

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

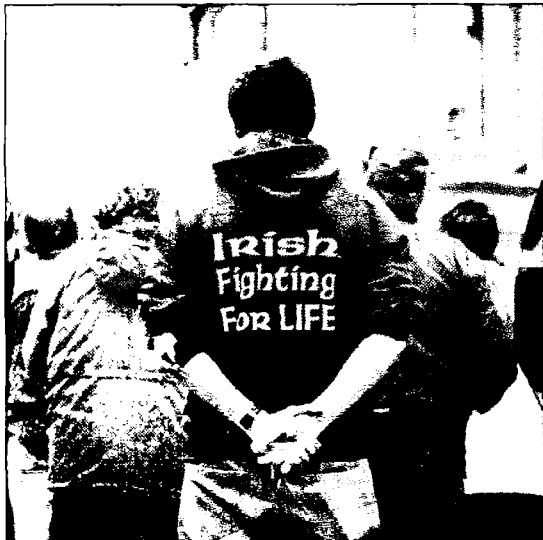
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MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009

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Notre Dame Response holds prayer rally

Coalition organizes first of several planned events to protest selection of President Obama as May Commencement speaker



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Hundreds took part in a rally to protest the choice of President Obama as Commencement speaker.

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Approximately 400 people participated in a prayer rally Sunday to protest the University's decision to invite President Barack Obama to speak at the Commencement ceremony and award him with an honorary degree.

The purpose of the rally, which took place in front of the Main Building, was to kick off the Notre Dame student response and set the tone for a respectful, prayer-centered disagreement, Notre Dame Right to Life Club president Mary Daly said.

"Since 1973, a plague has ravished our country," said senior

Chris Labadie, the chair of the newly-formed Notre Dame Response coalition, in a speech at the rally. "It's a plague that not only kills the body, but also souls. This plague is abortion."

Palm Sunday "is the perfect day to begin our struggle," he said.

"This prayer assembly is our first work, our first action, with many more to come," Labadie said. People from across the country attended the rally, Daly said.

The rally consisted of several speeches and a rosary prayer. White flowers were also passed out to be placed at the Grotto.

"The flowers are meant to represent the innocent life of chil-

see RALLY/page 4



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

A prayer rally Sunday in front of the Main Building featured speeches about abortion.

University admits top academic class

Admissions Office received second-highest number of applications in history for class of 2013

By NORA KENNEY
News Writer

From a pool of 14,352 applicants, Notre Dame accepted its most academically competitive class yet, said Bob Mundy, the director of admissions operations.

The average SAT score of admitted students for the class of 2013 is 1434 — seven points higher than that of students from the class of 2012. The average ACT score is 32.6, Mundy said.

On average, admitted students were in the top four percent of their high school classes, he said.

Mundy said the applicant pool for the class of 2013 was the second largest in history — following the class of 2011, when about 14,500 applications were submitted.

The number of applications increased 3

see 2013/page 6

Admitted Class of 2013

14,352 applicants
2nd highest number of applicants ever

32.6
average ACT score



Observer graphic by Mary Jesse

1434
average SAT score

largest minority
applicant pool

top 4%

average student rank
in high school class

Source: Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Registrar improves class search capability

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Notre Dame's Office of the Registrar is implementing a new search engine for classes for the fall of 2009, assistant registrar Chris Temple said.

"Enhanced Class Search' is accessible to students by logging into the regular online Class Search using their netID and password," Temple said. "The enhanced functionality includes a

see CLASS/page 4

Dance Marathon raises \$91,538

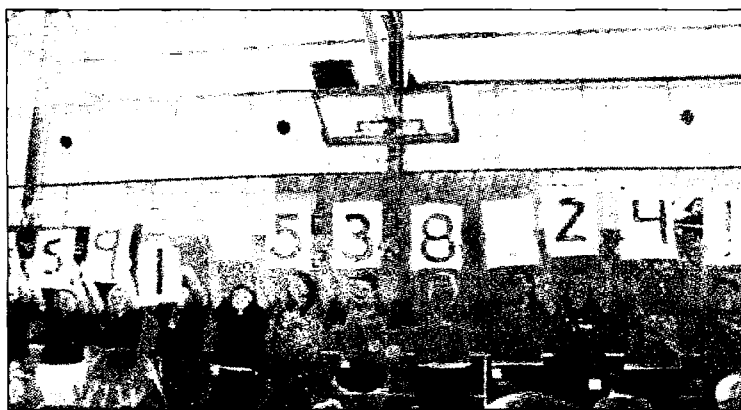
Annual Saint Mary's event brings in money for Riley Hospital

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

After a night of standing up for a good cause, the Saint Mary's Dance Marathon committee announced they had raised over \$90,000 during the academic year for Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

"Our total was \$91,538.24, which was a \$6,000 increase over last year," Dance Marathon president Sarah

see DANCE/page 6



GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Saint Mary's students raise signs to list the amount of money raised by the Dance Marathon this year for Riley Hospital.

Hundreds participate in CommUniversity Day

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

Approximately 700 Notre Dame students and 500 members of the South Bend community took part in the first annual CommUniversity Day Saturday, said outgoing Student Senate Social Concerns Committee chair Michelle Byrne.

"We had a lot of students doing service with members of the community," Byrne said. "I think that was the biggest sign that the event

was successful — the community members and Notre Dame students were there and working together."

CommUniversity Day, organized by Notre Dame's student government, was dedicated to bringing together members of the Notre Dame and South Bend communities to perform service together as a cohesive unit.

Projects began in the morning and some went on for the whole day, with Notre Dame students

see SERVICE/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Headphone etiquette

The girl at the table next to me last week was listening to "Hips Don't Lie" by Shakira. The guy across the room from me was listening to rock and roll with a lot of drums.

They both had their headphones on and were immersed in their home-work.

Laura McCrystal

News Wire Editor

I don't know what their music taste is because I peer over their shoulders. I don't just imagine what they are listening to, either.

I know because I can hear it.

The first time I heard music through someone's headphones was last year in the basement of the library. My friend and I thought it was hilarious to watch the girl sit in her booth and bounce her head to the beat. The humor faded, however, when we realized how hard it was to concentrate with a thumping bass in the background.

In the past few weeks, I have heard music through headphones in every silent room in which I attempt to study. I only wish this were an exaggeration.

Even my own dorm room is not a safe-haven. While I share my roommate's love for the Joshua Radin Pandora station, I fear for her eardrums.

I can get over the distraction of the music. Well, most of the time. I am currently having trouble focusing on this column because I can hear not just one, but two people's music blasting through their headphones.

I can also laugh it off most of the time. I've exchanged some giggles with complete strangers over other people's odd taste in music. The listeners are always oblivious though — there's no way to hear our laughter over their tunes.

I am most concerned for the personal health of these music lovers. Our generation is the first to use headphones from a young age. I don't think that I need to do much medical research to figure out that we are going to go deaf if we continue blasting headphones at unnecessarily high volumes.

You think your grandparents are hard of hearing? I can't imagine how loudly our own grandchildren will have to shout at us.

I have a solution: just turn it down. Everyone wins — your ears and the people around you.

This solution is easier said than done. Most of the time, I am sure that the studious listeners are oblivious to the fact that I can hear their music. I am also fairly certain that they would be embarrassed if did know.

So here's a test. Adjust your music to the volume level of your choice. Then pull the headphones out of your ears and press them lightly against something else. Can you still hear the music? If so, it's too loud. Turn it down and try again.

I guarantee that it is possible to enjoy music at a lower volume. I know this because, when I'm not desperately seeking a silent study space, I occasionally listen to my iPod. I make sure that no one else can hear it, though. I would be mortified if anyone knew that sometimes I listen to Taylor Swift's "Love Story" on repeat.

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT POKEMON CHARACTER WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?



Gavin Do

freshman Siegfried

"Charizard, because he is the most dominant Pokemon of all time."



Ian Giles

freshman Knott

"Kirby, because he's better than Pikachu at Super Smash Bros. on N64."



Kaity Veenstra

freshman Lyons

"Ninetales, because I can breathe fire (I wish)."



Kirsten Adam

freshman Welsh Family

"Eevee, because I don't know what I want to do with my life."

