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Panel: Obama faces many challenges

Political science professors speak of problems and opportunities for the new administration

By ROBERT SINGER
News Writer

Exactly one week after President Barack Obama's inauguration, a roundtable of political science professors met for a panel discussion, talking about Obama's challenges as he begins to tackle economic and military crises against a backdrop of high expectations.

The discussion was titled "Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Obama Administration" and held in the Coleman-Morse lounge Tuesday evening.

Professor Dan Lindley spoke of an overlooked dimension of

dealing with high expectations.

"The power he gets from his popularity is intangible, but nonetheless real," Lindley said.

Since the public expects Obama to bring about so much positive change, they will be more willing to back his proposals, he said.

"High expectations are a form of power," Lindley said.

These expectations will apply to many different crises as the United States confronts challenges in a variety of arenas, according to the professors at the roundtable.

Lindley spoke of the need to build strong alliances by focusing on mutual interests to meet

see OBAMA/page 3



ZHIBIN DAI/The Observer

Professors from left to right, Tony Messina, Dianne Pinderhughes, John Roos and Peri Arnold discuss Obama.

Accounting programs ranked in top 10

By AARON STEINER
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame's Accountancy Program recently received high marks from an annual survey of accounting professors nationwide. The undergraduate program was ranked fourth in the nation and the Master of Science in Accountancy program was ranked sixth among graduate programs in Public Accounting Report (PAR), a trade magazine.

Fred Mittelstaedt, professor of accountancy and chair of the department, said Notre Dame has ranked high in the report for "the last number of years."

"The undergraduate program has been in the top five for the last several years," Mittelstaedt said.

According to the report from PAR, "the survey asks accounting professors, department heads and department chairs to name the undergraduate and graduate programs that ... they feel most consistently turn out students capable of some day attaining partner status."

Mittelstaedt said because of the survey's nature, choices are "based on reputation, how [professors] think our students do, and also their perceptions about what they know of our

see RANK/page 4

Career Fair sets up shop at Joyce Center

135 companies will recruit employees, interns in the midst of difficult economic times



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Students meet with representatives from companies at the Fall Career Fair on Sept. 11, 2008.

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Despite the poor economy and dismal job market, 135 companies will be looking for internship and job applicants at the 2009 Winter Career and Internship Fair at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse today from 4 to 8 p.m.

A variety of companies, non-profit agencies, government agencies, accounting and financial firms will be represented at the Fair, according to Associate Director of the Career Center Kevin Monahan.

"This fair especially is a good

mix of industries that should appeal to just about all majors," Monahan said.

The companies will be recruiting for fulltime and internship positions in different fields, Monahan said.

A diversity reception that will be "centered around the issue of diversity in the workplace" will take place today from noon until 2:30 p.m. in the Monogram Room of the Joyce Center, Monahan said.

The reception will be an open networking session and is open to all students, Monahan said.

see FAIR/page 3

Pangborn opens cafe in lounge

The Phoxy Cafe offers coffee, hot chocolate and biscotti twice per week

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Students desiring a cup of hot chocolate or a mug of coffee to warm up from the winter weather can stop in Notre Dame's newest South Quad snack stop, the Phoxy Cafe.

The cafe, located in Pangborn's lobby, offers coffee, hot chocolate, and biscotti Monday and Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m.

Katie Callison, the Phoxy Cafe's project coordinator, said that the cafe is just starting and hours may change as well as the variety of snacks offered. Hours are likely to change during the semester as

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ALISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Students enjoy their refreshments from the new Phoxy Cafe in Pangborn Lobby.

Food compost plan started by student

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

On average, Notre Dame students waste 5.03 ounces of food every meal. So junior Sarah Cline is working to implement a composting system, in which food wasted in the dining halls would be converted into fertilizer, instead of rotting in a landfill.

Cline, a junior and member of GreeND, won the United Nations' "Climate Crews" competition with the help of last semester's GreeND president Lourdes Long. The competition called for students to submit a plan to improve the environ-

mental impact of their school.

Cline entered a proposal to change the way the University's dining halls get rid of food waste.

"There is a lot of food waste in the dining halls that can't be recycled, but it's better if it's not just thrown in a landfill," she said. "They can use it as fertilizer and it's really helpful."

About half of colleges and universities nationwide have a composting system, Cline said, but Notre Dame currently has no system in place.

"At this point, all of the waste in the dining hall gets

see FOOD/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Turn off the lights

When I was little, my parents gave me a lot of instructions. They told me to duck if someone throws a softball at my head and I can't catch it. They told me not to bite the cat, regardless if it bit me first.

They also told me that I should always, always, always, turn off a light when I leave a room. Just flipping a switch saves them money, saves the light bulb, and saves energy.

Now that I'm almost 20 years old, that seems like common sense. Which is why I was surprised at what I saw on Thursday and Friday as I walked home from Legends.

On Thursday, my friend Katie and I went to Legends for their poker league. It ended at 2:30 a.m. (Katie came in third or fourth). We live in Cavanaugh, so we walked past Debartolo and O'Shag and then into the little alley comprised of Hayes-Healy, Riley, and Nieuwland. Interestingly enough, literally all of the lights in Hayes-Healy were on, and several in Nieuwland.

On Friday, my friends and I went to the comedians, who were disgusting, by the way. I'm all for a dirty joke, but these guys, the second one especially, went above and beyond what anyone would consider reasonable. Half the time, the crowd, rather than laughing, just stared at him open-mouthed. Come on man, know your audience.

Anyway, I walked back from that a little after midnight. This time, a good two-thirds of the lights in Nieuwland were still on. Now, I know some teachers love to hear themselves talk, but I don't think there were any physics lectures that continued to midnight on Friday.

This year I happened to shack up with two environmental science majors, so my literacy in all things Green has gone up a bit, which is why I'm fairly up in arms about this. I mean, Notre Dame just won a \$10,000 award for its sustainability efforts, but they can't turn off some lights?

And maybe if it were just one or two lights, I could understand the slip up. But as I said, it was literally the entire building on Thursday night, and a majority on Friday. There is just no excuse for that.

Story formula: Present the problem. Present the reasons for the problem. Present solutions to the problem.


So here are some solutions. 1) Make sure you have a custodian go around and check that kind of thing. GreenND wants suggestions of what to do with the money it won — why not use it to ensure lights get turned off? 2) Let us do it for you. I bet that volunteers from Cavanaugh (the winners of RecycleMania last year), would have no problem heading over to Nieuwland and turning off lights. It's one of those things that's not hard to do. 3) Turn off the light when you leave a room.

Of course, a five-year old could tell you that.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.


LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE POPE'S NEW YOUTUBE CHANNEL?




Mary Clare Murphy
junior
Lyons

"Papal emo vlogs would be pretty amusing but possibly sacrilegious."




Tim Latham
junior
Knott

"I can't think of anything I'd be less likely to watch."




Paul Macias
senior
St. Ed's

"Oh, Jesus."




Mary Allison
senior
off campus

"Does the Pope even know what YouTube is?"



Johanna Kirsch
junior
McGlenn

"I hope he doesn't read the comments."



TAYLOR ITSELL/The Observer

A child from the Early Child Development Center (ECDC) holds a doll while coloring. ECDC is looking for volunteers for the Spring Semester who can commit two hours per week to spend time with children, ages two to kindergarten.

OFFBEAT

Firefighter charged for stealing severed foot

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — Authorities said the St. Lucie County firefighter who took a man's severed foot from an Interstate 95 crash scene last year has been charged with misdemeanor theft. The firefighter told the Florida Highway Patrol after the Sept. 19 crash that she took the remains to help train her cadaver dog. She eventually resigned from the St. Lucie County Fire District. She was arrested Monday.

FHP Lt. Tim Frith said the severity of a theft charge is usually determined by the value of what is stolen. Since there's no law specifically dealing with the theft of a body part, he said it was difficult to determine the monetary value of the foot.

The firefighter was released from jail on her own recognizance Monday afternoon.

Woman shoots boyfriend who wouldn't let her sleep

MONROE, La. — A 21-year-old Monroe woman charged with aggravated battery allegedly told police she shot her boyfriend because he wouldn't let her sleep. The motive for Saturday's shooting was detailed in an arrest affidavit.

The woman remains in Ouachita Correctional Center with no set bond. She was charged with shooting her boyfriend, who was found by Ouachita Parish sheriff's deputies in his car at an intersection early Saturday. The boyfriend's name was not released.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Author Deb Olin Unferth will read from her first novel, "Vacation" at 7:30 p.m. at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Unferth teaches at Roosevelt University in Chicago. The event is free and open to the public.

"Much Ado About Nothing" is being performed at Washington Hall tonight at 7:30 p.m. The play will show through Friday, January 30. Tickets are \$12 for students, \$18 for Faculty, Staff and Seniors, and \$20 Regular Admission.




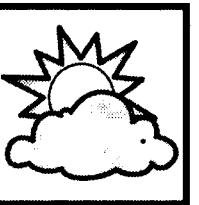

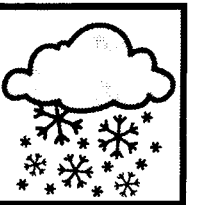
A blood drive is taking place on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 217 of the Engineering Lounge, which is on the 2nd floor of Cushing Hall. To sign up, call Donna Fecher at 574-631-5432 or go to the AME office in 365 Fitzpatrick Hall.

"Le plus heureux des trois," a play by Eugene Labiche will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday at the Snite Museum of Art. Although the play will be in French, an English synopsis will be provided. Tickets are \$5 cash only and can be bought at the Center for the Study of Language and Culture, 329 DeBartolo Hall or at the door.

The film "Happy Go Lucky," is being played at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Browning Cinema in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Purchase tickets at performingarts.nd.edu or call 574-631-2800.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						
HIGH	21	16	26	15	26	28
LOW	12	13	12	8	25	18

Atlanta 58 / 29 Boston 34 / 26 Chicago 19 / 15 Denver 42 / 23 Houston 52 / 34 Los Angeles 72 / 47 Minneapolis 17 / 12 New York 36 / 25 Philadelphia 39 / 25 Phoenix 67 / 42 Seattle 43 / 38 St. Louis 26 / 19 Tampa 78 / 63 Washington 40 / 23

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.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

COR discusses funds bias

Members express concern over bias during funds distribution, offer solutions

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

The Council of Representatives discussed the process of allocating funds in its meeting Tuesday evening, with student body president Bob Reish expressing his concerns about possible bias when funds are distributed.

Although the council ultimately decided that bias within the Financial Management Board (FMB) would be eliminated based on the checks and balances in place in the board, discussion was spurred by interest among COR members in learning about the allocation process, specifically from which sources the money comes, and where the money goes.

Currently, the allocation process takes place in the spring and members of student government organizations (class councils, Club Coordination Council and others) create proposals that are given to the FMB at the allocation meeting.

Members of the FMB, which include outgoing members from student government, listen to all the proposals and then decide on fund allocation.

Reish wanted the council to take a closer look into the process to determine whether or not there were any biases present during the allocation process.

"I am concerned if the case arises where an individual

campaign loses to a challenger, that when the new body goes to propose their budget that there could be some bias as to who will receive the funding," Reish said. "I feel that this definitely could occur and that it would be relevant to discuss," he said.

Although most of the members felt that this was not a significant issue, they chose to talk about possible ways to prevent it from occurring.

Members discussed the idea of using a reward system as a means for allocating funding by apportioning more money to a group who had functioned well during the previous school year and taking away money from others that had poor performances.

This, however, posed to present a possible issue for the new incoming administrations. Many of the council members were concerned that the incoming administrations should not be penalized for the flaws of its predecessors.

Another suggestion was made to possibly open the allocation decision meetings to allow both the incoming and outgoing members of the councils to be in attendance. This, however, also proved to be an issue because it would lengthen the meetings

extensively, something that would only serve as a hindrance to the process, members decided.

There was a general consensus among COR members who had attended an allocation meeting that the meetings were already long. They feared that increasing the meetings' duration would make members less likely to make many, if any changes at all to the budget from the previous year.

The members concluded, however, that the checks and balances within the FMB would eliminate any bias held by one member.

This, however, does not mean that all groups will always get all the money they have requested.

"There is never enough money to go around," said Kadeja Gaines, the Student Union Treasurer. "Hardly anyone ever gets all that they ask for."

Other COR notes:

Members of COR discussed the reaction of members of the Hall President's Council to the same-sex event planning. The female halls were in favor of the idea, while the male dorms felt that it would be better if there was funding involved.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at
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"I am concerned ... that there could be some bias as to who will receive the funding."

Bob Reish
student body president

Obama

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the security threats of the 21st century.

"He talks a lot about common security," he said. "The key to common security is common threat perception. How can Obama engineer a sense of common sense perception among different nations?"

If Professor Tony Messina's account of transatlantic relations is any indication, diplomacy with European nations could prove difficult.

"In the past Europeans made a very clear distinction of a president they didn't like and the United States," Messina said. "That boundary now is getting blurred. The Europeans are moving toward a worldview that excludes the United States from their thinking, as far as international leadership."

Messina said U.S. policies have caused Europe's unfavorable views. American policy in the Middle East, U.S. action on climate change, the hard stance the Bush administration took against Russia and the economic competition between the U.S. and the European Union are some of the reasons for the tension, according to Messina.

Professor Dianne Pinderhughes expressed concern that the economic crisis is affecting African-Americans disproportionately, noting that blacks' incomes are on average two thirds of whites', while also raising worries about the enforcement of voting rights laws.

According to Pinderhughes, during the Bush administration, the Department of Justice hired numerous people to fill non-political positions on the basis of whether they were conservative, Republican and "right thinking."

"My argument is that some of those individuals who were hired might still be in the department and might affect the way voting rights are administered," she said.

The Obama presidency has a chance to set aside an incremental approach and transform the government's role in economic and other domestic policy, according to Professor Peri Arnold.

"We are in a moment of tectonic shift in American politics which makes for a different kind of president," he said.

Arnold remarked on what he viewed as a decline in government competence over the last 30 years, arguing that Obama has the opportunity to reverse this trend.

"There was once a time when young people like you thought about working for the federal government," he said.

"I think we are in a time of change," he said.

He added: "Barack Obama's conception of government is one that will inspire us."

Arnold said that in times of crisis, past presidents like Franklin Roosevelt have gambled with history by proposing bold agendas.

"It's very risky, but it's exactly these kinds of presidencies that have made the assumption that there is an opportunity for great change," he said. "It's like walking out on a high wire without a safety net."

Professor John Roos argued that as Obama takes steps forward, he must make an effort to cooperate with Republicans or risk upsetting the nation's ideological divide and losing his high level of initial support.

"The first big test is going to come in the next two weeks," he said. "I think he's going to get what he wants, but the question is whether he is going to get enough Republican votes to appear bipartisan."

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Fair

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Due to the state of the economy, the number of companies that will be represented at this year's fair is down slightly, Monahan said.

However, Monahan still expects that students will find "numbers are down slightly, but we still have a good number of employers and a good mix of employers, as well," Monahan said.

NBC Universal will be one of the companies present at the fair, as well as the public relations company Edelman, Monahan said. Schurz Communications, a company that works in radio and television, will also be seeking students, Monahan said.

"To have a couple public relations firms and advertising firms coming to campus, that speaks well for the draw that is Notre Dame," he said.

In order to prepare for attending the fair, Monahan recommended that students log into Go IRISH through the Career Center Web site and choose eight to 10 companies to speak with at the fair.

Students should research the companies and find out what positions they have posted.

After researching, Monahan said that students should "then actually go up to the company, introduce themselves and have some questions prepared about

the job opportunity or about the company and make a good solid impression on that firm," Monahan said.

Although it is helpful to bring a resume to the fair, Monahan said that it is not a requirement.

"It's recommended to bring a resume, but if you don't have a resume, that should not stop you from coming," Monahan said.

Since there are a large number of companies from many different areas coming to the fair, students should narrow down the companies that they would like to learn more about.

"With 135 companies, you have to be a little strategic about who you would like to approach," Monahan said.


In addition to NBC Universal, Edelman and Schurz, Monahan mentioned Baxter Healthcare Corporation, which is interested in science students. A company that makes athletic wear, Under Armour is looking for students for its retail side, he said.

Additionally, there will be a "number of engineering firms" such as Lockheed Martin Corporation, according to Monahan.

First year and second year students should not hesitate to come the fair, according to Monahan.


