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Concert kicks off inaugural celebration in D.C.



President-elect Obama and wife Michelle wave to the crowd from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during Sunday's concert.

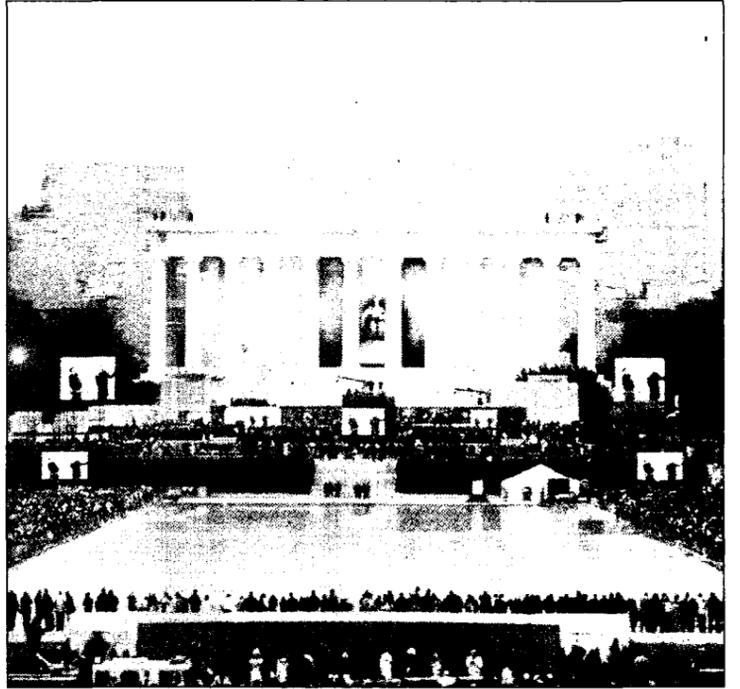
Thousands come to see show at National Mall

By JENN METZ
News Editor

WASHINGTON — Some of the biggest names in music, television and film performed live in a free concert on the National Mall in front of hundreds of thousands Sunday, but the loudest applause went to President-elect Barack Obama. Supporters flocked to the Lincoln Memorial to witness "We Are One," a concert to kick off a three-day celebration leading up to Obama's historic inauguration Tuesday. The program was part history lesson with film mon-

For more photos see page 9

see CONCERT/page 8



Thousands gathered in Washington to listen to several of the biggest names in music as well as a speech from President-elect Obama.

College Dems leader travels to Washington for historic day

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

WASHINGTON — When Sen. Barack Obama became President-elect Barack Obama on Nov. 4, Notre Dame senior Spencer Howard knew where he would be on Jan. 20.

Throng of people departed the National Mall Sunday afternoon after the pre-Inauguration Day "We Are One" concert, an event that featured the president-elect and Vice President-elect Joe Biden and their families, as well as several dozen big-name actors and performers. Howard, the co-president of the College Democrats of Notre Dame, was standing at the corner of 18th St. and E. following the concert.

Howard watched election night coverage on Nov. 4 from the Democratic headquarters in South Bend, and when the results came back in favor of Obama, he knew he had an aunt and an uncle in Lorton, Va. who would be willing to loan him a bed for a few nights in January.

Driving with a friend, Howard left Notre Dame Saturday at noon and arrived in Virginia at about midnight.

As he drove east to the Washington D.C. region, he said he saw many cars with Obama stickers on their bumpers.

"Stopping at rest areas, people were talking about [the inauguration]," Howard said.

He arrived in downtown Washington Sunday morning shortly before noon, and a few hours

later squeezed into the crowd of people gathered on the National Mall to watch musical acts like Bruce Springsteen, U2, Beyonce and John Mellencamp and speakers like Tom Hanks and Jamie Foxx.

Like most Americans, Howard saw Obama for the first time when he delivered the keynote address at the 2004 Democratic National Convention.

"I thought it would be eight years later because I was hoping [Sen. John] Kerry would win, but I told my mom while I was watching that I thought [Obama] would be the next president," he said. "It was a little sooner than I expected."

Howard went to work for Obama starting in the summer of 2008,

see LEADER/page 8



Notre Dame senior Spencer Howard, leader of the College Democrats, will attend Tuesday's inauguration.

ND ROTC teams take second

By LIZ LEFEBVRE
News Writer

The 23rd Annual Flyin' Irish Basketball Invitational drew 51 ROTC teams from across the country to campus this weekend, and Notre Dame came just short of winning both the men's and women's titles.

The tournament, hosted by Notre Dame's Air Force ROTC, lasted Friday night through Sunday afternoon at the JACC, when the Notre Dame women's Air Force team and men's Navy team earned second place in their

see ROTC/page 6

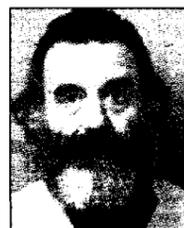


Notre Dame men's Navy ROTC basketball team finished second in the 23rd Annual Flyin' Irish Basketball Invitational this past weekend.

NDSP warns of sex offender in area

Observer Staff Report

According to recent news reports, Rickey Allen Robbins, a convicted sex offender reportedly fled parole in Lake County, Ore. on Dec. 12, 2008, may have been seen on the campus of Indiana University South Bend



Robbins

last week.

Robbins has a history of committing crimes on or near college campuses. He was released from prison in December after serving time for a sex crime. He has family living in southeast Indiana.

Robbins is a white 58-year-old male. He is 5-foot-9 and weighs about 190 pounds, with brown hair and hazel eyes, NDSP said.

If you see Robbins on campus, immediately contact Notre Dame Security Police at 574-631-5555. If you see Robbins off campus, contact the local police by calling 911.

INSIDE COLUMN

Stream of consciousness

It's currently 12:45 a.m. on Monday morning. I've been in The Observer office since 2 p.m. minus the hour and a half I took for dinner at Saint Mary's. I'll probably be here for at least another hour and a half, then I'll get six hours of sleep and head to my internship at the South Bend Tribune for four hours. After that I'll head to class, do my homework and will be right back in this same seat at 7 p.m. tomorrow night to do this all over again — though hopefully without having to write the Inside Column.

Liz Harter

Saint Mary's Editor

Anyway, I hope laying out my schedule for you helps to explain why I cannot come up with a cohesive topic for the Inside Column. So instead, you get the random thoughts that have been swimming in my head for the past 10 hours.

◆ **LOST** starts this week! Yay! It has been way too long since I've been able to obsess over Sawyer, Kate, Jack and, yes, even Locke. Things to think about: Is Jin really dead? Will Jack convince everyone to go back to the island? What did Sawyer whisper to Kate before he jumped out of the helicopter?

◆ Last week's episode of "The Office" was one of the best I've ever seen. After spending four hours watching the BBC's version of the show with my family in Salzburg, Austria over Christmas break — the BBC was the only channel in English ... unless you count all the music videos on MTV — I was ready to get away from Gareth and Tim and back to Dwight and Jim. Thankfully, Andy and Dwight's duel delivered as Andy hit Dwight with his car in a masterful display of wit.

◆ **Forest husbands.** If you haven't seen the movie "Defiance" you have no idea what I'm talking about. And if the box office results from this weekend are any indication — the Daniel Craig, Leiv Schreiber drama came in at number eight — not many of you know what I'm talking about, therefore I'm done with this topic.

◆ **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.** Why doesn't Saint Mary's or Notre Dame recognize this holiday? Having the day off would be nice. The semester is already stressful after one week. I was talking with a South Bend Tribune staff writer last week about the holiday. She was sad because she thinks kids these days don't know what MLK did. I was scared to admit that aside from his "I Have a Dream" speech, I don't really know specifics about him. Apparently, I'm not too scared to write that in an Inside Column though. Hey, I asked a guy out in one of these things, that pretty much takes any fear away.

◆ **Back to TV.** "Friday Night Lights" is an amazing show. I became obsessed with it over the summer when Lyla Garrity mentioned Saint Mary's College in episode five. Granted, we were just that school across the street from ND, but hey, let's take any mentions we can get in prime-time. Season three started on NBC last Friday. I haven't watched the episode because, unlike most other people in the United States, I was watching "Defiance." They really should move FNL to another day in the week. Friday doesn't work for me. Thankfully, I can watch full episodes of it on NBC.com.

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

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CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times.

We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?



Deshaun Gasque

sophomore Alumni

"I believe that life is what you make of it."



Ethan Hatch

sophomore off-campus

"I believe in global cooling."



Joey Leary

senior off-campus

"70-degree weather."



John Bracke

junior off-campus

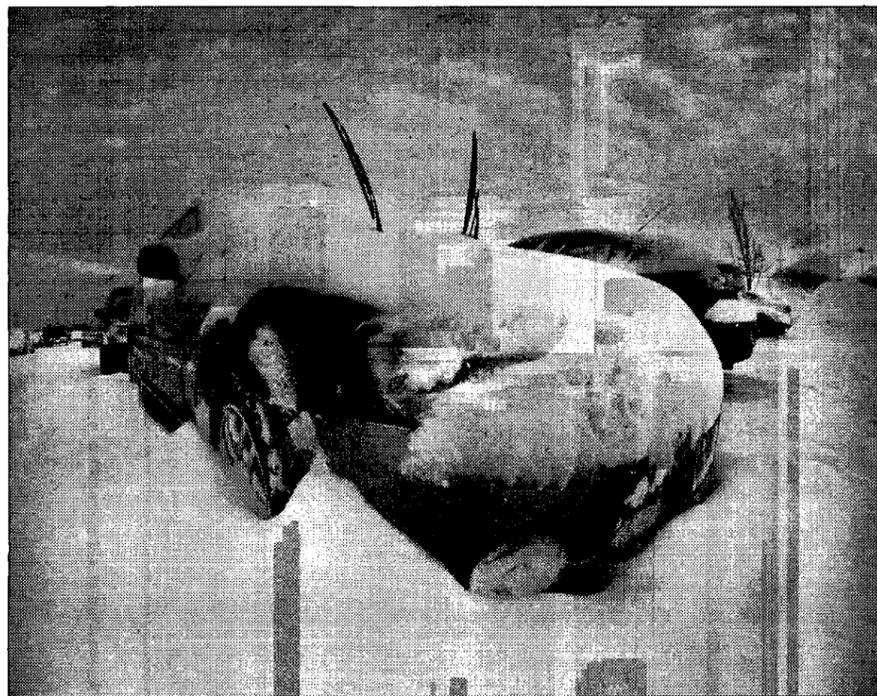
"I believe in Santa Claus."



Kyle Ricketts

senior off-campus

"I believe in a risk appropriate rate of return."



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

With the recent sub-zero temperatures and lake effect snow falls many students are dealing with scraping ice and snow off their cars and digging them out of parking spaces before they can go anywhere.

IN BRIEF

A prayer service will be held in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. today from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Main Building Rotunda. The service will be led by President, Rev. John Jenkins. A reception will follow.

Saint Mary's Multicultural and Student Programs is sponsoring a Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative March today at 5 p.m. The event will begin in the Student Center Atrium and end in Haggar Parlor. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Mass will be held in honor of Blessed Basil Moreau on Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The service is open to the public.

Health and Recreation will be having a Dance Kick-Off on Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. at RSRC AR 2. Registration can be done via RecRegister. The class is open to students, faculty, and staff.

Campus Ministry is holding a panel discussion titled "Men in Black: Inspirations and Reflections" Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. The panel will be made up of priests talking about their life and experiences in the priesthood.

Tim Robbins will be giving a lecture called "Theater as Community" at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Leighton Concert Hall in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased online or through the ticket office for \$5.

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

OFFBEAT

Shoplifter gets run over twice by her getaway car

CAPE CORAL, Fla. — Authorities are looking for a shoplifter who was run over twice by her getaway car after stealing \$1,200 worth of designer purses from a Cape Coral store. A T.J. Maxx security guard told police she saw a woman stuff six designer Dooney & Bourke purses into her pants Tuesday morning and walk out of the store. The guard said she was confronting the woman when a car pulled up.

A report said the shoplifter tried to get into

the vehicle but fell out and was run over by the car. She then got up and jumped onto the hood of the car. As the car was driving away, the report said the woman fell off and was run over again. On her third attempt, she finally made it into the vehicle.

Woman crashes, continues to hair appointment

BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. — An elderly woman in Palm Beach County drove her car into a man on a scooter and continued on to her hair appointment, police said.

Louise Davidson, 77, was

arrested Thursday for leaving the scene of a crash involving injuries, Boynton Beach police said.

Police spokeswoman Stephanie Slater said the woman was turning right when she veered into the path of the oncoming scooter that had the right of way. The man was thrown onto the windshield and then fell to the road, she said.

Police said they later spotted the woman's car after she had her hair appointment.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 25 LOW 8	HIGH 10 LOW -11	HIGH 17 LOW 9	HIGH 35 LOW 20	HIGH 33 LOW 23	HIGH 27 LOW 13

SMC book drive benefits area schools

College partners with Senator Lugar to help improve literacy in Indiana

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's Office of Social and Civil Engagement (OSCE) held a book drive last month in cooperation with a program that senator Richard Lugar began to help improve literacy in Indiana.

"Giving children the proper tools will put them on track for a better education," Lugar said in a press release. "Books provide that vital function. Reading with children is essential so that it may enhance their learning, challenge their imagination and open their eyes to new possibilities."

The book drive ran from Dec. 11 to Jan. 9 and Olivia Barzydlo Critchlow, assistant director of OCSE and director of the College Academy of Tutoring (CAT) program helped bring the event to campus.

"A representative from Sen. Lugar's office was visiting Saint Mary's College to learn about the College Academy of Tutoring Program and told me about

the senator's book drive," Language (ENL) and Special Critchlow said. "I thought it was a perfect event for Saint Mary's to participate in."

The event asked for gently used books that were geared toward infants through third grade students. Books were collected in the OSCE office on the second floor of the Student Center and other various places on campus.

The collected items will be delivered to Coquillard Primary Center, Lincoln Primary Center and Warren Primary Center, three title one schools the CAT program works with in the South Bend area.

Through the CAT program, students teach English, reading, and mathematics as well as being teacher assistants in English as a New

"Each book that is collected will put us one step closer to achieving this goal and to helping the children of the South Bend community."

Olivia Barzydlo Critchlow
assistant director of the
Office of Civil and Social Engagement

Education classes. The students in the academy also help in the Read-to-a-Child and Pen Pals programs, in which Saint Mary's students write to students at an area primary school.

Along with the books that Saint Mary's was able to

collect, books from collection spots all over Indiana will be divided up to go to schools with children in need," Critchlow said.

Saint Mary's managed to gather 182 books over the course of the month during its first year of participating in the drive.

"Children should have at least one book of their own to read with a tutor or at home. With the great amount of need in our community, this is not always possible," Critchlow said. "Each book that is collected will put us one step closer to achieving this goal and to helping the children of the South Bend community."

Contact Ashley Charnley at
acharn01@saintmarys.edu

"Books provide that vital function. Reading with children is essential so that it may enhance their learning, challenge their imagination and open their eyes to new possibilities."

Richard Lugar
senator

Professor becomes health ambassador

Special to the Observer

Frank Collins, George and Winfred Clark Professor of Biological Sciences and former director of the Eck Institute for Global Health at the University of Notre Dame, has been named an ambassador in Research! America's Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research. He is one of 25 experts named to the society who will advocate for greater U.S. investment in global health research.

The Rogers Society, named for the late Florida Rep. Paul G. Rogers, a renowned advocate for health research and Research!America chair emeritus, works to increase awareness of, and make the case for, greater U.S. investment in research to fight diseases that affect the world's poorest nations.

Collins was one of the key figures in the 2002 sequencing of the genome of *Anopheles gambiae*, the primary mosquito species that transmits the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* to humans. With completion of the sequencing, scientists have the complete genetic information on an infectious organism (*Plasmodium falciparum*), its natural host (humans) and the insect

(*Anopheles gambiae*) that transmits the disease from person to person.

The Collins laboratory also directs two other major malaria projects. One is a contract from the National Institutes of Health to develop and manage a Web-based bioinformatics resource center that provides scientists with access to all data related to the genomes of arthropod vectors. Management of this resource, called VectorBase, involves both developmental work in the area of bioinformatics and computer science as well as the direct analysis of genomes that are displayed and managed by VectorBase.

Collins' other major research activity is directing the Malaria Transmission Consortium, a group of scientists at multiple research institutions who work on developing more effective ways to measure malaria transmission and use those measures to better assess the effectiveness of malaria control methods that target mosquito vectors. The project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, involves field research activities in Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia and Indonesia.



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Deloitte

Cold temperatures cause car problems

By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

As the temperature in South Bend continues to rival that of the arctic tundra, Notre Dame students know the necessity of wearing layers of protective cold weather gear to go outside.

What they may not know, however, is that, while they are bundling up, they should also be taking protective measures to make sure their car is in working order.

Students should check their car's battery and charging system regularly and keep their gas tank

filled to reduce moisture in the fuel system and prevent freezing," said David Chapman, assistant director of Notre Dame/Security Police.

The freezing temperatures can cause a car battery to freeze, leaving the car immobile, he said.

To avoid this deep freeze and dead battery, "students should start and run their cars every couple of days during cold weather and not let their cars sit for extended periods of time," Chapman said.

Should a student find that their car battery is dead, though, NDSP will assist them

with a jump start, he said.

The National Safety Council (NSC) Web site offers additional suggestions for cold weather preparation including that car owners "start with a checkup that includes the ignition, brakes, distributor, wiring, hoses, filters, fan belts, spark plugs, antifreeze level and freeze line."

Many drivers often overlook the importance of the cooling system but, without proper protection, the coolant can freeze and damage an engine in low temperatures.

Suggestions from the NSC also include the advice that drivers "have an ice scraper, snow brush, shovel and bag of salt or cat litter in the car," that they "inspect the car's wiper blades, windshield fluid level, tire tread and pressure," and "check that the heater, defroster and rear defogger are all working properly."

Drivers should also clear their cars of snow before driving to avoid a loss of visibility if it blows back onto the windshield or onto other cars. Snow should also be removed from the headlights and break lights to ensure visibility to other motorists.

Contact Casey Kenny at
ckenny@nd.edu

"Students should check their car's battery and charging system regularly and keep their gas tank filled to reduce moisture in the fuel system and prevent freezing."

David Chapman
assistant director of NDSP

Stein conference returns to campus

Identity Project hosts event that addresses women's issues

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

The Identity Project of Notre Dame will host the fourth annual Edith Stein conference, which addresses what it means to be a woman and focuses on issues that affect women.

This year's conference, which will be on Feb. 13-14 and is entitled "Love: What Hurts and What Works," will specifically look at love, and how distortions of love can hurt and how authentic love can heal, said Caitlin Podlaski, president of the Identity project. The conference will also address issues such as eating disorders, sexual violence, self image and relationships.

Podlaski said the conference is about getting at the heart of what it means to be a woman and creating discourse on real issues women confront every day.

"As Notre Dame students, we are women investing a lot in ourselves and in our education, and it's a hard decision to make, whether we are going to get married and have kids, pursue a career, or do both," Podlaski said.

Co-Vice president of the Identity Project Joanna Emilian said the conference builds on the goals of the Identity Project, which are based in starting conversations about living life in a way that is healthy, fulfilling and in accord with human dignity.

"As people, we have questions inside of us and we are looking for answers," Emilian

said. "We want to answer these questions in a way that is uplifting, and will help us live in a way that is truly fulfilling to us."

The conference will host more than 20 speakers who will present on themes such as motherhood and fatherhood, violence against women, pornography, eating disorders and homosexuality, Podlaski said.

"We really want to emphasize that this is positive, not reactionary," Podlaski said. "This is dialogue that needs to happen."

Among the speakers will be a psychologist who will discuss the differences between men's and women's

brains and how that affects the way they express love. The conference will also feature a woman who is the mother of 10 and a Ph.D. candidate in economics, students who will share personal stories about struggles with pornography and eating disorders and Bishop D'Arcy of the diocese of Forth Wayne-South Bend, Podlaski said.

"We feel blessed to have the support of the Bishop as well as Father Jenkins," she said.

Podlaski added the Identity Project would like to have Notre Dame freshman Melissa

Buddie speak at the event. Buddie, who wrote a letter to The Observer on Nov. 13, criticizing the hook up culture, would speak as part of a panel examining true beauty and the hook up culture, she said.

Emilian said the conference also has the support of many different groups on campus who want to find common ground and discuss these issues.

"It's not about liberal or conservative. It's not about Catholic or not Catholic," she said.

Emilian and Podlaski said the conference was a freeing experience for them the first time they attended it three years

ago. "It was so liberating for me leaving the conference the first time," Podlaski said. "I had a deeper understanding of who I was and how I could be a happier person. It was like a sense of floating."

Emilian added: "You feel a lot of pressure in today's world," Emilian said. "I went to the conference and it was very affirming that I am free to be who I am. It was exhilarating."

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"As Notre Dame students, we are women investing a lot in ourselves and in our education, and it's a hard decision to make, whether we are going to get married and have kids, pursue a career, or do both."

Caitlyn Podlaski
president of the
Identity Project

SMC theater group attends festival

Thespians Unplugged travels to Michigan for regional competition

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

While most students used their winter break to relax and prepare for the second semester, seven Saint Mary's students spent part of their time attending workshops, performances and competitions at the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) in Saginaw, Mich.

Activities are held in areas such as playwriting, auditioning, voice, movement, stage combat, theater for children, scene painting and scenery construction and are offered to students and faculty members.

ACTF is one of eight similar festivals held nationwide during the months of January and February and includes workshops in playwriting, audition-

ing, voice, movement, stage combat, theater for children, scene painting and scenery construction.

"While there were some long days, the festival was a very helpful experience for those who had never gone before," said senior Annaliese Furman, president of Thespians Unplugged, a theater group on campus.