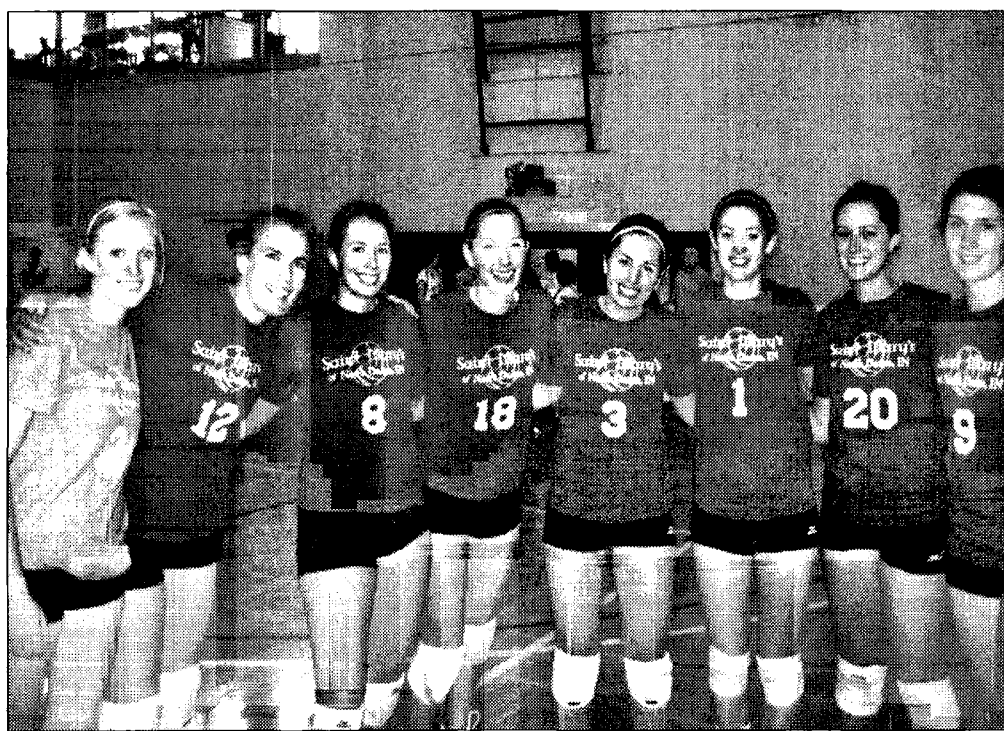


Phil Black

sophomore Fisher

"Ditto, so I could be all of them."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com



Courtesy of Erin Conway/The Observer

Saint Mary's Club Volleyball team won the Butler University Bulldog Challenge on Saturday. Team members pictured from left, Katie Meunier (ND), Erin Conway (ND), Christina Golubski (ND), Michelle Carlisle (ND), Lauren Jepson (ND), Kaitlyn Howard (ND), Emily Gregerson (SMC) and Stephanie Cripps (ND).

OFFBEAT

Customs finds art framed with marijuana

DOUGLAS, Ariz. — It wasn't the beauty of the paintings that caught the eye of Customs agents.

It was their drug-sniffing dog turning up his nose at the art that stopped the show.

Federal officials in Arizona say a man was taken into custody after Customs and Border Protection officers found 90 pounds of marijuana hidden in the frames of six large paintings in his vehicle.

Officers selected the man's vehicle for a rou-

tine inspection Friday at the border crossing in Douglas, Ariz., and their dog showed an interest in the paintings.

An X-ray revealed the marijuana in the frames.

Man drops, daves ring in Brooklyn Bridge proposal

NEW YORK — He's lucky she said yes — and he's also lucky the diamond engagement ring he dropped on the Brooklyn Bridge didn't end up in the river.

Don Walling fumbled the ring as he proposed to his girlfriend on the pedestrian walkway of the New

York City bridge. But he valiantly shimmied down to the lower span — where car traffic travels — and found the bauble. It was slightly bent, but the diamonds were still in place.

A police van that patrols the bridge stopped traffic to let him retrieve it.

The Coram resident and girlfriend Gina Pellicani plan to get married on April 24, 2010, the anniversary of the day they started dating four years ago.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF




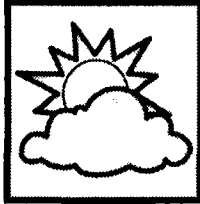
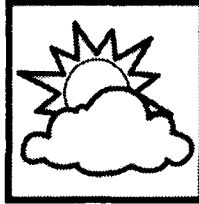

The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies is hosting a lecture titled "Taliban and the War on Terror in Pakistan" today at 4 p.m. in C104-105 Hesburgh Center. Visiting scholar Mona K. Sheikh, from the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara will talk about her experiences in Pakistan.

The Walsh Hall Tree Sit will take place Tuesday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on God Quad in front of Walsh Hall. The event will feature free food, music and fun. Donations will benefit the Arbor Day association.

A lecture titled "Modeling Human Cancer in the Mouse" will take place Tuesday at 4 p.m. in 101 Jordan Hall of Science. Dr. Mario Campecci, 2007 Nobel Laureate in Physiology and Medicine will speak about his innovative "knockout mice" technology.

The Kroc Institute and the Notre Dame International Security Program will cosponsor a lecture titled "Obama and Afghanistan: More Troops, but What Else?" Tuesday at 4:15 p.m. in C103 Hesburgh Center. Thomas A. Schweich, who is an Ambassador-in-Residence and Visiting Professor at Washington University in St. Louis will deliver the lecture. He formerly served the Bush administration as ambassador for counternarcotics and justice reform in Afghanistan.

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		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
												
	HIGH	38	HIGH	36	HIGH	34	HIGH	45	HIGH	49	HIGH	43
	LOW	23	LOW	23	LOW	27	LOW	29	LOW	34	LOW	30

Atlanta 65 / 49 Boston 50 / 35 Chicago 51 / 34 Denver 42 / 24 Houston 74 / 53 Los Angeles 65 / 54 Minneapolis 38 / 25 New York 51 / 40 Philadelphia 53 / 41 Phoenix 82 / 55 Seattle 47 / 38 St. Louis 67 / 39 Tampa 83 / 69 Washington 55 / 44

Lecture addresses evolution, religion

Conference offers multidisciplinary approach to Darwin's theory

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Writer

Darwinism and religion can be compatible despite the perceived conflict between them, Notre Dame philosophy professor Alvin Plantinga said in a lecture Friday.

Many Americans see theistic religion, which includes Christianity, Judaism and Islam, as incompatible with evolution, Plantinga said in his lecture, which was part of "Evolution of Age: Multidisciplinary Reflections on Darwin 150 Years Later," a conference held Friday and Saturday at Notre Dame.

"It has to do with the thought that God has created human beings in his image," he said.

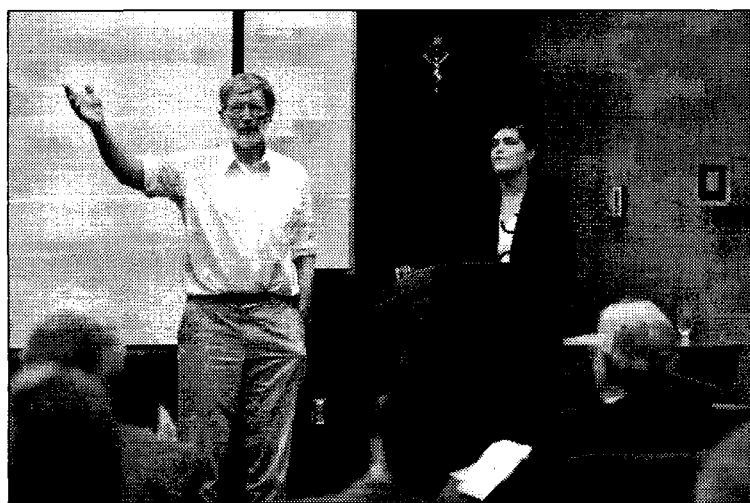
People do not see how religion fits into evolution because they hear scientists argue that evolution is unplanned and therefore could not be guided by God, Plantinga said.

Yet Plantinga said it is possible that God guides the random genetic mutations in Darwinism, which would make evolution compatible with religion.

"On the face of it, it appears as if God could cause that process," he said.

Opposing views of random mutations cause this superficial conflict between evolution and religion, Plantinga said.

The notion that evolution is unplanned depends on how scientists choose to define Darwin's concept of random mutations,



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Philosophy professor Alvin Plantinga speaks at Darwin lecture Friday, explaining the role of random mutations in evolutionary theory.

Plantinga said. He said he disagrees with scientists who believe that random mutations require a complete lack of guidance.

"The point is that a mutation ... is random just if neither the organism nor its environment contains a mechanism or process or organ that causes adaptive mutations to occur," he said.

Plantinga said this clarified definition of random mutation would allow for God's guidance.

"It's perfectly compatible that these mutations can be random in this sense but also caused by God," he said. "All I'm asking is whether it's compatible with evolutionary theory as it stands."

It is not surprising that Americans are hesitant about

teaching evolution in public schools when they are not aware that random mutations could be guided by God, Plantinga said.

"As polls reveal, many Americans have great doubt about evolution," he said. "I think it's because we're regularly told by the experts ... that the evolutionary process is unguided."

Plantinga also said that naturalism, which is an extreme form of atheism, is not necessarily compatible with evolutionary theory.

While it seems contradictory, naturalism is less compatible with evolution than theistic religion, Plantinga said.