"They should come and check it out and use this as an information gathering ... that way they will be much more prepared," Monahan said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at
edriscol@nd.edu





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BUCKINGHAM  

Cafe

continued from page 1

the demand for coffee and snacks increases during stressful times such as midterms and finals week, Callison said.

Callison said Pangborn's hall staff came up with the idea in November, and most of the planning for the cafe has been completed in recent weeks. The hall staff created the cafe to respond to the wishes of students who wanted hot drinks without trudging through South Bend's frigid winter weather.

Callison said the cafe organizers eventually want to expand the amount of snacks it offers.

"We will definitely have more variety in the food and drinks we offer if we get a good response. This could mean

that we have baked goods such as warm pretzels and fresh cookies, or something like different syrups to accompany the coffee," Callison said. "I think hot spiced cider would also be a popular option, especially given such cold Notre Dame weather."

The Phoxy Cafe has received positive feedback so far, she said. The cafe offered two free sample nights, and the girls who attended found the cafe's atmosphere and decor very pleasant.

Organizers administered surveys during the sample nights to gather ideas that could improve the cafe.

Phoxy Cafe shifts are currently voluntary, as the cafe is still trying to cover its startup costs, Callison said.

However, if the cafe continues its success, Pangborn residents may be able to work there for pay eventually,

Callison said.

The cafe's profits will go toward dorm activities and equipment. Callison suggested an espresso machine, but profits may also be set aside to go to a charitable cause that Pangborn residents support.

Although the cafe's patrons might be mostly from Pangborn, Callison said that all are welcome.

"I feel like this cafe will be a great way to make the dorm feel more like a home, and that it could serve to connect students of all years and dorms," Callison said. "It's also a great means of setting Pangborn apart from other dorms. We may be that box in the corner, but we are a friendly and sophisticated box."

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

Food

continued from page 1

thrown away," she said.

As one of 10 winners of the contest, Cline will receive \$500 to market her plan on campus and a free trip to Washington D.C. for a workshop to teach her how to implement it.

Cline said she was encouraged to enter the contest by Long.

"I was not expecting to win," she said. "I was really shocked when I got that e-mail."

Cline said she already began working with the Office of Sustainability, and the University will invest in a composting system.

"We are not sure how it will all work out yet," she said. "It's something that's going to happen for sure, I'm just not sure when."

The contest required Cline's proposal to be based on the grades given to the University by the Sustainability Report Card, which evaluates Notre Dame's environmental footprint in various areas. Cline said the University received a low transportation grade, but she thought her project would have a bigger impact by

addressing the food and recycling category.

"The proposal needed to have originality and feasibility," she said. "We didn't get a great grade in transportation, and there are a lot of ways Notre Dame could improve it, but Lourdes and I couldn't think of a project concrete enough."

Cline said composting is simple process that will be a big step towards achieving sustainability at Notre Dame.

One goal for implementing the project is to garner a lot of student support, she said, in keeping with Notre Dame's high grade for the category on the Sustainability Report Card.

"We got an A for student involvement, so we want to really emphasize that," she said. "That's something that has really been working for us so far."

The first step is to make students aware of the amount of food they waste on a daily basis in order to gain support and action from students. Cline said she will use the

\$500 she won to create a media campaign to raise awareness.

"Basically, the only way that the University would ever commit to something this big is knowing that students actually care about it and comply with it," she said.

"There is a lot of food waste in the dining halls that can't be recycled."

Sarah Cline
Junior

Students will participate in different ways, possibly by removing food items that can be composted before discarding their trays.

"We will let students know how they can

help," she said.

Cline said Notre Dame has put in a lot of effort to improve the University's sustainability, the biggest stride being the creation of the Office of Sustainability last year. Two years ago, Notre Dame had one of the lowest scores compared to other universities on the Sustainability Report Card.

"We recently had the biggest two-year improvement for any school," Cline said. "We are moving up a lot."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Rank

continued from page 1

curriculum."

The top three programs in the undergraduate rankings were the University of Texas-Austin, the University of Illinois, and Brigham Young University respectively.

The same three schools took the top three spots in the graduate rankings, in reverse order, and the University of Southern California and the University of Michigan also outranked Notre Dame in the category.

Mittelstaedt said the Master of Science in Accountancy program wasn't offered until 1998

and "we've been in the top 10 since the program started."

Mittelstaedt said that Notre Dame's accounting program is consistently well-ranked in various publications.

In addition to the PAR survey, the undergraduate program was rated No. 3 by BusinessWeek's in 2008 and No. 7 in the 2009 U.S. News and World Report rankings.

Mittelstaedt said the success is based in part on the quality of students that the University attracts.

"For one, they're very smart, and second, they can balance things very well," he said, from academics to volunteering to work, "the same types of things that they do in firms."

In addition, Mittelstaedt credits the curriculum within the department of accountancy,

which he said focuses on "foundational knowledge."

"We're trying to provide broad skills," he said, teaching both quantitative accounting skills as well as "soft skills" like teamwork and communication.

That, plus the "great environment, great faculty ... as well as alumni" help the reputation of the department, Mittelstaedt said, highlighting the role of alumni.

"We have alumni that have done really well that are in leadership positions in firms ... and they like to come back and recruit here because our students just perform so well," Mittelstaedt said.

Mittelstaedt said that there are currently 110 seniors in the undergraduate accounting program, and typically there are around 150 from any given class. The graduate program currently has 94 students, he said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu



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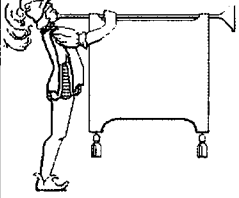
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Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2009 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
- 5) two letters of recommendation
- 6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
- 7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project (i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2009
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mexican immigrant remittances fall

MEXICO CITY — The money sent home by Mexican migrants fell in 2008 for the first time on record, Mexico's central bank said Tuesday — part of a global trend that could worsen as emigrants from developing countries lose jobs in the global financial crisis.

Remittances, Mexico's second-largest source of foreign income after oil, plunged 3.6 percent to \$25 billion in 2008 compared to \$26 billion for the previous year, the central bank said.

The percentage drop is nearly twice what the government had expected for the year, and central bank official Jesus Cervantes said the decline will likely continue this year.

Experts blame a crackdown on illegal immigration that has stemmed the flow of those heading north to seek work as well as the U.S. recession, in which many Mexicans, especially construction workers, have been laid off.

It was the first time remittances have fallen year-to-year since the bank starting tracking the money 13 years ago.

Shop sells posters of dead in Gaza Strip

GAZA CITY — Some were killed when tank shells hit their homes. Others died when bombs erased their offices. Still others met their end battling Israeli troops.

Now their faces are rolling off the presses at the Nibras print shop, which produces full-color posters and banners of the dead. In the wake of Israel's 22-day Gaza offensive — which killed nearly 1,300 Palestinians — it's one of the few businesses experiencing a post-war boom.

Islamic Jihad fighter Mohammed Bedawi was among the so-called "martyrs" whose demise was commemorated with a custom-made poster — a tradition for anyone killed by Israel.

NATIONAL NEWS

Minn. voters testify to save ballots

ST. PAUL — Minnesota voters testified Tuesday their ballots had been unfairly rejected as Republican Norm Coleman argued thousands of disqualified absentee ballots should be counted in the U.S. Senate race.

"Perhaps my signature is not as good as it once was," Gerald Anderson, of St. Paul, told the three-judge panel hearing Coleman's lawsuit. "It gets cloudy and crooked. I am 75 years old." But that shouldn't have disqualified his vote, he said: "I want it back. I'm entitled to my vote."

A statewide recount gave Democrat Al Franken a 225-vote edge. The personal stories that Anderson and five other voters told are just one front on Coleman's effort to have more votes counted.

Food safety experts call for testing

ATLANTA — Food regulators didn't consider salmonella a threat to most peanut products before they traced an outbreak to a peanut butter plant in Georgia two years ago. Officials in the nation's top peanut-producing state promptly began checking for the bacteria during routine inspections, and everything went fine for about a year.

Then this month, investigators zeroed in on another Georgia plant while probing a second bout of salmonella that began in the fall and has sickened some 500 people in 43 states, and may have contributed to at least eight deaths.

As health officials scramble to limit the effects of the latest outbreak, food safety advocates have renewed calls for increased testing at peanut processing plants.

LOCAL NEWS

CIB finance committee recommends cut

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Capital Improvements Board expects to lose more money than it originally projected from its operation of Lucas Oil Stadium, Conseco Fieldhouse, Victory Field and the Indiana Convention Center next year.

The CIB's finance committee recommended Tuesday an 8 percent cut in its operating budget and an immediate freeze on hiring, salaries and travel, which it said would save about \$6 million.

"We're going to continue to review this," CIB president Bob Grand said. "If 8 percent isn't enough, we'll have to cut further."

RUSSIA

Metropolitan Kirill elected patriarch

Interim leader of the Russian Orthodox Church receives 508 out of 700 votes

Associated Press

MOSCOW — The interim leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, seen as a modernizer who could seek a historic reconciliation with the Vatican and more autonomy from the state, was overwhelmingly elected patriarch Tuesday.

Metropolitan Kirill received 508 of the 700 votes cast during an all-day church congress in Moscow's ornate Christ the Savior Cathedral, the head of the commission responsible for the election, Metropolitan Isidor, said hours after the secret ballot was over.

Kirill defeated a conservative rival, Metropolitan Kliment, who received 169 votes, Isidor said. Another 23 ballots were declared invalid.

It was the first vote for a Russian Orthodox patriarch since the fall of the officially atheist Soviet Union in 1991.

Kirill, 62, will be installed Sunday as the successor to Moscow Patriarch Alexy II, who had headed Russia's dominant church since 1990. Alexy II died Dec. 5, at age 79, after leading the church in a powerful post-Soviet revival.

The son of a priest, Kirill has headed the external relations department of the world's largest Orthodox Christian church for nearly 20 years, making him point man for ties with the Roman Catholic Church. He met with Pope Benedict XVI in December 2007.

Efforts toward a reconciliation nearly a millennium after Christianity's east-west schism have been stymied by accusations by the Russian church of Catholic missionary activity on its traditional territory and disputes over property and influence in Ukraine.

Kirill has echoed Alexy's warnings that those disagreements remain obstacles to a long-awaited meeting between pope and patriarch — the unrealized dream of the late Pope John Paul II. But he has also promoted unity with the Roman Catholic Church against the secularism and



Interim leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Kirill, defeated conservative Republican rival to be elected patriarch. AP

immorality he says threatens humanity.

The Vatican "rejoiced" over Kirill's election, said its spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi. He said Kirill was esteemed in the Vatican and expressed hope his service would "continue to deepen our path of reciprocal understanding and collaboration for the good of humanity."

In Russia, Kirill is seen as a politically savvy figure who may seek a more muscular role for the church, which has served the state for much of its 1,000-year history. Church and state are officially separate under the post-Soviet constitution, but ties have tightened again since Vladimir Putin came to power in 2000.

Kirill will face opposition from a strong conservative

movement within the church that sees him as too modern and too eager for a rapprochement with Catholics.

"He's perfectly aware of the risks he will be taking," political analyst Stanislav Belkovsky said. Regarding ties with the Vatican, Belkovsky said, "He will go for it if he feels the moment has come, but he won't fast-track it."

Kirill will be under pressure to live up to Alexy's reputation as a unifying figure.

"He is a true successor of Alexy's work. Once again he will help consolidate and unite our society," said Metropolitan Feofan, a church leader in southern Russia. "There is joy in my heart."

The Kremlin tightened its control over all aspects of life under Putin, now prime minis-

ter, and is wary of any other institution gaining too much independence. Alexy strongly supported Putin and the government; whatever Kirill's intentions, observers say a major shift in the relationship with the state is unlikely.

Some nonreligious Russians complain the church has tailored its doctrine to suit the government, which has justified Russia's retreat from Western-style democracy by saying the country has a unique history and culture.

Kirill, the best-known church figure after Alexy, was the front-runner to replace him. His chances improved after Metropolitan Filaret — one of three candidates picked by church leaders Sunday — withdrew and urged supporters to back Kirill.

Jurors listen to Blagojevich recordings

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Gov. Rod Blagojevich was hundreds of miles away but his voice boomed through the Illinois Senate's chambers Tuesday as his impeachment jurors listened to FBI wiretaps of conversations in which he seems to demand campaign contributions in exchange for signing legislation.

One person on the recordings assures Blagojevich that a horse-racing track owner "is good for it" and just has to decide "what accounts to get it out of." Another assures him the track owner knows he must keep his "commitment" soon.

Blagojevich replies with comments like "good" and "good job." Legislation sought

by the racing industry had been sent to the governor's desk, and on the tapes, he says to reassure a racing lobbyist he hopes "to do this so we can get together and start picking some dates to do a bill-signing."

Senators conducting the trial, which Blagojevich is boycotting though it could remove him from office within days, listened intently as the fuzzy, indistinct conversations echoed through the room — the heating system, reporters typing on laptops and the occasional cough accounting for the only other noise.

Neither the governor nor the others on the call — the governor's brother and chief fundraiser Robert Blagojevich and former chief of staff Lon Monk, officials say — specifically mentions money or any amounts.

The governor was arrested last month on a variety of corruption charges, including scheming to benefit from appointing President Barack Obama's U.S. Senate replacement and demanding campaign contributions in exchange for state services. He denies any wrongdoing and neither his brother nor Monk has been charged.

Before the tapes were played Tuesday, an FBI agent vouched for the accuracy of those and other Blagojevich quotes that were included the federal criminal complaint against him.

Again and again, agent Daniel Cain told state senators he had accurately quoted Blagojevich in a sworn affidavit filed when the governor was arrested. At each stage, House prosecutor David Ellis displayed the most damning quote on a poster board.

Award-winning writer John Updike dead at 76



In this Oct. 23, 1990 photo, author John Updike speaks at a lecture at the Boston Public Library in Boston.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — John Updike, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, prolific man of letters and erudite chronicler of sex, divorce and other adventures in the postwar prime of the American empire, died Tuesday at age 76.

Updike, best known for his four "Rabbit" novels, died of lung cancer at a hospice near his home in Beverly Farms, Mass., according to his longtime publisher, Alfred A. Knopf.

A literary writer who frequently appeared on best-seller lists, the tall, hawk-nosed Updike wrote novels, short stories, poems, criticism, the memoir "Self-Consciousness" and even a famous essay about baseball great Ted Williams.

He released more than 50 books in a career that started in the 1950s, winning virtually every literary prize, including two Pulitzers, for "Rabbit Is Rich" and "Rabbit at Rest," and two National Book Awards.

Although himself deprived of a Nobel, he did bestow it upon one of his fictional characters, Henry Bech, the womanizing, egotistical Jewish novelist who collected the literature prize in 1999.

His settings ranged from the court of "Hamlet" to postcolonial Africa, but his literary home was the American suburb, the great new territory of mid-century fiction.

Born in 1932, Updike spoke for millions of Depression-era readers raised by "penny-pinching parents," united by "the patriotic cohesion of World War II" and blessed by a "disproportionate share of the world's resources," the postwar, suburban boom of "idealistic careers and early marriages."

He captured, and sometimes embodied, a generation's confusion over the civil rights and women's movements, and opposition to the Vietnam War. Updike was called a misogynist, a racist and an apologist for the establishment.

On purely literary grounds, he was attacked by Norman Mailer as the kind of author appreciated by readers who knew nothing about writing. Last year, judges of Britain's Bad Sex in Fiction Prize voted Updike lifetime achievement honors.

But more often he was praised for his flowing, poetic writing style. Describing a man's interrupted quest to make love, Updike likened it "to a small angel to which all afternoon tiny lead weights are attached."

Nothing was too great or too small for Updike to poeticize. He might rhapsodize over the film projector's "chuckling

whir" or look to the stars and observe that "the universe is perfectly transparent: we exist as flaws in ancient glass."

Author Joyce Carol Oates, a friend of Updike's, said there was a "luminosity in John's style that was just extraordinary. He also had a wonderful, warm, sympathetic sense of humor which people didn't always notice."

In the richest detail, his books recorded the extremes of earthly desire and spiritual zealotry, whether the comic philandering of the preacher in "A Month of Sundays" or the steady rage of the young Muslim in "Terrorist."

Raised in the Protestant community of Shillington, Pa., where the Lord's Prayer was recited daily at school, Updike was a lifelong churchgoer influenced by his faith, but not immune to doubts.

"I remember the times when I was wrestling with these issues that I would feel crushed. I was crushed by the purely materialistic, atheistic account of the universe," Updike told The Associated Press during a 2006 interview.

