish were coming off a 5-27-6 season and struggled to a 13-19-4 record in his first season. Jackson said while making the Frozen Four was "huge" for the program, he wants a championship.

"For this team to make their first appearance in the Frozen Four is great," Jackson said. "But we can't just be happy with that. We're 120 minutes away from a championship, but all we can do is focus on the first minute of the first game."

Irish 7, Wildcats 3

So much for Notre Dame's scoring drought.

After hearing about their scoring woes for weeks and not posting more than three goals in a game since Jan. 26, the Irish offense exploded for seven goals in their regional semifinal win.

"It was their willingness to get it done," Jackson said. "Confidence is everything. I think that our ability to score on the power play after [New Hampshire] scored the first two goals on breakdowns on face-offs, to be able to come back each time gave them confidence to know that they can compete with teams of that caliber."

Senior captain Mark Van Guilder recorded three assists and junior Christian Hanson netted the first multi-goal game of his career, giving the Irish a 3-2 lead early in the second it would never relinquish. Hanson also added an empty-netter with three minutes to play.

The Wildcats scored just a minute into the game, but freshman defenseman Ian Cole tied the game back up 58 seconds later with a power-play goal that snuck through UNH goalie Kevin Regan's pads.

The teams traded goals to end the first period, with Kyle Lawson scoring on the power play again for the Irish.

With Notre Dame up 3-2 midway through the second, sophomore left wing Dan Kissel used some skilled puck handling to give the Irish a two-goal advantage. With 5-on-3 New Hampshire advantage coming to a close, Kissel took the puck to the left wing boards, where he spun away from one defender and then split the rest of the Wildcats defense to fire a shot inside the left post.

New Hampshire's Phil DeSimone scored three minutes later, though, making it 4-3 headed to the third — where the Irish would dominate.

Just 23 seconds into the period, Van Guilder and sophomore right wing Ryan Thang forced a turnover behind the New Hampshire net. Van Guilder corralled the puck and slid it to Thang, who fired home a wrist shot for a 5-3 Irish lead.

From there, the defense took over, and sophomore center Kevin Deeth and Hanson each added empty-netters to bury the Wildcats.

Irish 3, Spartans 1

Two third-period goals from Van Guilder and Teddy Ruth propelled Notre Dame to a victory over Michigan State and the first Frozen Four appearance in the

program's history.

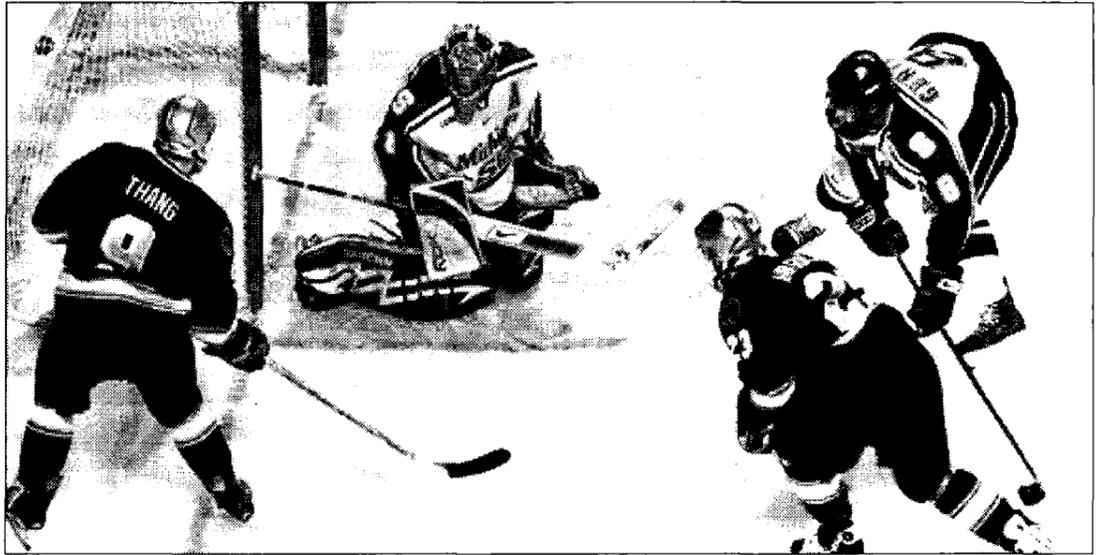
Hanson put the Irish on the board first against the Spartans, scoring 2:43 into the second period. Hanson skated around the Michigan State net and tried to stuff the puck past Spartans goalie Jeff Lerg but was unsuccessful on his first attempt. On the rebound, though, Hanson managed to sneak the puck between Lerg's legs and give Notre Dame 1-0 lead. It was Hanson's third goal, and fourth point, of the weekend.