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

CEO to speak on Catholic health care

President of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center will speak about ministry in hospitals

Special to The Observer

Nancy R. Hellyer, president and chief executive officer of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRC), will speak on "Catholic Ministry in Health Care" on Wednesday at the University of Notre Dame.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m. in Room 105 of the Jordan Hall of Science.

Hellyer will discuss the ministry of health care in light of Catholic teachings including the differences required under the Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. She will share SJRC's history and plans for future ministry to support this community including the latest information on the new SJRC hospital.

SJRC is a not-for-profit, multi-hospital health care sys-

tem located in north central Indiana. SJRC is constructing a new, world-class, \$355 million hospital scheduled to open on Dec. 14.

"The medical and technological innovations at the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center will be unlike anything ever seen in health-care throughout Michiana," Hellyer said, adding that the new, 633,000-square foot facility will provide even greater opportunities for collaboration between the SJRC and Notre Dame.

Hellyer earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from DePauw University and a master's in business administration from the Keller Graduate School of Management.

The lecture is sponsored by Notre Dame's College of Science.

"The medical and technological innovations at the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center will be unlike anything ever seen in healthcare throughout Michiana."

**Nancy Hellyer
President, CEO of Saint
Joseph Medical Center**



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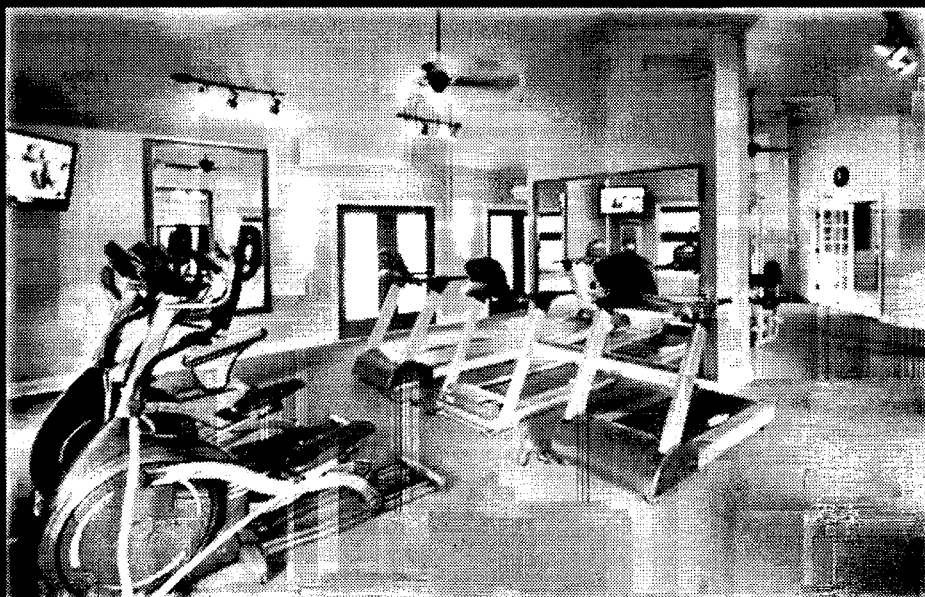
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Photo is rendering completion August 2009



NOW LEASING

Rally

continued from page 1

dren that are aborted," said senior Caitilin Podlaski, who was helping hand out flowers.

Sophomore Ashley Meklis said that although she found it "a little disturbing" that the University invited a pro-choice leader to speak at Commencement, that is not the primary reason she attended the rally.

Meklis said she attended the rally because "preserving the Catholic identity of this institution is important."

Stephanie Martin, a staff member at the University, said she attended the rally to support the students and join others in prayer.

"We don't pay the University, the university pays us," Martin said. "But we can ... respectfully request that [Jenkins] reconsider [his] decision."

"I don't think anybody here means any disrespect or unkindness," she said.

Anti-abortion activist Randall Terry created the Web site stopobamanotredame.com, which aims to stop Obama from speaking at graduation and calls for the dismissal of Jenkins. He also attended the rally, and held a large banner with pictures of Jesus on the cross, Jenkins, Obama and a fetus that said "Would you invite Pilate after he condemned Christ?"

Terry said he attended the rally "to hold the sign and be on point," in addition to showing support for the students.

"Our goal is to create a political slime pot so that President Obama's advisors tell him that it's not worth it for him to wade through the political mud," Terry said.

If nothing changes and Obama speaks at Commencement, Terry said he

plans to be at Commencement to protest and "create such a crisis around this that no other Catholic university stoops to this level of atrocity in the near future."

In response to the graduating seniors who say that Commencement is their day to enjoy, Terry said "it's much bigger than them."

"This is like the rape of Catholic orthodoxy, sociology and justice. This will affect the Catholic world for at least a generation," he said. "It's not just about the students, I'm sorry to say."

Nationally recognized attorney Harold Cassidy was the primary speaker at the rally. Daly said his speech was meant to show that the issue at hand spreads beyond Notre Dame and "affects the secular section of society."

Cassidy said abortion is not just a Catholic issue, but "transcends any one religion" and also, "transcends religion itself."

"A truly Catholic belief is a belief in the immaculate conception," Cassidy said. "Secular expressions of the sanctity of life ... are everywhere."

Many believe there is a consensus among Americans that abortion should be legal, but no such consensus exists, he said.

"The majority of Americans thought in 1973, and still think today, that abortion should be illegal," Cassidy

said. "If Roe vs. Wade did not stand in the way, [the fact that the majority believes this] would be immediately evident."

Cassidy's also said many think being anti-abortion means being anti-women. But abortion is not good for women, he said.

"Instead of liberation for women, abortion has brought enslavement," Cassidy said, explaining that some women feel they must get an abortion because their parent, or boyfriend or society, expects it of them.

Cassidy said he once attend-

ed an event where women who had abortions testified about their experiences. He recounted their stories for the crowd gathered at the rally.

He said one woman, who had been raped and had an abortion, said, "I'm here to testify that that abortion was a second rape that was worse than the first one."

Labadie said beginning Wednesday, which is 40 days before graduation, ND Response will be holding a 40-day rosary campaign "for the conversion of President Barack Obama's heart."

They aim to have one million rosary prayers by Commencement, and each rosary prayed can be logged on the ND Response Web site, he said.

"President Obama has many fine qualities. ... We respect him as a devoted father and loving husband," Cassidy said. "Our disagreement is over an issue [whose] magnitude outweighs any other issue and all other issues combined."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

"President Obama has many fine qualities. ... We respect him as a devoted father and loving husband. Our disagreement is over an issue [whose] magnitude outweighs any other issue and all other issues combined."

Harold Cassidy
attorney

"Our goal is to create a political slime pot so that President Obama's advisors tell him that it's not worth it for him to wade through the political mud."

Randall Terry
anti-abortion activist

Class

continued from page 1

three-section design corresponding to three new/supplementary sources of information: Enrollment History, Instructor Course Descriptives and Student Feedback."

The Student Feedback plays a crucial role, said Ryan Brellenthin, the former Student Senate Academic Committee and current student government chief of staff.

"The student responses are shown for the next semester," Brellenthin said. "More and more

data is compiled over time, giving more information."

The information compiled comes from the Course Instructor Feedback (CIF) forms, the electronic class review system that the University switched to in the fall of 2008, according to the CIF Web site. The information is then compiled into ratings for the course and teacher similar to the popular Web site NDToday.com but with a few key differences, Brellenthin said.

"The only people that respond [to NDToday.com] are polarized," he said. "The Enhanced Class Search is comprehensive and accurate."

The responses aren't listed in an averaged single answer, but rather a graph showing

the distribution of responses, according to the CIF Web site.

Another major difference is the philosophy behind the system, Brellenthin said.

"The Enhanced Class Search isn't providing the quickest way out or the easiest teacher, but the best education," said Brellenthin.

The system will also follow an incentive system, Brellenthin said. Only students who completed their

CIFs the semester before will have access to the Student Feedback portion.

"This provides more student input, and holds the professors accountable," Brellenthin said.

To create the Enhanced Class Search, faculty, staff and students worked

together, Temple said. "Teams of faculty and students collaborated on this effort under the leadership of the Provost's Office, which coordinated the work of the Office of Institutional Research, the Office of Information Technology and the Office of the Registrar in this project," Temple said.

"It was a cross-cutting effort," Brellenthin said. "It shows how much the University cares about student opinion."

The Enhanced Class Search can be found in "Class Search" under the Student Academic tab on InsideND, according to the CIF Web site.

"The only people that respond [to NDToday.com] are polarized. The Enhanced Class Search is comprehensive and accurate."

Ryan Brellenthin
student government
chief of staff

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

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Interested in Marketing?

The Observer is looking for students, preferably business majors, who are interested in working for the Advertising Department next year.

If interested, please email your resume to tbea@nd.edu or mrodrig9@nd.edu.

Interviews will take place after Easter Break.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pope denounces migrant trafficking

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI demanded urgent action by the European Union and African nations on Sunday to stop the trafficking in migrants, saying the global economic crisis was driving more people to make the perilous voyage.