"I am very prone to accept all that the scientists tell us, the truth of it, the authority of the efforts of all the men and woman spent trying to understand more about atoms and molecules. But I can't quite make the leap of unfaith, as it were, and say, 'This is it. Carpe diem (seize the day), and tough luck.'"

He received his greatest acclaim for the "Rabbit" series, a quartet of novels published over a 30-year span that featured ex-high school basketball star Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom and his restless adjustment to adulthood and the constraints of work and family. To the very end, Harry was in motion, an innocent in his belief that any door could be opened, a believer in God even as he bedded women other than his wife.

The series "to me is the tale of a life, a life led by an American citizen who shares the national passion for youth, freedom, and sex, the national openness and willingness to learn, the national habit of improvisation," Updike would later write. "He is furthermore a Protestant, haunted by a God whose manifestations are elusive, yet all-important."

Other notable books included "Couples," a sexually explicit tale of suburban mating that sold millions of copies; "In the Beauty of the Lilies," an epic of American faith and fantasy; and "Too Far to Go," which followed the courtship, marriage and divorce of the Maples, a suburban couple with parallels to Updike's own first marriage.

SPOTLIGHT

the Asian American Film Festival

Presented by the Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services



Thu. Jan 29. 7PM

@ the Eck Visitors' Center

The filmmaker plunges into a funny, highly unscientific investigation into all those Grace Lees who break the mold — from a fiery social activist to a rebel who tried to burn down her high school.

Ping Pong Playa
Thu. Jan. 22
7PM
Snite Museum

Santa Mesa
Fri. Jan. 23
7PM
Jordan Auditorium

The Grace Lee Project
Thu. Jan. 29
7PM
Eck Visitors Center

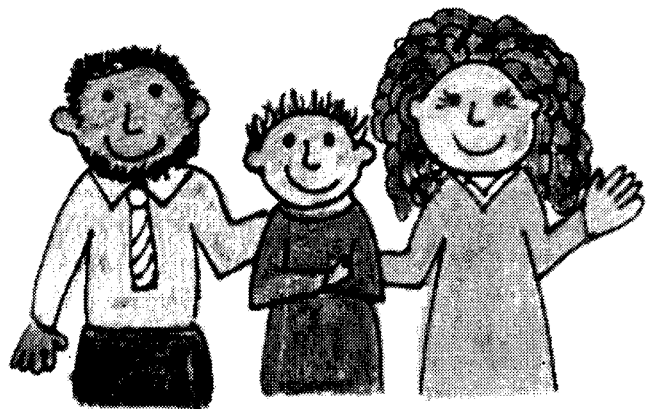
Big Dreams Little Tokyo
Fri. Jan. 30
7PM
Hesburgh Center Auditorium

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or

Jackie Bauters and Patricia Kriegel @ (574) 631 - 0887

email: tfcptilu@nd.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **8,174.73** +58.70

Up: 2,579 Same: 109 Down: 1,169 Composite Volume: 1,165,310,331

AMEX	1,399.56	+11.18
NASDAQ	1,504.90	+15.44
NYSE	5,315.44	+70.83
S&P 500	845.71	+9.14
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,938.17	-124.48
FTSE 100 (London)	4,194.41	-14.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+1.02	+0.85	84.53
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+8.33	+0.50	6.50
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+6.61	+0.22	3.55
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	+3.51	+0.31	9.14

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-4.69	-0.1240	2.52
13-WEEK BILL	+30.00	+0.03	0.13
30-YEAR BOND	-4.40	-0.1490	3.23
5-YEAR NOTE	-5.63	-0.0930	1.56

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-4.15	41.58
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-9.30	901.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.35	79.25

Exchange Rates

YEN	89.0850
EURO	1.3204
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2285
BRITISH POUND	1.4167

IN BRIEF

Rising unemployment hits all states

WASHINGTON — Rising unemployment spared no state last month, and 2009 is shaping up as another miserable year for workers from coast to coast.

Jobless rates for December hit double digits in Michigan and Rhode Island, while South Carolina and Indiana notched the biggest gains from the previous month, the Labor Department said Tuesday. A common thread among these states has been manufacturing industry layoffs tied to consumers' shrinking appetite for cars, furniture and other goods.

With tens of thousands of layoffs announced this week by well-known employers such as Pfizer Inc., Caterpillar Inc. and Home Depot Inc., the unemployment picture is bound to get worse in every region of the country, economists say.

"We won't see a light at the end of the tunnel until 2010," said Anthony Sabino, a professor of law and business at St. John's University.

Hedge fund manager surrenders

TAMPA — On the day a Florida hedge fund manager surrendered to face federal securities and wire fraud charges, authorities disclosed what may have set in motion his two weeks on the lam: A partner concerned about the health of their funds after the Bernard Madoff scandal was pressuring him to have their books audited by an independent accountant.

It's not yet clear where Arthur Nadel was during his time on the run, but he peacefully surrendered to authorities with two lawyers in tow in Tampa, about an hour north of his home in Sarasota, the FBI said.

Nadel, who was due to pay investors \$50 million when he disappeared, was chained at the waist and wrists when he appeared in court later Tuesday. Attorney Barry Cohen said Nadel is not violent and asked that he be released on his own recognizance. He said Nadel has emotional problems and does not pose a flight risk, but a federal judge ordered him held at least until Friday.

Asked outside court where his client had been, Cohen said, "He went away for a while just to be alone." He said Nadel turned himself in as soon as he learned about the charges.

Consumer confidence hits record low

Index edges down to 37.7 in January; economists expect financial funk to continue

Associated Press

NEW YORK — This is one recession Americans aren't going to spend their way out of.

The Conference Board said Tuesday its Consumer Confidence Index edged down to 37.7 this month, a record low, from a revised 38.6 in December. It stood at about 87 just a year ago.

Americans are battered by headlines about massive job cuts, including thousands at Home Depot, Corning, General Motors and Caterpillar in just the past two days, and are still watching the values of their homes and retirement funds dwindle.

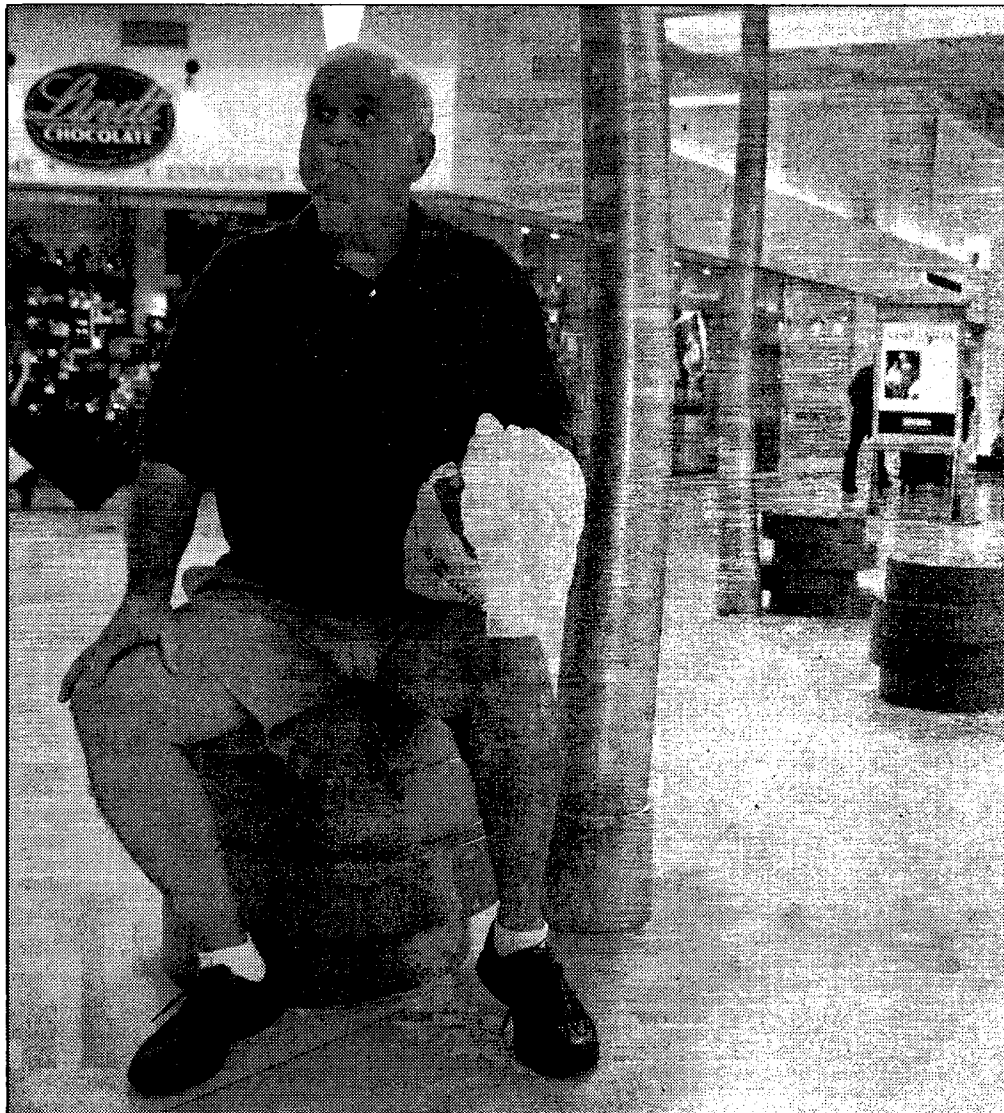
"Virtually, there is no confidence out there," said Bernard Baumohl, chief global economist at The Economic Outlook Group LLC. "Household anxiety has reached a point that we can count them out to get us out of the recession."

Economists believe Americans will remain in a financial funk until they start seeing fundamental improvements in the economy, including a turnaround in the housing and job markets. And two other reports Tuesday suggested that's unlikely to come soon.

The Labor Department announced that state unemployment rates shot up nationwide in December, with Indiana and South Carolina racking up the largest monthly increases. South Carolina's jobless rate bolted to 9.5 percent, more than 2 percentage points above the national rate.

And the Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing index dropped by a record 18.2 percent in November from the same month a year earlier — the sharpest annual rate since the index's inception in 2000.

The gloomy news initially sent the Dow Jones industrial average lower, but by mid-afternoon it took heart from some positive earnings



George Schafer of Coral Gable, Fla. waits for his wife who is shopping on Dec. 10. Americans' mood about the economy darkened further in January.

reports, finishing up about 58 points at 8,174.

President Barack Obama and Congress are scrambling to enact a \$825 billion package of increased federal spending, including money for big public works projects and for states, as well as tax cuts to revive the economy.

That could encourage Americans to spend more, but Baumohl believes the relief would be only temporary unless financial institutions become healthy enough to revive lending. Tighter credit has been a challenge for shoppers and businesses alike.

Federal Reserve policymakers are gathering this week to examine what other tools they can use to help ease a recession that started in December 2007. They are all but certain to leave the benchmark interest rate at its current record low.

But without the help of consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of economic activity, the economy faces a slow recovery. In past recessions, consumers had helped the economy dig itself out of its funk.

Americans "are feeling extremely bad about jobs —

both current and expected," said Lynn Franco, director of The Conference Board Consumer Research Center.

The Conference Board survey showed fewer people expect to get raises over the next few months, or for jobs to be plentiful.

Nationally, the unemployment rate, which stands at a 16-year high of 7.2 percent, could hit 10 percent or more later this year or early next year, according to some analysts' estimates. Michigan and Rhode Island already had unemployment rates in double digits last month. And the pink slips keep coming.

Citigroup changes plan to purchase jet

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Citigroup won't be getting a new corporate jet after all.

Under pressure from President Barack Obama, one of the nation's largest banks reversed course, announcing that it will not take delivery of the jet it had planned to purchase before the credit crisis unfolded.

The canceled deal came as many politicians voiced concern about how banks are spending government bailout money.

The White House reached out to Citigroup on Monday to reiterate Obama's position that such jets are not "the best use of money at this point," calling them "outrageous" spending for a company getting taxpayer dollars, said a White House offi-

cial who spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was describing private conversations.

In a statement late Monday, Citigroup Inc. said it paid a deposit in 2005 to acquire the jet. The New York-based bank said it did not plan to use government money for the purchase, and it noted that any cancellation of the deal would probably lead to multimillion-dollar penalties.

On Monday, the New York Post reported that Citi was set to take possession of the jet even after receiving \$45 billion from the government.

The government is also providing guarantees on hundreds of billions of dollars of Citi investments in mortgages and other troubled investments.

With the cancellation of the jet deal, a deposit on the plane will be lost, but is recoverable once the jet is sold,

according to a person familiar with the situation. Citi was in the process of purchasing a Dassault Falcon 7X for \$50 million, the person said.

Citi is also planning to cut the number of corporate jets in its existing fleet from five to two, said the person, who also spoke on condition of anonymity because the details have not been made public.

Corporate jets have become controversial during the credit crisis as critics of large companies question the cost of owning and operating the aircraft, especially for businesses receiving government help.

In November, executives of automakers Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC were sharply criticized for flying on corporate jets to Washington to ask Congress for federal bailout money.

Obama seeks GOP help, compromise

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On the eve of a key vote, President Barack Obama privately promised Republicans he stands ready to accept changes in the \$825 billion economic stimulus legislation, invoked Ronald Reagan to rebut conservative critics and urged lawmakers to "put politics aside" in the interest of creating jobs.

"The American people expect action," Obama said Tuesday as he shuttled between closed-door meetings with House and Senate Republicans on a trip to the Capitol that blended substance with political symbolism.

Republicans who attended the sessions said the president did not agree to any specific changes but did pledge to have his aides consider some that GOP lawmakers raised dealing with additional tax relief for businesses.

Prodded to budge on another point, Obama said that despite opposition, he will insist on giving relief to wage-earners who pay Social Security taxes but do not earn enough to owe income tax. His spokesman said the president reminded his critics that former President Reagan — conservative hero to many contemporary Republicans — supported the same concept while in the White House.

In a measure of the complex political dynamic in Congress, House Republican leaders urged their rank and file to oppose the stimulus measure hours before Obama arrived.

One Republican later quoted the president as saying any changes would have to come after the House gives what is expected to be largely party-line approval Wednesday to the Democratic-backed bill. Debate began late in the day on the measure, which includes about \$550 billion in spending and roughly \$275 billion in tax cuts. Democrats made one small change, voting to delete \$20 million intended for renovating the National Mall. Republicans had criticized the expenditure as wasteful.

In the Senate, traditionally more bipartisan than the House, a companion bill grew to roughly \$900 billion. That included a new tax break for upper middle-income taxpayers, at a one-year cost of \$70 billion. It was advanced by Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, senior Republican on the Finance Committee.

Democratic leaders in both houses have promised to have legislation ready for Obama's signature by mid-February, and Tuesday's developments coincided with fresh evidence of deterioration in a national economy seemingly growing weaker by the day.

Housing prices tumbled by the sharpest annual rate on record in November, according to a closely watched private report released during the day, and a measure of consumer confidence dropped to a historic low.

Separately, the Treasury Department announced distribution of \$386 million to 23

troubled banks, the first awards from the federal bailout fund since Obama took office a week ago.

Obama traveled to and from the Capitol in a snowy motorcade on Tuesday, far different from the inaugural parade seven days earlier. This was a business trip, marking his second reach across party lines in as many days in keeping with a pledge to seek bipartisan solutions to major problems.

On Monday, he leaned on House Democrats to jettison an item that would make it easier for states to provide family planning funds for the poor under Medicaid, a provision in the legislation that had become a target of ridicule for Republicans. Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said Obama supports the concept but wants it included in a different bill.

Ironically, Democrats said deleting the provision would wind up increasing federal spending, since it probably would mean more money spent on higher pregnancy and postnatal care.

House Republican leaders welcomed the president a few hours after urging their rank-and-file to oppose the stimulus bill, and it was far from clear that Obama had managed to pick up any GOP support during the day.

Gibbs said the White House expects some GOP lawmakers will vote for the measure on Wednesday in the House, and indicated he hopes there will be more in the Senate and even more later when a final compromise is reached.

One Republican senator, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the president pledged to Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., to have aides review two specific proposals. One would affect businesses that pay down their debt. The other would provide a temporary tax holiday for companies that have money overseas and bring it back to the United States to invest.

Obama ventured into an uncertain political environment when he stepped into the Capitol, a president with high approval ratings pitching a plan that also has been favorably received in the polls.