Furman joined senior Miranda Baxter in competition during the five-day festival. Baxter participated in a competition where she submitted her stage management prompt book from the play "Lend Me a Tenor," which was performed at Saint Mary's last

Fall. Furman presented the lighting design she created for the same show. The design won a Barbizon Award for Theatrical Design Excellence.

A third student, sophomore Kristina Marinelli, was nomi-

nated to compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Award as the character Maggie in "Lend Me a Tenor" but was unable to participate due to illness.

The festival helped students gain an understanding of what it is like to work in theater and allowed them to possibly bring back some ideas from other schools at the festival.

"Upon leaving [ACTF], I felt more in control of what will be expected of me as an artist," said junior Jackie Cattie, another Saint Mary's student in attendance at the event.

The club's members also enjoyed being able to meet people from surrounding states and discuss their shared interests.

"It was an absolute blast to be in a place surrounded by so many people who were as passionate — if not more so — about the same things I'm passionate about," Baxter said.

The theater department will be using the skills they acquired at the festival to help stage their spring production of "Candide."

Contact Ashley Charnley at
acharn01@saintmarys.edu

"It was an absolute blast to be in a place surrounded by so many people who were as passionate — if not more so — about the same things I'm passionate about."

Miranda Baxter
senior

Former exec granted new bail hearing

Associated Press

IOWA CITY — The former chief executive officer of the nation's largest kosher meat-packing plant was granted a new hearing over whether he should remain jailed as he awaits a trial on charges stemming from a large immigration raid.

Chief U.S. District Court judge Linda Reade said in an order last week she will hear testimony and consider written evidence at the new bail hearing Thursday for former Agriprocessors CEO Sholom Rubashkin.

He originally faced 12 counts of bank fraud, harboring illegal immigrants, document fraud and identity theft. He and three other men were named in a 99-count indictment last Thursday that added charges of money laundering and violating orders from the U.S. agriculture secretary.

The Postville plant was raided May 12 by immigration officials, leading to the arrests of 389 people.

Rubashkin has pleaded not guilty and is being held at the Dubuque County Jail. An earlier request to be released was rejected out of fears that he might flee to Israel.

Prosecutors also have

alleged Rubashkin tried to tamper with evidence after earlier being released from jail on Oct. 30. He was returned to jail after being arrested on bank fraud allegations.

U.S. Attorney's Office spokesman Bob Teig said the order for the new bail hearing was "not unexpected," but declined to comment further.

Rubashkin attorney Guy Cook said Saturday in an e-mail to The Associated Press that Rubashkin's defense team would be presenting witnesses to back up claims that Rubashkin was not a flight risk.

His defense also said the invocation of an Israeli emigration law, called the Law of Return, improperly clouded evidence against Rubashkin at an earlier bail hearing.

Along with the federal charges against Rubashkin, Agriprocessors and top managers have been accused of violating state and federal laws dealing with child labor, wage requirements and safety rules. The company has filed for bankruptcy protection.

If convicted, Rubashkin faces up to 30 years in prison and a minimum fine of \$1 million on each of the bank fraud counts, the most serious of the charges.

Please recycle The Observer.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palm oil demand threatens orangutans

TANJUNG PUTING NATIONAL PARK — Hoping to unravel the mysteries of human origin, anthropologist Louis Leakey sent three young women to Africa and Asia to study our closest relatives: It was chimpanzees for Jane Goodall, mountain gorillas for Dian Fossey and the elusive, solitary orangutans for Birute Mary Galdikas.

Nearly four decades later, 62-year-old Galdikas, the least famous of his "angels," is the only one still at it. And the red apes she studies in Indonesia are on the verge of extinction because forests are being clear-cut and burned to make way for lucrative palm oil plantations.

Galdikas worries many questions may never be answered. How long do orangutans live in the wild? How far do the males roam? And how many mates do they have in their lifetime?

Election manager killed by bomb

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber killed a campaign manager for a major Sunni party near Iraq's northern city of Mosul on Sunday, the latest sign that ethnic and sectarian tensions are rising ahead of this month's provincial elections.

Police said the attacker detonated his explosives inside the reception area of Hassan al-Luheibi's home in Qayara, 40 miles (60 kilometers) south of Mosul, after saying he had pressing business to discuss.

Bodyguards kept the bomber from going inside, but al-Luheibi emerged from the inner rooms to investigate the commotion and was killed in the blast, according to Col. Safaa Abdul-Razzaq. Two guards also were wounded, he said.

However, a police officer at the scene later said a fellow policeman was also killed in the attack and three others — including two policemen — were wounded.

NATIONAL NEWS

Little Debbie snack foods recalled

WASHINGTON — The company that sells Little Debbie snacks announced a recall Sunday of peanut butter crackers because of a potential link to a deadly salmonella outbreak.

The voluntary recall came one day after the government advised consumers to avoid eating cookies, cakes, ice cream and other foods with peanut butter until health officials learn more about the contamination.

The announcement by McKee Foods Corp. of Collegedale, Tenn., about two kinds of Little Debbie products was another in a string of voluntary recalls following the most recent guidance by health officials.

Abstinence-only funding in jeopardy

NEW YORK — With the exit of the Bush administration, critics of abstinence-only sex education will be making an aggressive push to cut off federal funding for what they consider an ineffective, sometimes harmful program.

How quickly and completely they reach their goal is uncertain, however, as conservative supporters of abstinence education lobby Congress and President-elect Barack Obama to preserve at least some of the funding, which now totals \$176 million a year.

And even if federal funding is halted, some states — such as Georgia — are determined to keep abstinence programs going on their own, ensuring that this front in the culture wars will remain active.

LOCAL NEWS

Swimmer rescues coach from pool

GREENWOOD — A high school swimming coach passed out while under water and was rescued by a freshman team member who spotted that he was in trouble and dragged him to the side of the pool.

Coach Chas Grimm had challenged team members to see whether any of them could swim farther than him without coming up for air during Wednesday afternoon's practice. Freshman Hannah Fuller said Grimm was on his third lap when she saw him suddenly twist and float toward the surface, but his head remained underwater.

GAZA

Israeli troops withdraw from Gaza

Hamas ceases fire, Israeli government declares an end to three-week war

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — Israeli troops, some smiling and dancing, began to withdraw from Gaza Sunday after their government and Hamas militants declared an end to a three-week war. But neither side achieved long-term goals, and the burden of consolidating the fragile calm fell to world leaders.

The truce brought relief to Gaza's citizens, who took stock of the devastation in relative safety for the first time since Israel launched the offensive on Dec. 27. And it brought more trauma, as rescue workers in surgical masks ventured into what were once no-go areas and pulled 100 bodies from buildings pulverized by bombs.

"We've pulled out my nephew, but I don't know how many are still under there," Zayed Hadar said as he sifted through the rubble of his flattened home in the northern town of Jebaliya.

Tension eased in southern Israel, the target of Palestinian rocket fire, even though Hamas launched nearly 20 rockets in a final salvo before announcing a cease-fire. Three Israelis were lightly wounded, while two Palestinians were killed in last-minute fighting, medics said.

Israel and Hamas do not recognize each other and ended up separately declaring cease-fires 12 hours apart after strenuous efforts by Egyptian mediators to get an agreement. Israel first announced a unilateral cease-fire that took effect early Sunday, with Hamas initially vowing to keep fighting until all troops left Gaza. Later Sunday, Hamas also said it would hold its fire to give Israeli forces time to pull out.

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said his country had no desire to stay in Gaza, a Mediterranean strip of 1.4 million people that was vacated by Israel in 2005 even though Gaza's airspace,



AP
Palestinians collect belongings from the rubble of a building in the eastern area of Jebaliya on Sunday after Israeli troops withdrew from the northern Gaza Strip.

coastal waters and border crossings remained under Israeli control.

"We didn't set out to conquer Gaza. We didn't set out to control Gaza. We don't want to remain in Gaza, and we intend on leaving Gaza as fast as possible," Olmert said at a dinner in Jerusalem with the leaders of Britain, France, Germany and Spain.

A swift withdrawal would reduce the likelihood of clashes between militants and Israeli troops that could rupture the truce.

Despite losses suffered, Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh claimed "a heavenly victory" in remarks broadcast on Al-Jazeera Arabic news channel.

The world welcomed the apparent end to the latest round of fighting in the Middle East. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged a quick influx of humanitarian aid to the isolated enclave, and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice — in the final days of her tenure — said a cease-fire must be durable.

Iran, which has supplied rockets to Hamas, said a key to calm is the opening of border crossings that Israel and Egypt have kept virtually sealed since the militant group staged a violent takeover of Gaza in 2007 from forces of the rival Fatah faction, headed by Western-backed Palestinian President

Mahmoud Abbas.

The comment by Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki was a reminder that the tiny coastal territory is just one piece of a larger conflict between Israel and regional enemies.

In Egypt, European and Arab leaders were seeking a long-term deal to solidify the truce. Delivering humanitarian aid to rebuild Gaza, opening its borders and choking off the flow of weapons into Gaza through tunnels under the 8-mile Gaza-Egypt border and at sea — perhaps with an international naval force — emerged as key goals from their summit at the Sinai desert resort of Sharm el-Sheik.

Plane's engines lost power simultaneously

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The flight data recorder of the US Airways jet that landed in the Hudson River shows both engines lost power simultaneously, investigators said Sunday.

Information from the flight recorders on the doomed aircraft was released as investigators worked to remove its fuel. After that is completed, officials hope to move the damaged plane off the river by the end of the day.

"Defueling is a pretty intricate operation, not without risk," Kitty Higgins of the National Transportation Safety Board said at

an afternoon briefing on the investigation.

The crippled plane, hoisted from the river late Saturday, remains on top of a barge moored to a seawall in Manhattan a few blocks from the World Trade Center site.

Higgins said the recorders showed that Flight 1549 reached a maximum altitude of 3,200 feet before losing power simultaneously in both engines before its splash-landing Thursday afternoon.

Higgins recounted excerpts from communications captured by the cockpit voice recorder beginning 90 seconds after takeoff, when the captain made a remark to the co-pilot about birds.

One second later, she said, "the sound of thumps and a rapid decrease in engine sounds" could be heard.

"The captain makes a radio call to (Air Traffic Control) calling Mayday, and reports that they hit birds, lost both engines and were returning to LaGuardia" Airport, she said.

Higgins said the accounts on the cockpit voice recorder were consistent with interviews with the flight crew. She also praised the crew.

"Miracles happen because a lot of everyday things happen for years and years and years," she said. "These people knew what they were supposed to do and they did it and as a result, nobody lost their life."

ROTC

continued from page 1

respective divisions.

Thirty-eight men's teams and 13 women's teams representing all of the service branches competed in the tournament, traveling from universities such as Penn State, Clemson, the University of Virginia, and the University of Nebraska. Though a few teams had to cancel due to the weather, "the scheduling changes were easy to make and the tournament ran smoothly," said tournament officer Matt Mooney.

In the women's final, the Marquette Navy and Marine Corps team proved to be too much for the Notre Dame Air Force, as they lost 28-16.

"We played well on defense," freshman Ayla Bicoy said of her team's performance. "With a more controlled offense we definitely could have scored more points and kept the game closer."

In the men's final, a strong second half propelled Texas A&M to a 39-26 victory over the Notre Dame Navy.

With the game tied at half-time, A&M's size helped the Aggies bottle up the Irish offense. Despite the loss, the Irish Navy team was still in high spirits after the game.

"We played the best we have ever played," senior Dave Costanzo said. "This is the second time in three years we've played in the championship game. We've gotten second both times, but overall it was a great weekend."

Teams in both the men's and women's division were divided into pools. In the men's division, the winners of the 10 pools advanced to the single-elimination playoffs, as well as the next top six teams as wildcards.

In the women's division, the four pool winners advanced to the playoffs, with the two winners continuing on to the finals.

The tournament places a focus on promoting sportsmanship and professionalism among the nation's future military leaders, said tournament public affairs officer Samantha Nees.

She praised the camaraderie between schools and the friendly atmosphere of the games.

"It's a long and challenging weekend, but it's definitely worth it for all the great people and positive attitudes," she said. "People know each other from field training, so it's always fun to be competing against familiar faces."

Every year, the tournament presents the Colonel Moe Award to one men's and one women's team who exhibit sportsmanship, hustle, and pride. South Dakota State University swept this year's awards.

Overall, "the tournament was a huge success," Mooney said. "It was great seeing everyone work together to make such a big tournament work well. There are always things we can improve on but the weekend definitely went well."

Contact Liz Lefebvre at elefebvr@nd.edu

Technology to block cell phones in cars

Inventors work on product that uses GPS system for tracking software

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Many parents would love to be able to give their teenagers a cell phone that couldn't be used while driving. Now some inventors say they have come up with ways to make that possible, but they appear to be relying on wishful thinking.

One product to hit the market, \$10-a-month software by Dallas-based WQN Inc., can disable a cell phone while its owner is driving. It uses GPS technology, which can tell how fast a person is traveling. But it can't know whether the person is driving — and therefore it can needlessly lock a phone. WQN, which sells cell phone and Internet security software under the name WebSafety, says it signed up about 50 customers for its first month of service.

Aegis Mobility, a Canadian software company, plans to release a similar Global Positioning System-based product this fall, known as DriveAssistT. Aegis is in talks with big U.S. wireless phone carriers, which would have to support the software and charge families a fee of probably \$10 to \$20 a month, said David Teater, the company's vice president.

The DriveAssistT system will disable a phone at driving speeds and send a message to callers or texters saying the person they are trying to reach is too busy driving. But because

that person could be a non-driving passenger, the approach is a blunt tool.

Other product concepts that don't involve GPS systems have their own flaws. As a result, Parry Aftab, who advises families on technology and safety, suggests worried parents find another way to stop their kids from calling or texting while driving. Parents are better off taking away a child's cell phone if it is used improperly, she said.

"More and more, we see any solution is, in large part, education and awareness, parents getting involved," said Aftab, executive director of WiredSafety.org. Driving and cell phone use can be a bad combination, "but so is putting on makeup and eating a three-course meal," Aftab said. "I wish technology providers would look hard at the problems before coming up with a knee-jerk solution."

Concerns are mounting that driving while gabbing or text-messaging on a cell phone, even if it is not handheld, is unacceptably dangerous. The National Safety Council said this month that there should be a total ban on cell phone use while driving, citing the higher risk of accidents and deaths.

At least 18 states restrict cell phone use — talking or texting — for some or all drivers, according to the insurance industry-funded Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Yet

even in those states, motorists and especially young drivers are hardly deterred.

One of the worst accidents occurred last year in New York, when five teens were killed when their 17-year-old driver, carrying on a text conversation, collided with a tractor-trailer rig.

B. Michael Adler, chief executive of WQN, said his 18-year-old son came to mind as he was developing the company's software to disable a cell phone while driving.

"He's texting messages with two hands and driving with his legs," Adler said. "You flip him the keys to the family car, you might as well be flipping him a six-pack of beer."

WQN's surveillance service promises more than just disabling the phone in cars. It can monitor a person's whereabouts, notifying parents by text messaging when their children step out of designated zones or return home. It also can turn off a cell phone at school, preventing cheating by text messaging during classroom tests, based on a reading of the school's location.

The question parents would have to ask themselves is whether they'd want to prohibit their children's activities this way. That kid you're trying to control might not be driving, but rather sitting on a train or a city bus or in the passenger seat of a buddy's car.

Finance unequal in homeownership

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When it comes to homeownership, Hispanics in New Jersey, single parents in California and senior citizens in Rhode Island all have something in common: More than a third have an unaffordable mortgage.

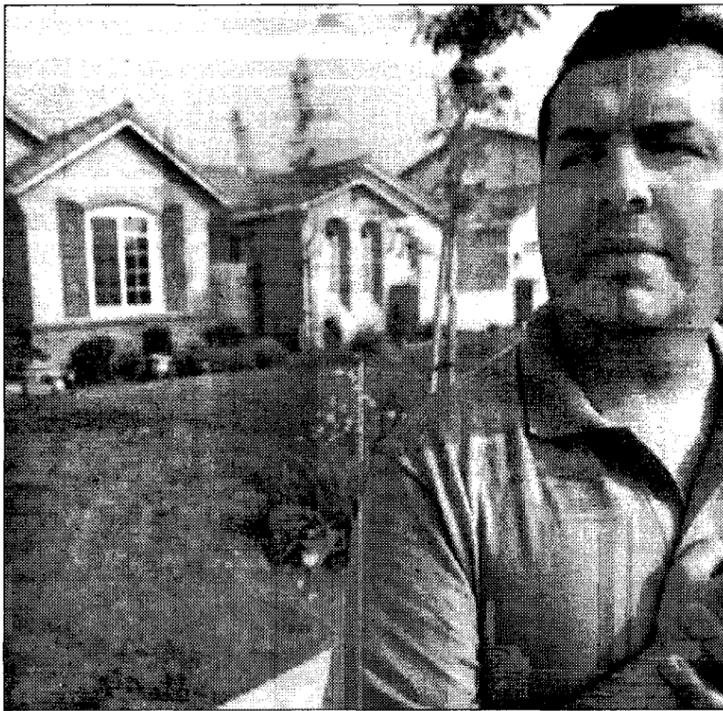
Inequality in America has traditionally followed familiar patterns of race, age and education. Those long-standing gaps have been magnified by the real estate boom and now the historic bust, according to an Associated Press analysis of 2007 Census Bureau data.

While minorities have made significant gains in wealth and home ownership since 1990, "things are going into reverse gear," and now the homeownership rate for blacks and Hispanics is falling, said Edward Wolff, a New York University economist who studies income and wealth distribution.

Nearly 9.5 million households, or nearly one out of every five of the nearly 52 million homeowners with a mortgage, spend 38 percent or more of their pretax income on their mortgage payment, property taxes and insurance, the AP's analysis found. That's the new threshold to qualify for the loan assistance program launched last month by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the mortgage finance companies now under government control.

Not surprisingly, the most financially burdened are in California, Florida, Nevada and the Northeast, areas hardest hit by soaring home prices and now foreclosures.

Yet in every state, there are many pockets of homeowners who are just one unexpected medical bill or car repair from



Joel Cazares poses for a photo outside his home in Visalia, Calif. Cazares and his wife have spent months awaiting word on a loan modification.

falling behind on their mortgages and setting the foreclosure clock ticking.

The AP's analysis reveals the enormous scope of the U.S. housing market bust and how unevenly the burdens are spread, both geographically and demographically. And the situation is worsening — a record 10 percent of U.S. homeowners with a mortgage are at least one payment behind or were in foreclosure as of last fall, compared with 7.5 percent a year earlier and just under 6 percent in 2006.

The burden is clearly more arduous among minority households, the AP analysis found.

Just under a third of Hispanic

homeowners spend at least 38 percent of their income on housing expenses, compared with about a quarter of Asian and black households and nearly 16 percent of white households.

In much of the country, the trend is more pronounced. For example, included among those who spent at least 38 percent of their income on housing are:

About 40 percent of black borrowers in California, Nevada, Oregon and Massachusetts.

More than 30 percent of Asian borrowers in California and Florida.

Nearly half of Hispanic homeowners in Rhode Island and at least 40 percent in Alaska,

Truck examined after boy's death

Associated Press

TACOMA — Investigators were examining pieces of the drive train from an oversized truck Sunday to learn why parts tore off the truck and struck and killed a 6-year-old boy and injured another spectator at a monster truck show.

Witnesses described the boy, Sebastian Hizey, being struck in the head by a Frisbee-sized chunk of metal that tore off a truck doing doughnuts during the Monster Jam show Friday night in the Tacoma Dome.

Police gathered loose parts of the drive train and the drive train loop, a special monster truck device that is supposed to hold the drive train on the vehicle, Bill Easterling, senior operations director for Feld Motor Sports of Aurora, Ill., told The Associated Press on Sunday.

He said he could give no further details or description of the loose parts, including where they were found. "I've never seen the loop or the drive shaft parts come off like this,"

said Easterling, whose company is the promoter of the show.

Tacoma police Officer Mark W. Fulghum said no further information on the parts or other aspects of the investigation would be available before Monday at the earliest.

The second spectator struck by debris was taken to a hospital, but authorities haven't disclosed his name or condition.

Monster truck shows have been a staple at the Tacoma Dome for more than 20 years, featuring vehicles weighing 9,000 pounds or more and equipped with 5-foot tires. Drivers pop wheelies and engage in competition.

Feld has "a stellar safety record" with no prior significant accidents in Tacoma, said Mike Combs, city director of public assembly facilities.

The boy's father, Jessie Hizey of Puyallup, told The News Tribune of Tacoma, a metal ring weighing 7 to 12 pounds sheared off part his son's skull. They and other relatives were sitting in grandstands 20 to 25 feet above the arena floor.

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 8,281.22 +68.73

Up: 2,038 Same: 94 Down: 1,051 Composite Volume: 1,762,152,522

AMEX	1,383.19	+20.28
NASDAQ	1,529.33	+17.49
NYSE	5,387.50	+39.75
S&P 500	850.12	+1.57
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	8,312.25	+70.94
FTSE 100 (London)	4,147.06	+25.95

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	-13.70	-1.14	7.18
CITIGROUP (C)	-8.62	-0.33	3.50
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.78	+0.66	85.06
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-3.01	-0.30	9.68

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+4.68	+0.1030	2.3040
13-WEEK BILL	+15.00	+0.0150	0.1150
30-YEAR BOND	-1.05	+0.0300	2.8940
5-YEAR NOTE	+6.46	+0.0880	1.4510

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.21	36.30
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+32.60	839.90
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.48	83.33

Exchange Rates

YEN	90.7600
EURO	1.3322
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2421
BRITISH POUND	1.4802

IN BRIEF

Circuit City to close remaining 567 stores

RICHMOND, Va. — Circuit City became the largest retailer to fall victim to the expanding financial crisis Friday, announcing it will shut down its remaining 567 U.S. stores at the cost of 34,000 more jobs after failing to sell the business.