"Now that he's showing that sign of consistency, he's a dominant player at times," Jackson said of Hanson.

The Irish lead lasted barely seven minutes, though, as Justin Abelkader evened the score at one at 9:05 of the second period. Abelkader received a perfect pass from teammate Tim Kennedy at the left circle and fired a one-timer past Irish goalie Jordan Pearce.

Notre Dame appeared to take the lead 15:54 into the period, when Evan Rankin corralled a rebound in the low slot and, with Lerg out of position, fired a puck into the vacant net. But the goal was disallowed after video review showed that Irish forward Kevin Deeth obstructed Lerg.

"We were real calm on the



Irish right wing Ryan Thang, left, and senior captain Mark Van Guilder watch Van Guilder's game-winning goal get by Spartans goaltender Jeff Lerg during Notre Dame's 3-1 win Saturday night.

bench just sitting there waiting for the call," Van Guilder said. "Whatever the decision, we had to keep coming. You can't let something like that kill your momentum."

Even though the second period ended in a 1-1 tie, the Irish seemed to control the momentum heading into the final stanza.

Finally, at 14:06 of the third period and with overtime loom-

ing, Van Guilder scored the goal that would ultimately prove to be the game winner. After deflecting a pass from Ben Ryan off his skate and onto his stick, Van Guilder fired a low wrister past Lerg's stick to give the Irish a 2-1 lead.

Ruth sealed the win for Notre Dame 1:14 later when he beat Lerg with a slapshot from the right point.

The win was a sort of vengeance for the Irish, who were eliminated in the regional finals by the Spartans last year. Jackson minimized the feeling of revenge, though.

"There wasn't a whole lot of talk about [last year]," he said.

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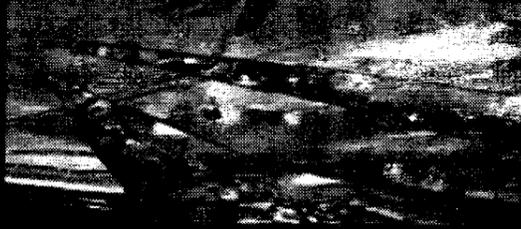
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Saskia Sassen is the Lynd Professor of Sociology and Member, The Committee on Global Thought, at Columbia University. Her new book is *Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages* (Princeton University Press 2006) and *A Sociology of Globalization* (Norton 2007). She wrote a lead essay in the 2006 Venice Biennale of Architecture Catalogue and has now completed for UNESCO a five-year project on sustainable human settlement based on a network of researchers and activists in over 30 countries; it is published as one of the volumes of the *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS)* (Oxford, UK: EOLSS Publishers) [<http://www.eolss.net>]. Her books are translated into sixteen languages. Her comments have appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *OpenDemocracy.net*, *Le Monde Diplomatique*, the *International Herald Tribune*, *Newsweek International*, the *Financial Times*, among others.

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HOCKEY

Rocky Mountain high



Irish forward Dan Kissel handles the puck during Notre Dame's 3-1 victory over Michigan State Saturday. AP

ND beats UNH, MSU to advance to first Frozen Four

By MATT GAMBER and SAM WERNER
Sports Writers

Notre Dame entered the weekend as the West regional's No. 4 seed, expected to step aside for the heavily-favored New Hampshire, the top seed.

But the Irish, who struggled in the second half of the season, to say the least, beat New Hampshire 7-3 Friday and Michigan State 3-1 Saturday to advance to the first Frozen Four in the program's history.