Republicans, on the other hand, are trying to regroup after last fall's elections, in which they lost the White House as well as seats in both houses of Congress. While some conservatives seem eager to mount a frontal attack on Obama and his plans, others are pursuing a strategy of criticizing congressional Democrats rather than the president.

Hours earlier, according to officials who were present at a GOP meeting, none of the Republicans in attendance spoke up in disagreement when urged to oppose the legislation by their leaders. Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the party's leader, and Eric Cantor of Virginia, the second in command, said they wanted "100 percent" opposition to the measure, which they argue includes billions in wasteful spending, these officials said.

Canada plans stimulus package

Associated Press

OTTAWA — Canada's Conservative government unveiled a \$32 billion plan to stimulate the flagging economy Tuesday, a move that could stave off opposition threats to force Prime Minister Stephen Harper from office.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said the two-year stimulus package includes \$9.8 billion for infrastructure. Flaherty is predicting a deficit in Canada for the first time in more than a decade.

New Liberal Party leader Michael Ignatieff said he'll announce Wednesday whether he'll support the package. The opposition Liberals had vowed to use a parliamentary confidence vote to topple Harper's minority government if the stimulus plan fell short.

"There are some positive signs to this budget," Ignatieff said. "There's some things that we are concerned about. There's a negative side."

Ignatieff said he's concerned the government has underestimated the seriousness of the crisis, but he said the govern-

ment has responded to the combined pressure of the opposition parties and those results are positive.

The credit crisis and the global sell-off of commodities have started to hit Canada hard. The country lost more than 100,000 jobs in the last two months of 2008, and the central bank is predicting economic output will contract 4.8 percent in the first quarter.

Flaherty called the crisis "the challenge of our time."

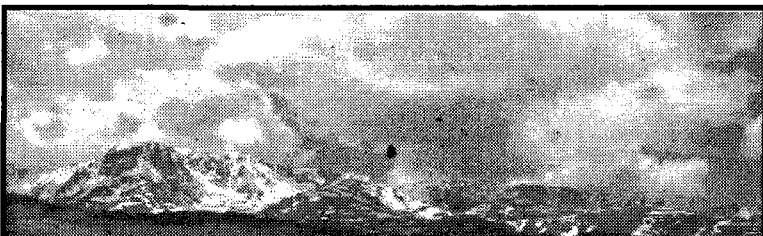
"Canadians are feeling the effects of the global recession, and they are concerned," he said.

The government is providing money for bridges and highways, high-speed Internet networks and home retrofits. The government also lengthened the amount of time unemployed people will be able to collect insurance if they are laid off.

There's also government credit support for automobile leasing, and there is money for job retraining programs, the aboriginal population and struggling industries such as the auto sector and forestry.

Flaherty said he is prepared to provide more stimulus if necessary.

"We are in uncharted waters," Flaherty said. "The economists have been wrong in their predictions. All of the so-called experts continue to become more pessimistic in their forecasts. Things could get worse and if they get worse, we'll do more."



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

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Don't you just hate pants?

By the time I'd opened my eyes I was wide awake. I leapt out of bed and bounded down the stairs, skipping steps without noticing. For weeks I'd dreamt of this moment, the glorious opportunity to unwrap the wonders of another Christmas morning. As I wildly tore into Santa's delivery my mind raced with predictions of what precious gift waited for me beneath the ribbons, bows and wrapping paper. A Luke Zeller Fathead? Sadly no; that wouldn't fit on my wall. 4,000 plastic balls to make a ball pit in my apartment? Disappointingly no; the package was too small. A beer tree? Understandably no; people tell me those don't really exist. I was still struggling to come up with a suitable guess when I lifted the lid on the box and looked down at my reward for being an exceptionally good boy in 2008. I wish I could tell you that I was satisfied with what I discovered, but the sight that met my eyes left me shocked, disheartened, and thoroughly embittered.

There they were, staring back up at me with their cold, steely, button eyes and their gnarled, zippered grin. Pants. Thanks a lot, Santa. I got a pair last year, too. Do you know how many times I've worn them? Zero. You really phoned this one in, didn't you? My Christmas list this year was just a post-it note with "ANYTHING BUT PANTS" scribbled on it in Sharpie. I hate pants and I hate you for being jolly while wearing them.

Before you get upset with me for

yelling at Santa Claus, perhaps I should explain the rationale behind my loathing for legged clothing. Pants, like ResLife, The Berlin Wall and the bouncer at Fever, were created to keep us down. They restrict our movement and crush the human spirit, preventing us from ever fully experiencing the freedom we cherish. Take a second right now and think of the times in your life when you were truly happy. Now think of the times in your life when you were wearing pants. Not much overlap, right? History's greatest heroes were usually barelegged, its greatest villains excessively clad. Did Gandhi wear pants when he led the Indian nation to freedom? No, but Hitler wore a crisp pair when he goose-stepped into Poland in 1939. Did Usain Bolt wear pants when he set the world record in the 100-meter dash in Beijing? No, but the 2.3 million people in prison in the United States were each given a fresh pair upon incarceration. Each morning when I see some poor soul in jeans out on the quad I whisper, "Welcome to Shawshank," and head to the Grotto to light a candle.

At home in Virginia, my friends and I can skirt (or short) the issue for much of the year thanks to the mild climate, but in the depths of winter it's all pants, all the time. I can only imagine the eternal nightmare that unfolds year-round in Alaska. Do you want to know why I voted for Barack Obama? Because he's from Hawaii, a land free from the tyranny of trousers. That, America, is change I can believe in.

Political considerations aside, I'm proud to say that the pants-wearing plague is noticeably less rampant at Notre Dame than it is at other cold

weather locales. It's taken a lot of creativity and courage, but we at Notre Dame have finally figured out how to really stick it to the man. The answer: sweatpants. They're technically still "pants" for accounting purposes, but everyone knows pajamas-in-disguise when they see them. I can move like a cat in those things. They're durable, comfortable and suitable for every occasion. Last night I went to sleep in a pair of sweatpants. Today I went to class, met with a professor, and went out on a date in them. Come to think of it, I haven't taken this pair off in over a week. Showering and changing? Yeah, right! Thanks to sweatpants I'm able to simply hop out of bed and amble on over to DeBartolo every morning in no time.

One might expect the functionality of sweatpants to come at the expense of style, but this is simply not the case. I've been at Notre Dame for three and a half years now and I know high fashion when I see it. Nothing says sexy like the supple softness of sweatpants. They sure go great with a North Face, too. I wish I had a new pair of Uggs into which I could snugly tuck them; then I'd look g-o-o-d...

My advice to you? Wear your sweatpants proudly, Notre Dame. In the war against the oppressive pants regime, they make us frontline freedom fighters.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



caglecartoons.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If living conditions don't stop improving in this country, we're going to run out of humble beginnings for our great men."

Russell P. Askue
artist

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Always forgive your enemies;
nothing annoys them so much"

Oscar Wilde
author

What happened to your rights?

Last year on Sept. 20th, 37 Notre Dame students were arrested at an off campus party in a private residence at 702 E. Colfax Ave, including Notre Dame football players Will Yeatman and Mike Golic Jr. Based on various accounts appearing in the press, there appear to be serious allegations of police misconduct, including unlawful entry, illegally obtained evidence and mistreatment and taunting of these students.

Jeevan Subbiah

Guest Columnist

One of the central issues emerging in wake of the arrests is what fundamental due process rights do Notre Dame students have under these circumstances? Are these fundamental rights protected by provisions in du Lac, the student handbook? For example, if the police illegally obtained evidence during this raid, would the University be able to use such tainted evidence in a disciplinary hearing even though it would otherwise be inadmissible in court under the "exclusionary rule?" What stops the police from repeatedly violating student's rights to obtain evidence if they know the University will use it?

Public universities are obliged by law to grant students 14th Amendment liberty and property due process rights. The United States Supreme Court has ruled that public colleges cannot expel students without proceedings that provide at least minimal due process (Dixon v. Alabama State Board of Education, 1961). The 1975 Supreme

Court case Goss v. Lopez, ruled that students in public universities must be given notice and a hearing at a minimum before being suspended. However, the Supreme Court has not given students the right to be represented by lawyers in hearings for suspensions or to cross examine witnesses and produce evidence. Universities are not required to follow criminal trial procedural requirements in a disciplinary hearing. But some states have added student protections, such as laws allowing lawyers into student discipline hearings. Georgia ruled that all student hearings must be open and that disciplinary hearings are not educational records under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"). Yet Louisiana and Oklahoma had contradictory court decisions on the same matter.

Private universities such as Notre Dame are not required by law to guarantee these same 14th Amendment liberty and property due process rights. They are obliged to adhere to their contractual agreement with students and therefore must follow the disciplinary procedures spelled out in their student handbooks and judicial codes. The lack of guaranteed due process rights at private schools makes the issue of what is written in the du Lac Student Handbook that much more important. Students should compare du Lac's protections, such as the burden of proof for dismissal, or the procedures for witnesses and evidence against the protections guaranteed in the handbooks of other universities.

The 2006 Duke University Lacrosse case brought the issue of student due process rights at a private university into the national spotlight. Bias against the students was exposed in the media, police and university disciplinary system. The 2007 president of the Duke Student Government, Elliott Wolf, wrote an article "Dude, Where're My Rights?" detailing the removal of many student rights from Duke's Judicial code over a nine-year period. Student rights eliminated included the need to find probable cause by a judicial officer, the right to remain silent at a hearing with no inference of guilt, the right to an open hearing if FERPA rights were waived, the right to confront witnesses and the exclusion of evidence obtained illegally through unlawful search and seizure.

It would be interesting to see if similar erosions of student rights have occurred in the du Lac student handbook. Repercussions of the Duke Lacrosse case include lawsuits against Duke University and the city of Durham for claims including harassment, deprivation of civil rights, and breach of contract.

The Duke Lacrosse case due process issues are well detailed in "The Torch," a publication defending student rights, and in a blog titled Durham-in-Wonderland by Professor KC Johnson. In the June 4, 2007 issue of "The Torch," Robert Shibley wrote that Elliott Wolf sent a March 29, 2000 memorandum to Duke's Associate Dean of Students and Director of Judicial Affairs arguing that Duke should not "pursue

judicial action against a student based on evidence collected by law enforcement officers that was illegally obtained." For example, is Notre Dame considering using illegally obtained evidence against those arrested?

Notre Dame students and their parents pay roughly \$160,000 for their expensive education at Notre Dame. Though public school students are guaranteed greater due process rights, any private school can enhance student rights by including them in their student handbook. In this internet age, where a student's reputation and future can be affected for life, the issue of what due process rights are guaranteed is very important. National and state laws on this topic seem to be evolving quickly.

The bottom line for many students, parents and alumni may be that Notre Dame should value and guarantee at least some basic and fundamental due process rights in the du Lac student handbook. Perhaps for Notre Dame, the bottom line may be that students, parents and alumni may start to make their final determination of what university to attend and financially support based on which universities afford basic due process protections for their students.

Jeevan Subbiah is a graduate from Notre Dame Law School ('98) and a former Assistant Rector of Keenan Hall (1996-1998). He can be contacted at jsubbiah@yahoo.com

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Too crowded to enjoy a meal

I often lie on my couch and mutter softly to myself, "I'm just not stressed out enough right now." It happens quite a bit. As I watch endless episodes of "Man vs. Wild" on tv, I sometimes check my pulse and make sure I'm still alive. When I discover that my heart rate is hovering around 15 beats per minute, that's when I know that I need to wander over to South Dining Hall at around 6:30pm. Why 6:30pm? Because that's when South Dining Hall is filled with more people than a Tokyo subway. That's when I look around and see the same look on everyone's face: Kill me now with this dull knife. That's what really gets my heart pumping again. It's a waste of time to talk about the overcrowding of South Dining Hall. The problem is not the current overcrowding; it's the promise that it will get even worse next year.

Many have noticed that the dining hall's

capacity has been stretched with the addition of Duncan Hall. I can't even imagine what it will be like with Ryan Hall next year. So here's some advice for the future Ryan ladies: eat less. I think I'll be able to deal with the massive crowds in the dining hall. I won't be able to deal with lines out the door for the Fro-yo machine. And we all know who eats most of the Fro-yo... In all seriousness, something needs to be done. I'm all for expansion. I'm all for the reduction of overcrowding in the dorms. But for the love of brown sauce, build another dining hall. Give us more flex-points. Make a heated sky bridge from O'Neill to North Dining hall. Anything.

Parker Milender
sophomore
O'Neill Hall
Jan. 26

Seriously?

As we read the Viewpoints in the Jan. 26 Observer, we were disheartened to see how far the quality of the discourse within had fallen. We were particularly distraught by the lack of substance to Ms. Adam's argument in her letter "Our big-eyed bushy-tailed problem" (Jan. 26). Her letter was an attack on the fundamentals of serious academic discussion that have been the hallmark of the Observer. The idealistic tripe contained within her letter is an insult to the intellect of the entire Notre Dame community. From start to finish, Ms. Adam's ideas are offensive and harmful to our community. Her assertion that we should "work with nature, not against it" is exactly what the squirrels want from our leadership. In spite of "daily acts of aggression" and "suicide missions," she has proposed that our leadership appease the squirrels to avoid future conflict. This action would set a dangerous

precedent for future conflicts involving the growing threat from the avian population that has invaded our waters.

As opposed to harboring these militants in our own dwellings, the clear solution is to create a feline task force charged with defending our territory from these aggressors. For this to succeed, we must give them free reign to carry out their duties without unnecessary bureaucracy and oversight. This plan is essential to the safety and well-being of the entire Notre Dame community and should be enacted swiftly to avoid further tragedies.

Erik Helgensen
freshman
Stanford Hall
James Stein
freshman
Zahm Hall
Jan. 26

Missing the point

Dear Mr. Smith,
Even if any hot girls ignored your request and decided to read the entirety of your article ("Uphold Constitution" Jan. 26), I don't think you are in danger of being regarded as an intellectual. In the letter you claim offended you so much ("Objectivity please," Jan. 23), Furtado never even asserts his own opinion on whether the facility at Guantanamo Bay should ultimately be closed. He simply expressed a desire to read about both sides of the issue in The Observer.

Nevertheless, you managed to infer from the letter that the author denies the existence of innocents at Guantanamo, rejects global warming and does not believe in evolution.

Further, you suggest that Furtado is somehow responsible for our failing economy. Surely anyone who does not believe that global warming

is, as you ironically proclaimed, a "cold, sober fact," cannot hold a valid opinion about any important issue. The miniscule portion of your response that was not devoted to defending your "carefully constructed persona" or personally attacking the author still failed to make a convincing argument. The Constitution is in no way being "cavalierly" dispensed of, as only U.S. citizens are afforded its protection. Torture is used to obtain information, not as a deterrent.

I don't blame you for mistakenly asserting that "Even the Nazis got habeas corpus." After all, President Obama made the same claim while campaigning in Pennsylvania last summer. However, the Nazis were not afforded habeas corpus at Nuremberg. The criminals were tried in an international military tribunal, not a U.S. court, an important distinction in itself. More significantly, the Nazis did not have

the right to challenge their detention, which is the very definition of habeas corpus.

It is tragic to hear about innocent people who have been detained at Guantanamo. The torture of innocents is indeed unacceptable. This is the best, and perhaps the only valid point you make in your letter. Unfortunately, you were unable to avoid the "spin and distortion" you so nobly condemned. Although you might personally believe the issue of whether or not to close Guantanamo is not up for debate, there is certainly a discussion to be had.

I, like Furtado, would like to see this discussion take place objectively in The Observer.

Mike Sullivan
junior
Zahm Hall
Jan. 26

So
close ...

yet so
far.

Submit a Letter
to the Editor



SUPER BO

A history of halftimes: Bruce's turn for Super Bowl glory

January is drawing to a close, creeping towards what some fans have awaited for nearly a year: Super Bowl XLIII is about to go down in the history books on Sunday. Many have gone before and attained the glory that some strive for their entire careers. There have been plenty of surprise endings, unexpected follies, and tear-jerking conclusions in past Super Bowls. This year's championship game, however, boasts a lineup that may be considered the best yet — a true display of American spirit and culture.

Patrick Griffin

Scene & Heard

Oh yeah, there will be a football game too.

In recent years, the buzz surrounding Super Bowl halftime shows has enveloped the nation with anticipation that rivals the game itself. The NFL championship event has blossomed from more than just a football game into an entire cultural event and an American pseudo-holiday.

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band were selected to perform for Super Bowl XLIII earlier in the season. Before previewing The Boss's highly anticipated

performance, let's reminisce a grip on Super Bowl performances in recent memory.