The closure of the nation's second-biggest consumer electronics retailer spells more trouble for the nations malls, and is the latest casualty of an unprecedented pullback in consumer spending that has claimed KB Toys, Mervyns LLC and Linens 'N Things.

"Very, very sad," said Alan L. Wurtzel, son of company founder Samuel S. Wurtzel and himself a former chief executive of Circuit City. "I feel particularly badly for the people who are employed or until recently were employed."

Richmond, Va.-based Circuit City had been seeking a buyer or a deal to refinance its debt, but the hobbled credit market and consumer worries proved insurmountable. Negotiations for an acquisition extended past midnight Thursday before finally falling through, Circuit City lawyer Gregg Galardi said.

Russia and Ukraine reach gas deal

MOSCOW — Negotiations dragged into the early hours Sunday, but in the end the prime ministers of Russia and Ukraine announced a deal to settle the gas dispute that has drastically reduced supplies of Russian gas to Europe for nearly two weeks.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Ukraine will pay 20 percent less than the European price for this year. This means a substantial increase for Ukraine in the first quarter but the price could fall significantly later in the year as gas prices are expected to drop.

"The negotiations were difficult but we reached an agreement that will allow for a contract to be signed," Tymoshenko said, standing by Putin's side.

Ukraine's Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said natural gas supplies would resume once the two countries' gas companies sign a contract. It was not clear how soon this would happen. But Russia's Gazprom and Ukraine's Naftogaz, both state controlled, were told to prepare the documents by Monday, she said.

Corporate America sells Obama's message

As inauguration draws closer, companies manufacture Obama-themed goods

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The guys hawking Barack Obama T-shirts and trinkets on the corners of downtown Washington have some new competition in the selling frenzy building up to the president-elect's inauguration Tuesday — Corporate America.

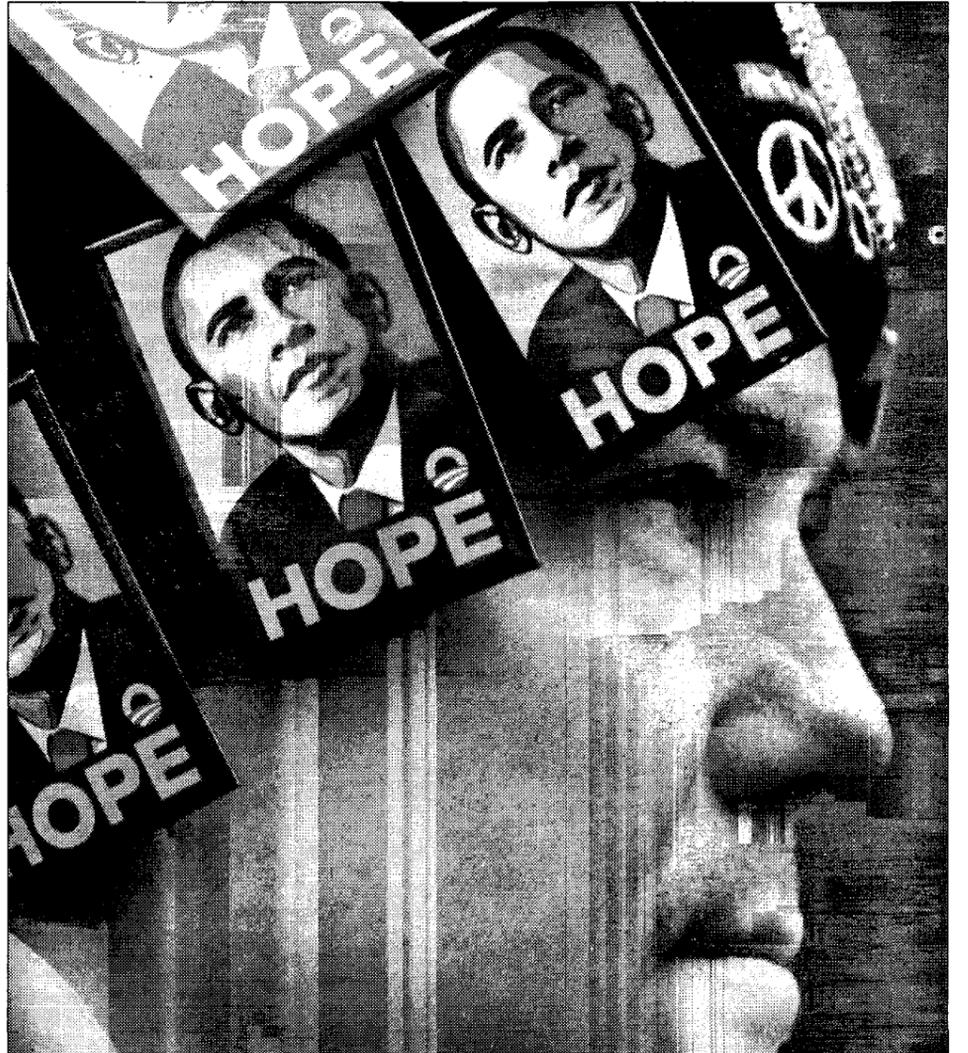
Companies ranging from global giants like soda and snacks maker PepsiCo to a local grocery chain offering cakes with Obama's face in icing are jumping on the Obama commercial wave. Others, like the Swedish home store Ikea, are hoping consumers take Obama's mantra of "change" to heart so much that they go out and buy furniture to mark the change in the White House.

It is relatively rare for corporations leery of alienating consumers with any whiff of politics to associate themselves with a political figure, according to marketing experts. But at a time when many Americans have snapped their wallets shut during a grinding recession, the groundswell of popularity that Obama has generated with his upbeat campaign themes, along with the symbolism he brings as the nation's first black president, are likely too good for many battered retailers to pass up.

"This occasion is more exciting than most presidential inaugurations," said Noel Hankin, senior vice president for multicultural relations for Hennessy, which is selling a limited edition bottle of cognac with the number "44" on it to mark Obama's spot in the line of presidents. "We think this is an appropriate way to celebrate and honor him."

Obama's campaign and election touched off a marketing blitz unparalleled by any recent presidents.

Street vendors in the nation's capital were selling Obama items next to the



Russ Cusick wears Obama pins on his hat as he sells them on the street in Washington on Sunday.

usual FBI hats and Washington T-shirts well before his election Nov. 4. But the marketing potential around him became clear the next day, when people eager to own keepsakes of the historic event bought out newspapers nationwide.

Many papers plan to print extra copies Tuesday to capitalize again on the demand for all things Obama. The hometown Washington Post plans four separate editions on Tuesday and Wednesday along with an afternoon extra on Inauguration Day. Newspapers in San Francisco, St. Louis and Obama's hometown Chicago

Tribune are also planning afternoon extras on Tuesday.

The television shopping channel QVC is planning special live broadcasts from Washington, which will include parts of the inauguration, parade and an inaugural ball later that night. It is also selling Obama collectibles that range from Obama coins to baseballs painted with the Democratic donkey or Republican elephant.

Ice cream maker Ben and Jerry's made "Yes Pecan!" ice cream studded with pecans that plays on Obama's "Yes we can" cam-

campaign slogan. Seattle soda company Jones Soda is selling a new flavor of orange cola it calls "Orange You Glad for Change." Six packs of the bottles that have Obama's face on the label cost \$14.99. Mapmaker Rand McNally is offering a "fabMAP" cloth map of the parade route on one side and a beaming Obama above the Capitol on the other.

Other companies, especially those that appeal to the younger consumers that supported Obama in droves, are piggybacking on Obama's messages of hope and change.

Crew kidnapped near Nigerian coast

Associated Press

NIGERIA — One person was killed when assailants kidnapped the crew of an oil-industry vessel in Nigeria's restive southern oil region, a security official said Sunday.

Militants, meanwhile, claimed the Nigerian military botched a mission to rescue two British oil workers held hostage for months.

The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, or MEND, said in an e-mail Sunday that the British hostages were not in a village raided overnight by the military. The group said it separated the pair and moved them deeper into the region's vast network of creeks and mangrove swamps.

The military had no comment on any rescue operation.

The British hostages were among 27 oil workers kidnapped from a vessel on

Sept. 9. The other hostages were later released.

In the other incident, unidentified gunmen attacked boats near a crude-oil loading installation late Saturday, a private security official said. He said the gunmen had tried to board an oil tanker but failed and then attacked a smaller service vessel and one person was killed.

He spoke on condition of anonymity due to company prohibitions on dealings with the media.

Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, a military spokesman, confirmed that attack, saying the entire Nigerian crew of one boat had been taken hostage.

MEND said one of its "affiliates" launched the attack to press the message that the military could not protect the oil industry.

The militants are behind nearly three years of rising violence in the southern Niger Delta, where over 200 foreign

workers have been kidnapped. The hostages are normally released after a ransom is paid.

The militants say their deeply impoverished area has not benefited from five decades of oil production and want more federally held oil funds to be sent to the southern oil states.

The government acknowledges the grievances of many in the Niger Delta, but denounces the militants as criminals who use the struggle as a cover to make money by stealing crude oil and selling it overseas.

Corrupt government officials, however, also siphon off and sell oil and many state-level politicians are linked to the militants and other armed gangs.

Nigeria is Africa's top oil producer, but attacks on the industry's infrastructure have reduced production by almost a quarter. It is routinely ranked as one of the most corrupt countries in the world.

Concert

continued from page 1

tages of past presidents and other important figures from our nation's past and part musical extravaganza, with over 30 performers.

"We Are One" paid tribute to past presidents, the military, members of the Civil Rights Movement and everyday, working-class Americans, and provided the president-elect a platform to speak to the public about his upcoming term in the White House.

Both the president-elect and Vice President-elect Joe Biden spoke during the concert.

Obama's short speech near the close of the program offered the audience hopeful words about his presidency, as well as realistic expectations for a timeline for the solution of America's current problems.

"Only a handful of generations have been asked to confront challenges as serious as the ones we face right now," he told the crowd that erupted in cheers when he took the stage.

"Our nation is at war, our economy is in crisis," Obama began, naming America's unemployment rate and fiscal uncertainties as some of the several challenges he will face in the early days of his presidency.

"I won't pretend that meeting any one of these challenges will be easy. It will take more than a month or a year, and it will likely take many. Along the way there will be setbacks and false starts and days that test our resolve as a nation," he said.

In spite of these problems, Obama remains "as hopeful as ever" that our nation will overcome the challenges that face it and prosper.

The president-elect sat with

his wife, Michelle, and his two daughters, Malia and Sasha. He danced and sang along to performances by popular artists, including U2, Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen and Stevie Wonder.

Before the concert began at 2:30 p.m., event staff closed off the viewing area near the Lincoln Memorial. Jumbotrons set up around the Washington Monument and at other locations on the National Mall provided additional viewing opportunities.

A sea of those bundled to face the cold remained standing for the two-hour concert, waving American flags and sporting everything Barack Obama — readily available from street vendors — from winter hats to T-shirts.

Concert highlights included Brooks' three-song set featuring sing-a-long favorites "American Pie" and "Shout."

Artists collaborated on certain acts like the high-energy "Higher Ground," performed by Stevie Wonder, Usher and Shakira.

Speakers, like actors Denzel Washington, Tom Hanks and Jamie Foxx, golf superstar Tiger Woods and Martin Luther King III, quoted famous lines from former presidents Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan and Abraham Lincoln.

Patriotic songs "This Land is Your Land," led by Springsteen and Pete Seeger and "America the Beautiful," performed by Beyoncé, closed the program. All program participants, including members of various choirs, joined the chart-topping artist on stage.

"We Are One" was broadcast live and free on HBO, with two repeat showings that aired later Sunday evening.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

"Only a handful of generations have been asked to confront challenges as serious as the ones we face right now."

Barack Obama
president-elect

"I won't pretend that meeting any one of these challenges will be easy. It will take more than a month or a year, and it will likely take many."

Barack Obama
president-elect

Leader

continued from page 1

organizing Notre Dame volunteers and working out of a College Democrats office in South Bend. He galvanized volunteers into knocking on doors and making signs.

From the time Obama won the Democratic nomination until Election Day, Howard said he worked every day to help get him elected.

Howard said he was attracted to Obama's "forward-looking vision."

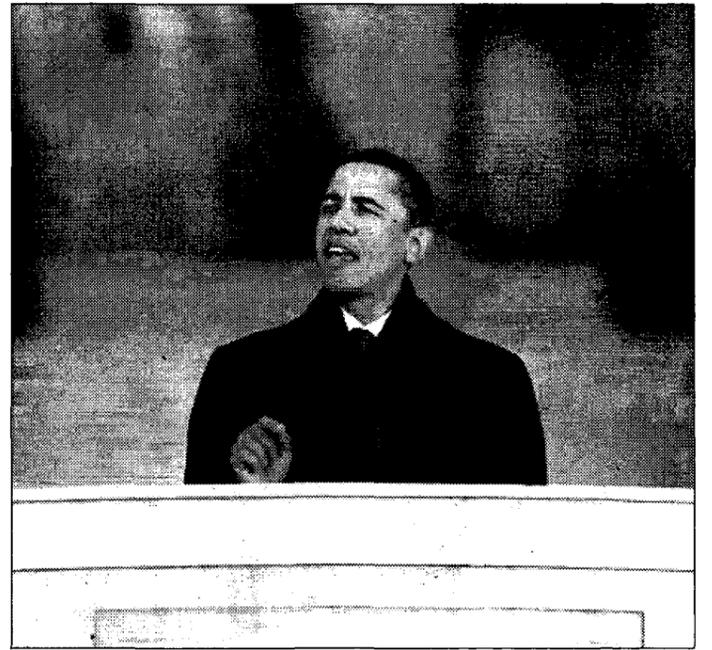
"He seems to have a way of uniting people and getting people to work together," he said. "The other day he met with conservative journalists from D.C., and that's kind of an interesting thing because he's a democrat. But he's met with both sides on everything."

Stevie Wonder's performance was popular among the crowd he was standing in, Howard said, but the highlight of the concert, for him, was Obama's speech to the crowd from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, the same spot where Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963.

"I expect big things for the inauguration, but it's the same kind of things he's been talking about for the last two years."

Spencer Howard
senior

"I think Dr. King would be really proud of our country," Howard said. "That's not to say that there is no work to be done. President Obama was saying there is still



President-elect Barack Obama speaks in front of the Lincoln Memorial during Sunday's concert. Thousands attended the event in Washington D.C.

more work to do. It's a collective effort. It's not just one person."

Obama delivered a short speech towards the end of the concert. On Tuesday, he will again speak, only next time in front of the Capitol building as president of the United States.

"I expect big things for the inauguration, but it's the same kind of things he's been talking about for the last two years," Howard said. "Just making sure everybody understands what he wants to do and why he's

doing it. If you want to have people follow you, you have to articulate why you are doing it."

Howard has no tickets to the inauguration, but he plans to find a spot to watch the swearing-in and the speech among the millions expected to attend the ceremony.

Howard will make the 10-hour drive back to Notre Dame Wednesday morning. His "check engine" light came on during the ride to Washington, but he said the trip was worth it.

And his work will not be done when Obama is sworn in on Tuesday.

"It's just the beginning," he said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

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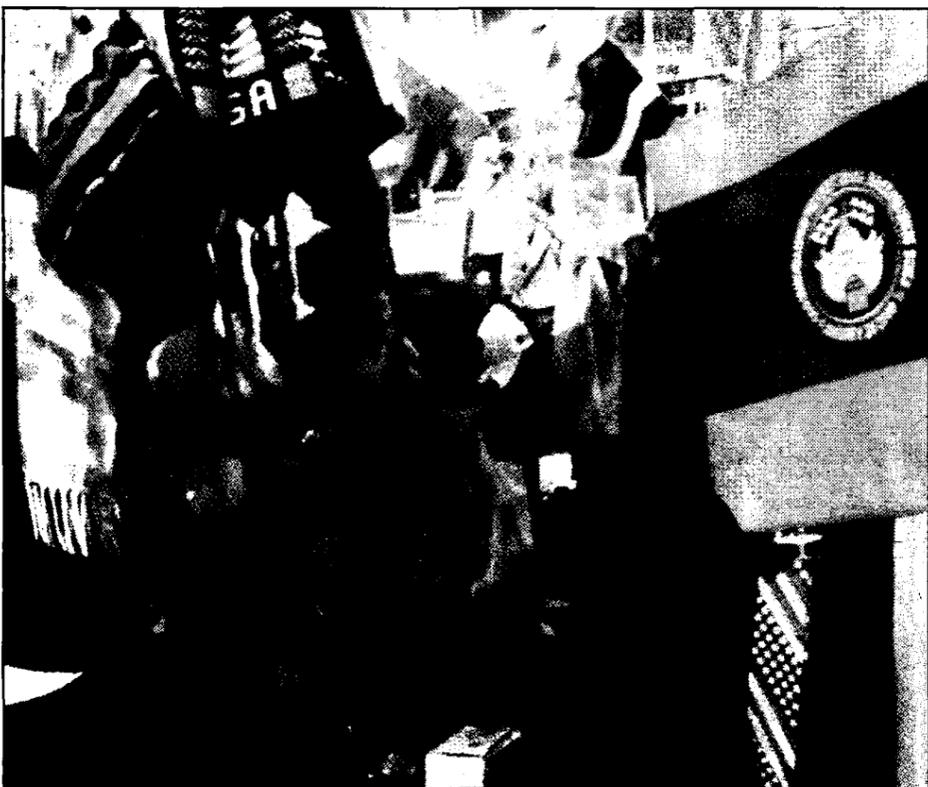
The Fighting Jardiniers

By Bill Lawrence



Wayne wants a SMART Board. Ronnie wants harmony. The Coach wants a win. And Guillaume, the Fighting Gardener, wants the rabbits to stop eating his carrots.

Enjoy this comic portrayal of life at a fictional Holy Cross high school featuring sophomore Maria Chipman and professors Bill Svelmoe and Michael Kramer.



AARON STEINER/The Observer
 Clockwise from top left: Supporters gather in front of the Washington Monument Sunday to attend "We Are One," a concert with performers ranging from U2 and Beyonce to Shakira and John Mellencamp. The concert kicked off the three-day celebration leading to President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration Tuesday; The viewing area around the Lincoln Memorial, where the concert took place, was closed off, but event staff set up jumbotrons near the Washington Monument and other places on the National Mall to broadcast the event; A family of Obama supporters show their pride while trying to stay warm in the cold weather by bundling up with blankets and winter coats; A street vendor sells inauguration and Obama-themed souvenirs near the National Mall; Concert-goers wait to catch a glimpse of Obama and vice-president elect Joe Biden, both of whom spoke at the event.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Monday, January 19, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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

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Thanks, George! A tribute

Oh, the days are getting longer. Because we passed the winter solstice, I mean. But they're also getting shorter — or there are less of them. More specifically: less of them on Pennsylvania Avenue for our dear friend and leader of the free world, George W. Bush.

As we sit at home and uncomfortably watch the President hold press conferences intended to shape his legacy, we reflect ourselves upon his administration, his steadfastness, his idiosyncrasies and his contributions to our nation. Where would we be without his determination to stick to his guns (pun intended), his heroic defiance of petty laws, his optimistic stance on the state of the environment and his disregard for the non-sensical rules of the English language. So, here's to you, George: a tribute to the last eight years.

To your concern about individuals. Who could have ever imagined a president so involved in the lives of people in America that he would authorize wire-tapping of their homes?

To your financial legacy, and how thoroughly you have steered the government to mirror the financial situations of everyday Americans; having your party feign concern about spending when it comes to pocket change (think John McCain and the \$300 million to study DNA of bears), while triumphantly ignoring any real compilation of debt. The National Debt climbed from less than \$6 trillion (which it never topped during the '90s), to its

current \$10.6 trillion during your time in office. Marvelous, how thoroughly the government's mounting debt mirrors the same climb that the average American is experiencing!

To your dedication to strengthening our international ties, or at least our inability to start a war with any major power, through this same national debt. Talk about killing two birds with one stone! How could we ever start a war with the mass-polluting, human-rights violating, censoring government of the Republic of China when we owe them \$681.9 billion, 6.4 percent of our national debt and nearly one fourth of the 29 percent of our national debt that is owed to countries other than America?

To your go-it-alone defiance. Who needs the UN? Who needs international treaties? We are America, and our strength knows no foreign dependence and has not since our first George's Farewell Address. (Note to Reader: Please refrain from rereading the previous paragraph.)

To your intolerance of excess. Why should we fund Medicare or Medicaid when we can fund people who are going to take that money and establish more funds? The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 might not have been popular, but it saved some of that pocket change instead of helping out people that aren't making enough to contribute to your political campaigns.

To your innovative stance on climate change, from withdrawing from the Kyoto protocol in 2001, to hushing top NASA scientists and other governmental agencies in their reports on increasing CO2 levels and the negative effects of climate change, to never attending a major environmental conference, despite substantial international pressure.

To your dedication to energy independence, through allowing mountain-

top removal mining strategies in the Appalachians that irreversibly destroy ecosystems and water supplies, allowing drilling in Alaska's Anwar Province, or supporting legalizing offshore drilling in places that have already been tested and shown to lack cost-effective deposits.

To your respect of the laws and Constitution of this nation, made apparent through your frequent use of the signing statement (161 in eight years in office). As the Chief Executive, you were more important than each individual congressperson and you certainly showed them they can't tell you what to do!

To your second-in-line executive, and his creativity in his approach to fulfilling his office. We'll miss ol' Dick and his innovation that worked outside of the trivial constraints of the Constitution — who'd have thought to strengthen checks and balances by simply creating a new branch of government? Genius! We'll see if Joe Biden is able to step into Vice President Cheney's large, muddy footprints.

And most of all, to your consistently entertaining press conferences and speeches, be it your belief that human beings and fish can coexist peacefully, your boldness to ask whether our children is learning or your misinterpretation of the meaning of the word "accomplished." Mr. President, history will certainly not underestimate your legacy.