Benedict recalled the drowning last week of more than 200 Europe-bound migrants whose overcrowded boat capsized in the stormy waters off Libya.

"We cannot resign ourselves to such tragedies, which unfortunately have been repeating themselves for some time," Benedict said at the end of his Palm Sunday Mass.

"The scope of the problem requires urgent strategies coordinated by the European Union and African countries, as well as the adoption of adequate humanitarian measures, to prevent these migrants from going to unscrupulous traffickers," Benedict said.

EU, U.S. respond to missile launch

PRAGUE — The United States and the European Union say North Korea's missile launch is a threat to neighbors and demands a response from world nations.

A statement from U.S. and EU leaders calls on North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons and "cease threatening behavior."

They said North Korea's development of a ballistic missile capability "is aimed at providing it with the ability to threaten countries near and far with weapons of mass destruction."

The leaders also said the missile launch "demands a response from the international community, including from the U.N. Security Council, to demonstrate that its resolutions cannot be defied with impunity."

NATIONAL NEWS

Fargo schools reopen after flooding

FARGO, N.D. — School bells are set to ring Monday for the first time in nearly two weeks for students who had joined the round-the-clock sandbagging effort to protect the Fargo area from a record Red River flood.

"It's almost like the first day of school in many ways," said Morgan Forness, principal of Oak Grove Lutheran School, which lost two buildings on its campus when part of a permanent flood wall buckled and let the river in. "They're kind of excited to get back in action here."

Administrators hoped the return to class will calm the nerves of a community exhausted from sandbagging and nervous about another flood fight possible later in the month. The Red River has been falling in Fargo since its record crest of 40.82 feet on March 28, but the National Weather Service says another crest in mid-April could be higher.

Wind strengthens Texas wildfires

WHEELER, Texas — Strong wind on Sunday hampered fire crews' efforts to control several Texas wildfires that had destroyed eight homes and damaged more than 20 smaller structures.

The largest fire, an 11,000-acre blaze near the Texas-Oklahoma state line, was about 25 percent contained, but wind gusting to 35 mph made it difficult to maintain fire lines, Texas Forest Service spokeswoman Jeanne Eastham said Sunday.

"Anytime you have the wind, it makes it harder to control the fire," Eastham said.

LOCAL NEWS

Elkhart organizations lose funding

ELKHART — Nine community organizations in Elkhart County that are losing their United Way funding are searching for ways to survive as the area struggles with nearly one-fifth of its workforce being jobless.

The United Way dropped groups such as the Elkhart Childhood Development Center and Mental Health America after its annual campaign raised 32 percent less than last year.

ISRAEL

Netanyahu will make new agenda

Prime Minister says government will develop diplomatic policies on peace talks

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday said his government would immediately get to work on Mideast peace issues, promising to present a diplomatic agenda in the coming weeks.

Speaking at the first meeting of his Cabinet, Netanyahu said he planned to appoint himself and 11 other ministers to the Security Cabinet, a select body that deals with the nation's most pressing security and political issues. "In the coming weeks, we shall complete our policy guidelines for progress on peace and security," he said.

Netanyahu has sent mixed signals about his diplomatic program in recent weeks. Elected on a platform highly critical of his predecessor's peace talks with the Palestinians, he took a softer line when he was sworn into office last week, telling parliament he would pursue a "full peace" with the Arab and Muslim world.

However, Netanyahu has given few details about his program and has so far refused to endorse the idea of an independent Palestinian state. Palestinian independence is a cornerstone of U.S. policy in the Mideast, and the Palestinians have said that if Netanyahu does not commit to a two-state solution, there is no point in negotiating.

Appearing on a late-night Israeli TV interview program, Netanyahu gave an indication of his stern policy in a brief reference to Palestinian rocket attacks from Gaza. "One thing I can promise you," he said, "there will be no rocket fire without a response."

On Sunday, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said the new Israeli gov-



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convenes the first cabinet meeting of his new government Sunday. His government will soon present its policy on peace talks.

ernment would have to accept the creation of a Palestinian state, stop construction in West Bank Israeli settlements and remove army roadblocks crippling life in the West Bank "so that we can resume dialogue in order to reach a political solution." Abbas was speaking during a visit to Baghdad.

Netanyahu's hard-line foreign minister, Avigdor Lieberman, raised additional concerns on his first day in office when he dismissed as meaningless the past year of U.S.-led peace negotiations and said concessions to the Palestinians only invite war.

In peace talks over the past year, the U.S. has pushed the sides to resolve the issues at the core of

their conflict, such as final borders between Israel and a future Palestinian state and the status of Jerusalem. No apparent progress has been made.

Also high on Netanyahu's agenda is Iran's nuclear program. Netanyahu believes Iran is pursuing nuclear weapons and has called on the international community to prevent this. Iran says its program is peaceful.

Upon taking office last week, Netanyahu stressed that Israelis "know how to protect" their country — a possible hint that Tehran's nuclear facilities could be struck if the international community fails to stop its nuclear activities.

Netanyahu's government also is dealing with a sud-

den surge in violence. Last week, a Palestinian attacker infiltrated a Jewish settlement in the West Bank and killed a 13-year-old boy with a pickax. The attacker is still at large.

Over the weekend, a 16-year-old girl from an Israeli Arab town opened fire at a police station in southern Israel before she was shot and killed.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said the girl was an 11th-grade student from the Bedouin township of Hura in southern Israel. He gave her name as Basma Awad al-Nabari.

He said police were trying to determine whether the girl had acted on her own or coordinated the attack with an organized militant group.

Father, five children dead in Wash.

Associated Press

GRAHAM — A father apparently shot to death five of his children, ages 7 to 16, at their mobile home and then killed himself near a casino miles away, police said Saturday.

Ed Troyer, a spokesman for the Pierce County Sheriff, called it a domestic violence situation and a murder-suicide.

"We believe they all died of gunshot wounds," Troyer said.

Police found the father's body early Saturday in his still-running car near the Muckleshoot Casino in Auburn, about 30 miles south of Seattle. He had apparently killed himself with a rifle, although no note was left in the

car, Auburn Police Sgt. Scott Near said.

Later in the day, a relative stopped by the mobile home and called authorities after seeing a child lying motionless on a bed through a window. Pierce County deputies checked the mobile home, which is about 20 miles southeast of the casino, and found four of the children dead in their beds and the fifth in the bathroom.

Troyer said investigators believe the husband and the wife, who was not home, were not estranged.

The mother's aunt, Penny Flansburg, was at a loss to explain the crime.

"They were pleasant together," Flansburg said. "We can't even figure

out why."

Flansburg identified the couple as Angela and James Harrison and the children as Maxine, Samantha, Heather, Jamie and James. The father worked as a diesel mechanic, and the mother works at Wal-Mart, Flansburg said.

Ryan Peden, a classmate of the eldest daughter, said she told him Friday night that her parents had gotten into a fight and her mother had left. The father followed the mother and tried to get her to return, said Peden, 16.

Neighbors in the Deer Run mobile home park, a neat, well-kept community nestled among towering evergreens, were shocked and weeping at the news.

Service

continued from page 1

and community members holding Easter egg hunts for local children and cleaning up area parks. The day culminated with a picnic at the Robinson Community Learning Center.

Byrne said there was a lot of engagement from the Notre Dame community.

"There were so many organizations and clubs that had service projects that they had wanted to do and this day gave them the opportunity to engage in them," Byrne said.

Senior Francesca Pennino helped to organize and supervise a scavenger hunt for students from St. Adalbert, a South Bend grade school where she has been tutoring kids for more than three years.

"I was told about CommUniversity Day and was asked if I wanted to do something with the St. Adalbert kids," Pennino said. "I know a lot of the kids pretty well and I thought that this would be a great opportunity to expose them to college."

The 30 students from St. Adalbert participated in a scavenger hunt that broke them into groups led by Notre Dame students and took them all over campus.

"It was a great way for them to

look at college and know that it isn't something that is for somebody else; college is for them too," Pennino said.

The St. Adalbert students had to do tasks that involved knowledge and also ones that were meant simply to be fun.

"Not only was it an opportunity for these kids to be exposed to education, but they also had a great time just being silly," Pennino said. "And really, as Notre Dame students how often do we have the opportunity to run around campus and do cartwheels with kids for a few hours?"

Senior Allie Minnis also participated in CommUniversity Day by helping to restore the mural that is on the side of the Robinson Center.

"The mural on the side of the center is made of wood panels and a lot of the panels were rotting," Minnis said. "Fifteen of us, including workers from the Robinson Center and kids who go there, took down some of the old panels and replaced them with new ones that we had painted."

Minnis said the greatest part of her day was being able to work with the children who benefit from her actions.

"The kids were so excited that they got to help improve something that was a part of their lives," she said. "And we were actually working with the kids instead of doing a service for them."