2002: Irish rockers and humanitarians Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton and Larry Mullen Jr., a.k.a. U2, produced one of the most emotional musical performances of all, taking place only months after the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The stage on which U2 performed was shaped like a heart and flanked by a giant banner displaying the names of the nearly 3,000 citizens who were victims of the attacks.

2004: Who can ever forget the infamous and controversial "Nipplegate" of Super Bowl XXXVIII? Though the halftime show featured six prolific performing artists (Jessica Simpson, Janet Jackson, Justin Timberlake, Nelly, P. Diddy and Kid Rock) and the University of Houston and Texas Southern marching bands, the entire presentation pales in comparison to the final seconds of the performance. In a pre-rehearsed conclusion to Timberlake's "Rock Your Body," a piece of Jackson's clothing was torn off, but the wardrobe malfunctioned, reveal-

ing her exposed breast. The lewd stunt generated uproar among the American public, heavy fines levied by the FCC, and tighter regulation regarding broadcasting delays and censorship.

2005: Former Beatle Paul McCartney brought excitement to the Super Bowl crowd with a set list including the hits "Drive My Car," "Get Back," "Live and Let Die" and "Hey Jude" as the audience joined in for a collaborative finale.

2006: During the 2006 Super Bowl, the Rolling Stones earned one of the largest television viewing audiences in history, drawing 89.9 million viewers. That total was more than the Oscars, Grammys and Emmy Awards combined. The Stones played "Start Me Up," "Rough Justice" and "Satisfaction" on a custom stage (the largest in Super Bowl history) in the form of their signature tongue logo.

2007: Despite a heavy downpour in Miami, Prince lit up Dolphin Stadium at Super Bowl XLI performing a nonstop 12-minute medley. The performance included several sweeping guitar solos and was performed on a stage in the form of Prince's logo.

2008: Tom Petty & the Heart

Breakers performed on a stage shaped like a heart pierced by a Flying V guitar. Petty's set included "American Girl," "I Won't Back Down," "Free Falling" and "Running Down a Dream."

So, what will Bruce "The Boss" Springsteen and his E Street Band offer on this Super Bowl Sunday? What shape will his stage take? Will he avoid a derailing wardrobe malfunction? Following a string of creative and memorable performances, expectations are high for an innovative performance. Fresh off the release of his new album "Working on a Dream," Springsteen will have plenty of new material to choose from. However, one would assume that he will surely include some of his classic hits that some regard as timeless and legendary anthems. Tune in Sunday night to witness Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band go down in Super Bowl halftime show history.

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

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Planning your Super Bowl party

The success of throwing a good Super Bowl party is all about the pre-gaming. By planning your party to watch the game before Sunday morning, you can make sure to have a great Super Bowl, no matter who wins.

Martha Karam

Scene & Heard

First step? Regardless of whether or not you're throwing or attending a party, you better know who is playing this year. It is the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Arizona Cardinals.

Now, use this checklist to make sure that when you and your friends watch the Super Bowl it is not just a watch, it is a party.

1. Chose your guest list wisely. If you know one of your friends thinks sport watching is serious business, try not to invite him if uses the couch as a trampoline at every touchdown. If your best friend is die-hard football fan from Arizona, your outspoken boyfriend from Pittsburgh should stay with

his friends the night of the game.

2. Find, or make, a comfortable place to watch the game. It may be difficult to find a section lounge or 24-hour space that is free to watch the game, so make your own place. Most dorm rooms can hold you and a few of your friends comfortably as long as you rearrange your room. Even if for the duration of the game you cannot get into your bed, desk, sink or dresser, if it means fitting your friends comfortably, by all means stack, push and crunch your bulk together to get a common-room feel in your double. Also set up a trash bag in a central location in your room to make the clean up easier.

3. Feast and drink well. Though a dorm kitchen and the section microwave are probably not capable of making Super Bowl snacks up to your standards, they both can come close. The food you chose to be at your Super Bowl party needs to be inexpensive, easy and as mess-free as possible. A traditional option is mini-wee-

nies, but they will be your option because their only requirements are toothpicks and a microwave. Another dorm option that is often featured at weeknight events is a chip and dip tray. The Huddle sells several different ready-to-eat dips and tortilla chips. If all else fails and you have nothing by Sunday, picking up buffalo wings from Buffalo Wild Wings or Wings Etc. passes as authentic Super Bowl food, not procrastination. When choosing beverage, cater to your guests with sugar-free options and cups for water.

Buy more napkins than you think is necessary and miniature plates to keep everything tidy and limit your post-game clean up.

4. Set your TiVo. Most college students cannot afford to have a digital video recorder and skipping commercials during the Super Bowl is sacrilege, but this year's game promises to be as memorable as years past. With confirmed guests such as Jennifer Hudson, Bruce Springsteen and

the E Street Band and John Elway, even after this Sunday the game can provide long lasting entertainment as memorable as the infamous wardrobe malfunction.

5. As a host, stay neutral. Try not to make your guests uncomfortable by covering your door in Steelers or Cardinals gear or by attacking your opposing team. It will make your guests wish they had gone to the party down the hall.

The key to having fun at any Super Bowl game is to find out what you love about the game and go with it. Whether you're having the party for the food, friends, or just a study break, stick with these guidelines and you'll have a good time.

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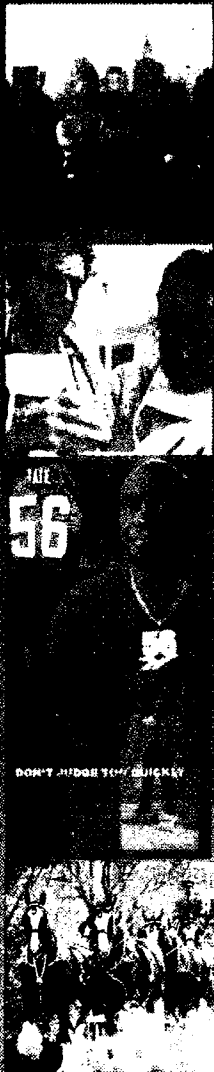
Contact Martha Karam at mkaram2@nd.edu

SUPER
XLI

WV XLIII



Best Modern Super Bowl Commercials



5. Coke - "Parade Balloons" (2008)

Who doesn't remember the first time they saw parade balloon versions of Underdog and "Family Guy's" Stewie duke it out for a mammoth-sized Coca-Cola? A gem of a commercial set against the backdrop of New York City's skyline, this crowd-pleaser may very well be the only time Charlie Brown has ever won at anything, and for that, hats off to Coca-Cola.

4. E*Trade - "Money Up the Wazzoo" (2000)

A man gets hurried to the hospital only to be diagnosed with a case of "money coming out the wazzoo." Sounds like a winner to me. In a year wrought with terrible dot-com commercials, E*Trade set itself apart from the pack with not one but two commercials worthy of laughs, the better of which was this hilarious spot.

3. Reebok - "Terry Tate Office Linebacker" (2003)

It's basically thirty seconds of linebacker Terry Tate going around an office handing out bone-crunching tackles like they're free samples at a supermarket. He tosses workers into desks, goes head first into them, and more often than not, simply comes out of nowhere to give these average office workers the worst pain of their lives. But what really makes this commercial great is the inspirational advice he provides after putting each worker into a coma. Now that's a team leader.

2. Ameritrust - "Murdering A Cat" (2005)

A man hurrying to make dinner spills tomato sauce all over the floor and then picks up his girlfriend's tomato-soaked cat just as she walks in the door. What does she see? Red all over the floor and the cat and a large knife in her boyfriend's hand. This laugh-out-loud funny commercial was the second in a series of similar "don't judge too quickly" commercials put out by Ameritrust, but remains the best of the group by far.

1. Budweiser - "Respect" (2002)

The truly emotional Superbowl commercial of the 21st century, this touching ad features the Budweiser Clydesdales walking across the Brooklyn Bridge before stopping to take a knee before the New York City skyline where the World Trade Center stood only months before. It's more than an ad, it's Bud's way of putting aside selling beer for a moment to look back in silence at 9/11.

The Steeler Nation X

With Super Bowl XLIII quickly approaching, football fever is mounting. Of course, for Pittsburgh fans, football fever is more like multidrug-resistant typhoid. Few teams boast a tradition as long and strong as the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Josef Kuhn

Scene & Heard

I cannot attest to the vivacity of the Cardinals' fan base, but as a Pittsburgh resident I feel that it is my duty to impart to the masses a little bit of Steelers fan culture in preparation for the Super Bowl.

The Pittsburgh Steelers, established in 1933, are the oldest franchise in the AFC. They are one of only three teams in the NFL to have won five Super Bowls, and this year they will have the chance to become the first team ever to win six. In the 2005 season, the Steelers were the first No. 6-seeded team in NFL history to go to a conference championship. As if that wasn't enough, they won the game and then went on to win Super Bowl XL.

The team included quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, Super Bowl MVP receiver Hines Ward, and legendary running back Jerome "The

Bus" Bettis. Roethlisberger was only in his second professional season when he became the youngest quarterback ever to win a Super Bowl.

Despite this impressive offensive lineup, the cornerstone of the Steelers has traditionally been their defense. During their 1970s dynasty, when they won four Super Bowls in six consecutive years, the Steelers' famous defensive line earned the nickname "the Steel Curtain." This moniker stuck and eventually came to designate the whole defensive squad. The current team is no exception to the rule, having the No. 1 defense in the NFL.

But their fans make them special.

In 2008, ESPN.com ranked Steelers' fans as the best in the NFL based on their "unbelievable" sellout streak — they have sold out every home game since 1972. Both the Steelers and the Pittsburgh Pirates used to play at Three Rivers Stadium, named for the three rivers that converge in the center of the city. However, Three Rivers was demolished in 2001 and the Steelers now play at the beautiful Heinz Field. Named for the famous condiment company based in Pittsburgh, the stadium

features Homer Simpson-yellow seats and an open end that looks out onto the rivers and the Pittsburgh skyline. The 96-foot JumboTron is crowned by two giant light-up ketchup bottles that tilt and pour red ooze down the screen whenever the Steelers score.

Another fixture of the Steelers franchise is the Terrible Towel.

It was conceived in 1975 by Myron Cope, the legendary broadcaster who used to announce Steelers games on the radio. The Terrible Towel is a simple device, consisting of a school-bus yellow towel with "Terrible Towel" printed on it in black lettering, but when 65,050 of these towels are gathered together, the results can be deadly for the opposing team.

Just think of the loudest noise you've ever heard, multiply that by ten, and combine it with a veritable ocean of whirling yellow cloth — that's what the Steelers are greeted by every time they take the field. And who could talk about Heinz Field without reference to the food? Primanti Brothers, a local restaurant chain, has stands throughout the stadium. Their sandwiches are a Pittsburgh tradition, consisting of your choice of meat, cheese, tomato, coleslaw,

and French fries, all between two pieces of Italian bread.

According to legend, the Primanti Brothers sandwich was invented back in Pittsburgh's steel mill days. Mill workers ("steelers" — that's where the name comes from) would come into the restaurant for lunch, but they didn't have enough time to sit down and eat with proper utensils. Instead, the cooks put the side dishes right on the sandwiches for them, so they could take it to go and eat with their hands. It may sound gross, but so does peanut butter to most Europeans.

All of this is only basic knowledge to your average Steelers fans. There is much more I could tell you, but this should be enough to give you an idea of what this team means to thousands of people across the nation. At least when you're watching the Super Bowl you'll know what all those yellow things are flying through the air.

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

Contact Josef Kuhn at jkuhn1@nd.edu

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Women's semifinals becoming Russian affair

Dementieva's victory means at least three Russians are in semis; Roddick avenges U.S. Open loss to Djokovic

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Elena Dementieva got off to a fast start as temperatures soared Wednesday, advancing to the Australian Open semifinals with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Carla Suarez Navarro.

The Olympic gold medalist wasted no time as temperatures hit 104 degrees, winning 16 of the first 18 points against the 20-year-old Spaniard.

She raced through the first five games in 22 minutes and, after eventually holding serve in a sixth game that went to deuce 11 times and lasted 17 minutes, finished off in 1 hour, 35 minutes.

Dementieva was having problems with her high service toss as she looked straight up into the midday sun, double-faulting four times in that long game. She finished with 10 double faults.

Both players were soon draping towels packed with ice around their necks during changeovers and sought shade as long as possible behind the baselines between points.

Suarez Navarro, who had an upset second-round win

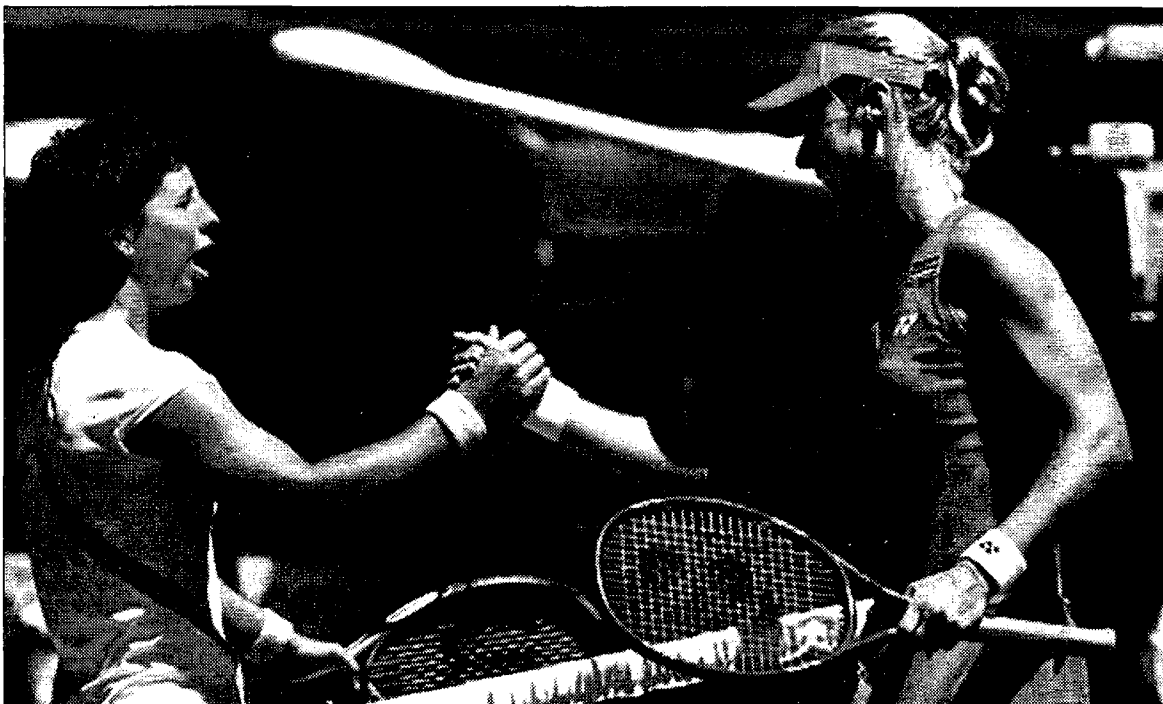
over seven-time Grand Slam winner Venus Williams, tied her best run at a major — her quarterfinal debut at the last French Open.

Fourth-seeded Dementieva had never

gone past the fourth round in 10 previous trips to Australia. Now she's only one win from reaching a third Grand Slam final. The 27-year-old Russian lost the French and U.S. Open finals in 2004.

She'll play the winner of Wednesday's later quarterfinal that features the only two major winners remaining in the draw.

Serena Williams, who has nine Grand Slam singles



Russia's Elena Dementieva shakes hands with Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro after winning their Australian Open quarterfinal match Wednesday.

titles including one in Australia every alternate year since 2003, takes on 2004 U.S. Open winner Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Already set is an all-Russian semifinal between Olympic silver medalist

Dinara Safina and Vera Zvonareva, who ran off the last 11 games to rout 2007 Wimbledon finalist Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-0.

No. 3 Safina overcome 11 double faults and 36 unforced errors to end the surprising run of Jelena Dokic 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

Andy Roddick continued his roll, reaching the semifinals in Australia to go with his previous runs to the final four at Melbourne in 2003, '05 and '07.

He got there courtesy of defending champion Novak Djokovic, who retired Tuesday while trailing 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-2, 2-1. A sore, cramping and fatigued Djokovic was undone in the quarterfinal by 95 degree heat.

Roddick wants to go a step further but has one problem: Roger Federer.