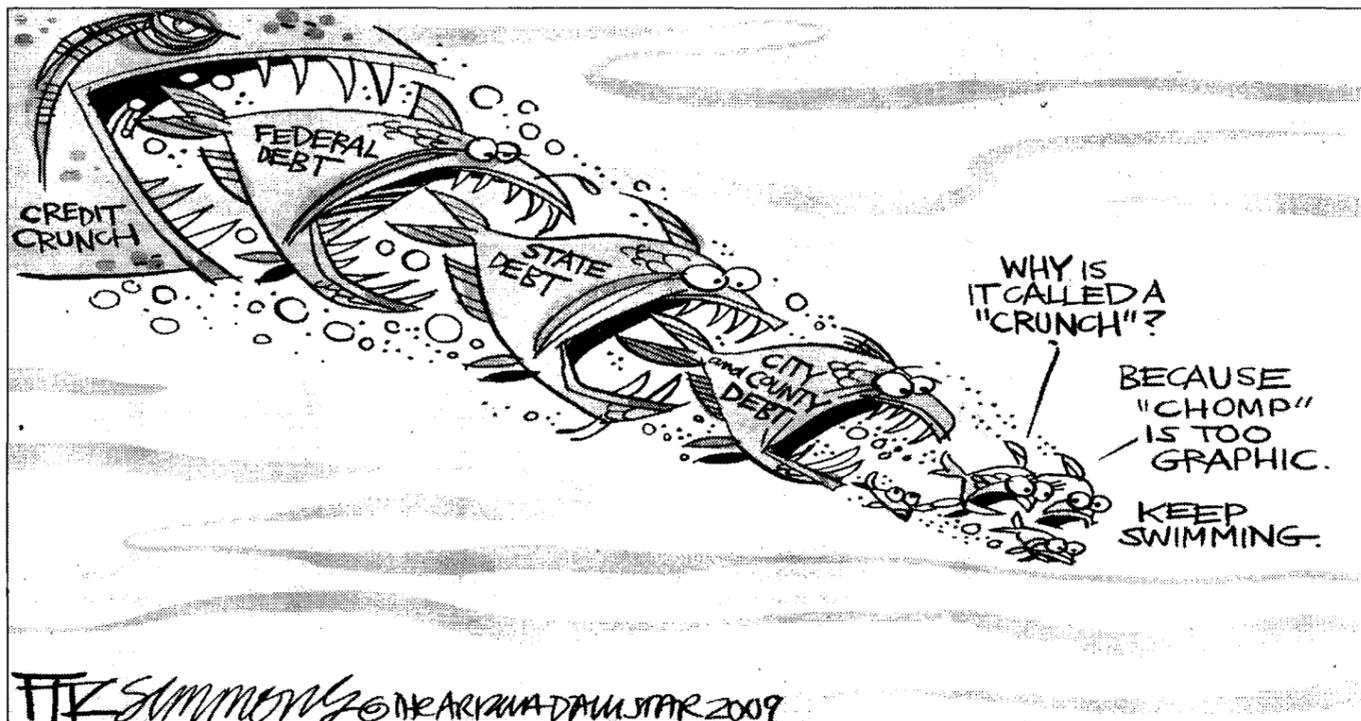
Jackie Mirandola Mullen is a junior history and German major who is currently studying abroad in Innsbruck, Austria. Above all, she will miss Vice President Cheney's smile. You can contact her at jmirando@nd.edu

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Jackie Mirandola Mullen
Guest Columnist

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A watch can only tell us how much time it is, how much time has passed, or how much time must still pass before something will occur. These statements are related not to time itself but only to its measurement or calculation."

Medard Boss
Swiss psychiatrist

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to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"See simplicity in the complicated. Achieve greatness in little things."

Lao-Tzu
philosopher

Catholic identity

Three decades ago, in 1978, Notre Dame proclaimed itself a "Research University." Notre Dame's mission had been the provision of affordable education, in the Catholic tradition, to undergrads, with research and graduate education in an important, complementary role.

The major universities went heavily into the research business in the 1970s as income limits were raised by Congress on eligibility for federally supported student loans.

As limits were repeatedly raised, the universities repeatedly raised tuition to finance their research programs and buildings. The federal programs were a Big Rock Candy Mountain for the universities. They financed their research enterprises on the backs of borrowing students.

Notre Dame was far from the worst offender but it was in on the action. In 1978-79, undergrad tuition, room and board at Notre Dame was \$5,180. In 2008-09, it is \$46,680. If it had kept pace with the Consumer Price Index, it would now be \$17,042. Notre Dame's financial aid office does excellent work in reducing the debt burden of students, but the student or parent loan remains the major form of "financial aid."

In pursuing research repute, our leaders act in what they see as the best

interests of Notre Dame. Any criticisms here relate to policies and not persons. The research fixation, however, has unintended consequences. One is the escalation of tuition and student debt. Another is the "building binge" which has irrevocably transformed the formerly pastoral Notre Dame into a crowded, urban-style campus. One wonders where they will put the inevitable parking garage and which lucky donor will get to put his or her name on it. Another result is a diminished emphasis on undergrad teaching. As one tenured liberal arts professor put it, "You don't really need to have any impact on the undergraduates" to get promoted. "You just need [to have written] a book."

One overlooked result is the decrease of Catholic faculty. In the 1970s more than 80 percent of the Notre Dame faculty identified themselves as Catholic. In 1986 it was 64 percent. Now it is 53 percent and going south.

17 years ago, Dr. David W. Lutz, then a Notre Dame Ph.D. candidate and now professor of philosophy at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa in Nairobi, identified the "real danger" to Notre Dame's Catholic identity as those "who believe that Notre Dame can strive for ever-higher standards of academic excellence — and use the same criteria ... by which ... secular universities ... are judged to be excellent — without forfeiting [its] Catholic character." First Things, January, 1992. "Elite universities," Dr. Lutz later wrote, "are ranked by ... the research they produce. One ... problem with emphasizing research is that teaching may be de-emphasized but a far more important, though less-noted, danger is that emphasizing

research causes Catholicism to be de-emphasized. This is true, not because there is any problem with doing excellent Catholic research, but because it is more difficult to publish such research in prestigious journals and with elite university presses than to publish the kind of scholarship respected by secular universities." Observer, Feb. 17, 1993.

Notre Dame benefits greatly from the presence of faculty who are not Catholic. The Administration, in accord with Ex Corde Ecclesiae, the Apostolic Constitution on Catholic Universities, is trying to increase the Catholic faculty. One obstacle is the insistence, as the Ad Hoc Committee put it, that those efforts "cannot be allowed to compromise the University's academic quality." The false dichotomy between faith and academic quality distorts reason as well as faith. It ensures the obliteration of the Catholic character of the University.

In "The Decline and Fall of the Christian College," in First Things in 1991, Fr. James T. Burtchaell, C.S.C., said the Christian college "must have a predominance of committed ... communicants of its mother church. This must be regarded, not as an alien consideration, but as a professional qualification.... [A]cademic qualifications can be ... traded off ... but when any one of them is systematically subordinated ... it will shortly disappear from the institution."

Commitment to the Catholic faith is not a non-rational preference irrelevant to suitability for the academic life of a Catholic university. John Paul II affirmed the "unity between the knowledge of reason and the knowledge of

faith.... [T]he world and ... history cannot be understood in depth without professing faith in the God who is at work in them." Fides et Ratio, no. 16. He described the "knowledge which is peculiar to faith" as "surpassing the knowledge proper to human reason." No. 8.

In his 2005 Address at Notre Dame, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, of the Congregation for Catholic Education, addressed the relation between faith and research. He quoted John Paul II: "In carrying out its research, a Catholic university can rely on a superior enlightenment which, without changing the nature of this research, purifies it, orients it, enriches it and uplifts it.... This light is not found 'outside' rational research, as a limitation or an impediment, but rather 'above' it, as its elevation and an expansion of its horizons." Address, April 25, 1989. As Miller noted, "the Catholic tradition has unremittently held that the more we probe the mystery of God with the help of faith, the more we understand reality.... The gift of faith empowers the intellect to act according to its deepest nature."

Our leaders ought not to subordinate Catholic faith as a professional qualification for the academic life of Notre Dame. The President has authority to appoint faculty. He could solve the "Catholic" problem by executive veto of appointments. It is a question of will.

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Dr. Charles E. Rice

Right or Wrong?

U-WIRE

Student migration highlights problems

For students in developing countries, the chance to get a better education is on the horizon. But it isn't necessarily because of domestic improvements.

Since 2000, the number of students studying outside of their home countries has risen 50 percent, and further expansion is on the way.

At least part of this is due to a heavy focus on improvement in countries such as China, whose

university system was temporarily closed in 1966 during an abortive reform.

Though they reopened in later years, China still struggles to find places for its students, and many choose to study overseas.

But the ease of studying in foreign countries doesn't just benefit those in the developing world. Study abroad is an increasingly popular choice at many American universities. Educators say that spending time overseas produces "citizens of the world" and gives Americans a better understanding of world culture.

However, the news isn't all good. Many worry that the ability to study overseas for those in impoverished countries means that they will never want to return. When China sent students to study abroad in 1978, only 25 percent of them ended up returning. That's called "brain drain," a condition that occurs when a country loses its most intelligent and able workers to better conditions in a foreign country. Though globalization is often a sign of

progress in countries working to modernize, this is one facet of globalization that could in fact retard the intellectual progress of the countries it benefits. But the system is still being worked out.

In Australia, for example, two thirds of foreign students plan to stay on after they study, according to Australian Education International. That might be good news for Australia, but there are also worries that having these foreign students stay will lessen the seriousness of its academic image, and be taken simply as a means for permanent residence. The countries sending students who may choose never to come back are also, understandably, worried.

Most experts agree, however, that there's no point in keeping students penned up in countries where there are no opportunities. The hope for many government officials is that, when their countries modernize, students who left to study abroad and never came home will be lured back.

Educational migration models many of the challenges our world will face for the rest of the century.

The entire world will be forced to address issues such as brain draining from impoverished areas while also providing for individuals to realize their own potential by accessing the best educational opportunities available.

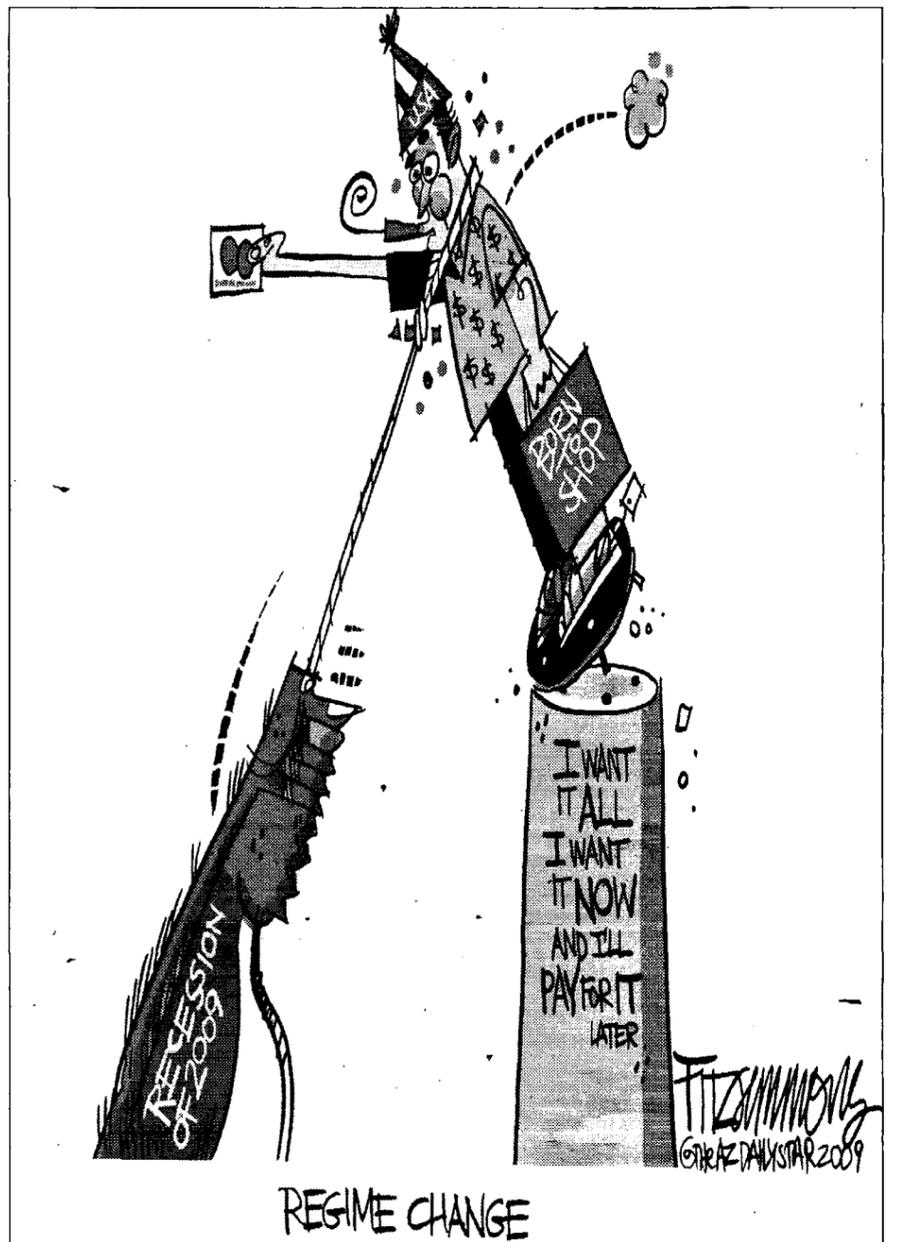
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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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 Indiana Daily Student*

EDITORIAL CARTOON





SCENE STAFFERS RANK THE BEST POP, PUNK, INDIE AND ROCK ALBUMS OF 2008

RYAN RAFFIN
Scene Writer

10. Dance Club Massacre: Circle of Death

Though not easy listening by any means, the Chicago metal quintet deliver a sophomore album that is fast, hard and filled with off-kilter humor.

Their 2006 debut showed promise, but also featured clunky synthesizer riffs and was occasionally derivative. "Circle of Death" refines their sound by playing at a breakneck pace, incorporating subtle synths and maintaining a light-hearted lyrical viewpoint.

9. The Bronx: The Bronx

After being dropped by Island Records, the L.A.-based hard rockers responded with this album-length ode to independence.

Opener "Knifeman" digs at their former label, saying, "This isn't music, it's a pyramid scheme," while "Young Bloods" shouts out rebels and iconoclasts everywhere.

On this album, The Bronx show

punk is more a mindset than a sound.

8. The Last Shadow Puppets: The Age of the Understatement

The side project of Arctic Monkeys frontman Alex Turner, along with Miles Kane of the Rascals, treads no new ground, but is a loving nod to classic Britrock.

With an orchestra backing them, the duo make sweeping gestures about girls and, well, that's about it. Singular lyrical focus aside, the music sounds epic, like the score to an old spy movie.

7. These New Puritans: Beat Pyramid

The British group incorporate electronics and hip-hop beats into their dense post-punk debut, conjuring up images of paranoia ripe for these media-obsessed, ever-connected times.

If you can get beyond the occasional pretentiousness, there is a rewarding core to the music that insists on being both pop and progressive.

Songs like "Elvis" and "MKK3" are catchy while being unlike

anything else released in 2008.

6. Cat Power: Jukebox

On her second covers album, Chan Marshall delivers the perfect late night soundtrack. With her breathy vocals and piano accompaniment, songs like "Ramblin' (Wo) man" and "Blue" become her own. The real heart-breaker is the single original song, "Song to Bobby," a fan's ode to Bob Dylan.

5. Fked Up: The Chemistry of Common Life**

This Toronto band's name is the least provocative thing about them. Instead, their extremely forward-thinking brand of punk rock is their most compelling feature. Incorporating atmospheric, extensive overdubs and intricate song structures into their second full-length album, the group succeeds by questioning what punk music should and can be.

4. United Nations: United Nations

Controversial for their album art and the questionable legality of their promotional tactics — apparently another organization

uses the United Nations name — the group serves up an uncompromising vision of punk rock as a nihilistic vehicle for social change. The 11-song album whizzes by in a frantic 25 minutes, with the all-star cast of the band playing harder and faster than ever before.

3. The Hold Steady: Stay Positive

Four albums in, the Brooklyn rock group show no signs of letting up. With lyrics centered on religion, aging and murder, this is their most expansive effort yet. Incorporating instruments like the harpsichord while staying true to their stripped-down roots seems like an impossible task, yet in 44 minutes the album never loses focus. Almost perfectly paced, with very little filler, Stay Positive continues the Hold Steady's tradition of excellence.

2. Vampire Weekend: Vampire Weekend

Vampire Weekend could easily have been crushed by the weight of expectation for their debut. Instead, they turned out a pop album that never fails to have

hooks, while displaying influences ranging from classical to Afropop. Most promising is the exuberance and optimism of the record, where the lyrics seem to turn away cynicism in all its forms. A light record that is neither forgettable nor ignorable.

1. The Gaslight Anthem: The '59 Sound

In a year with so much genre-experimentation, why is a straightforward rock and roll album the year's best? Because no one has made rock music this good in years. Passionate as can be, the New Jersey group can sing about all the old clichés — cars, old movies, Tom Petty — without seeming contrived for a second. "The '59 Sound" is a record that feels instantly worn-in. It would have sounded just as great 20 years ago, and it's hard to imagine it won't sound fantastic a decade or two into the future.

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

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image courtesy of photobucket.com
Cat Power's album of covers, "Jukebox," was well-received in 2008. Check out "Song to Bobby," an ode to Bob Dylan.



image courtesy of en.wikipedia.org
Shiny Toy Guns released "Season of Poison" in 2008, blending electronica, metal and pop on their sophomore album.

STEPHANIE DePREZ
Assistant Scene Editor

Flight of the Concorde: Flight of the Concorde

The third most popular comedy-folk group from New Zealand came out of nowhere with a release of pure genre-jumping pleasure. Ranging from Pet Shop Boys-style 80's electronica to acoustic funk to rap-core, Bret and Jemaine managed to wax ironic about everything from their duty to please women, to the daily problem homeless people face of being stabbed with utensils, to the inevitable robot take-over of the world.

Coldplay: Viva La Vida

All bow and acknowledge this year's Critical Album Beast. The world was expecting fireworks, and instead we got explosions. It really is a very good album, and the band must have thought so, too, because "Vida" was re-released with different cuts and extra tracks as a two-disc collector's set.

Dido: Safe Trip Home

This British chanteuse managed to stay within her lines so as not to displease loyal followers, but still stretch enough that she's not repeating herself. Though not particularly touted across the covers of magazines, this album is full of delightful gems that make for perfect homework music, especially when snowbound.

Shiny Toy Guns: Season of

Poison

STG's impossible blend of electronica, pop, metal, and male and female voices continues to astound. Their sophomore release took the band to darker, heavier levels while still staying "pop" enough to dance to. Imagine Kelly Clarkson going Goth. It's really quite lovely.

Fleet Foxes: Fleet Foxes

They stepped out of the 60's and right into indie-pop. Unabashedly choral-based, their sweet, lilting melodies give the album the air of a bookend for the indie movement and are different enough to feel unique.

Kings of Leon: Only By the Night

These guys were last year's Cool New Breakout British Indie Band.

Something about their sound is a little off, familiar but not too much, and the kind of music that grows. The first time through it's all right, but by the third time through, you're addicted.

Vampire Weekend: Vampire Weekend

Is Columbia University's law school its biggest appeal? No way. It's these guys, four collar-popping rock stars who went from their dorm to the cover of Spin in 10 seconds flat. The album was something of a flash in the pan last January, but still quality enough to warrant these kids sticking around.

Kate Nash: Made of Bricks

Addicting, lyrical, witty, sweet

and danceable. Lily Allen played big sis to Nash and ended up in the back seat as Nash took over the title of Edgy British Song Queen. Nothing really beats blasting English white-girl R&B with a cockney accent from your car.

Death Cab For Cutie: Narrow Stairs

Not as brilliant as their first album, "Plans," this album still hit all the right spots as the perfect musical setting of what is undeniably poetry. If Shubert were alive today, he would be listening to Death Cab.

Though some songs feel a bit out of place, the flow as a whole works, and "Narrow Stairs" is a most rewarding experience when heard straight through.

The Police: Certifiable: Live in Buenos Aires

This two-disc record of their world tour is all-out perfection. Their songs are still magnificent, but thirty years of letting these artists simmer and ripen has afforded a whole new experience. Sting is always at his best when with Andy Summers and Stuart Copeland.

Listening to these three musicians, who have each gone and done different things for the last three decades, finally come back together to revisit the music that launched them is life affirming.

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

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ek...

reflect on the best albums and songs of 2008



MARY CECILIA MITSCH | Observer Graphic

RADIO FREE IRISH: WVFI LOOKS BACK ON THE BEST OF 2008

WRITTEN BY GREG DUTCHER, LISA FLORAN, BROOKE HEALY, CHRIS LANUS AND TERESA MCGEENEY

Let the learned listeners at WVFI guide you through their choices for the top releases of 2008. Listeners can check out the station at AM 640.

Vampire Weekend: Vampire Weekend

Vampire Weekend came out of nowhere to release this glorious album about roofs, college, grammar, and Cape-Cod. Recent Columbia grads, these guys make undeniably fun, catchy music. A mix of afro-pop, chamber pop and new wave, Vampire Weekend have constructed an album with a definitive sound all their own.

Flying Lotus: Los Angeles

Flying Lotus takes the glitzy, superficial ethos of Los Angeles and somehow makes instrumental hip-hop out of it. Fractured, but somehow smooth; gritty, while still maintaining a slick feel. The songs show an obvious talent for both production and songwriting — experimental enough for headphone listening, while still remaining in the realm of hip hop.