Working with the community,



Photo courtesy of Michelle Byrne

Students and community members mingle together near the Robinson Community Learning Center Saturday for the first CommUniversity Day, an event sponsored by Notre Dame's student government.

and not just for them, was one of the aims of CommUniversity Day, Byrne said.

"We didn't want this to be a service day," Byrne said. "We really wanted to be in a relationship with the community."

Byrne said the enthusiastic par-

ticipation from Notre Dame students coupled with the passionate response from the community makes her hope that the event will occur again next year.

"I feel like CommUniversity Day was a real milestone in the way that we relate to the community,"

she said. "There are plenty of things that need to be fixed, but I feel like the overall groundwork has been laid out for a successful event in the future."

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2013

continued from page 1

percent from last year, he said.

He said this year marks the first year the University used the Common Application, which could explain the increase in applications.

Mundy said the University also saw the largest minority applicant pool, and hopes that 22 to 24 percent of the incoming class will be non-white.

However, he said the final figures for the class of 2013 numbers are difficult to predict until the deadline for students to accept their offer of admission has passed.

Although the University reported the second-highest number of applicants this year, Mundy said the Admissions Office anticipates that the recession will affect the decision process for admitted students.

"There is ... a feeling among our colleagues that students will take a bit longer to decide

to enroll, meaning that more will reply right at the May 1 deadline," he said.

Mundy said the University admitted more students in Early Action than they have in the past because of the recession.

"The faltering economy was one of the reasons we admitted more students in Early

Action than has been typical," he said. "We knew they were competitive and we felt it better to offer admission in December in order to give these students more time to consider Notre Dame as a college option."

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GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Saint Mary's students Catherine Moore, left, Lizzy Maltby, center, and Bianca Leonardo participate in the Dance Marathon this weekend.

Dance

continued from page 1

Voss said. "The fact that we managed to increase our total during a recession is amazing."

Participants were encouraged to stay on their feet for 12 hours in honor of children who are unable to do so.

"The marathon was amazing," Voss said. "I don't think I've ever seen so many committed dancers who were prepared to stay on their feet all

night long. Students this year really understood why they were there — to stand for someone who couldn't."

The marathon was held Friday in Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary's College. It began at 8 p.m. and continued through the

night, ending at 8 a.m. on Saturday. Participants donated \$12 to register for the event.

The marathon was packed with different things for participants to do, special guests and tons of activities. During the marathon, dancers had the chance to play games, climb on a rock wall, do crafts, bounce in a bounce house and dance.

"I think a large number of the participants just wanted to dance the night away, so that was really fun," Voss said.

Voss said around 400 people participated in this year's event.

"I think the event had about the same participation as last year, although I think that this year's dancers were even more committed than in previous years," Voss said.

Throughout the night, families with children at Riley Hospital shared stories about their experiences.

"Students seemed really excited to meet the Riley families and join the big Dance Marathon family," Voss said. "My favorite moment was when Sheila Fraser, a 15-year-old student, shared her story about battling osteosarcoma at Riley Hospital. I don't think there was a dry eye in the gym."

To get involved with the club, email dmarathn@saintmarys.edu or visit their Web site at www.smcsm.org.

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks				
Dow Jones	8,017.59	+39.51		
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:	
2,110	89	972	1,557,913,407	

AMEX	1,403.41	-15.79
NASDAQ	1,621.87	+19.24
NYSE	5,318.75	+51.65
S&P 500	842.50	+8.12
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	8,915.76	+165.92
FTSE 100 (London)	4,029.67	-95.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+4.97	+0.036	7.60
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.99	+0.83	84.26
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+4.01	+0.11	2.85
FINANCIAL BULL 3X (FAS)	+12.15	+0.78	7.20

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+5.63	+0.155	2.91
13-WEEK BILL	+5.26	+0.100	0.20
30-YEAR BOND	+4.03	+0.144	3.72
5-YEAR NOTE	+8.33	+0.145	1.89

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.13	52.51	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-11.60	897.30	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.03	88.83	

Exchange Rates			
YEN		100.7150	
EURO		1.3556	
CANADIAN DOLLAR		1.2253	
BRITISH POUND		1.4897	

IN BRIEF

EU and U.S. discuss global economy

PRAGUE — The European Union says it has been pulling together as a bloc and joining forces with the United States to deal with the consequences of the global economic downturn.

European Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso says "we are working together" with Washington to find the best way out of the crisis.

Barroso says the 27-nation bloc has demonstrated "European unity, and in a certain sense, global unity" as it scrambles to respond to the meltdown.

Barroso described the EU's ties with the United States as "by far the most important economic relationship in the world," with \$2 billion per day spent trading in goods and services.

He spoke Sunday to reporters after President Barack Obama's summit with EU leaders in Prague.

Bailout to cost more than anticipated

WASHINGTON — Bailing out the financial sector will cost taxpayers \$167 billion more than originally anticipated, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate.

The original figure in January was \$189 billion, but it is now \$356 billion — \$152 billion more for 2009 and \$15 billion more next year, the CBO says in its March report updating the budget and economic outlook.

The CBO raised its projection because yields have increased on securities issued by the bailed-out financial institutions under the \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program.

That means there will be an increase in the cost of the subsidy from the U.S. Treasury's purchase of preferred stock, asset guarantees and loans to automakers, the CBO said.

In addition, since the CBO issued its original cost estimate for the program, the Treasury announced additional deals with Bank of America and American International Group.

Those deals will be at rates higher than the averages in the CBO's original estimate. Also going up: the subsidy rates in the administration's \$50 billion program to deal with home foreclosures.

GM is open to idea of bankruptcy

New CEO Fritz Henderson says he will do what is necessary to save company

Associated Press

DETROIT — General Motors Corp. is softening its opposition to bankruptcy reorganization a little more.

"If it's required, that's what we'll do," new Chief Executive Fritz Henderson said in an interview broadcast Sunday, but noted that GM still would prefer to avoid bankruptcy protection while restructuring.

President Barack Obama and his auto industry task force have indicated that bankruptcy protection "may very well be the best solution for the company to achieve these goals," Henderson told CNN's "State of the Union."

That is why, he said, "when you look at the situation, we said, 'OK, we'll spend the time to try to complete the work, more aggressive work, outside of the court process, but if it's required, that's what we'll do.'"

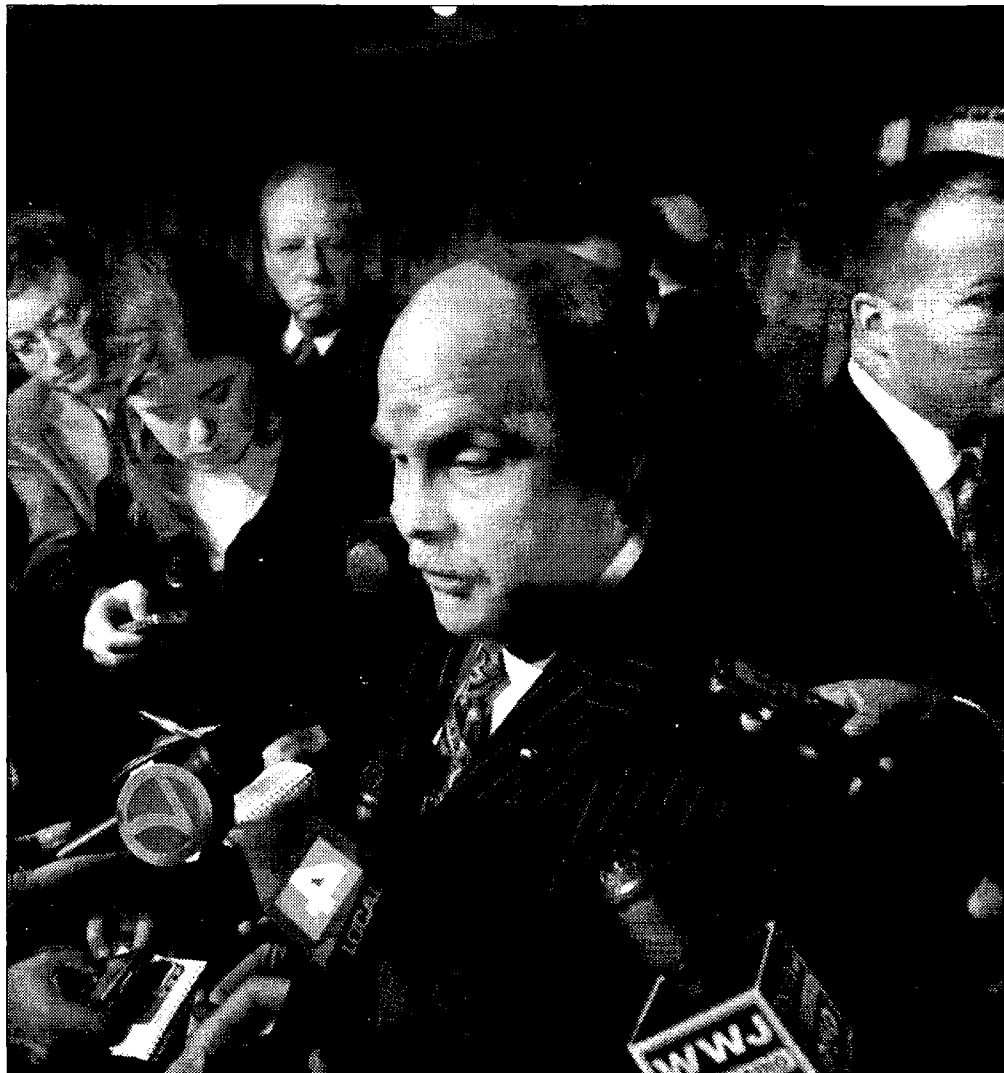
Obama had said GM's initial plans to become viable didn't go far enough. Last week, he told the company it had 60 days to make more cuts and get more concessions from bondholders and unions, or it won't get any more government help.