Federer routed Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina 6-3, 6-0, 6-0 in his quarterfinal and is only two wins shy of tying Pete Sampras' record of 14 major titles.

Roddick has not beaten Federer in six Grand Slam meetings and is 2-15 career

against the Swiss star. He has reason for encouragement though. He ended an 11-match losing stretch to Federer last April in Miami.

"You're dealing with a guy who's probably the greatest ever," said Roddick, whose only major title came at the 2003 U.S. Open. "I think it helps that I stopped a big streak against him last year in Miami. It's certainly not going to hurt at all."

No. 2 Federer swept the last 13 games and eliminating the eighth-seeded against del Potro in 80 minutes.

Federer lost to Djokovic in the Australian semis last year, when he was struggling with mononucleosis that lingered until midyear.

Rafael Nadal, who beat Federer in the French Open and Wimbledon finals and then overtook him at No. 1, plays No. 6 Gilles Simon of France in the quarterfinals later Wednesday.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who upset Nadal in the semis here last year before losing the final to Djokovic, faces Spanish Davis Cup winner Fernando Verdasco.



Serbia's Novak Djokovic receives medical treatment during his quarterfinal clash with American Andy Roddick. Djokovic had to retire from the match due to heat stress.

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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), located at Notre Dame, is looking for volunteers. If you would enjoy spending 2 hours per week reading to preschool children, building with blocks and playing games, please attend one of the Volunteer Sign-Up Sessions on either Thursday, 1/29 or Friday 1/30 from 3:00-5:00. Volunteering at ECDC is a wonderful opportunity to support the development of delightful children and is an excellent addition to your resume. ECDC-ND is located on the ND campus on Bulla Road, across from O'Hara Grace Residences at the corner of Leahy and Bulla. For more information please call 631-3344 or www.nd.edu/~eccdnd

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Remaining ND basketball schedule and expert predictions:

- at Pittsburgh... L
- at Cincinnati... W
- at UCLA... W
- Louisville... W
- South Florida... W
- at West Virginia... L
- at Providence... W
- Rutgers... W
- at Connecticut... L
- Villanova... W
- St. John's... W
- Final Record: 20-10 (10-8 Big East)

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

Preseason USA TODAY/ESPN NCAA Baseball Coaches' Poll

team	points	2008 record
1 LSU (14)	738	49-19-1
2 North Carolina(12)	737	54-14-0
3 Rice (1)	673	47-15-0
4 Georgia	600	45-25-1
5 Texas A&M (2)	590	46-19-0
6 Stanford (1)	576	41-24-0
7 Arizona St.	533	49-13-0
8 Cal St. Fullerton	507	41-22-0
9 Florida St.	500	54-14-0
10 Texas	500	39-22-0
11 Mississippi	431	39-26-0
12 Georgia Tech	327	41-21-0
13 Oklahoma St.	321	44-18-0
14 Miami (Fla.)	320	53-11-0
15 San Diego	304	44-17-0
16 Louisville	292	41-21-0
17 Baylor	269	32-26-0
18 UC Irvine	262	42-18-0
19 Fresno St.	247	47-31-0
20 Missouri	224	39-21-0
21 Pepperdine	156	38-21-0
22 UCLA	140	33-27-0
23 Florida	112	34-24-0
24 Coastal Carolina	102	50-14-0
25 Clemson	20	31-27-1

USCHO/CBS College Sports Division I Men's Hockey

team	points	record
1 NOTRE DAME (37)	987	19-3-3
2 Boston U. (13)	963	18-5-1
3 Northeastern	867	17-5-2
4 Cornell	831	14-2-3
5 Minnesota	791	12-5-5
6 Vermont	716	14-5-4
7 Denver	696	15-7-3
8 Michigan	692	18-8-0
9 Princeton	582	13-5-0
10 Miami (Ohio)	553	14-8-4
11 Boston College	450	11-8-3
12 North Dakota	432	15-10-3
13 New Hampshire	353	11-8-4
14 Ohio St.	347	16-7-3
15 Wisconsin	279	13-10-3
16 Minn. Duluth	271	13-7-6
17 Colorado Col.	244	13-9-6
18 Yale	158	13-5-1
19 Air Force	97	17-6-1
20 Dartmouth	67	10-7-2

Men's USFCA College Fencing Coaches' Poll

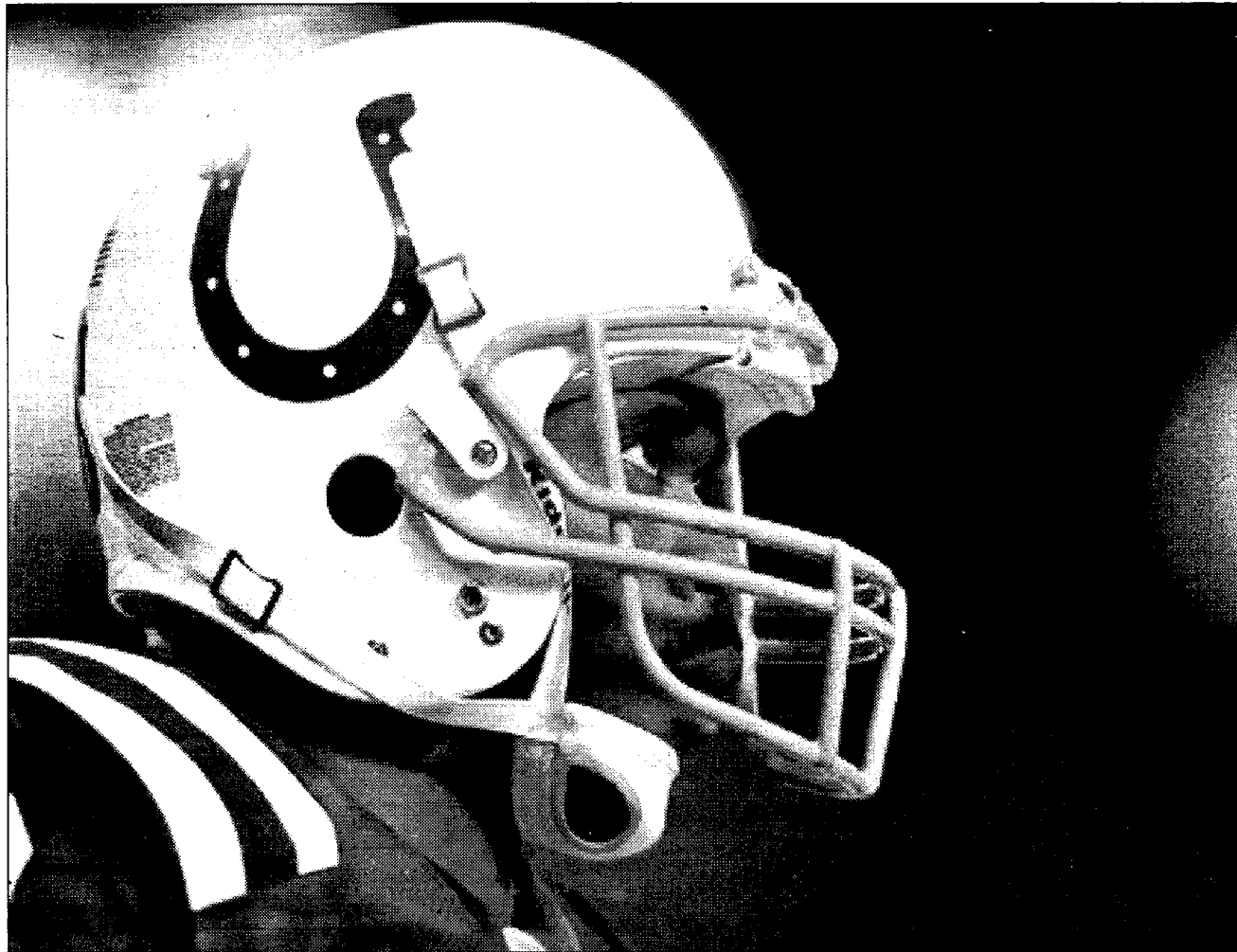
team	points
1 Penn St.	10
2 NOTRE DAME	10
3 Ohio St.	8
4 Columbia	7
5 Princeton	6
6 Penn	5
7 Harvard	4
8 Stanford	4
9 St. John's (N.Y.)	2
10 Duke	1
11 North Carolina	1

around the dial

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL
Duke at Wake Forest
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NBA Basketball
Golden State at Dallas
9:00 p.m., ESPN

NFL



Marvin Harrison look up at the scoreboard during the Colts' Dec. 28 game against Tennessee. Dwight Dixon, the man who was recently shot by a gun owned by Harrison, is on trial for lying to the police.

Man shot by Harrison's gun on trial

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A Philadelphia man shot with a gun owned by Colts receiver Marvin Harrison is headed to trial Wednesday, accused of lying to police.

Dwight Dixon is scheduled to appear in a Philadelphia municipal court on a charge of making false sworn statements.

Dixon initially told police he was shot during a robbery but later accused Harrison of shooting him. Dixon's attorney, Robert Gamburg, said Dixon did not immediately identify Harrison because he was afraid of him.

Gamburg added Dixon

was denied access to his attorney after being shot and spoke under duress.

"I'm shocked that the DA is going forward with it," Gamburg said.

The Philadelphia District Attorney's office declined to comment Tuesday, and calls to Harrison's attorney, Jerome Brown, were not immediately returned.

The shooting last April happened near a North Philadelphia car wash owned by the All-Pro receiver that is about a half mile from Playmakers, a bar he also owns.

According to an arrest report dated April 30, 2008, Dixon was interviewed by police officers at a hospital

after being shot and identified himself as Malik Tucker. Dixon told police he had been robbed by two men and was shot during a struggle for a gun, the report said. Dixon later told other officers his real name and signed conflicting statements about where and how he was shot.

Joseph Santiguida, an attorney who represented Dixon in a previous criminal matter, said he went to the hospital immediately after Dixon called and said he'd been shot.

"I walk into his room and Dwight whispers to me, 'Marvin Harrison shot me,'" said Santiguida, who will testify as a witness Wednesday. "He didn't know what to do.

He was worried about saying anything because of retribution if word got out and people thought he was a rat. It's a street thing."

When detectives entered the room to interview Dixon, Santiguida said he told police that Dixon did not want to talk.

Santiguida said he and the officers got into an argument, that police had hospital personnel order him to leave and then questioned Dixon.

The 32-year-old Dixon said he sustained "serious and permanent injuries" to his arm and body and a "severe shock" to his nervous system and filed suit last September against Harrison.

IN BRIEF

A.C. Milan negotiates to resign Beckham after loan

MILAN, Italy — AC Milan plans to meet with David Beckham's agents to see if the former England captain can get out of his contract with the Los Angeles Galaxy and stay with the Serie A club.

"If Beckham reaches an agreement with the Galaxy, we are prepared to pay a fee," Milan vice president Adriano Galliani said Tuesday. "We will meet with his representatives in the next few days."

Beckham is on a two-month loan from the Galaxy and is due to return to Major League Soccer on March 9.

The former Manchester United and Real Madrid player scored his first goal for Milan in Sunday's 4-1 victory over Bologna.

"If he decides to free himself and wants to (stay), we will welcome him with open arms, but he belongs to another club and we've got to thank them because they were very kind with us," Galliani said, according to the Gazzetta dello Sport Web site.

Rex Sox set deadline for resigning catcher Varitek

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox have given catcher Jason Varitek until Friday to accept or reject a one-year, \$5 million contract offer with options for 2010.

A person familiar with the negotiations said Tuesday the Red Sox, who begin spring training on Feb. 12, want an answer by Friday. The person disclosed the deadline and details of the offer on condition of anonymity because the team does not publicly discuss negotiations.

The Boston Herald and Boston Globe reported earlier the offer was \$5 million for 2009 with player and club options for 2010.

Varitek, who turns 37 on April 11, is coming off the worst of his 11 seasons with the Red Sox. In 131 games, he hit .220 with 13 homers and 43 RBIs.

Former All-Star Casey to retire after 12 seasons

CINCINNATI — During his 12-year career, Sean Casey's most endearing trait became his most enduring.

Fellow major leaguers dubbed him "The Mayor" because he seemed to know everyone he met. He chatted up runners at first base, making the game's luminaries smile by respectfully calling them "Mr." before offering a compliment.

When he retired on Tuesday to move into broadcasting — a career that fits his gift for gab — the 34-year-old Casey remained proud of his reputation as baseball's Mr. Congeniality.

"It means a lot to me if I'm looked at as a good guy in the game and a pretty good player," said Casey, who is joining the fledgling MLB Network as a studio analyst. "It's a nice combination."

NFL

James has unique way of keeping his edge

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — What to make of an NFL running back who looks fitter the longer his career stretches out and fresher the more hits he absorbs?

Consider "The Curious Case of Edgerrin James."

One look at the Arizona Cardinals' 30-year-old running back, on paper or in person, would make you think he has a nutritionist whipping up every meal, a personal trainer following him around and a team of health professionals on 24-hour call. Not even close.

James boasts the same lean, sculpted muscles, gaudy stats and durability that were the hallmarks of many of pro football's best all-purpose backs. But the story of how he came by those things — and how "The Edge" stays razor-sharp a decade after leaving college early and winning the rushing title in his rookie year with the Indianapolis Colts — does not include the usual cast of characters.

More often than not, James' offseason workout partners in the Miami area are crackheads. He makes no bones or excuses about it. James grew up in Immokalee, a town of 20,000 some three hours south of where the Super Bowl will be played Sunday, in a family with several addicts. He spent backbreaking summers working alongside several more, harvesting watermelons at \$20 a truckload.

James said a few years ago that's why, when he showed up at the University of Miami to begin his college career, "I was hardened in every way." Besides, when you do your best conditioning work at 3 a.m., as he has been doing ever since college, pickings can be slim.

"You find some interesting people at that hour," James said, "and they're plenty happy for the chance to make a few bucks."

Running with crackheads? Makes sense, maybe. Having

them spot you while bench-pressing a 400-pound barbell? Not so much.

But James laughed off the idea that could be dangerous. "Everybody knows me because I'm around so much. ... Racking weights, spotting me, doing the things I need is not a problem."

Neither, apparently is finding a meal at that hour.

Toward the end of his appearance at media day, a reporter from a children's TV network asked James to list what comprised his own nutritional game-day breakfast as a way of getting viewers off to a healthy start each morning.

"Uhhh, I don't eat breakfast," he began. But trying to be helpful, James added a moment later, "But I like to have a nice late-night meal."

That erratic schedule, coupled with all the punishment a feature back like James takes, is hardly the only reason many people doubted he'd last this long. More than a few thought James was done when he left the Colts the season before they won the Super Bowl. And his critics note he was so lightly used in the second half of the season, being benched after losing the starting job to rookie Tim Hightower, that James' resurgence in the regular-season finale against Seattle, and in playoff wins over Charlotte and Philadelphia, should have come as no surprise.

What all of them underestimated was his desire.

Because of his contributions over seven seasons in Indianapolis, the Colts sent him a Super Bowl ring after their win in 2006. He accepted it gratefully, but would rather have one he earned on his own.

"You've tried to put yourself in a position to be in games like this, and it didn't happen. It's not that I didn't do something, or that I didn't work hard enough, or that I didn't put up enough numbers. It's just," James said, pausing, "that everything has to work out."

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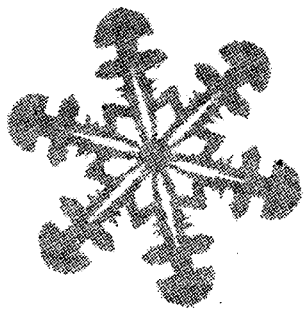
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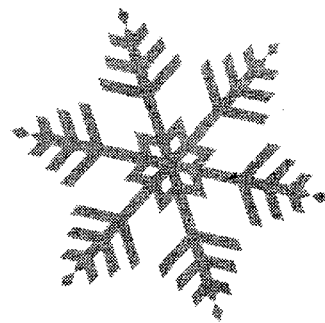
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NFL

God suddenly in vogue with football players

No longer just Warner, Cardinals and Steelers players alike profess their faith ahead of Sunday's big game

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Arizona running back Tim Hightower had just finished a thoughtful explanation of his religious beliefs when one of the media types who found their way into the Super Bowl stadium Tuesday decided he needed more proof.

"Can you pray right now?" he asked.

"I can pray that whatever is going on in your life right now that you find God," Hightower said.

Hightower handled the question with the same ease he handled would-be tacklers to score the winning touchdown that got his team into the Super Bowl, which by itself was somewhat surprising since he is a rookie on the biggest stage of his young life.