"After the way the second half has gone, I'm just happy for our kids," Jackson said. "You know, they persevered through a real difficult time. They still held together, they still worked hard."

The Irish looked more at home on the larger, Olympic-sized ice surface. Jackson said the added space allowed Notre Dame more offensive creativity, especially on the power play.

"You can really stretch out a team's penalty killing," Jackson said. "And we didn't get stretched out defensively, which was huge."

Notre Dame moves on to face Michigan in the national semifinal in Denver on April

see FROZEN/page 26



Irish players Christian Hanson and Justin White mob defenseman Teddy Ruth, center, after his goal Saturday. AP

Team finally regains early-season form with balanced effort in two upset victories in NCAA Tournament

How did this happen?
Until this weekend, it had been a frustrating couple of months for anyone who followed Notre Dame hockey. After earning a No. 6 national ranking with a 16-4 start, the Irish quickly fell apart, going 8-11-4 after blanking Princeton 7-0 on Dec. 8.



Matt Gamber
Associate Sports Editor

Even so, Notre Dame still got more chances to succeed than it knew what to do with. The Irish won consecutive games just once in January and

February, yet they still finished fourth in the CCHA and got a first-round bye in the conference tournament. They gave away the first of a three-game playoff set against Ferris State before coming back with wins the next two nights to earn a spot in Detroit for the conference semifinals last weekend, where they thought they needed at least one win to solidify a NCAA berth.

Instead, Notre Dame gave up a game-tying goal to No. 3 Miami (Ohio) with 3.4 seconds to play and lost a heartbreaker in overtime. The next night, the Irish played an admittedly uninspired third-place game, giving up two third-period goals to lose 2-1 to an unheralded Northern Michigan team.

And yet, when the pairings were announced on Easter

Sunday, there the Irish were, placed in the West regional as the No. 4 seed — and widely considered an afterthought, expected to continue its steady decline by losing to heavily-favored New Hampshire.

So again, how did this happen? The truth is, despite the fact that the Irish snuck into the tournament as the last at-large team, they didn't exactly come out of nowhere.

After last year's landmark season, capped off with the first CCHA championship and NCAA appearance in school history but cut short with a loss to Michigan State in the regional final, the Irish entered the year a top-10 team, living up to that ranking early on before stumbling around Christmas.

But with their backs to the

wall and with just this one last chance (for real this time), the Irish lived up to their early expectations and threw the newer, lower ones right back in their critics' faces.

Jordan Pearce outplayed a pair of Hobey Baker finalists in net and continued to make a name for himself — how he hadn't done that already, even after being named the CCHA goalie of the year, is somewhat mind-boggling, because the kid can play and he's shown it all year.

Captain Mark Van Guilder stepped up, dishing out three assists on Friday before scoring Saturday's game-winner to garner the region's most outstanding player award.

Christian Hanson, who had 10 goals all year entering the weekend, scored three times.

The defense was stellar, with hard-hitting Brock Sheahan earning a spot on the all-regional team and freshmen defensemen Ian Cole and Teddy Ruth coming through with clutch goals.

And coach Jeff Jackson showed why he's widely considered one of the best big-game coaches in college hockey, running his NCAA tournament record to 15-6.

So that's how it happened, and while top-ranked Michigan surely will provide a tough test, who knows — it just might happen again next weekend.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Parker scores 34 to knock out Irish in Sweet 16

No. 1 seed Lady Vols dominate second half

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — How do you stop a 6-foot-4, All-American forward from taking over a game and ending your season?

That was Notre Dame's problem — it couldn't.

Tennessee's Candace Parker poured in 34 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in the

see LADY VOLS/page 18



Irish guard Lindsay Schrader, center, battles Lady Vols forward Alberta Auguste for a rebound during Tennessee's 74-64 NCAA Tournament victory Sunday in Oklahoma City. AP

Tennessee's supporting cast overwhelms ND

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ever played tic-tac-toe and found yourself trapped? No matter where you make your mark, your opponent always has a chance at three in a row?

Bill Brink

I imagine that's how the Irish felt during their 74-64 loss to Tennessee Sunday night. No matter where it applied pressure on defense,

see PARKER/page 18