The administration also forced out Rick Wagoner as chief executive; Henderson took over on March 29.

Henderson said the government's guarantee of GM warranties and its indication that it would lend money to the automaker while it reorganized under bankruptcy protection are both "strong signals which say even if we have to go through bankruptcy, the company's going to be there."

He told NBC's "Meet the Press" that GM needs to "go deeper and we need to go faster" in its restructuring.

"We either accomplish this job outside of bankruptcy in the short term, or alternatively, if it's necessary, we'll go into bankruptcy in order to get this job done," he said.



General Motors Corp.'s CEO Fritz Henderson talks to the media on March 31. Henderson said Sunday that bankruptcy protection may be the company's best option.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, asked on CBS' "Face the Nation" Sunday if he agreed with Henderson that bankruptcy is a possibility, said several options "could work."

"Our test is, what's going to work," he said. "What's going to help bring about the kind of restructuring, allow them to emerge stronger and be part of this American economy. We want them to be part of our future."

Henderson also said he does not believe the administration should encourage Americans to buy U.S.-made cars.

"I think the consumer should buy exactly what kind of car they think meets their

needs and that excites them," he said on "Meet the Press." "And it's our job to make sure we provide that and as I look at it, not necessarily have it mandated or otherwise encouraged."

Also, Henderson said that unlike Wagoner, he will not work for \$1 a year. He is paid \$1.3 million, a salary which was cut 30 percent as part of what he called shared sacrifices at the auto maker.

The Detroit automaker said in February it was aiming to shrink U.S. employment to 72,000 by 2012, down from 92,000 hourly and salaried employees at the end of last year. Henderson said the auto task force concluded the compa-

ny needed to cut more, and faster.

That conclusion is "certainly going to require us to be leaner than we had even foreseen in February," he said. The numbers haven't been finalized, but they would amount to a "significant additional change for the company," he said.

Henderson is aiming to minimize the amount of time GM relies on taxpayer money.

"One of the saddest days of my career was when we needed to borrow money from the U.S. taxpayer," he said. "And I'm quite convinced that one of the happiest days of my career is when we repay it."

Jobless will exhaust unemployment aid

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In the coming weeks and months, hundreds of thousands of jobless Americans will exhaust their unemployment benefits, just when it's never been harder to find a job.

Congress extended unemployment aid twice last year, allowing people to draw a total of up to 59 weeks of benefits. Now, as the recession drags on, a rolling wave of people who were laid off early last year will lose them.

Precise figures are hard to determine, but Wayne Vroman, an economist at the Urban Institute, estimates that up to 700,000 people could exhaust their extended benefits by the second half of this year.

Some will find new jobs, but prospects will be grim: Layoffs are projected to go on, and many economists

expect the jobless rate, already at 8.5 percent, to hit 10 percent by year's end.

"It's going to be a monstrous problem," Vroman said.

U.S. employers shed 663,000 jobs in March, and the jobless rate now stands at its highest in a quarter-century. Since the recession began in December 2007, a net total of 5.1 million jobs have disappeared.

Those who know that their unemployment aid is about to run out are counting the days, taking on odd jobs, moving in with relatives and fretting about the future.

"My biggest fear is we'll lose the house," said Hernan Alvarez, 54, an Orlando, Fla., construction worker who lost his job in July and whose benefits will end in four weeks. "The only thing I can do is keep looking for work and hope tomorrow will be better than today."

That so many people have remained on jobless aid for more than a year underscores the depth and duration of the recession, which began in December 2007. If the downturn extends into May, it will be the longest recession since the Great Depression.

The jobs crisis it has created has proved worse than most economists forecast — not to mention what lawmakers expected when they extended jobless benefits last year.

In March, nearly a quarter of the unemployed had been without work for six months or more, the highest proportion since the 1981-82 recession.

And the problem will probably get even worse. Employers typically remain reluctant to hire even months after a recession has officially ended. In the 1990-91 and 2001 recessions, the jobless rate peaked more than a year after the recovery began.

Schools make plans for stimulus money

Federal dollars to be used for more energy-efficient classroom buildings, windows, light bulbs

Associated Press

MENDOTA HEIGHTS, Minn. — The candy machine at Henry Sibley High School knows when students roam the halls and automatically powers down when they've gone home. The basketball court still shines, but under the glow of fluorescent tubes that suck up a fraction of the juice the old lights used.

Thanks to such measures, energy costs across the school district in this Twin Cities suburb already are down by nearly a third. Officials want to trim the expenses even more, but that will require investment in upgrades.

The federal economic stimulus dollars could be just what they need. Some of the billions of dollars trickling down from Washington will be used to make public buildings more energy efficient. School officials hope long-term savings can sprout from those one-time upgrades — the types of projects that get shoved aside when budgets are squeezed and tax levies fail.

"The money we spend on electric, water, gas and oil — those dollars compete with dollars for textbooks and teachers," said Jay Haugen, superintendent of the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan district.

The economic stimulus package contains \$6.3 billion for state and local governments to make energy usage more efficient, including in public buildings. Schools are eligible for some of that — in addition to a \$22 billion zero-interest bond program for school construction projects created in the recovery package. Nationwide, there are roughly 80,000 public school

buildings.

While state governments know how much money they'll receive, details about how the money will get from Washington to Main Street schools haven't been worked out. Schools in many states will have to compete with other public buildings for energy dollars, and in most cases projects will require local matching funds.

Steve Nadel, executive director of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, said the conversation about how best to spend the money is just getting started, and it's likely to play out differently in every state. But he expects schools to be in a prime position to snag dollars for simple things, such as new light bulbs and windows, and pricier projects including more efficient furnaces and new roofs.

School officials in Idaho are battling around ideas for spending up to \$24 million of the energy money on projects focusing on schools. Paul Kjellander, administrator of the state's Office of Energy Resources, said a sizable chunk could be used to install solar panels on school buildings.

Boise school district leaders want to tap into the pot to rid their buildings of drafty windows, power-wasting lighting and inefficient heating and cooling systems. Savings, however modest, could be critical for a district about to lay off 122 full- and part-time teachers.

Wayne Davis, a former superintendent who now directs the Idaho Association of School Administrators, said lowered utility costs would free up money for higher-priority initiatives. "It's things like class size reduction," he said.

Metallica, Run-DMC inducted into Hall

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Metallica shoved the mosh pit into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Heavy metal's heaviest hitters, whose menacing, monstrous sound has banged heads around the globe for decades, were inducted into rock's shrine on Saturday night, capping a star-studded ceremony that felt much more like a concert than an awards show.

For the first time, the no-holds-barred show, back in Cleveland following a 12-year holdover in New York's Waldorf-Astoria ballroom, was open to the public.

And nearly 5,000 fans partied in the balconies inside renovated Public Auditorium as 1,200 VIPs dined below at tables costing as much \$50,000 each.

Many of the came to pay homage to Metallica, which earned top billing in an eclectic 2009 class that included rap pioneers Run-DMC, virtuoso guitarist Jeff Beck, soul singer Bobby Womack and rhythm and blues vocal group Little Anthony and the Imperials.

Metallica's members have survived some of the dark themes — death, destruction and desolation — that threads through its music, and their induction was a chance to celebrate their legacy as perhaps the hardest band to ever walk the earth. The event also served as a reunion as bassist Jason Newsted, who left the group in 2001, joined his former bandmates on stage for searing versions of "Master of Puppets" and "Enter Sandman."

"Whatever the intangibles

elements are that make a band the best, Metallica has them," said Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist Flea, who delivered a heartfelt speech in presenting the band. He recalled being on tour and hearing Metallica on the radio for the first time.

"My mind was blown. It wasn't punk rock. It wasn't heavy metal. It just stood by itself," he said. "I didn't know what it was, but I knew it was a mighty thing."

In accepting their awards, Metallica's members were joined by Ray Burton, the father of original bassist Cliff Burton, who died tragically in 1986 when the band's tour bus skidded off an icy road in Sweden.