Even more surprising at this Super Bowl, though, is how so many players on both teams aren't hesitating to invoke the name of God as they prepare to play a violent game where there will be no mercy shown on either side.

Usually that has writers setting down their pens and cameramen hitting the pause button until talk returns to the game itself.

But the depth of convictions from evangelical Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner to the Steelers who will do their best to plant him face-first into the ground on Sunday has put religion squarely in play this week. All of a sudden the G-word is in vogue.

"You just have to embrace it, whatever God does in your life and wherever he puts you," Warner said in one of his many religious references since landing in Tampa. "If it means being a role model in this game, I'm happy to do that. You are excited about that opportunity because you get the chance to speak to millions of people and, hopefully, we'll get an opportunity to impact some lives this week."

Warner is the most vocal — and visible — Christian on the Cardinals, proclaiming his faith at every opportunity and underscoring it by carrying a Bible with him almost everywhere he goes. He had it with him at the postgame press conference after Arizona upset Philadelphia to reach the Super Bowl, and took time to credit his faith in God for the win before answering any other questions.

The 37-year-old Warner's public display of faith has left an impression on his younger teammates, about 20 of whom join him in Bible studies after practice every Wednesday during the season.

"Our quarterback is a definite leader and devout Christian," cornerback Roderick Hood said. "I think that has spearheaded our growth. Also, guys see the peace we have on the field and want to find that themselves."

Hood says he prays before every game, after every game and during the game itself. Lest Pittsburgh fans get the wrong idea, though, he says he prays for everyone to be safe and not for any particular team to win.

The Steelers aren't as public about their religious beliefs, but many consider themselves devout Christians and can sometimes be seen in locker rooms or on airplanes reading their Bibles. Safety Troy Polamalu brings teammates to services at his Eastern Orthodox Christian church, while running back Willie Parker leaned on his

faith to come back from injuries this season, praying that he would be 100 percent physically and able to produce.

Defensive lineman Aaron Smith found comfort in his beliefs when his young son was diagnosed with leukemia.

"It's really through the Lord's strength that I've been able to cope with this," Smith said.

Compared to that, crediting God for helping on the field seems almost trite, though that doesn't stop athletes from doing it all the time. Football players tend

to do it more often than others, perhaps because they could be permanently injured on almost any play. But there are baseball players who point to the sky every time they touch home plate and golfers who believe that God gave them the peace within to win major championships.

A poll last summer by the Pew Research Center Forum on Religion and Public Life revealed that 92 percent of Americans believe in some form of God, while 78 percent identify themselves as Christians. And while they express some concern about

the mixing of politics and religion, there has never been much outcry about players from both teams gathering after a football game to kneel together in prayer.

Expect plenty of those prayers before and after Sunday's game from plenty of different players. Expect to see Warner with a Bible in hand as soon as he's done throwing a football with it.

And don't expect to hear him shout right away that he's going to Disneyland if the Cardinals win.

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Coordinated by:

Rutgers

continued from page 24

games, needed Tuesday. How could they possibly not need it? Life gets no easier from here — four of Notre Dame's next five Big East opponents have records of .500 or better in conference play, and after that stretch, the Irish travel to play No. 1 Connecticut.

The easy way to put it is, lots of things went wrong, but they were the same things that have gone wrong before. Notre Dame shot bricks once again in the first half, much like it did in the loss to Villanova Saturday. The Irish made 7-of-25 shots in the first half; they made 6-of-24 against the Wildcats.

The Irish were 4-of-22 from 3-point range. Freshman forward Kellie Watson's 0-for-8 performance was an outlier, but so were the three 3-pointers in the final 1:27 that made the score a lot closer than the game was.

"We're a guard-oriented team, so if the perimeter's not working, we're not going to win," McGraw said.

Three-point defense has haunted the Irish for the better part of three seasons, and their zone defense allowed the Scarlet Knights to make four threes in the first 5:16. Rutgers guard Brittany Ray made four en route to 26 points on the night.

It doesn't help that Scarlet Knights leading scorer Epiphanny Prince made all 12 of her free throws, scored 24 points and had nine rebounds when Notre Dame's intention was to make sure it knew where she was.

"[It] was mostly just a lack of awareness and effort," McGraw said. "[Prince and Ray] were the

two we wanted to guard. We guarded the other ones pretty well, but we left the best ones open."

Ray did as she pleased with the defense. She shot over the zone, and when the Irish switched to a box-and-one zone and had junior guard Melissa Lechlitner shadow her, Ray used her teammates' screens to get free and drive the lane.

"When I hit that first shot it felt good, and it gave me the confidence to shoot more," Ray said.

The Scarlet Knights' post players also did what they wanted. McGraw said before the game rebounds would decide it, and Rutgers' 10-board advantage certainly helped fuel their transition game and keep the Irish from second chances.

"[It] was mostly just a lack of awareness and effort ... We guarded the other ones pretty well, but we left the best ones open."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

"They did what they wanted to do," McGraw said. "That's probably the most disappointing part."

Notre Dame didn't hit a field goal until 10:23 remaining in the first half, when freshman guard Natalie Novosel made a layup. By that time the score was 17-6; Rutgers had a 17-0, six-minute run to put it ahead. Notre Dame's sloppy shooting never let it get closer than seven the rest of the way.

Some of those shots hit nothing but backboard, and more than a few airballed. McGraw said some of it had to do with shot selection, and junior guard Ashley Barlow said the team needed to regain its confidence. Whatever the cause, McGraw is right: a guard-oriented team can't afford to shoot poorly.

Rutgers shot poorly in the first half as well. So what did it do? Score 22 points in the paint and shoot 50 percent from the field in the second half. The Scarlet Knights dug themselves out of it. Notre Dame needs to learn how and regain its confidence.

That, and stop the three. The box-and-one worked — Ray didn't make a three in the second half. Force the shooters to drive the lane. In fact, give them no other option. Get right up in their faces until they're itching to blow past you.

The threes aren't falling on offense? Feed inside to the taller forwards or centers, or drive the ball, like Novosel did Tuesday. She finished with 19 points on 7-for-11 shooting, made a few layups and drew three fouls driving the lane. She knew what would help the offense score.

"I tried to take advantage of the first step and attack the basket," she said. "Penetrating and creating more opportunities in transition will help our shooting."

Such wisdom for a freshman.

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

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NHL

Nash's hat tricks propels Blue Jackets past Wings

Sabres crack double-digits in rout of Oilers

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Rick Nash has been through all the bad times with the Columbus Blue Jackets. No one is enjoying the good times more.

Nash's third goal of the game came on a rebound 3:27 into overtime and gave the Blue Jackets a 3-2 victory over the Detroit Red Wings on Tuesday night. The win kept the surprising Blue Jackets in the thick of the race for their first playoff berth.

"All the moments have felt real," Nash said after bumping up his scoring total to 22 goals. "We've been on 10-game losing streaks. They've felt pretty real too. This is a lot better."

Nash's goals came short-handed, on the power play and, finally, even strength.

"He, more than anyone, recognizes the opportunity in front of us and he sent the other players a clear message," Columbus coach Ken Hitchcock said. "He wants to finish the job and make a run for this thing. ... Rick's able to start at a high pace and others are able to tag along. And that's what leaders are able to do."

The Red Wings were without stars Nicklas Lidstrom and Pavel Datsyuk, who were forced by the NHL to sit out their first game back after the break for not fulfilling their obligations at the All-Star Game. Henrik Zetterberg didn't play after the second period because of back spasms.

In the overtime, Nash carried the puck into the zone before passing to Fedor Tyutin who tossed a centering pass through the crease to fellow defenseman Mike Commodore. But Commodore could only kick at the puck with his skate and never got a stick on it. It bounced to the right corner of the goal cage

where Nash was waiting to jam it in.

"It's special. Everything kind of came together against one of the best teams in the league," Nash said. "To win it in overtime, sudden death, it was definitely one of the more special goals I've scored."

It was the former NHL goal-scoring leader's third career hat trick.

"Well, he's awesome," Commodore said of Nash. "He's a special player. To be his size and with his hands, to be able to protect the puck and turn and make plays — I wish I had a quarter of his talent."

Marian Hossa and Brett Lebda had Detroit's goals.

Commodore finished with two assists for the Blue Jackets, who were returning home after playing nine of 12 on the road. Now they play 15 of their next 24 at home where they are 14-7-1, including winning four of the last five and nine of 11.

Down 1-0 and 2-1, the Blue Jackets pulled even twice in the second period.

The Red Wings were on the power play when Nash got a stick on Derek Meech's pass for Brian Rafalski near the blue line. Nash beat them to the puck and skated in on goaltender Chris Osgood, beating him through the leg pads for the short-handed goal.

"He's a good hockey player. It's kind of like Pav and Z, your best player has got to be your best player. That's why you pay them all the money. If they're not your best players, you don't win," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "I don't think anybody's surprised. Everyone knows Nash is a real good player."

Just 29 seconds later, the Wings counterpunched. The Blue Jackets failed to clear the puck and Lebda made them pay for it when his hard slap shot from the point got past Columbus goaltender Steve Mason, who finished with 21 saves.

Hossa then was called for hooking Nash. The Blue Jackets, last in the league on the power play, wasted little time with Nash taking a pass from Kristian Huselius and, from a hard angle, firing a shot that deflected off Rafalski's stick and popped behind Osgood and into the net to tie it at 2-all.

On the power play, Zetterberg

passed to Niklas Kronwall for a one-timer from the point in the opening period. The shot was right of the goal cage but took a big bounce off the back boards — directly to Hossa who was at the right doorstep. He jammed it in for his 23rd of the year.

Mason has had a huge year in goal for the Blue Jackets, helping to transform a bad team into a contender. But he said it's been a treat just to be around Nash, the club's captain.

"He's a world-class player," Mason said. "It's pretty fun watching him every single night, seeing some of the things he does. Tonight was just like any other night for him."

Sabres 10, Oilers 2

Drew Stafford scored his first of three goals 10 seconds into the Buffalo Sabres' rout of Edmonton on Tuesday night, the Oilers worst home loss.

Thomas Vanek and Derek Roy had a goal and two assists apiece for the Sabres, who also got goals from Nathan Paetsch, Jochen Hecht, Jaroslav Spacek and Tim Connolly with a pair.

Buffalo (25-18-5) has won four of five and eight of 11 games.

Erik Cole and Robert Nilsson tallied for the Oilers, who snapped a three-game winning streak. The loss on home ice eclipsed a 9-2 defeat to Chicago earlier this season.

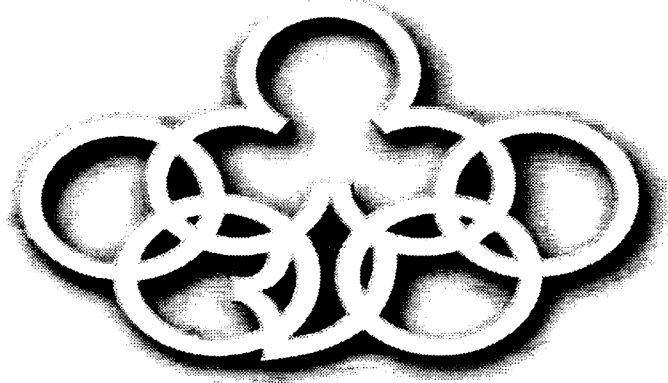
Edmonton had a disastrous start to the game as a mix-up between Lubomir Visnovsky and Ales Hemsley led to a goal just 10 seconds in. Vanek picked up the errant puck and fed Stafford who beat Oilers starter Dwayne Roloson for his 10th of the season.

Stafford made it a nine-goal game with two goals just 1:18 apart midway through the third to record the hat trick.

Just 1:01 after Stafford started the scoring, Clarke MacArthur swung around from the back of the net and fed the puck to a pinching Paetsch for his first of the season.

The Sabres took a three-goal lead midway through the first on a goal sent in through Roloson's legs by Roy for his 19th. Roloson was replaced with rookie backup Jeff Drouin-Deslauriers after allowing three goals on eight shots.

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SMC BASKETBALL

Calvin set to host Belles

By ALEX WEST
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will face the toughest test of its current four-game road trip when the Belles travel to play Calvin today.

The Belles (10-7) will try to improve to 3-0 on their current road trip and, more importantly, keep their lead in the MIAA standings over Saturday's opponent Hope College.

To do that, the Belles must focus on beating Calvin (10-6), the MIAA's fourth-place team.

"In this league, you can't afford to look past anyone," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "We take [it] one game at a time."

Knights forward Marcia Harris could prove to be a handful for the Belles defense. Harris averages more than 19 points per game with a field goal percentage of nearly 60 percent.

The Knights are also undefeated (3-0) at home in conference play.

The Belles will be led by senior forward Erin Newsom, who leads the team in scoring at 14.9 points per game.

"We have asked a lot of [Newsom] this season and she has responded," Henley said.

But Henley also said the team isn't one-dimensional. Saint Mary's has five other players — Nicole Beier (10.6 points per game), Patsy Mahoney (9.4), Maggie Ronan (8.4), Kelley Murphy (7.5) and Anna Kammrath (7.4) — who average at least seven points per game.

"[It] can cause some difficulty in defending us," Henley said.

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Behrens

continued from page 24

"High school swimming in Indiana was a big deal," Behrens said. "It got me where I am today."

Currently, Behrens is competing in three different events, the 50-free (23.81), the 100-back (55.61) and the 200-back (2:01.66). All three of her seasonal best times were reached at the Ohio State Invitational on Dec. 5-7.

"I've always loved the backstroke, maybe because I get to breathe as much as I want," Behrens said. "I like the 50-free because it's short and sweet."

With just a few weeks to go before the Big East Championships on Feb. 18, Behrens is ranked third in both the 100-back and 200-back, and tenth for the 50-free in the conference's pre-championship

rankings.

"Even though we are confident, the Big East meet can still be a very nerve-wracking meet, both as an individual and as a team," Behrens said. "Knowing that all the hard work you have put in for the last six months comes down to a few races is very stressful."

Tough practices and a winter break training trip to the Bahamas have been quite helpful in preparing the team for the challenge of the championships at the natatorium in Indianapolis, where the team will try for its 13th straight Big East title.

"We have nine water work-outs a week, plus three weightlifting sessions, and dry-land [workouts] on Saturdays," Behrens said.

An intense practice schedule — which Behrens said includes nine water work-outs, three weightlifting sessions, and a Saturday dry-land workout each week — has not only pre-

pared the team for conference championships, but has also intensified team bonding.

"[Behrens] really is a team player who knows how to be both competitive and supportive at the same time," senior Claire Hutchinson said. "She loves to race; she brings that type of mentality to practice with her everyday, and it really elevates the intensity of our training environment."

Approaching the most important part of the season, Behrens has a clear plan of preparation for the conclusion of the season.

"My biggest challenge for the rest of the season will be fixing the small, technical aspects of my races in time for the Big East Championships," Behrens said. "I've put in the hard work, now I just need to make the right adjustments to make sure my races are perfect."

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Big East

continued from page 24

ously close that level. The Irish are in 11th place and right now, their NCAA Tournament hopes in jeopardy if they can't right the ship soon.

"We don't want to start thinking about that yet," Irish guard Kyle McAlarney said after Monday's loss to Marquette. "But it's hard not to when you look at the standings and our record."

If they fall to the Panthers, the No. 22 Irish do have a shot to secure a decent seed for the Big East tournament. After Saturday, Notre Dame will play just two games — rematches at No. 2 Connecticut and home against No. 7 Louisville — against the upper echelon of the conference.

But it still won't be easy the rest of the way. Aside from their remaining conference slate, the Irish have to travel to take on UCLA. In Big East action, they have to play home games against Louisville and Villanova, and at Cincinnati, West Virginia, Providence and Connecticut. At least five of those are very winnable games for the Irish.

Throw in home contests against league cellar-dwellers South Florida, Rutgers and St. John's, and the Irish don't seem like they have that much in common with Quint

from the movie "Jaws" anymore. (If you haven't seen "Jaws," I'm not explaining it to you. Just see the movie.)

If the Irish lose to Pittsburgh and could manage to

win just three of six from their other solid league opponents, they'd just have to take care of the trio of easy home games to finish with a .500 Big East record. The Irish would then have 18 wins, which, along with a win in the conference tourney, might be good enough for an NCAA Tournament bid. A win at UCLA could help a lot as well.