Fleet Foxes: Fleet Foxes

Fleet Foxes proves that while genres come and go, classic folk will never go out of style. This debut album is filled with beautiful instrumentation and harmonies. Fleet Foxes evoke sounds of generations before without sounding dated, and have created something that will be remembered for years to come. Upon first listen, the gorgeous vocal

work and classic acoustic sounds will leave you stunned, and the rich melodies and haunted lyrics will keep you coming back for more.

The Dodos: Visiter

Continuing in a similar psych-folk/freaky vein as such bands as Animal Collective or Akron/Family, the Dodos are comprised of only two members — Meric Long (guitar/vocals) and Logan Kroebl (drums) — who also relish in their country blues and African influences. Long's voice croons and yelps in ways that will leave you humming or whistling these tunes long after the album ends.

At times delicately beautiful and at others vigorously and intensely driving, the Dodos have created an album featuring a number of twists and turns that make "Visiter" a must-listen.

TV On The Radio: Dear Science

While definitely distinct from their other albums, "Dear Science" is nonetheless excellent and cohesive. TV On The Radio is great at mixing high with low and throaty vocals, synthesized beats, horns, and the classic handclap from sounds that could be bleak into an epic orchestra. The result is super catchy, danceable, and one of the most innovative and enjoyable records of the year.

Bon Iver: For Emma, Forever Ago

Purists will argue that this

album actually came out in 2007, but anyone who has listened to "For Emma, Forever Ago" knows better than to argue such petty points. Put into wide release in 2008, Bon Iver delivered a heart-wrenching record of northern winter nights spent with a fire, a guitar, laments, and maybe even a little flannel.

Quiet, but far from boring, romantic, but never nauseating, the album is a heartbreaking beauty.

Fennesz: Black Sea

At its core, you could call this album guitar music modified with computers — but it's actually much more than that. Combining static, noise, drones, and, of course, guitar, Fennesz creates eight evocative songs, filled with grimy, bleak harmonies and overtones that reveal themselves after repeated listens. Brilliantly constructed, wonderfully arranged, masterfully done.

Raphael Saadiq: The Way I See It

Did you hear that? It's motown, making a sneaky comeback. The Amy Winehouses, Duffys, and Adeles have helped it along, but this year's top retrospective prize goes to Raphael Saadiq. On "The Way I See It," Saadiq hits all the stops: doo-wop beats, a cameo by Stevie Wonder, and charming, cheeky lyrics that cap-

ture the soul of the 60s with a modern twist.

Cut Copy: In Ghost Colours

Of all the dance-rock 80s revival albums of this year, "In Ghost Colours" rose to the top of the pile. Instead of relying on irony or self-awareness, Cut Copy focuses on writing good music in the vein of Depeche Mode and New Order.

The record's strength lies in its heartfelt delivery, good production values, and habit of taking the best from its influences: synth-pop and disco, for the most part. Great stuff.

Los Campesinos!: Hold on Now,

Youngster...

Another buzz band from the blogging world, this young group from Wales captured the humor, energy and emotion surrounding the hype and turned it into an unassuming and incredibly fun record.

It's a witty and smart album, whose upbeat handclaps, sloppy guitars, glockenspiels, and seven person sing-alongs balance out the dark lyrical content.

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

Contact WVFI at wvfi@nd.edu



image courtesy of pitchforkmedia.com

Indie hipsters Fleet Foxes took the music scene by storm in 2008 with their self-titled debut album.

RANKING THE YEAR'S TOP ROCK RELEASES

JAMES DuBRAY

Scene Writer

A few opening remarks. First, this is only a ranking of rock albums. Thus, for example, Lil Wayne's very good rap output is not being considered.

Second, only studio LPs are eligible. Thus, Colin Meloy's live solo album and the next installment in Dylan's Bootleg Series are not being considered.

Third, only records originally released in 2008 are being considered. Justin Vernon's solo album under the moniker Bon Iver and Radiohead's free giveaway are out.

1. My Morning Jacket: Evil Urges

Jim James' love of funk and soul shone through in this divisive album. Already acknowledged as one of the country's best live acts, "Evil Urges" put My Morning Jacket in good company.

Who's the best American rock band — Wilco or My Morning Jacket? It doesn't matter; just be thankful we have both.

2. Fleet Foxes: Fleet Foxes

The debut from the bearded early 20-year-old nouveau hippies is a stunning one. An album both haunting and gorgeous, "Fleet Foxes" displays a wide

knowledge of rock history. Never has appropriating from your parents' stored-away boxes been so original and worthwhile.

3. MGMT: Oracular Spectacular

"Shock me like an electric eel. Turn me on with your electric feel."

4. Drive By Truckers: Brighter Than Creation's Dark

Nineteen songs, and yet you still want more when it ends.

With this tour of alt-country stylings, Patterson Hood and Mike Cooley more than make up for Jason Isbell's absence. Credit Hood with one of the better lines of the year: "I wish everyday was Saturday morning/ Two daughters and a wife/ Two daughters and a beautiful life."

5. The Hold Steady: Stay Positive

Much like last year's best album, "The Boxer," this album gets better with every listen. Craig Finn's lyrics are as disturbing as they are fun.

Posing as a twenty-first century beat, the band roars through eleven songs chock-full of stories about barrooms scandals and rich girl criminals. The three bonus tracks display that Finn has more hits in his catalogue than most

musicians can conjure up in a career.

The toast of Saint Joe Strummer? Yes, actually.

6. Cat Power: Jukebox

Chan Marshall's voice seems to getting more beautiful with age. Woozing through covers, the best song of the bunch is hers, the "Song To Bobby."

He's her Guthrie, yet she's still not Woody's Dylan.

7. Mike Doughty: Golden Delicious

The former head of Soul Coughing delivers a listenable album of fun pop rock. While the lyrics can be lacking at times, the album's melodies rival MGMT's for the best of '08.

Maybe local bars will take notice and add a couple tunes to their rotation of overused past hits.

8. Jakob Dylan: Seeing Things

Making a sparse acoustic album appeared to be a gigantic undertaking for this blue eyed father from California.

Yet, Dylan quietly delivered one of the gems of the year. Perfect for Sunday mornings, Rick Rubin helped craft this record dealing with beauty and evil. Dylan shows that the space between the two may be much smaller than we think.

9. Sun Kil Moon: April

Another great album from Mark

Kozelek. What else is new?

10. Blitzen Trapper: Furr

A grower that displays how much the Pacific Northwest has changed. No longer producing Nirvana wannabes, melodic folk seems to be the drink of choice. I'll take another, please.

Honorable Mention:

Counting Crows, "Saturday Nights and Sunday Mornings," R.E.M., "Accelerate," The Raconteurs, "Consolers of the Lonely," and Ryan Adams, "Cardiology."

Disappointment:

British Sea Power, "Do You Like Rock Music"

Somewhat annoying, overrated albums:

Vampire Weekend, "Vampire Weekend" and The Gaslight Anthem, "The '59 Sound."

Year's worst album by a band that wishes it was U2:

Coldplay, "Viva La Vida."

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

Contact James DuBray at jdubray@nd.edu

NCAA BASKETBALL

Northwestern shocks No. 18 Minnesota in Evanston

No. 16 Arizona state defeats No. 9 UCLA in overtime; No. 23 Villanova crushes St. Johns after a week off

Associated Press

EVANSTON, Ill. — Craig Moore slammed the ball in frustration and yelled at a teammate as they headed to a timeout, his frustration boiling over in the early going.

By the end, he was all smiles. Moore hit six 3-pointers and finished with 22 points to lead Northwestern over No. 18 Minnesota 74-65 Sunday for its first win against a ranked opponent in nearly three years. "We knew we were capable," Moore said. "We just had to finish it."

Long a Big Ten doormat, the Wildcats (9-6, 1-4) have hinted that better days are coming. Well, this certainly was one.

The Wildcats had not beaten a Top 25 team since a three-point victory over then-No. 18 Iowa on Feb. 8, 2006. They had dropped 26 of 27 Big Ten regular-season games, including their first four this season after going 1-17 in the conference a year ago.

Yet, there they were, going on a 16-0 run early in the second half to grab a 10-point lead and knocking off a Minnesota team that had done nothing but exceed expectations in coach Tubby Smith's second season. The Golden Gophers' only other loss was to Michigan State.

So what happened Sunday? The Gophers (16-2, 4-2) simply stumbled — particularly in the second half — after winning at Wisconsin for the first time in nearly 15 years on Thursday. Northwestern also switched its defense, going from a matchup zone to a 1-3-1, in the second half.

Lawrence Westbrook scored 18 after pouring in 29 against the Badgers and Devoe Johnson added 14, but 19 turnovers and poor shooting in the second half (34.5 percent) did in the Gophers.

Smith called it an "attention-getter" for his team, and it was for Northwestern, too.

"They're going to win a lot of games, Northwestern," Smith said.

Minnesota led 34-31 at half-time and Westbrook's 3-pointer made it a six-point game less than two minutes into the second. From there? The Golden Gophers fell apart.

They missed 12 of their first 13 shots in the half and watched as Northwestern scored 16 straight to take a 47-37 lead. Moore hit three 3-pointers during that stretch, starting it with one and putting the Wildcats ahead 39-37 with another one.

That drew a loud roar from the crowd, but there was plenty

more to cheer.

Kevin Coble (20 points) converted a three-point play moments later, pumping his fist as his layup went through the net. He hit the free throw, and after several more misses by Minnesota, Moore made another 3 and fed Coble for a reverse layup after a steal to cap the run with 10:54 left.

Damian Johnson finally converted a layup for Minnesota, but back-to-back layups by Ivan Peljusic bumped Northwestern's lead to 51-39 midway through the half.

Minnesota never challenged after that.

"Northwestern is a hard team to come back from because of their (Princeton) offense," Westbrook said. "They slow down the tempo and they use the game clock. If you get down big against them, it's virtually impossible to come back."

The Wildcats had already shown they could hang with the best teams in the conference before this game. They just had nothing to show for it.

They failed to protect leads in losses to Penn State and then-No. 10 Michigan State, but the toughest loss came against No. 19 Purdue on Thursday night, when they blew a 14-point lead.

This time, there were no collapses. Just plenty of smiles.

Arizona State 61, UCLA 58

Arizona State outfoxed UCLA at its own defensive game.

Using a matchup zone that forced the ninth-ranked Bruins into a 13-minute stretch over the end of regulation and start of overtime where they managed one field goal, the 16th-ranked Sun Devils came away with a victory Saturday.

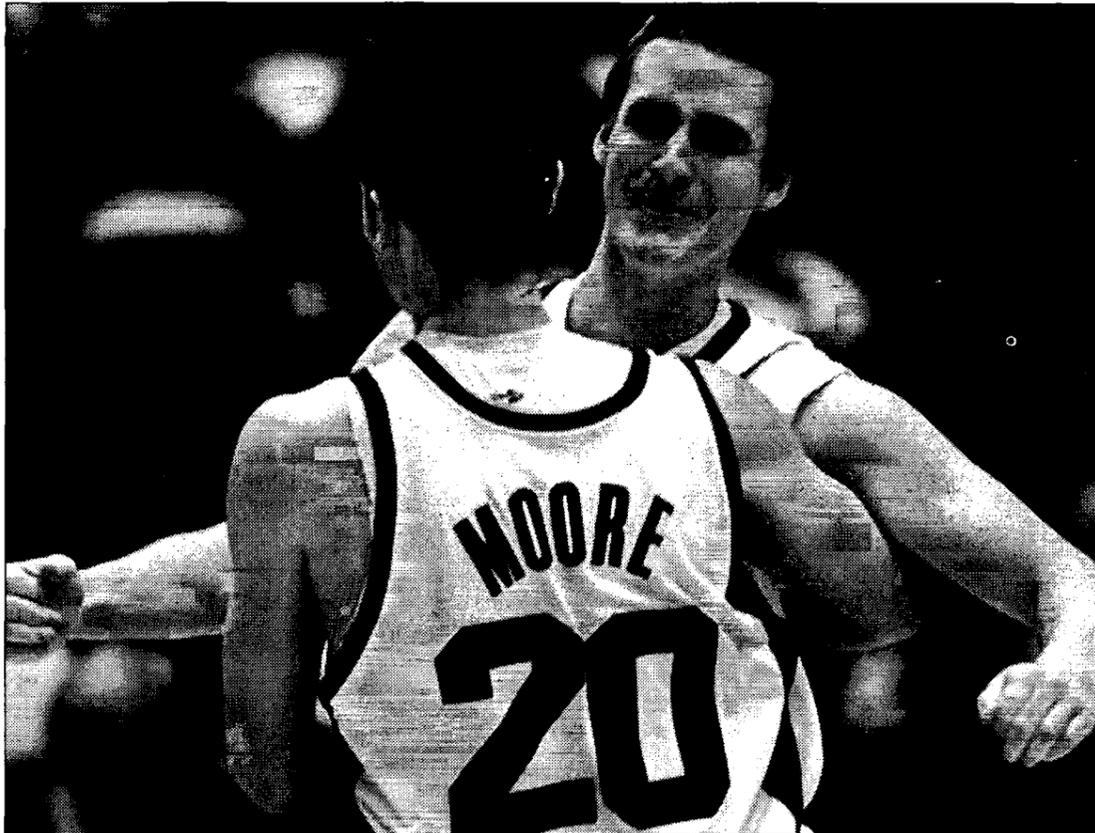
James Harden scored 24 points and Jeff Pendergraph added 18 to help Arizona State rally from an 11-point second-half deficit and snap UCLA's 10-game winning streak.

"Coach was in my head saying if we were going to win, it was going to be on the defensive end," Harden said. "Guys just locked in and came up with some big stops."

The biggest one came on UCLA's final possession of the game, when the Bruins failed to get a shot off.

They desperately passed the ball among Darren Collison, Michael Roll and Josh Shipp for a 3-point attempt that never happened before the final buzzer.

"I told Darren that we wanted to go all the way to the basket," Bruins coach Ben Howland said. "We didn't need to go for a 3-pointer, but we



Northwestern's Craig Moore celebrates with teammate Patrick Houlihan after Moore scored a basket Sunday in the second half of the Wildcats' win over the Golden Gophers.

brought it up too slowly. Not getting a shot off, that's really bad."

Collision blamed mental mistakes and said, "I'll take full responsibility for that."

The Sun Devils (15-3, 4-2 Pac-10) split on their trip to Los Angeles, having lost 61-49 at Southern California on Thursday night, when Harden was held to a season-low four points on 0-for-8 shooting.

"We wanted to come back, recover and play our butts off," Harden said.

Shipp scored 16 points and Collison added 14 for the Bruins (14-3, 4-1), who had their 15-game home winning streak end. They had beaten the Sun Devils eight straight games.

"It hurts to lose this one," Shipp said.

Arizona State coach Herb Sendek earned his first win over UCLA in five tries. The Sun Devils beat a top 10 team on the road for the first time since Jan. 31, 1998, against Stanford.

"We have so much respect for UCLA's defense. Instead of two points, you feel like you should get seven because they're so good on defense," Sendek said.

"Our guys won it by playing good defense. It wasn't that we outscored them. It's a game that could have gone either way. We were lucky, we know that."

Villanova 76, St. John's 57

After a week off after a tough loss, No. 23 Villanova was anxious to play.

And the Wildcats showed it Sunday, jumping out to a big lead and cruising to a victory over St. John's.

Donte Cunningham scored 17 points, Dwayne Anderson had a season-high 14 and Antonio Pena added 12 for the Wildcats (14-3, 2-2 Big East), who set a new team mark with their 24th straight home-court victory at the Pavilion.

D.J. Kennedy had 18 points and Quincy Roberts 14 for St. John's (10-7, 1-4), which lost for the sixth time in seven games and fifth in a row to Villanova.

"We were all dying to play a game," said coach Jay Wright, whose team last played Jan. 10 in a one-point loss to Louisville. "We watched film of Louisville and saw what mistakes we made. We tried to get the seniors to help us out with the young guys."

"It was a long time to rest," Cunningham said. "We talked to the young guys about not getting down and on what has to get done as the season progresses."

St. John's, which trailed by as many as 19 points in the first half, scored the first nine points of the second half, six of them by Justin Burrell, to trail by 44-36. Anderson then hit a 3-point-

er, sparking a 13-4 Villanova run for 57-40 advantage. After hitting on 10 consecutive shots, the Villanova lead reached 64-48 with 7:31 to play.

"I'll give Villanova a lot of credit, they're a real good basketball team," said St. John's coach Norm Roberts. "They did a good job pressing us and getting us out of our offense. We let them get off to such a good start and that didn't help."

Despite the loss, the Red Storm still holds a 59-43 edge over Villanova, its most frequent opponent, in the all-time series.

Villanova started the game with a 19-3 run and led 44-27 at the break. Villanova hit on 17 of 30 shots in the half while the Red Storm committed a dozen turnovers leading to 19 Wildcat points.

"I think we played hard and competed most of the game," Wright said. "At times, we were trying to be too perfect."

Villanova was not at its usual crispness, committing 16 turnovers, but gave a great shooting performance, hitting on 30 of 51 shots (58.8 percent), its top shooting percentage of the season. The Wildcats also had 18 assists in the game but missed seven of 18 free throws.

St. John's, on the other hand, was 17-for-44 (38.6 percent) and turned the ball over 19 times.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

Babysitter wanted for 2 young children of ND faculty near ND Mondays &/or Wednesdays. Good pay. Please email kbrantma@nd.edu

FOR RENT

andersonNDrentals.com FREE COMCAST! 3 & 4 bedroom 3 full bath homes close to campus. Safe Neighborhood, cathedral ceilings, fireplace, 2 car garage, 10x20 decks. Call 574-232-4527 or 269-683-5038. From \$1,700/mo

Why do you build me up (Build me up) Buttercup baby just to let me down (Let me down) And mess me around

And then worst of all (Worst of all) You never call baby When you say you will (Say you will) But I love you still

I need you (I need you) More than anyone darlin' You know that I have

From the start So build me up (Build me up) Buttercup Don't break my heart

I'll be over at ten You tell me time and again

But you're late I wait around and then

I went to the door I can't take any more It's not you You let me down again

Baby Baby Try to find a little time And I'll make you happy I'll be home I'll be waiting beside the phone Waiting for you.

Why do you build me up (Build me up) Buttercup baby just to Let me down (let me down) And mess me around

And then worst of all (worst of all) you never call, baby

When you say you will (say you will) But I love you still

I need you (I need you)

More than anything, darlin'

You know that I have from the start

So build me up (Build me up)

Buttercup

Don't break my heart

AROUND THE NATION

Monday, January 19, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

Women's Basketball AP Top 25

team	points	record
1 Connecticut (45)	1125	15-0
2 North Carolina	1080	16-0
3 Oklahoma	1003	12-2
4 Duke	946	13-1
5 Baylor	921	13-1
6 Auburn	858	17-0
7 Louisville	827	16-1
8 Texas A&M	819	13-1
9 Stanford	776	13-3
10 NOTRE DAME	758	14-1
11 California	647	13-2
12 Maryland	630	13-2
13 Tennessee	626	12-3
14 Virginia	512	14-2
15 Ohio State	501	13-2
16 Texas	498	12-3
17 Kansas State	410	14-0
18 Vanderbilt	330	13-4
19 Florida	329	15-2
20 Iowa State	208	13-2
21 Marist	157	15-1
22 Oklahoma State	139	11-3
23 Rutgers	115	8-5
24 Georgia Tech	86	12-3
25 New Mexico	62	13-2

Women's Basketball Big East Standings

team	record	overall
1 Louisville	5-0	18-1
2 Connecticut	4-0	17-0
3 NOTRE DAME	4-1	15-2
4 Cincinnati	3-1	13-4
5 Pittsburgh	2-2	12-4
6 Georgetown	2-2	12-5
7 Rutgers	2-2	10-5
8 Marquette	2-2	11-7
9 Villanova	2-2	10-7
10 Seton Hall	2-3	13-4
11 DePaul	2-3	14-5
12 Syracuse	2-3	13-5
13 St. John's	1-3	13-4
14 Providence	1-3	7-10
15 USF	1-4	14-5
16 West Virginia	0-4	11-6

Big East Conference Men's Basketball Standings

team	record	overall
1 Marquette	5-0	16-2
2 Louisville	4-0	13-3
3 Connecticut	5-1	16-1
4 Syracuse	5-1	17-2
5 Pittsburgh	4-1	16-1
6 Georgetown	3-2	12-4
7 Providence	3-2	11-6
8 NOTRE DAME	3-3	12-5
9 Villanova	2-2	14-3
10 West Virginia	2-2	13-4
11 Cincinnati	2-3	12-6
12 St. John's	1-4	10-7
13 USF	1-4	6-11
14 Seton Hall	0-5	9-8
15 Rutgers	0-5	9-9
16 DePaul	0-5	8-10

around the dial

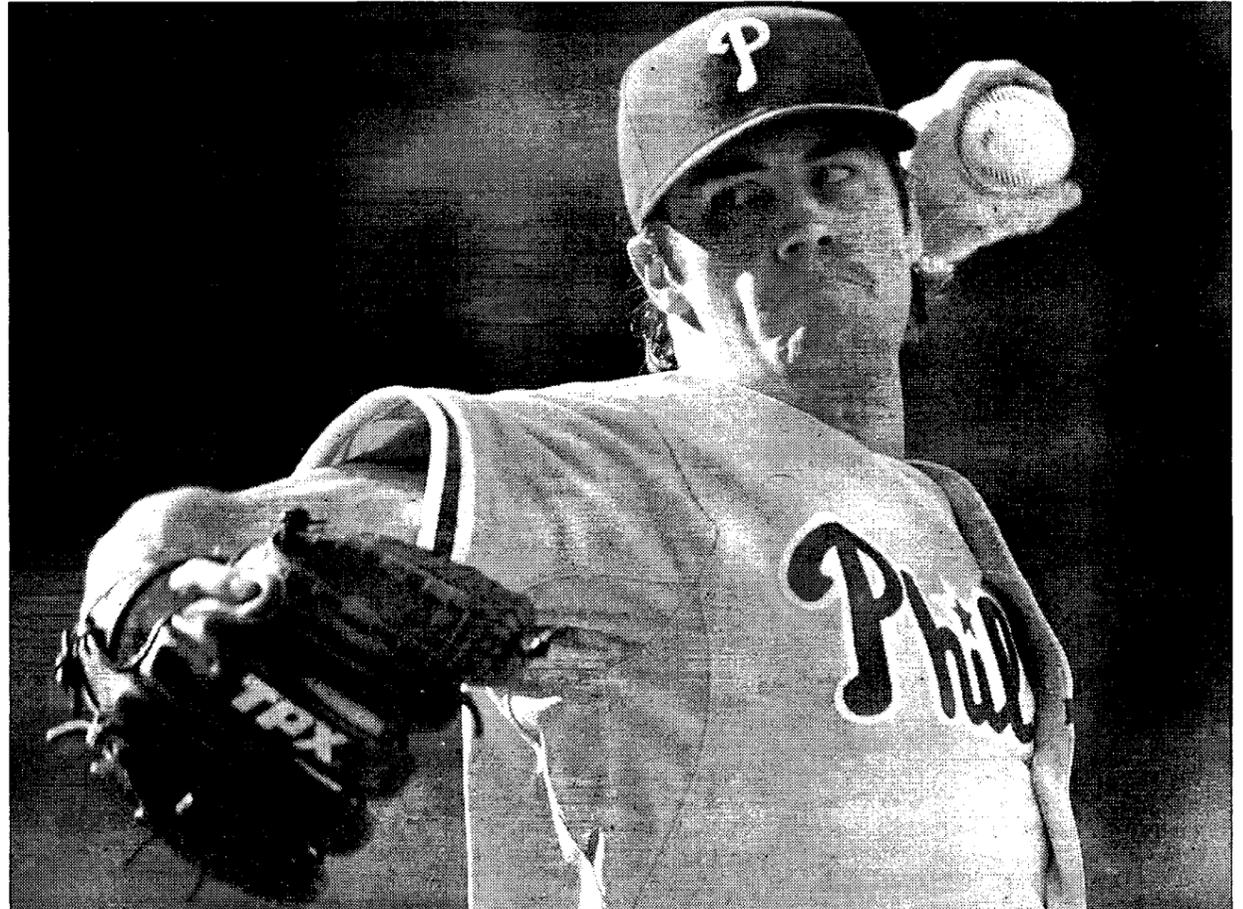
NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Syracuse at Pittsburgh
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Connecticut at North Carolina
7:00 p.m., ESPN2

MLB



Cole Hamels throws a pitch in the 2008 World Series on his way to the World Series MVP. On Monday, Hamels and the Phillies settled on a three year deal before the negotiations went to arbitration hearings.