"Dream big and dare to fail, because this is living proof that it is possible to make a dream come true," said frontman-guitarist James Hetfield, who then rattled off a long list of hard-rocking bands he feels deserve induction.

"Deep Purple, Thin Lizzy, Rush, Kiss, Ted Nugent, Iron Maiden, Motorhead. We'd like to invite them through the door," said Hetfield, who concluded his remarks by wrapping Ulrich in a bear hug.

The evening ended with a jam for the ages as Metallica, Beck, Jimmy Page, Aerosmith's Joe Tyler and Flea brought the house down with a performance of the Yardbirds' "Train Kept A Rollin'."

A guitar virtuoso, Beck, who was previously inducted in 1992 with the Yardbirds, was put in for his solo work. Although best known for his rock accomplishments, Beck's career has wandered a fretboard of genres ranging from

blues to jazz to electronica.

"Jeff's style is totally unorthodox to the way anyone was taught," said Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page, who presented his longtime friend. "He keeps getting better and better and better."

Beck, wearing all white, was joined on stage by Page, a fellow guitar god, who played bass during a searing rendition of Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song."

With two turntables and a microphone, Run-DMC broke down the barriers between rock and rap. With sparse, stripped-down lyrics above pounding beats, the trio of Joseph "DJ Run" Simmons, Darryl "D.M.C." McDaniels and Jason "Jam Master Jay" Mizell changed rap in the 1980s by taking the realities of the streets to the suburbs.

"They broke away from the pack by being the pack," said rapper Eminem, looking like the band's lost member by sporting the group's trademark black fedora and black leather jacket. "They were the baddest of the bad and the coolest of the cool. Run-DMC changed my life."

"There's three of them and if you grew up with hip hop like I did, they were the Beatles."

Their remake and collaboration with Aerosmith on the rock band's "Walk This Way" changed modern music.

"We were young guys with a new music that people thought was a fad, but we knew the culture was a way of life and we just lived it," McDaniels said. "The music that we made then didn't just impact friends, it impacted a generation. So I guess that's what rock and roll does."

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

President's ally behind assassination

Associated Press

DUBAI — The assassination of a Chechen renegade — the first reported political killing in this glitzy city — was masterminded by a close ally of Chechnya's president, Dubai authorities said Sunday, calling on Russia to untie "the knot of this crime."

The allegation could have broad implications for President Ramzan Kadyrov, a former rebel now closely allied with the Kremlin and its campaign to quell a 14-year insurrection in Chechnya.

One of his bitter foes, Sulim Yamadayev, was gunned down March 28 outside a busy residential complex along Dubai's shoreline.

His slaying was the latest assassination targeting Chechen renegades in and outside of Russia. Many observers have linked the killings to Kadyrov, who openly feuded with Yamadayev and his family. Kadyrov has denied involvement.

Dubai Police Chief Lt. Gen. Dahi Khalfan Tamim said Chechen authorities have not cooperated and that "Russia is also responsible for untying the knot of this crime."

Four suspects were in Russia and two others, an Iranian and a Tajik, were in custody, Tamim told reporters. None has been charged.

One of the suspects at large was Adam Delimkhanov, a Chechen member of Russia's lower house of parliament who is considered one of Kadyrov's close friends and part of his inner circle, Tamim said. He has also served as a

vice prime minister of Chechnya.

A suspect in custody told authorities that Delimkhanov planned the slaying, Tamim said. A suspect also said Delimkhanov's guards provided him with the gun used to kill Yamadayev, the police chief said.

"Our investigation found him (Delimkhanov) to be the mastermind of the assassination of Sulim Yamadayev," Tamim said. The police chief said Dubai will seek Interpol's help in arresting Delimkhanov and the three others.

Delimkhanov, 39, denied involvement, accused Dubai's police of incompetence and said Yamadayev had many enemies, according to a statement issued by his spokesman.

"I want to emphasize that I am a politician who for most of my life has battled terrorism and that even in this instance, I am ready to provide help to any justice system, including that of Dubai's," he said.

It was not clear what Yamadayev was doing in Dubai, but the authorities said he arrived to the emirate four months ago on a Russian passport issued in the name of Sulaiman Madov.

Though it's highly unlikely that Russia would turn Delimkhanov over to Dubai for prosecution, the allegations could further taint Kadyrov and the Kremlin's backing for him.

He took over the presidency in 2007 — three years after his father, the former leader, was assassinated in a bomb

blast. Since then, Kadyrov has presided over a virtual end to the large-scale fighting that destroyed the Chechen capital, Grozny, and sent thousands of Chechen refugees into neighboring North Caucasus republics.

As he consolidated his power, Kadyrov and his paramilitary forces have been repeatedly accused of torture, rampant kidnapping of civilians and other human rights abuses.

Many of his critics and political rivals have been killed. Some have been gunned down on the streets of Moscow, including journalist Anna Politkovskaya in 2006.

Kadyrov has denied any involvement in the killings. The Kremlin also has ignored calls for international investigations into the human rights allegations. While president, Vladimir Putin awarded Kadyrov Russia's highest honorary medal.

Yamadayev was also a contentious figure at home. Once a rebel leader battling Russia, he later switched sides and led a battalion of former rebels alongside the pro-Russian government.

Yamadayev had long-running tensions with Kadyrov, which exploded in April 2008. Kadyrov accused Yamadayev of involvement in abductions and murders, and an arrest warrant for him was issued.

Despite that, Yamadayev led his battalion to fight alongside the Russian military during Russia's war with Georgia last August. He was discharged from the Russian army shortly after.

IRAQ

Leaders will protect Palestinian residents

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas won assurances Sunday that Iraqi leaders will protect Palestinians living in Iraq — including thousands stranded in desert refugee camps — during his first visit to the country since the U.S.-led invasion of 2003.

The visit marked a major step in improving ties between the Shiite-led government of Iraq and the Palestinian leadership, which had warm relations with the ousted regime of Saddam Hussein.

"We would like to thank the Iraqi government for its concern about Palestinians living in Iraq," Abbas told reporters after a meeting with President Jalal Talabani.

Abbas, who also met with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, said Iraqi officials consider Palestinians living in Iraq to be "part of the Iraqi people, so we believe that they are in safe hands."

Palestinian exiles who fled to Iraq after the establishment of the state of Israel have been the target of persecution since the fall of Saddam, largely because they were favored by his deposed regime.

About 11,000 Palestinians still live in Iraq, mostly in Baghdad's Shiite district of Baladiyat. Hundreds of Palestinians, overwhelmingly Sunni, were slaughtered during the sectarian violence of a few years ago in Iraq.

Several thousand remain

stranded at refugee camps along the Iraqi-Syrian border where they fled the sectarian massacres. Abbas' aide, Saeb Erekat, said a main reason for Abbas' visit was to discuss the legal situation of the Palestinians in those camps.

Government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh asserted the situation has improved for the Palestinians, including those in the camps.

"The Iraqi government has dealt with and overcome this issue," al-Dabbagh said. "It is no more a problem, and now Palestinians in Iraq are sharing a normal life with Iraqis."

For his part, Talabani said Iraq's U.S.-backed government affirms its support for an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as the capital. "Iraq takes a firm stand regarding this issue," Talabani said.

Abbas praised Iraq's progress toward stability after six years of war, saying the country was witnessing "great progress in all walks of life."

"This country has started progressing and started recovering. It has gotten out of the bottleneck, thanks be to God," Abbas said.

The visit comes as violence has dramatically dropped in Iraq, though Iraq's security forces continue to be targets of insurgents.

Six gunmen in two cars blocked the vehicle of an Iraqi police brigadier general Sunday evening in east Baghdad and shot him dead, police said. The gunmen escaped.

PAKISTAN

Taliban threatens two attacks per week in country

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — A suicide bombing at a crowded Shiite mosque south of Pakistan's capital killed 22 people Sunday, the latest evidence of how security in the U.S.-allied nation is crumbling well beyond the Afghan border region where al-Qaida and Taliban fighters thrive.

The violence came as a senior Pakistani Taliban commander said his group was behind a deadly suicide bombing Saturday night in Islamabad and promised two more attacks per week in the country if the U.S. does not stop missile strikes on Pakistani territory.

Sunday's suicide bomber set off his explosives at the entrance to a mosque in Chakwal city in Punjab province, some 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Islamabad,

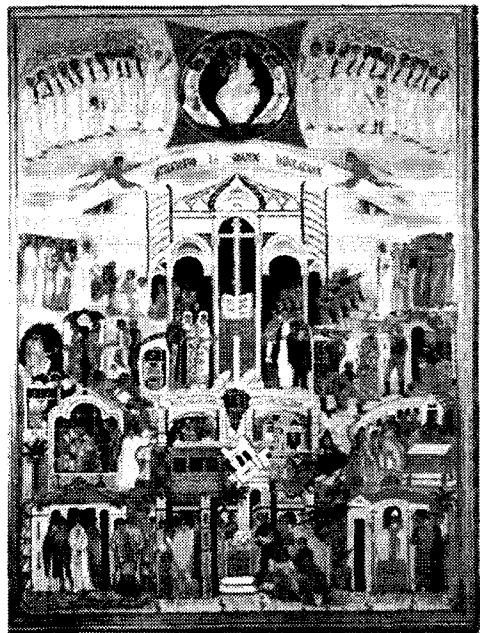
said Nadeem Hasan Asif, a top security official in the province. The blast killed 22 and wounded dozens, he said.