In the beginning of the season, that hypothetical would have seemed like a worst-case scenario for the Irish. And it still is. The point here, though, is that Notre Dame is far from done. A

10-8 league record right now is a realistic goal for this team. Pittsburgh finished 10-8 last year, good enough for seventh place, and won the Big East

tournament. A 9-9 record would likely put the Irish in a more precarious position, but still with a shot at the NCAA Tournament.

And who's to say the Irish can't sweep home games against Louisville and Villanova or

that they can't catch Pittsburgh, Connecticut or UCLA on a bad day? Notre Dame played two of its worst games of the season offensively on Saturday and Monday and still was in it at the end of each contest against a top-tier opponent.

Beginning Saturday, the Irish must start winning the games they should and pick up a couple of underdog victories. It can't have a meltdown like it had against St. John's and it has to be able to pull out a couple of close wins against quality conference opponents. It's time for

the Irish to again become more like sharks, rather than the helpless crew.

Here's a look at where the top teams in the conference stand:

1. No. 10 Marquette (18-2 overall, 7-0 Big East)

Fresh off their win at Notre Dame, the Golden Eagles are poised to make a play for the Big East regular season championship. Marquette probably has the best backcourt in the country and is on a roll after winning its last 10 games.

2. No. 7 Louisville (15-3, 6-0)

The Cardinals have really turned it on since conference play started. They took down No. 1 Pittsburgh and blew Notre Dame off the court in an overtime win. The Cardinals still have one more date with the Irish, possibly an upset opportunity for host Notre Dame.

3. No. 2 Connecticut (18-1, 7-1)

The Huskies have just one loss but unfortunately for them, it came against Georgetown, a conference foe. Most likely — make that, certainly — nobody will run the table. If Connecticut keeps playing like it did against the Irish Saturday, they could

Rutgers

continued from page 24

After playing great defense on the Scarlet Knights' first few possessions, the Rutgers shooters found their stroke and started lighting it up from beyond the arc. Ray got Rutgers on the board first with a pair of 3-pointers from the left corner on back-to-back possessions. Prince got into the action next by nailing two treys of her own.

After giving up four free throws early to the Irish, the Scarlet Knights surged to a big first half lead with a 17-point run.

The Irish did not score their first field goal of the game until the 10:22 mark of the first half when freshman guard Natalie Novosel took a pass from guard Ashley Barlow for the layup. McGraw said she did not think Rutgers was playing particularly good defense, and placed the blame on her team for the lack of offensive output.

"I thought our shot selection was questionable at times," McGraw said.

Foul trouble haunted Rutgers during the last nine minutes of the first half, committing 12 fouls and sending the Irish to the line 19 times before half-time. Those fouls helped get the Irish back into the game with a 7-0 run before another pair of Ray 3-pointers stretched the lead back to 23-12.

In the second half, Rutgers was able to extend its lead steadily throughout the second half in part due to strong defense. Notre Dame also had many quick possessions in the second half, looking for quick baskets to get back in the game. The team's inability to make shots and rebound kept the Irish out of the game and helped the Scarlet Knights push the lead to 15.

The lead hovered around 15 points until a controversial play midway through the half. Rutgers guard Khadijah Rushdan nailed a 3-pointer from the right wing as an official blew a foul away from the ball. The basket and the foul were both called and Prince's two foul shots finished the five-point swing for Rutgers, making the score 57-39.

"The rule is that if she's in her motion to shoot the ball, the basket counts. I didn't see the foul," McGraw said of the explanation she received from the officials. "I thought it was very clearly after the whistle ... but her point was that, if she's in her motion to shoot it, then the basket counts, very much like an NBA continuation type of thing."

For how much the whistles went Notre Dame's way in the first half, they burned the Irish in the second. Numerous times an Irish stop was undone by a defensive foul, sending Rutgers to the charity stripe 15 times in the half.

One of the bright spots for the Irish in the game was guard Natalie Novosel, who posted 19 points and four rebounds in the loss.

Only a late hot streak could salvage the score differential, if not the game. The Irish went on a 13-2 run against the Scarlet Knight bench over the last 1:16 to bring the score to a more reasonable finish.

Notes

◆ The announced attendance of 10,082 was the eighth largest crowd in school history. The Irish have had six sellouts.

◆ The Irish honored area blood donors during the game, and especially Chuck Weber, who donated 54 gallons of blood, the most in St. Joseph County.

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double as Big East regular season and conference champs.

4. No. 3 Pittsburgh (18-1, 6-1)

The Panthers, who were ranked No. 1 in the country just over a week ago, now sit at fourth place in the conference. Such is the nature of the Big East. But Pittsburgh has an opportunity to make some noise this week as the team will take on No. 21 Villanova today before getting set to welcome the Irish on Saturday.

Also in the hunt: Providence (13-6, 5-2), No. 15 Syracuse (17-4, 5-3)

Still alive: Villanova (15-4, 3-3), West Virginia (14-5, 3-3), Georgetown (12-6, 3-4), Cincinnati (13-7, 3-4), Notre Dame (12-7, 3-5)

Out of contention: St. John's (11-8, 2-5), South Florida (7-12, 2-5), Seton Hall (10-9, 1-6), Rutgers (9-11, 0-7), DePaul (8-12, 0-7)

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

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WILL SHORTZ

- Across
- 1 Newswoman Paula

5 Fire

9 Bowling unit

14 Prefix with -gram or -graph

15 December 25, e.g.

16 Last

17 Show interrupter

20 Brit. military award

21 "Sure, why not?"

22 Copenhagen wad

26 Select

27 Images representing Internet users

28 Sound of a lightning strike

30 George W., to George H. W.

31 Shower sponge

34 Start of a Fred Flintstone cry

38 Mariner's datum

40 Power connectors, or a way to describe 17-, 22-, 55- and 61-Across

42 Tuesday in Hollywood

43 Dearborn debut of 1958

45 Coastal fliers

47 -blamed

48 Jurisprudence

50 How crowds move

52 Tbsp. or tsp.

55 Old-fashioned tub feature

58 Play characters

60 Lead-in to plunk

61 Expensive alternative to a toupee

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67 Farming prefix

68 They pop on planes

69 Soup alternative

70 Car company that originated as an airplane manufacturer

71 State whose tallest bldg. has only 19 floors
- Down
- 1 Clearasil target

2 Purely or simply: Abbr.

3 Tennis accessories

4 Signals, as to an auctioneer

5 Keats creation

6 Three, four or five, commonly

7 Heirloom locale

8 Vivien of film

9 It lets you go without charges

10 Basketball hoops

11 Historic 1940s event, for short

12 Group of brains

13 Prevent, legally

18 Speaking one's mind

19 1956-57 crisis site

22 "There's no accounting for"

23 Roundish

24 Jockey's whip

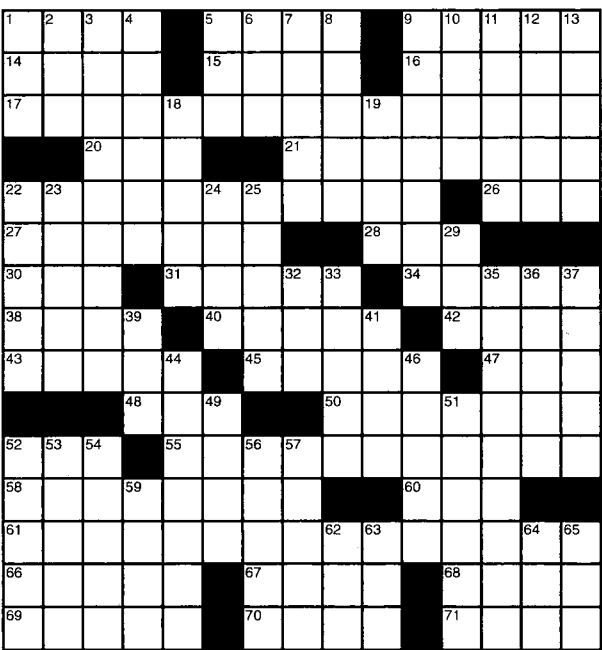
25 "Mio"

29 Hand covered with 32-Down

32 See 29-Down

33 "of God," Jane Fonda film

35 Top layer, in a way



Puzzle by Warren Biro

- 36 Unconcerned

37 Abacus user

39 Unagi, at a Japanese restaurant

41 Radioed, e.g.

44 Strained

46 Feature of many a 1970s rock concert

49 Ebb

51 "2001" extras

52 Sap sucker

53 Stiller's comedy partner

54 "Perry Mason" climax

56 Spanish appetizers

57 Hägar the Horrible's wife

59 Mex. miss

62 Coach Parseghian

63 Corn core

64 Org. with good aims?

65 "Tis a pity"

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tamlyn Tomita, 43; Alan Cumming, 44; Bridget Fonda, 45; Cris Collinsworth, 50
Happy Birthday: Look to the future with optimism. You can expand some of your interests and trendy ideas from the past. Utilize the old by recycling and adapting whatever you can to work now. Your broad outlook will baffle some but ultimately will make you a hero. Your numbers are 7, 10, 16, 21, 24, 33, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take advantage of any past connections to help you move forward now. Reuniting with people will open up new avenues. Make the first move to entice others to get involved in your plans. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are in the driver's seat, so don't let anyone push you into making a quick decision. Be the one to set the course of things to come. Don't let emotional issues cause you to miscalculate your position. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take the initiative and get things done. Your aggressive behavior will impress onlookers, putting you in a key position to advance. Don't let someone's change of heart slow you down or alter your direction. Stick to your chosen path. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may be forced to look at things a little differently, especially concerning the way you are handling money and your relationships. Make a concerted effort to budget. It will prove that you have discipline and stamina and will impress someone important to you. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't be too willing to accept what's being offered, especially if emotional factors are involved. You are likely to be deceived by someone who wants to take advantage of your generosity. Time is on your side, so don't move too quickly when you don't have to. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may be asked to wear a lot of different hats. Do what you can but, if the task is something you know little about, call on an expert. Your insight and ability to delegate will work to your advantage and will help you expand your allies. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let anyone stop you from following your creative dreams. You have to know that when anyone doesn't want you to advance, he or she is jealous, possessive or wants to beat you at your own game. Don't get angry, get busy and accomplish. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Separate your personal, professional and spiritual life. Emotional matters will escalate, leaving you questioning what to do next. Rely on your basic instincts and you will make the most beneficial choices for your future. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let love lead you astray. Formulate your ideas and put them to the test, even if someone is trying to slow you down. Rework old ideas and you will come up with something entirely new that can work. Being secretive is smart, not sneaky, when you need to make an impact. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There are deals and settlements that can be made. Don't leave anything to chance when it comes to love, partnerships or legal matters. Cover yourself but be sure and make your offer enticing at the same time. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Now is not the time to play games or try to initiate something you know won't be well received. Don't let emotional matters frustrate you. Weed out what isn't working for you and then move forward. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Red tape troubles can be expected, especially if you haven't been honest about what really happened. Emotional difficulties due to past relationships will resurface. Problems with banks, government agencies or authority figures will escalate. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are outspoken, provocative and intent on getting ahead. You are inventive and playful and attract the partners you need to bring on the success you desire. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

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MICHAEL MIKUSKA



THE DOME PIECE

DAVID CAVADINI



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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

SASEY
STUCO
NORBIN
LEWLOY

Print answer here: " " " " " " " " " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TABOO FABLE SPEEDY HOOKUP
Answer: Often follows when a business falls into the red — THE BLUES

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Left defenseless

Rutgers dominates as Irish 'D' falters again

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Managing Editor

Rutgers guard Brittany Ray had 26 points — including a 4-for-6 performance from beyond the arc — and the rest of the Scarlet Knights helped her upend Notre Dame 78-68 Tuesday night at the Joyce Center.

Ray was not the only Scarlet Knight to have a great offensive game against the Irish. Epiphanny Prince, who led the team going into Tuesday's game with 20.4 points per game, added 24 points to the Rutgers effort.

"It was mostly an incredible lack of awareness and effort to know that those [Prince and Ray] were the two ones to guard," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.



Junior guard Melissa Lechlitner, left, drives to the hoop as Rutgers senior forward Heather Zurich defends during the Scarlet Knights' 78-68 win over the Irish Tuesday night.

Scarlet Knights played like they needed it more

The two coaches' first statements of their post-game press conferences helped illustrate the reasons behind No. 17 Notre Dame's 78-68 loss to Rutgers Tuesday night.

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw apologized to the fans. "I didn't think we played with the intensity, the effort, the enthusiasm and the energy that we needed today, and I thought Rutgers did," she said.

Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer?

"We really needed that one," she said. "If you guys don't mind, we needed it more than you did."

That's the attitude Notre Dame, who has lost three of its last four



Bill Brink

Sports Editor

see RUTGERS/page 22

see ANALYSIS/page 21

MEN'S TENNIS

No. 11 Seminoles present another challenge for Notre Dame

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The Irish have already faced some of the nation's top teams — and they're just getting started.

No. 30 Notre Dame (1-2) hosts No. 11 Florida State (2-2) today at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The Seminoles are the third ranked team Notre Dame has faced so far.

"We certainly have already faced quality opposition in this young season," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "So even though the Seminoles are a strong national level team, we

should be ready for that level of play."

The young Irish squad, which only has one upperclassman in senior Brett Helgeson, won a 7-0 match at William & Mary Saturday but lost 0-7 at No. 5 Virginia on Sunday.

"While Virginia was very talented," Bayliss said. "I don't think we really gave ourselves a real chance to win because we checked out of too many points and didn't leave our comfort zone at crucial times. Several of our guys learned something in Charlottesville. Hopefully we will see a difference [today]."

The Seminoles are coming off of a loss as well, a 4-2 decision

against No. 2 Texas.

This will be Florida State's first indoor match of the season and Notre Dame's second match at home. The first was a tough 4-3 loss to No. 14 Pepperdine on Jan. 16.

"Being at home is always an advantage," Bayliss said. "You are playing on the same courts on which you practice, the fans aren't questioning your manhood, and the other team, hopefully, is adjusting on the fly to the surface, visual background, etc. The support we got playing Pepperdine was gratifying and I think our freshmen were pleasantly surprised with the cheering."

Florida State, which has several individually ranked players, will bring a challenge in singles and doubles.

"We are playing top 20 teams in five of our first six matches," Bayliss said. "Clearly this schedule involved risk, but I believe that we are talented enough to handle some of these top teams if we match what we see on the court each day in practice."

First doubles will match the Irish's No. 37 duo of Helgeson and sophomore Tyler Davis with the Seminoles' No. 23 pair of Jean-Yves Aubone and Clint Bowles. At second doubles, the Seminoles bring the No. 47

team of Drew Bailey and Maciek Sycut to face Irish sophomore Stephen Havens and freshman Casey Watt.

The Irish bring two ranked singles players to the competition in No. 20 Helgeson and No. 112 Dan Stahl, a sophomore. The Seminoles bring three in No. 29 Bowles, No. 30 Aubone and No. 79 Sykut.

The Irish have defeated the Seminoles five straight times, the most recent win a 4-3 decision in Tallahassee in 2008.

The match will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Behrens helps lead ND into Big East stretch run

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

When it came time to pick a college after a heavy recruiting process, the choice was easy for junior Maggie Behrens, who currently holds the team's seasonal best times in both the 100- and 200-meter backstroke events.

"I've always been a big Notre Dame fan since both of my parents went to school here," said Behrens, who hails from northwestern Indiana. "I feel in love with the school, the traditions and, most importantly, the team."

Partially because of her parents' experiences at Notre Dame, Behrens was not caught off-guard by the school's academic challenges. In fact, they were more a selling point than a deterrent to joining the Irish.

"I knew I didn't want to compromise my education for athletics, and Notre Dame has that great balance and is strong in both areas," Behrens said. "You have to learn how to balance your time and make a lot of adjustments."

Behrens credits much of her growth in the sport to her years of practice in high school.

see BEHRENS/page 22

MEN'S BASKETBALL ANALYSIS

Time to play like the sharks

It might seem like Notre Dame is sinking, but don't abandon the ship yet. Yes, the Irish have suffered four straight losses. And yes, after wasting a two-game home-stand, they head to No. 3 Pittsburgh Saturday.

Fran Tolan

Associate Sports Editor

But no, this isn't the USS Indianapolis we're talking about here — that ship sank and left its crew to shark-infested waters.

In other words, the Irish don't belong with the bottom feeders in the Big East, but they could be getting danger-



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Sophomore forward Luke Harangody, left, boxes out Connecticut's Hasheem Thabeet during the Huskies' 69-61 victory Saturday.

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