Hamels agrees to \$20.5 million

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Cole Hamels has about everything an ace pitcher could want after only three years in the major leagues.

The Phillies left-hander was the MVP of the World Series, he's earned a reputation as a big-game pitcher, he's been an All-Star and he's married to a former Playboy playmate.

Now, Hamels has a hefty three-year, \$20.5 million contract to go with the championship he's still savoring.

While the Phillies partied with a parade, Hamels planned a low-key

celebration.

"I'm not going to Vegas any time soon," Hamels said on Sunday.

He could afford the trip and even a seat at the high-rollers table.

Hamels still has one goal ahead of him: He wants to show Philadelphia his history of injuries are really behind him.

"It's not something I've necessarily been blessed with over the past couple of years, but I think this is where I've finally I've been able to get over that hump," Hamels said.

"Knowing I can go through a full season and what it's like on my body,

physically and mentally, I think that challenge is over."

The deal avoids an arbitration hearing and keeps the 25-year-old Hamels in Philadelphia through the 2011 season. Hamels went 4-0 in the postseason with a 1.80 ERA as the Phillies claimed their first championship since 1980. He won the first game in three playoff series and took the MVP award in the NL championship series against the Dodgers.

Hamels, who lives in Philadelphia year round, said he still gets goosebumps every time he watches the World Series highlights video and

believes the roster is still good enough to contend for years.

"If I'm able to go out there and repeat, I think it's just going to make it a really nice, sweet time for this baseball city," Hamels said.

He was plagued by injuries in his minor-league career and spent parts of the 2006 and 2007 season on the disabled list. This year, Hamels went 14-10 with two shutouts a 3.09 ERA during the regular season. He made 33 starts and pitched a career-high 227 1-3 innings, finishing with 196 strikeouts and 53 walks.

IN BRIEF

Cubs trade centerfielder Pie to Orioles for pitchers

BALTIMORE — The Chicago Cubs finally lost patience with former prized prospect Felix Pie, trading the outfielder to the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday for left-hander Garrett Olson and minor league pitcher Henry Williamson.

The 23-year-old Pie hit .241 in 43 games with the Cubs last season after batting .287 in 85 games with Triple-A Iowa. He was chosen the top player in Chicago's minor league system by Baseball America in 2007 and 2006, and appeared in the Major League Futures Games for the World team from 2003 through 2005.

Pie has a .299 career batting average in 628 minor league games. He was signed by the Cubs as an undrafted free agent in 2001 and made his major league debut in April 2007.

Olson went 9-10 with a 6.65 ERA in 26 starts with Baltimore in 2008.

American Davis captures overall speedskating title

MOSCOW — Shani Davis of the United States set a track record to win the 1,000-meters and earn the overall title at the sprint speedskating world championships.

Wang Beixing of China won her first overall sprint title.

Davis won in 1 minute, 8.66 seconds, with Denny Morrison of Canada in second Yevgeny Lalenkov of Russia in third. Defending champion and overnight leader Lee Kyou-hyuk of South Korea fell with 100 meters left.

The titles were decided by two 500-meter and two 1,000-meter races over the weekend.

"I knew after yesterday, I had a lot of work to do," said Davis, who was fourth in the overall standings after two races Saturday. "But I stayed positive and every race I just approached like it was my last race."

Keiichiro Nagashima of Japan won the 500 in a track-record 34.91 seconds, while Davis was sixth.

Stoudemire leads Suns to first win in three games

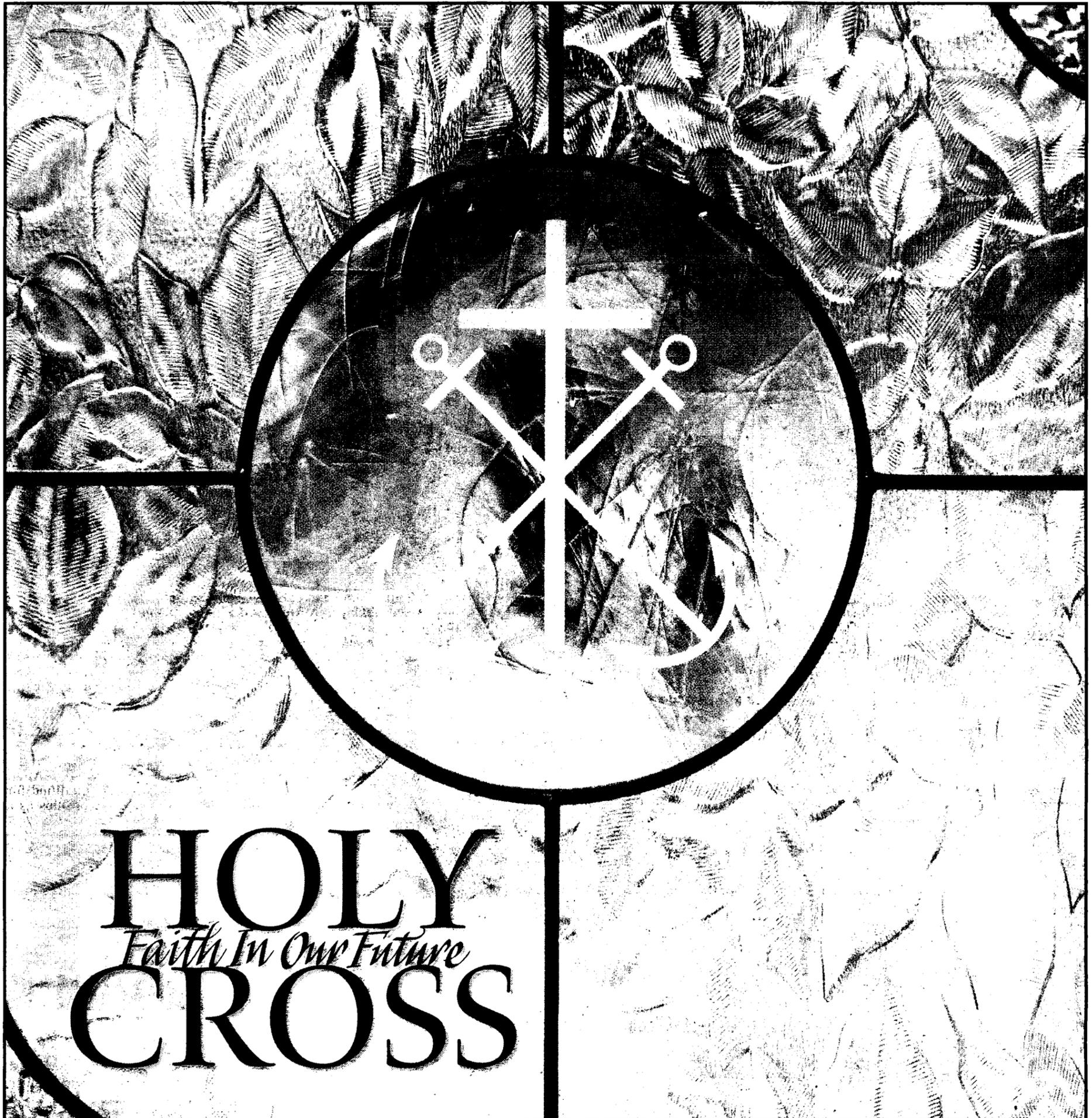
TORONTO — Still seething from an overtime defeat in Denver and a narrow home loss to Minnesota, Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire pegged Sunday's game in Toronto as a must-win. And with the Raptors charging in the fourth quarter, Stoudemire took over.

Stoudemire scored 31 points, Steve Nash had a season-high 18 assists and the Suns beat Toronto 117-113 on Sunday afternoon, their ninth consecutive victory over the struggling Raptors.

"After a tough loss to Minnesota, it felt like this was a win we definitely needed," Stoudemire said.

Jason Richardson added 17 points, Shaquille O'Neal and Matt Barnes each had 16 and Leandro Barbosa scored 14 for Phoenix.

Stoudemire scored 11 points in the fourth as the Suns won the opener of a six-game road trip.



HOLY *Faith In Our Future* CROSS

The Notre Dame family and the Congregation of Holy Cross join in an annual celebration of the feast day for Holy Cross founder Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., and his legacy, including joy in community, faith and hope in the Cross of Christ, and excellence in education of both the mind and the heart.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19



Vigil Prayer Service
Gather to pray through the intercession of Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., on the eve of his feast. Our prayers include his canonization as a saint of the Church and vocations to the

Congregation of Holy Cross.
President: Rev. Jim King, C.S.C.
Sorin Hall
8:00 p.m.
Lady Chapel,
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20



Mass for the Feast of Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C.
The Holy Cross community joins hands with the Notre Dame family in observing this feast.

President: Rev. David Tyson, C.S.C.
Provincial Superior, Indiana Province
5:15 p.m.
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20



Men in Black: Inspirations and Reflections

A panel of Holy Cross priests offers casual recollections and conversation about their life and work—a chance to get to know Holy Cross better.
Rev. John Jenkins, C.S.C.
Rev. Robert Dowd, C.S.C.
Rev. Bill Lies, C.S.C.
Rev. Peter McCormick, C.S.C.
7:30 p.m.
Washington Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22



The Blessed Basil Moreau Lecture: Prof. John Cavadini

The chair of Notre Dame's Department of Theology offers insights on daily life and Holy Cross spirituality in a lecture, "The Cross Our Only Hope: Two Views of Suffering in the Christian Tradition."
Prof. Mary Ellen O'Connell of the Notre Dame Law School, an expert on Christian values in international affairs, will offer comments for discussion.
7:30 p.m.
Jordan Auditorium,
Mendoza College of Business

ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND FREE OF CHARGE.



MEN'S TENNIS

Tough singles matches determine loss for Irish

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The Irish dropped their spring opener Friday against Pepperdine in a 4-3 decision that was decided by a trio of three-set singles matches.

The Irish were able to gain the doubles point when sophomore Stephen Havens and freshmen Casey Watt teamed up to defeat Stuart Keplar and Alex Llompart. Freshman Niall Fitzgerald and sophomore Matt Johnson also teamed up to earn a doubles victory at No. 3, defeating Hugh Clarke and Jensen Turner 8-3.

"Our freshmen are very talented this year," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Three of them are in the mix to play a lot this year. Casey Watt is a tremendous shot maker, as is Niall Fitzgerald. Sam Keaton has the ability to flat out rip the ball from the backcourt."

The No. 1 doubles duo of senior Brett Helgeson and sophomore Tyler Davis who are ranked No. 37 in the country fell to the No. 45 doubles team of Omar Altmann and Bassam Beidas 8-4.

In singles action Stephen Havens was the first Irish man to fall at No. 2 singles dropping his match against Altmann who is ranked 51 in singles. Helgeson was the next singles match to finish. Helgeson is ranked No. 20 and was pitted against No. 122 Beidas. In a

tough three set match Helgeson fell to Beidas 6-4, 1-6, 6-2.

Keaton was able to secure his first victory in an Irish uniform after missing the fall season with a broken wrist defeating Turner 7-6, 6-1 to knot the score at two a piece.

"The biggest surprise from our pre-season two-a-day practice routine has been Sam Keaton,"

Bayliss said. "He missed the entire fall semester with a broken right wrist, but has quickly made up for lost time."

Watt was not able to pull out his three set singles match falling to Llompart by a final

score of 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4).

Sophomore Dan Stahl came away with a tough victory over No. 57 Mahmoud Kamel 4-6, 6-4, 6-6 (7-2). Stahl battled back from 5-3, deficit to push the third set to a tie break.

Davis's match proved to be the deciding factor in the win for Pepperdine. Davis was matched up with Alejandro Moreno at No. 6 singles. After dropping the first set 6-4, Davis continued to battle and won the second set by the same score to push the match to a third. Davis was down 5-6 in the third set but again battled back to push it to a tie break in which he fell 7-5.

The Irish next travel to Virginia to take on No. 64 William and Mary, and then No. 5 Virginia next weekend.

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

"Our freshmen are very talented this year."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish Coach

ND TRACK & FIELD

Saxer breaks vault record

Team qualifies over 30 athletes for the Big East Championships

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

Senior Mary Saxer broke her own Loftus Sports Center pole vault record from three years ago, as Notre Dame competed in the Indoor Opener on Friday.

Saxer's vault of 4.06 meters just beat her previous mark of 4.05 meters, which she set as a freshman.

The team also qualified over thirty athletes for the Big East Championship.

Irish coach Joe Piane was pleased with his team's performance in the meet and the early portion of the season in general.

"Quite a few men and women have qualified for the Big East Championships and we are in good shape for the remainder of the season," Piane said.

Sophomore Abby Higgins and junior Molly Sullivan both qualified for the conference tournament in the 1,000-meter race. Natalie Johnson also earned a spot in the postseason in the 400-meters and senior Alyssa Hasan won the 60-meter hurdles for the Irish.

Sophomore Kevin Labus won the 800-meter race with a time of 1:53.00 to lead the male qualifiers. He was joined by fellows sophomore Justin Schneider who qualified for both the 60-meter hurdles and the pole vault.

Andrew Kolbeck and brothers Kevin and Matt Schipper also qualified in the pole vault. Kevin, a freshman, earned din-



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior Mary Saxer runs in preparation for her record-setting vault Friday at Notre Dame's Indoor Opener.

ner table bragging rights by topping his brother to win the event with a 4.95 meter leap. Matt, a junior, finished in second.

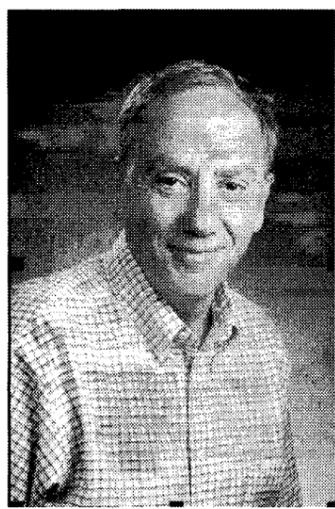
Erick Quick and Greg Davis also won the men's long jump and the weight throw, respectively.

"Hopefully we can continue to qualify men and women and we would love to win the quad meet next weekend," Piane said.

The quad meet, the Notre Dame Invitational, is scheduled

for Jan. 23 and will include Marquette and the University of Wisconsin. The Big East Championships begin Feb. 21 in New York. The Irish will be looking for leadership from standouts such as senior distance runners Patrick Smyth and Billy Buzaid. On the women's side, senior Anna Weber, who has qualified for the NCAA championships as a thrower, will lead the way.

Contact Chris Michalski at jmichal2@nd.edu



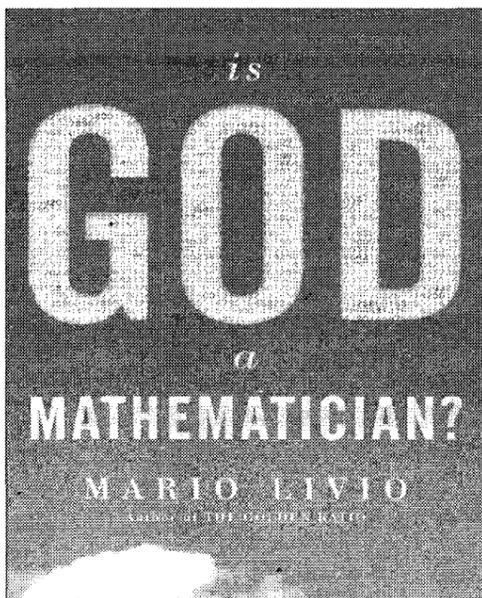
Dr. Mario Livio

Is God a Mathematician?

Guest lecture by Mario Livio, Ph.D.

7 p.m. Wednesday, January 21, 2009
Carey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library

Free and open to the public



Book signing at 6:30 p.m.
and after the lecture

Department of Physics
www.science.nd.edu/livio



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Cardinals triumph in last race of meet

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

No. 24 Notre Dame once again found themselves on the losing end of the deciding final race in a close meet Saturday at Louisville's Wright Natatorium. The No. 21 Cardinals nipped the Irish in the 400-yard freestyle relay, nearly setting a school record in the process.

One week earlier the Irish lost to then-No. 21 Northwestern in the final race of the meet, coming up just five points shy of a victory.

"The main goal is always to get the girls into top form for the post-season," Irish coach Brian Barnes said. "What we really want to see now are solid performances that will lead to success in March."

Despite the loss, Notre Dame swimmers turned in several impressive individual performances on the way to winning eight of the possible 16 events. Sophomore Samantha Maxwell led the 200 Medley Relay team to victory in the opening event, posting a pool-record 1:43.04 per-

formance. Maxwell later set an individual pool record with a quick 1:02.16 in the 100-yard breaststroke, and picked up a third win in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:15.04.

Sophomore Lauren Sylvester continued her domination of the distance events with wins in the 500 and 1,000-yard freestyle races, logging times of 5:07.30 and 10:04.97, respectively. Fellow

sophomore Katie Casey turned in another multi-win performance for the Irish with firsts in the 100 and 200-yard butterfly races in an impressive 55.33 and 2:01.26, respectively.

Casey, Maxwell and Sylvester also chipped in big wins in the heartbreaker against Northwestern.

After this close loss, Notre Dame (3-2) is gearing up to host the Shamrock Invitational at the Rolfs Aquatic Center from January 23-24. The Invitational is one of two meets remaining before the Big East Tournament in February.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu

"What we really want to see now are solid performances that will lead to success in March."

Brian Barnes
Irish coach

winter career and fair internship & diversity reception

wednesday
january 28

How to Prepare for the Career Fair

1. Compose a Resume that Markets Your Background and Skills

- Visit The Career Center Monday - Friday from 1:00 to 4:45 pm for a 15-minute resume review or stop by Resumes on the Run in LaFortune

2. Prepare, Prepare, Prepare

- Attend a "Prepare for the Career Fair" workshop
- Determine your objectives for attending
- Review the list of companies attending the fair and position descriptions on Go IRISH
- Visit company websites and review mission statements, annual reports, and products or services
- Develop and refine networking skills
- Develop your "Thirty Second Message"
 - Hello, I'm...(introduce yourself, your year and major, and interest in industry/career field)
 - Your company is...(demonstrate knowledge of company)
 - I'm interested because...(explain your interest in company)
 - I can...(match your skills with their needs)

3. At the Fair

- Dress in business attire and bring several copies of your resume in a portfolio
- Review the map of employer booths and take a bag for "giveaways"
- Be proactive by approaching employers
- Speak with both young alumni and experienced representatives
- Demonstrate confidence and enthusiasm in delivering your "Thirty Second Message"
- Ask the representative how to sign up for an interview (i.e. "After reviewing your company information and the position, I am interested in speaking with you further. How can I obtain a slot on your interview schedule at The Career Center?")
- Obtain the representative's business card

4. Following the Fair

- Send an email thank-you to the recruiters with companies of interest within 3 days of the fair
- If you obtain an interview:
 - Prepare by researching the company, industry, competitors, and the position description on Go IRISH
 - Review The Career Center's Interview Guide and practice sample interview questions
 - If you have a web cam, practice interviewing using the online "Interview Stream" at <http://careercenter.nd.edu/for-undergrads/resumes-cover-letters-interviews>

Prepare for Winter Career & Internship Fair Workshops

A&L Majors:

Monday, Jan. 19, 8:00 pm in 114 Flanner
Thursday, Jan. 22, 5:30 pm in Montgomery Auditorium

Business Majors:

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 5:30 pm in 114 Flanner
Sunday, Jan. 25, 4:00 pm in 114 Flanner

Engineering Majors:

Monday, Jan. 19, 5:00 pm in 120 DeBartolo

Science Majors:

Thursday, Jan. 22, 7:00 pm in 310 Jordan

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The Career Center
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

stand out.



Shootout

continued from page 24

to create a situation where it will work in the future," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

Jackson said that he was pleased with his team's comeback effort Saturday.

"That's the sign of a little bit of a more mature team just in the fact that our guys don't panic when we don't score first or when we fall behind," he said.

The Lakers also struck first on Friday night when Will Acton scored 10 minutes into the game. The Irish quickly bounced back with goals from senior Justin White, sophomore Calle Ridderwall and junior Christian Minella to secure a win.

The last time Notre Dame trailed by more than a goal was Oct. 25 to Miami — the last game they lost.

After the Lakers' Steven Kaunisto and Chad Nehring scored early in the first period, the Irish began to mount a comeback. Sophomore Ben Ryan scored his seventh goal of the season with two and a half minutes left in the period to pull the Irish within one.

Senior captain Erik Condra tied the game at the start of the second with a shorthanded goal. Condra went coast-to-

coast, split a pair of defenders and then snuck a shot past LSSU goalie Pat Inglis for his second shorthander of the season.

Lake Superior took the lead one more time before Kevin Deeth and the Irish powerplay tied the game for good midway through the second period.

After scoreless third and overtime periods, young guns Billy Maday and Calle Ridderwall scored in the shootout and Pearce was able to stop all but one Laker attempt. For the 20th time in a row, the Irish left the rink on top.

"It's not really about the streak," Jackson said. "It's about each game having its own importance and we really try to focus on the day-to-day process and not the results."

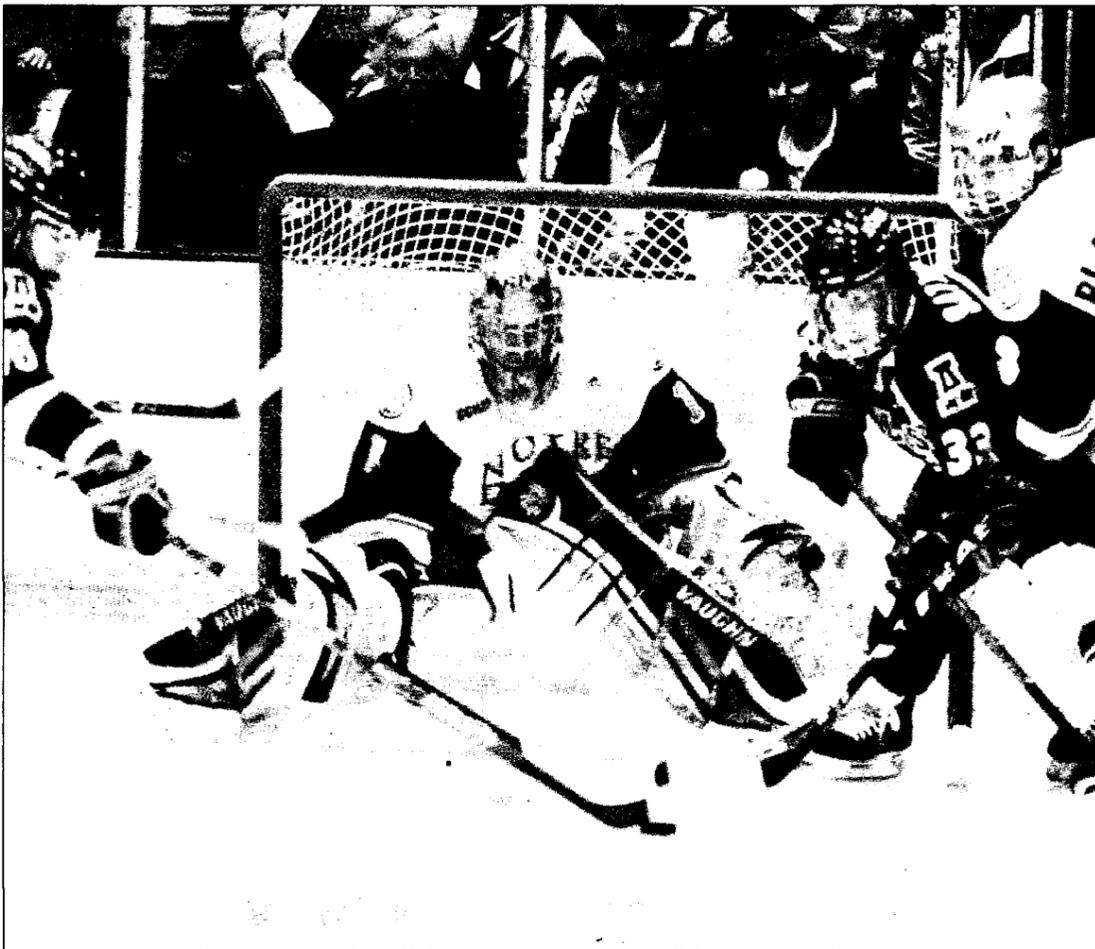
Jackson knows from experience that a mid-season streak does not mean much when it comes to crunch time. While coaching for Lake Superior State in 1991, he led his team to a 28-game streak in the regular season only to see them lose in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament.

"It's going to end at some point," he said.

Notre Dame will have its hands full in the weeks to come. After a one-week hiatus the Irish will play a home-and-home series with No. 6 Michigan.

"... We really try to focus on the day-to-day process and not the results."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach



Irish senior Jordan Pearce and the rest of the Notre Dame defense have been tough to crack this season. They are the main reason the Irish have not lost in their past 20 times on the ice.

The team will use the week off to heal up the usual bumps and bruises and focus on some parts of their game that have been lacking. Jackson said he hopes to strengthen his team's play around the net on offense and defense.

"Just working on winning

those one on one battles at both nets really," he said. "Those are things we can spend a little more time on this week. Driving to the net more because we haven't been scoring a lot of goals over the last several games."

Notre Dame has been able to

knock off team after team with good defense and solid goaltending from senior Jordan Pearce, but the Irish will need some extra firepower to keep their streak alive.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Where the girls are.

JUST ONE BLOCK EAST OF NOTRE DAME

Wonder where ND girls are living next year?

Brand new Irish Row Apartments and Irish Crossings Townhomes are leasing fast for both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years.

Interestingly, future residents are 80% girls and 20% guys so far — that's four girls to every one guy.

What brings the girls?

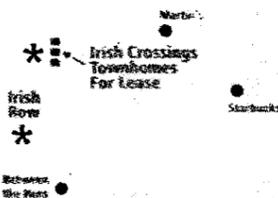
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Please recycle The Observer.

Frosh

continued from page 24

bers, will be able to continue Notre Dame fencing's winning tradition.

"We have a very strong team," Bednarski said. "Maybe not the strongest in the nation, but we can fight anybody."

Competition began Friday evening with the men's foil class. Meinhardt earned first place and an A2009 classification with his play through the pool and direct elimination rounds, while sophomore Zachary Schirtz finished 55th. All-American brothers senior Mark and sophomore Steve Kubik finished 57th and tied for 83rd respectively. Junior Ted Hodges finished 125th in the field of 188.

Bednarski has praised Meinhardt's maturity and intelligent play, which helped Gerek become the youngest fencer in Beijing this summer.

"Olympic fencers can be as old as 35, 36, 37 years old. Experience is a huge factor in a sport like fencing, so for Gerek to be there was very special," Bednarski said. "He is a great young man who not only is a terrific athlete, but also is very intelligent."

Three underclassmen competed for the Irish in the men's sabre junior class. Sophomore lefties Zuck and All-American Barron Nydam took home first and third, respectively, each picking up an A2009 classification. Freshman Marcel Frenkel

placed 93rd.

Friday's action concluded with the women's junior epees, in which two Notre Dame freshmen competed. Freshman Courtney Hurley, sister of junior All-American epee Kelley Hurley, finished first in class to earn her A2009 ranking, while Diane Zielinski ended up in 43rd place.

Senior All-American Karol Kostka opened Saturday's play with a fifth place showing and an A2009 ranking in men's epee. Freshman Christopher Pinkowski finished 202nd. Sophomore Hayley Reese and freshman Radmilla Sarkisova placed 17th and 24th in the women's junior foil competition.

In the women's sabre, freshman Beatriz Almeida and senior Ashley Serrette finished 61st and 91st.

Competitions finished late Sunday night in men's junior foil, men's sabre, and women's epee, while Monday hosts men's junior epee, women's foil, and women's junior sabre.

The excellent start to Notre Dame's 2009 season has not gone to Bednarski's head, whose goal is to keep his team on track for an NCAA Championship.

"It's very hard for coaches to predict," Bednarski said. "I've been in this business for so long. There are so many factors we can't control, especially on such a young team. But anything can happen if we make it to the Bloody Four."

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

"We have a very strong team. Maybe not the strongest in the nation, but we can fight anybody."

Janusz Bednarski
Irish coach

NFL

Arizona earns first Super Bowl berth with defeat of Eagles

Cardinals blow 18-point halftime lead but come back strong in fourth quarter behind arm of quarterback Warner

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — That's not a mirage rising out of the desert, folks. It's the lowly Arizona Cardinals soaring to their first Super Bowl.

Yes, the Cardinals, founding members of the NFL, but historically among the most dysfunctional of franchises, finally have joined the big boys. Capitalizing on Larry Fitzgerald's three first-half touchdown receptions, then coolly marching downfield to Kurt Warner's 8-yard scoring pass to rookie Tim Hightower with 2:53 left, they beat the Philadelphia Eagles 32-25 Sunday for the NFC championship.

"That drive where we scored a touchdown at the end of the game and took seven minutes was really the difference," Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt said.

Donovan McNabb was superb in leading Philadelphia's second-half rally, but he misfired from midfield four times in the final moments.

Arizona (12-7) will face the AFC champion in two weeks in Tampa for the NFL title. Baltimore played at Pittsburgh later in the day for the AFC crown.

If the Cardinals, the first No. 4 seed to host a conference championship game, were supposed to be thunderstruck by their surroundings, they instead responded like playoff veterans.

Sure, they blew a 24-6 halftime lead. But then the 37-year-old Warner, a Super Bowl MVP from almost a decade ago with the St. Louis Rams, engineered a precise, 72-yard drive to win

it with his fourth TD pass of the day.

He finished the comeback with the 8-yard pass to Hightower, then hit Ben Patrick for the 2-point conversion.

But the key was the unstoppable Fitzgerald, who had nine receptions for 152 yards, including two big catches on the decisive drive. The All-Pro set a single postseason record with 419 yards receiving, surpassing the great Jerry Rice. And Fitzgerald has one more game to go — in the Super Bowl.

Can you imagine?

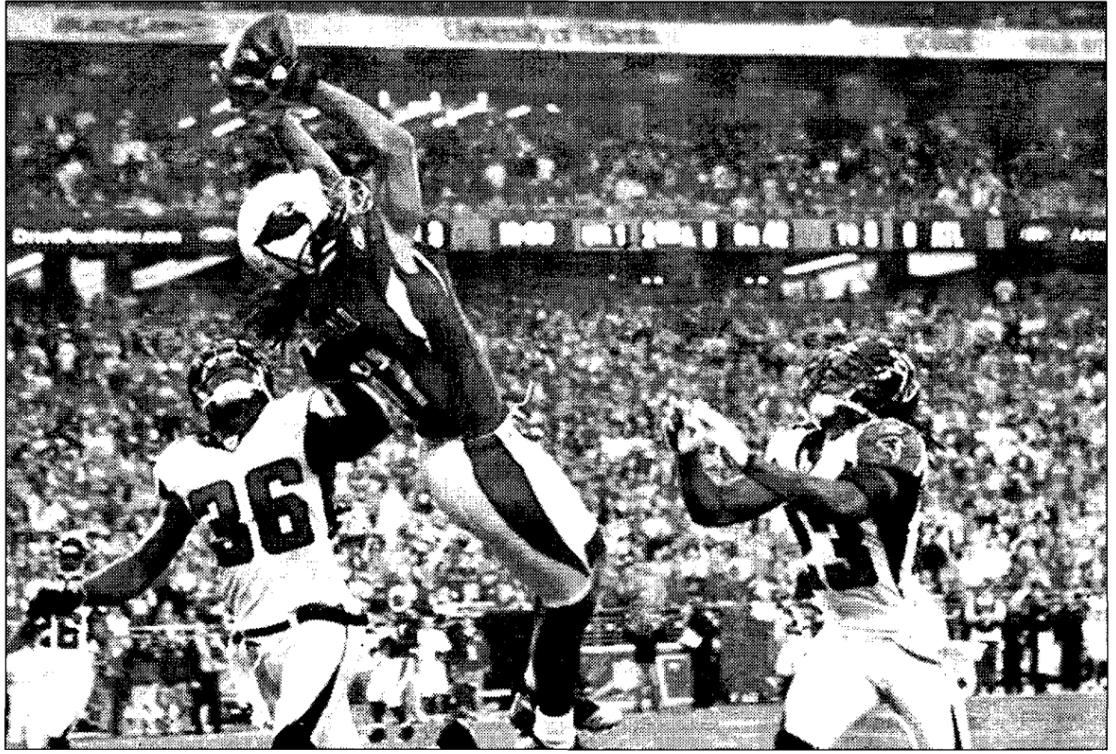
They surely never looked this good before in the Phoenix area, or their previous homes in Chicago and St. Louis.

"I want to say thanks to all of you guys," Warner told the crowd during postgame celebrations that included streams of confetti spewed into the air and the obligatory "We are the Champions" blaring. "When nobody else believed in us, when nobody else believed in me, you guys did and we're going to the Super Bowl."

Blown out by the Eagles 48-20 on Thanksgiving, Whisenhunt's team looked completely different in its first title game since 1948.

"And it was appropriate we had a bunch of different people make those plays, and it was a great team win for us," said Whisenhunt, who in two seasons as coach as turned a losing culture into a championship environment.

With playoff victories over Atlanta, Carolina and the Eagles (11-7-1), this is the Cardinals' winningest season.



Arizona wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald, center, catches a touchdown pass Sunday in the first quarter of the Cardinals' defeat of Philadelphia in the NFC title game.

They've already surpassed their total of postseason wins dating back to when the playoffs began in 1933.

"It's been a tough number of years here in Arizona," Whisenhunt admitted.

The last NFC team since the 1970 merger to make it this far, Arizona also is the first team with nine wins in the regular season to make the Super Bowl since the 1979 Rams lost to the Steelers.

For the favored Eagles, it was another disappointing end.

Coach Andy Reid's team reached the NFC title game five times in the last eight seasons, losing four. They lost to New England in their only Super Bowl appearance during that run.

"You never want anything to end, and you don't see it ending," McNabb said. "To end this way, it's tough, when you're that close to making the Super Bowl."

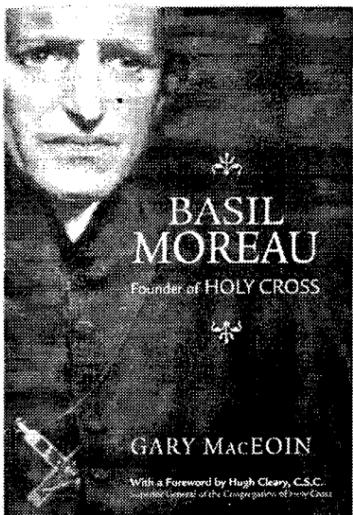
This one looked like a romp through the Valley of the Sun for the hosts until Philadelphia

brought more pressure on Warner in the second half. The Cardinals gained only 8 yards in the third quarter, while McNabb hit Brent Celek for touchdowns of 6 and 31 yards.

McNabb, who once this season got benched after a terrible opening half, had come alive with a fury, even silencing the crowd for a while. His 62-yard heave to rookie DeSean Jackson was tipped by cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie into Jackson's hands near the goal line with 10:45 to go.

Celebrate the Feast Day of Blessed Basil Moreau

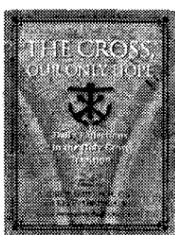
January 20th



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CYCLING

Armstrong plays it safe in first race

Associated Press

ADELAIDE, Australia — Lance Armstrong made a cautious return to professional cycle racing Sunday, finishing 64th among 133 riders in a 30-mile criterium in downtown Adelaide.

More than 138,000 people watched Armstrong return from three years of retirement and begin a campaign to win his eighth Tour de France title.

He stayed well back in a tight field throughout Sunday's race on a winding circuit around leafy Rymill Park, following team instructions to avoid any chance of crashing.

Armstrong will compete in the six-day Tour Down Under, which starts Tuesday. The criterium does not count toward Tour overall standings.

"That was fun," the 37-year-old Armstrong said. "It felt good. I've been training a lot for this comeback and this race. It's

good the first day is over and now I can get into the racing."

Australia's Robbie McEwen — a winner of 12 stages in the Tour de France — won the race for the Russian Team Katusha ahead of Willem Stroetinga of the Netherlands and fellow Australian Graeme Brown.

Armstrong was ushered to the front of the field for the start of the race with another Tour de France winner, Oscar Perero of Spain, defending Tour Down Under champion Andre Greipel of Germany and Australian Stuart O'Grady.

The seven-time Tour de France winner quickly settled in the middle of the peloton, avoiding any possibility of pile-ups on the tight corners of the 1-mile circuit.

"I think the last time I did that fast a race was back in probably 1990," Armstrong said. "It's fun to get back into it. I found it a bit safer and easier in the back."

Please recycle the Observer.

Solomon

continued from page 24

With the chance to tie the game, Lindsay only made one of two foul shots.

Two seconds later, St. John's guard Monique McLean fouled guard Ashley Barlow, who made both her foul shots and gave the Irish a three-point lead.

The Red Storm tried to get long-range sharpshooter Kelly McManmon open in the corner for a game-tying three, but guard Lindsay Schrader blocked the shot, and Barlow came down with the rebound as time expired.

St. John's coach Kim Barnes Arico scoffed when asked if the block, which took place right in front of her, was clean, but said she would wait to watch the film before passing judgment.

Guard Melissa Lechlitner

finished with 15 points and Lindsay Schrader had 13 points and five assists. Barlow finished with 13 points and hit 3-of-6 3-pointers, and forward Becca Bruszewski had 13 points and made 4-of-5 foul shots.

Notre Dame contained McLean, the Red Storm's leading scorer, in the first half, holding her to three points on 1-of-8 shooting. In the second half, however, she found her stroke and space to use it. She finished with 17 points and four 3-pointers.

"We left her alone," McGraw said. "We forgot about her. She managed to get free. A couple times it was rotation, a couple times it was off the press. She's a very good player. Having her go 6-for-18, I think we did a very good job on her."

That press may have allowed McLean open looks, but it also created crucial stops and turnovers. It often

trapped St. John's in its own zone and left the offense with about half the shot clock remaining, and at one point caused a shot clock violation.

"We just wanted something to slow them down, so we only had to play 10 or 15 seconds of defense," McGraw said. "When we came back to the press at the end of the game, we got a couple steals that were critical."

Notre Dame led 34-27 at the half and a layup from center Erica Williamson extended the lead to 11 in the opening minutes of the second half. But two three-point plays, one from McLean and one from forward Da'Shena Stevens, helped St. John's pull within three.

The Irish widened the gap to eight with Lechlitner's 3-pointer, but that would be Notre Dame's last basket for more than five minutes. McLean hit two threes during a 12-0 run that gave St. John's a 52-48 lead with 10:56 remaining.

The Red Storm held the lead until 6:12 left in the game, when Bruszewski converted a 3-point play to tie the game at 58. Four foul shots by Stevens gave St. John's a one-point lead, but then Solomon's layup put the Irish ahead for good.

"I think that shows fight in our team, coming back," Lechlitner said. "It starts on defense for us."

McGraw said her older players, such as Lechlitner and Barlow, have the "killer instinct" needed to win close games. Lechlitner said the younger players possess it, but it hasn't shone through yet.

"You're going to see it down the road," she said. "Because they all have it."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



TOM LA/The Observer

Sophomore Becca Bruszewski hit four of her five foul shots and had 13 points in Notre Dame's 70-67 win over St. John's.

Lyttle

continued from page 24

and sophomore Michael Sullivan won the meet's first two individual events, as Lyttle took first in the 200-freestyle while Sullivan earned top honors in the 1,000-freestyle. However, the Grizzlies placed first in the next four events to jump ahead of the Irish. Notre Dame dominated the one-meter diving for the second straight day, as Dunnichay, Lex, Villafor, Bulfin, and Geary took the top five spots once again.

Lyttle matched with 100-freestyle win from the night before with a time of 45.93. Two events later, senior Daniel Rave won the 200-breaststroke. Sophomore Stephen Brus took first place in the 500 freestyle. Bulfin earned Notre Dame's final win of the day with his first place finish in the three-meter diving event.

With the two losses, the Irish dropped to 3-6 on the year. Notre Dame returns to action next weekend when it hosts the Shamrock Invitational at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Orange

continued from page 24

Syracuse forward Arinze Onuaku scored 19 points and, perhaps more importantly, held Irish forward Luke Harangody to 9-of-28 field goal shooting. Harangody finished with 25 points and 16 rebounds but said he was disappointed with his performance.

"This one's on me," Harangody told the Associated Press. "I've reached the time in my career where I need to step up and 9-for-28 from the field is unacceptable. I can't lay a goose egg like that, especially on the road."

Onuaku said Orange coach Jim Boeheim challenged the Syracuse big men to slow down Harangody, the reigning Big East player of the year.

"Coach told us to stay down and make him take tough shots," Onuaku said to the Associated Press. "He's such a great player that you have to make him work hard and think about it. You just try to put a hand in his face to discourage the shot."

Irish guard Kyle McAlarney had 24 points, including seven 3-pointers, and almost led his team on a comeback from a 16-point second-half deficit. The senior sharpshooter drained a trey with 4:05 left in the game

to cut the Orange lead to 74-69. But that was as close as the Irish would get.

Syracuse guard Jonny Flynn scored four points in just over a minute to lead his team on a run that slammed the door on Notre Dame.

"We were trying to get back in the game," McAlarney said. "You fight so hard to get back in that position, and when you get to that point, it's hard to switch gears a little bit. We did a good job of trying to, but they just kept running on us, kept pushing on us and made some big shots down the stretch."

The Orange closed the game by draining eight consecutive free throws as the Irish constantly fouled to stop the clock.

Six Orange players scored in double figures whereas only Harangody, McAlarney and forward Ryan

Ayers topped 10 points for Notre Dame.

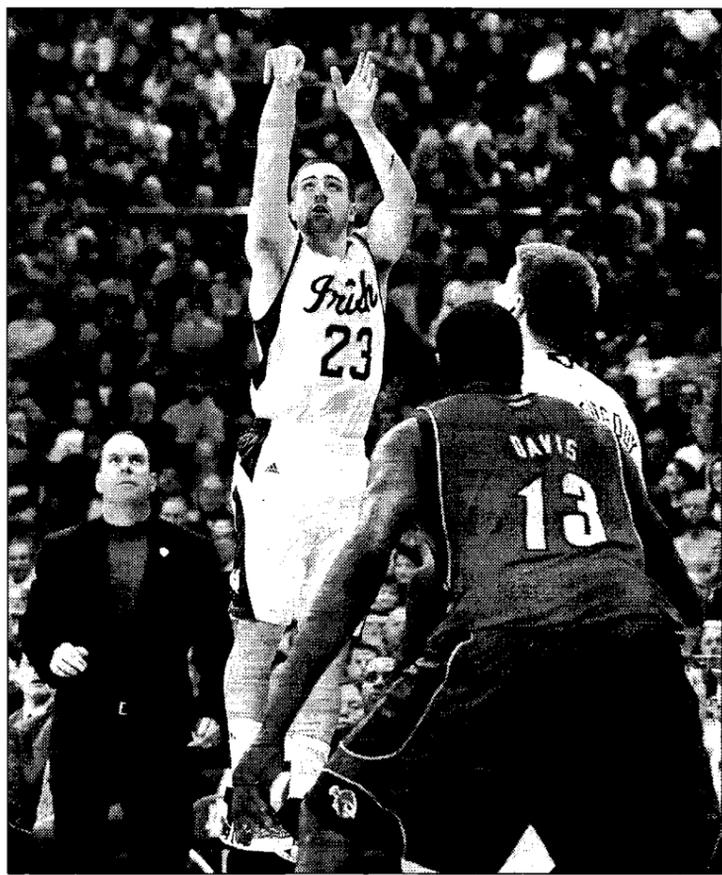
Flynn hit a 3-pointer early in the first half to give Syracuse a 15-12 advantage and the Orange did not trail for the rest of the contest.

The Irish have now lost nine of their last 10 road games against ranked opponents. But they will return to the Joyce Center next Saturday to take on No. 4 Connecticut and lay their 45-game home win streak on the line.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

"This one's on me."

Luke Harangody
Irish junior



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior guard Kyle McAlarney led Notre Dame with 24 points and seven 3-pointers in the loss at Syracuse Saturday.

NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL

ANNUAL WALK-ON TRYOUTS

THE NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL PROGRAM WILL BE HOLDING WALK-ON TRYOUTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SPRING SEMESTER.

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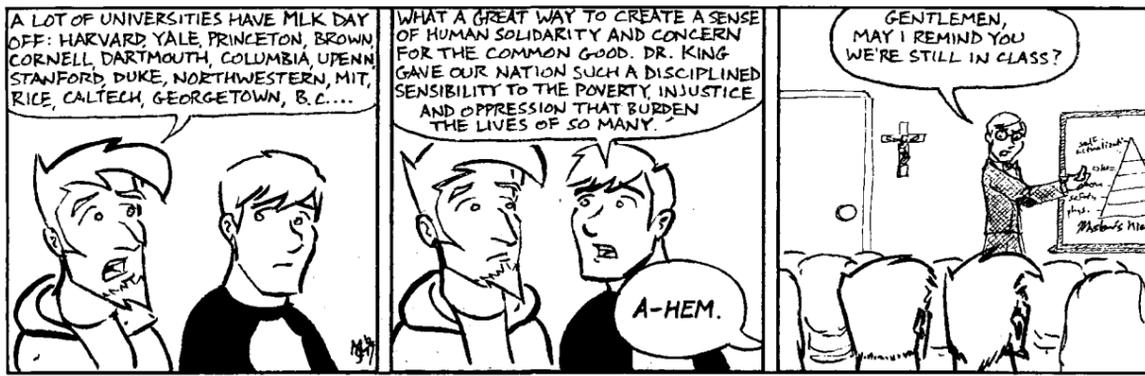
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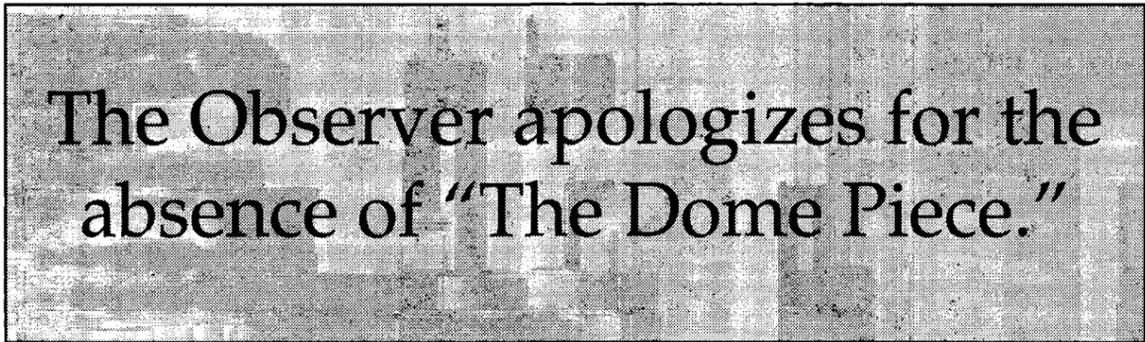
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JUMBLE

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

Four jumble puzzles: NOAPI, LIGUT, INCANE, SYMFLE. Each puzzle consists of a grid of squares with some containing letters and others being empty. Below each puzzle is a row of empty squares for the answer.



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

Print answer here: [circled letters] AND [circled letters]

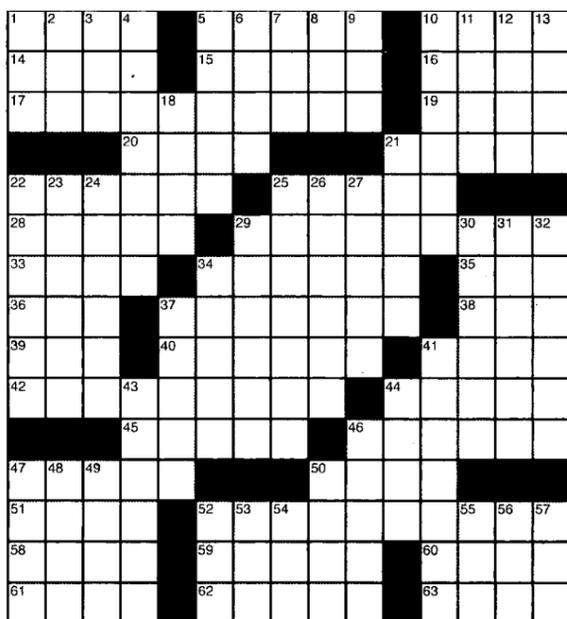
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TEPID SPURN CANNED ENOUGH Answer: What the dietitian did when the English patient lost weight - GAINED "POUNDS"

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across: 1 Witty sorts, 5 Make sense, 10 Choice word, 14 Think tank nugget, 15 On the lam, 16 Gerund, e.g., 17 Bond villain, 19 Saw red?, 20 Ph.D. thesis: Abbr., 21 Gets corroded, 22 Bemoan, 25 "Beats me" gesture, 28 Rub out, 29 Certain trout, 33 Basis of a suit, 34 Endless, poetically, 35 Fraternity P, 36 "Survivor" shelter, 37 Some red wines, 38 Obey the coxswain, 39 Cheroot residue, 40 Wings it, 41 Place for a hoedown, 42 Classic blues musician, 44 Intuit, 45 The "35" in John 11:35, 46 Prodded, 47 Woods or Irons, 50 Flair, 51 Laugh heartily, 52 Patriarchal gorilla, 58 Pond organism, 59 Primp, 60 Natural soother, 61 Lounge in the sun, 62 Feel nostalgia, e.g., 63 Crips or Bloods



Puzzle by Steve Kahn

- Down: 1 Faux 'fro?, 2 Brouhaha, 3 Goo in a do, 4 Most mournful, 5 Most-wanted group for a party, 6 Puts on, 7 Follow everywhere, 8 Put to work, 9 Part of r.p.m., 10 "Stop!", 11 Wall Street minimums, 12 Fatty treat for birds, 13 Pulls the plug on, 18 Ticket cost?, 21 Game sheet, 22 Deadly, 23 Work up, 24 First first lady, 25 Germ-free, 26 As a result of this, 27 Patronizes U-Haul, e.g., 29 Plays for time, 30 Gofer's job, 31 When repeated, cry by Shakespeare's Richard III, 32 Consumed heartily, 34 Octogenarian, for one, 37 Pole tossed by Scots, 41 Nontraditional chair style, 43 Czech composer Antonin, 44 Go up, up, up, 46 Filmdom's Close, 47 Omani, e.g., 48 Fast-food drink, 49 Makes "it", 50 "... ___ after", 52 U-2 pilot, e.g., 53 Ill temper, 54 Grazing ground, 55 Carte start, 56 Bamboozle, 57 Fraternity party setup

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nvtimes.com/learninxwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jesse L. Martin, 40; Jane Horrocks, 45; Mark Messier, 48; Kevin Costner, 54. Happy Birthday: Too much, too fast will be your downfall this year. Size down, budget and take care of things you have left unfinished. Be smart if you want to move forward when the economic slump starts to turn around. Listen, learn and be cautious of anyone trying to push you to take a risk. Focus will be what's important. Your numbers are 3, 12, 21, 25, 33, 38, 49. ARIES (March 21-April 19): An opportunity will come to you through a work connection you made in past years. This will enable you to take on a project you've been considering and will verify that you are on the right track. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Getting in too deep will cause you grief. Be careful and don't sign anything you may not be able to handle in the future. Don't let love, family or friends cost you. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Choose your battles and avoid havoc. If emotional issues are involved, it may affect your ability to think clearly, causing you to make a mistake. Concentrate on getting ahead and utilizing your talents to the fullest. CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can count on help at home if you want to make some changes to your surroundings. Take control and lay out your plans. Love is looking good and an unusual proposal will be forthcoming. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Too much deception will cause an awkward situation with someone from your past. Get out of the line of fire before old feelings surface and anger sets in. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can judge a situation better than most, so stick to your own game plan. A social event will lead to a closer bond with someone who can contribute to your life and your future. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Trust in your own abilities and let your intuition guide you. If someone is trying to bully you, put an end to it. Minor mishaps at home will have to be taken care of immediately. Someone from your past will come to your rescue. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotional deception will take you by surprise. Get to the bottom of whatever is going on. Love will take a strange but favorable turn. Be powerful when you represent your situation and you will win. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't overindulge or you will have an emotional problem on your hands that will be difficult to resolve. A change in one of your relationships will leave you shocked and uncertain. Someone with clout will make you take an objective look at a situation. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will have to take action swiftly if someone offends you. A problem with someone you have had to deal with in the past will bring back sour memories. Don't feel guilty turning down an invitation if it will be detrimental to your own well-being. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't go overboard or you will have to answer for your irresponsibility. Helping out someone in need will give you perspective and insight. You have lots to offer if you take your experience and knowledge and put it to good use. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Getting a gift, an old debt paid or a loan will help you out initially but it may cost you more in what's expected of you at a later date. Make sure you read the fine print before you sign your life away. Don't let love confuse you or lead to a costly mistake. Birthday Baby: You have a vivid imagination and an entrepreneurial charm. You are relentless in your pursuits and caring when it comes to the underdog. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, mspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

THE OBSERVER

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HOCKEY

20 and counting

ND needs shootout to finish weekend sweep

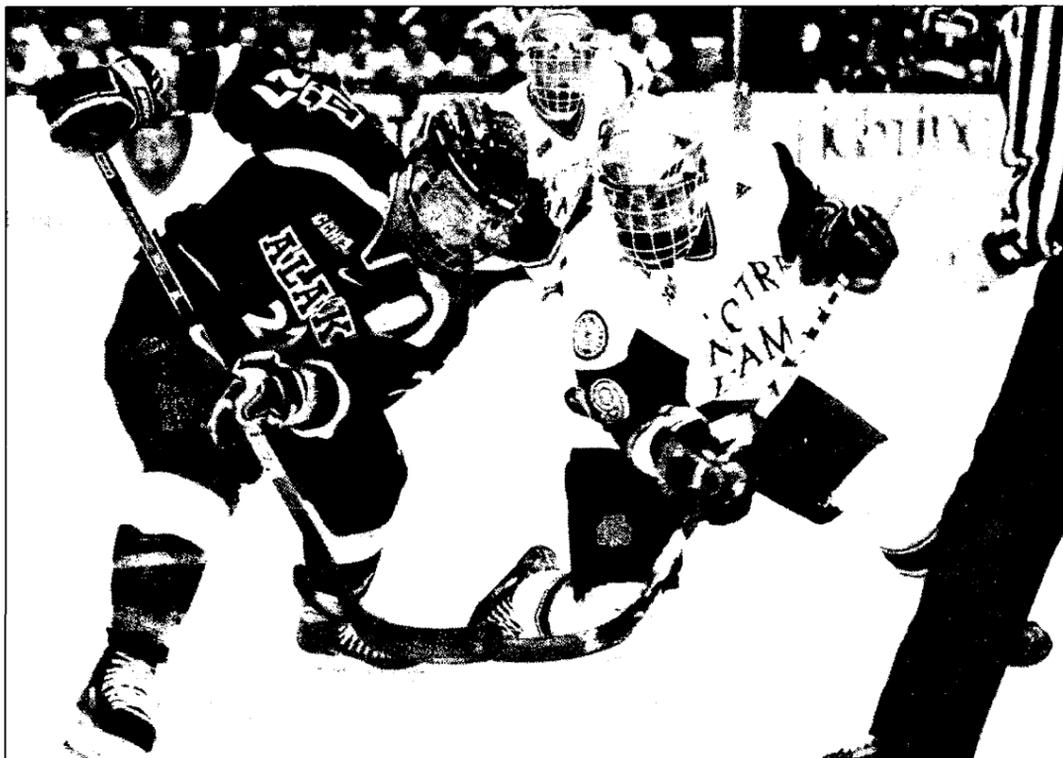
By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

No. 1 Notre Dame needed two comebacks and a shootout to do it, but the Irish stretched their unbeaten streak to an even 20 games this weekend against Lake Superior State.

After a 3-2 win Friday night, Notre Dame (19-3-3) found itself in a two-goal hole in the first period. The Irish came from behind twice to force overtime and eventually won 2-1 in a shootout.

The Irish pick up two points for the shootout victory in the CCHA but the NCAA officially counts it as a tie because the CCHA is the only league that currently has shootouts.

"Our league is being proactive and trying to eliminate ties from the game, just to try



WU YUE/The Observer

Sophomore Ben Ryan gets ready to face off against Alaska's Derek Klassen during Notre Dame's 3-0 win on Jan. 10. Ryan had a goal in the most recent Irish win over Lake Superior State.

see SHOOTOUT/page 21

FENCING

Youngsters lead team at NACD

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Despite having to replace one of the most talented senior classes in recent memory, Notre Dame's freshmen have already proved they are more than up to the task.

Five Irish fencers finished in the top five of their respective classes in individual competition at the U.S. Fencing Association's final North American Cup of the season in Louisville, Kent. Two freshmen, Courtney Hurley and Olympian Gerek Meinhardt, as well as sophomore Avery Zuck, took home first place honors.

Irish coach Janusz Bednarski, who guided his squad to second place at the 2008 NCAA Championships, is confident that his 14 freshmen fencers, along with the veteran mem-

see FROSH/page 21

MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish continue skid by dropping two more over weekend

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame came into the weekend with its sights set on returning to the win column with dual meets against Northwestern and Oakland after falling at Louisville on Jan. 10.

However, after dropping both contests, the Irish are still looking for a win to stop their slide.

Despite the losses, the Irish still saw some positives from their performances.

"Coming into this weekend, we wanted three things," Irish coach Tim Welsh said after Friday's loss to Northwestern. "We wanted to be faster than we were last week, we were. We wanted to be approaching or exceeding our best dual meet times outside of a championship meet, and in a lot of cases, we were there — sometimes life-best and season-best

times. We also wanted a win, we didn't get that."

The Irish began their weekend on Friday night at the Rolfs Aquatic Center with a 175-125 loss to Northwestern. Despite the loss, the Irish had a fair amount of quality individual performances.

Junior John Lyttle swept both the 50 and 100-yard freestyle races, duplicating a feat that he accomplished in Notre Dame's 2008 dual meet against the Wildcats.

The Irish were also dominant on the diving board, led by senior Michael Bulfin, who placed first in both the one-meter and three-meter events. The Irish claimed the top five spots from the one-meter platform.

Rounding out the top five in order were sophomores Eric Lex and Wesley Villafiora, sophomore Caleb Dunnichay, and sophomore Nathan Geary. Notre Dame's other first place finish in the meet came from junior

Andrew Deters, who won the 1,000-free.

The Irish had little rest after the loss to the Wildcats, as they traveled to Rochester, Mich. to face Oakland on Saturday afternoon. The Grizzlies narrowly edged out the Irish by a score of 161.5-137.5 for Notre Dame's third consecutive dual meet loss.

In total, the Irish won seven of the meet's 16 events. Lyttle

see LYTTLE/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Free throws play key role in win over SJU

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Erica Solomon ensured that free throws would decide the game. The Irish hit theirs. The Red Storm couldn't.

The freshman forward helped Notre Dame hang on to win 70-67 over St. John's at the Joyce Center Saturday. The Irish (15-2, 4-1 Big East) led by as many as 11 in the second half, but St. John's (13-4, 1-3) closed the gap and the teams traded leads down the stretch.

Solomon made a layup with 1:25 left to give Notre Dame a 67-66 lead, then grabbed an offensive rebound on her own missed shot and drew a foul a minute later.

"I saw a lot of their shirts underneath the basket and all of a sudden [Solomon] came away with the ball, I don't know how she got it," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "That was an incredible rebound."

Solomon, who had nine points and eight rebounds, made one of her two free throws, and Notre Dame led by two. She said she focused on rebounding during a physical game under the basket. "I just had to find my man and box her out," she said. "I just had to get the rebounds, I just had to fight."

With 14 seconds left, freshman Frederica Miller fouled Red Storm guard Sky Lindsay.

see SOLOMON/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cold shooting leads to loss

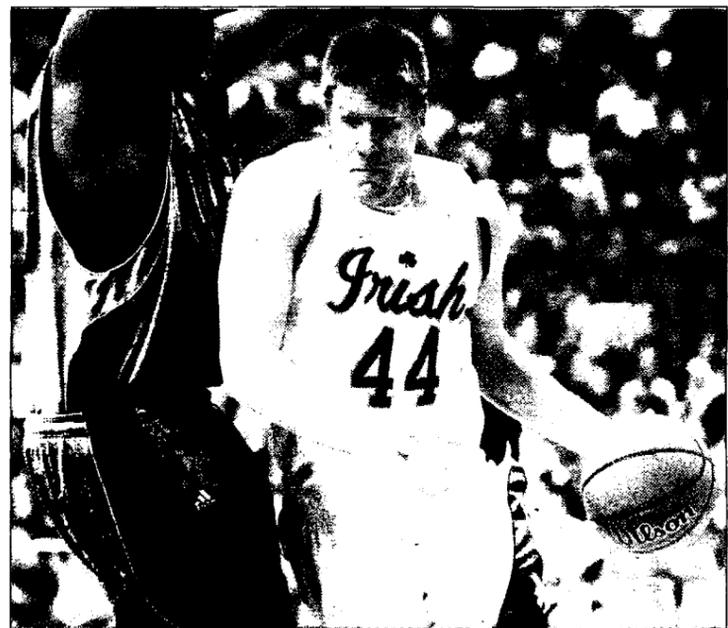
Irish fall short on the road against Orange

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame's cold shooting mirrored the frigid temperatures outside of Syracuse's Carrier Dome Saturday as the Orange beat the Irish 93-74.

The Irish shot just 35.5 percent from the field as their three-game win streak against Syracuse came to an end.

No. 8 Syracuse improved to 17-2 overall and 5-1 in Big East play in front of over 30,000 fans. The No. 12 Irish dropped to 12-5 and 3-3 in conference action after losing their second straight game to a ranked opponent.



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Junior forward Luke Harangody dribbles around a defender during Notre Dame's 88-79 win over Seton Hall on Jan. 10.

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