A little-known group believed linked to the Pakistani Taliban claimed it had staged the attack. Pakistan also has a history of sectarian violence, often involving Sunni extremists targeting minority Shiite Muslims.

TV footage showed pools of blood in front of the mosque. Torn clothes and shoes littered the ground, while at least one car and four motorcycles were damaged. A policeman with bandaged legs and a wounded man wearing a bloodstained shirt were shown on hospital beds crying in pain. A woman standing in the emergency ward of the hospital wailed, "Oh my God! Oh my God!"

Farid Ali said he was leaving the mosque when he felt the blast on his back.

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Monday, April 6, 2009
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Chapel is visible from main College entrance

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"At the end of the second millennium, the Church has once again become a Church of martyrs...The witness to Christ borne even to the shedding of blood has become a common inheritance of Catholics, Orthodox, Anglicans and Protestants." (John Paul II, TMA, 37)

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Monday, April 6, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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Downsizing our food, our culture and ourselves

Downsizing in business terms usually carries negative connotations; it means losing jobs, losing space, losing revenue.

Downsizing in houses means either your children moved out or you lost your job. It can be good — that you just don't need the space — but it's somehow still against our American bigger-is-better mentality.

Downsizing in general tends to get a bad rap.

But downsizing is exactly what we need right now. Our country is huge; a massive coordination of interests, regions and ideas, but not everything about us needs to be as massive as our waistlines and our supermarkets.

A lot of movements picked up this idea long before the economic meltdown. One of the biggest actors in the downsizing movement has been the food industry. Small farms movements, Slow Food, organic, composting and opposition groups to industrial agriculture have all propelled the ideas of reestablishing connections with the food you eat and where it comes from, downsizing from the big agribusiness to a more manageable, more personal way of getting your

food.

This movement started in America as a social novelty for those who could afford it, but it's not usually "organic" or buying the nature brand that downsizes the process. Rather, the idea that you go directly to the source: farmers markets, farms, stores buying local crops, eating in season. You don't need the gigantic apple that looks like all the others. There's no individuality there, no idea of a tree or the dirt or the farmer. How could any of us imagine the farm that can produce such homogenous giants?

That's not a fancy sticker or a class symbol, it's knowing where your food comes from. It hasn't been that long since we had more contact with the source of our food, which fosters (feeds?) a direct appreciation for the food itself. According to a 2007 study by the USDA, 48 percent of farm product sales are made by the less than two percent of American farms that have yearly sales of \$1 million or more.

Food from these farms has to be shipped to market, which is far away if the farm produces that much. That's bad for the environment because of shipping, it's bad for the food itself because it loses freshness in the transport and it's bad for the price of the food down the line all the way to the individual consumer.

But downsizing of these farms would mean more farms. Maybe that necessitates more farmers, but does-

n't that mean more jobs? Farms in the proximity of cities and within suburbs mean open space and greenery. It means the occasional manure smell, but it also means corn mazes (maize mazes?) and fresh pumpkins and apples in the fall.

Downsizing of the economy itself means smaller businesses. It means less impersonality, less apathy towards work, less feeling lost in the crowd. It means more unstable businesses at first, but if we can localize those businesses it can ensure stability while also providing a much-needed sense of community that can get lost in the suburban labyrinths.

Downsizing our food begins the downsizing of our lives. It means less business, less rush, less pollution, less hectic, less time in the car, more time with your family. Maybe incorporating this downsizing in how we get our food can initiate its spread to all areas of our life. We keep falling and falling in this economy, but if we can get down to the basics, wouldn't we have an easier time picking ourselves back up when the bottom gives out?

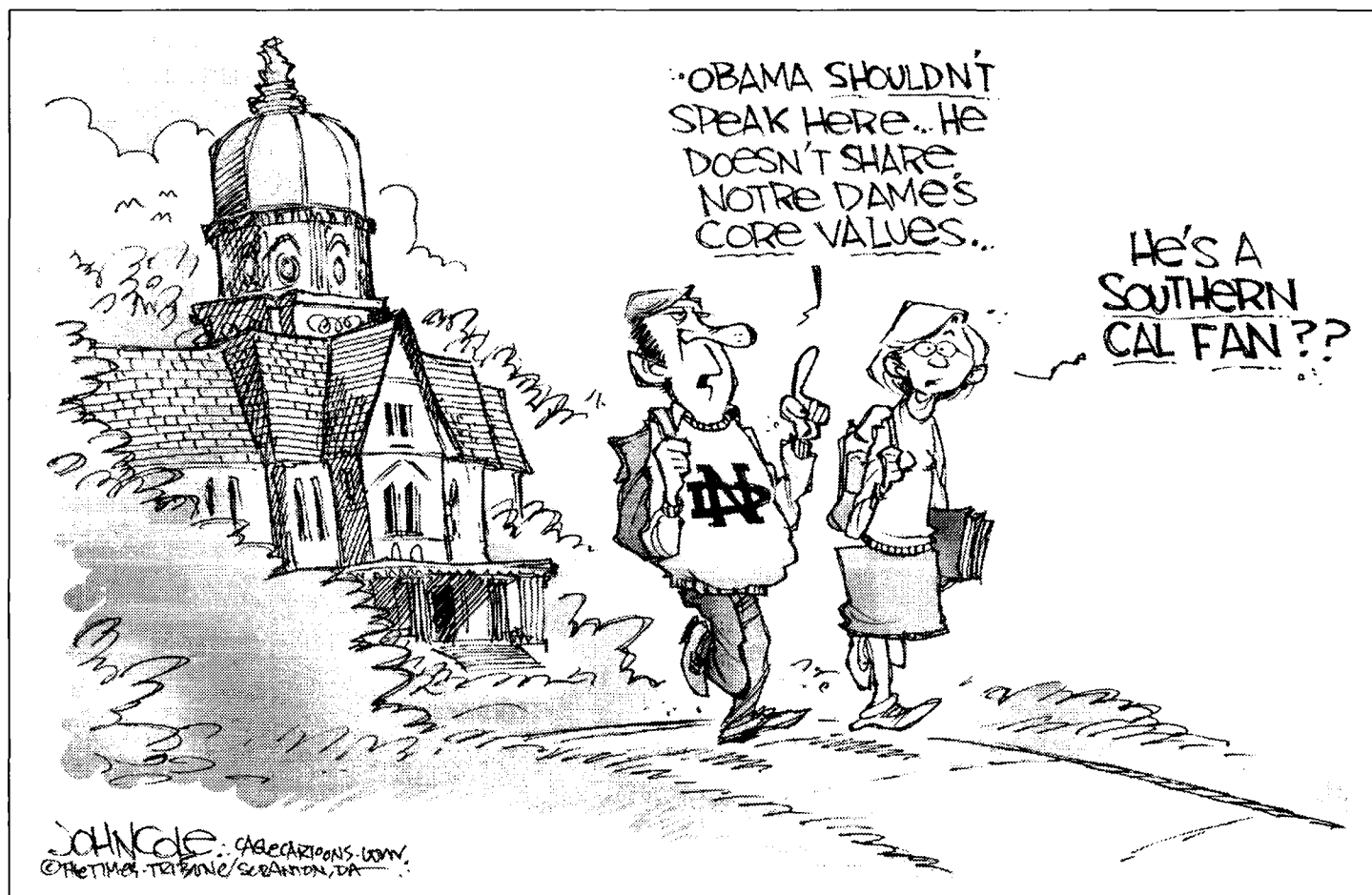
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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Jackie
Mirandola-
Mullen
*Chlorofilled
Cardboard*

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"America is a large, friendly dog in a very small room. Every time it wags its tail it knocks over a chair."

Arnold J. Toynbee
British historian

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The one thing I do not want to be called is First Lady. It sounds like a saddle horse."

Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis
former U.S. First Lady

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

Monday, April 6, 2009

page 11

The tyranny of the TSA

We live in an Orange Alert world. Though it's been over seven years since a terrorist attack has taken place on American soil, the "threat level" for aviation security remains at "Orange," signifying a "high risk of terrorist attack" on the federal government's absurdly Orwellian, color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System. Aviation security, of course, is serious business. But much of what goes on at airport security checkpoints has less to do with preventing terrorism than with simply presenting the illusion that something is being done to keep passengers safe, a practice which security expert Bruce Schneier calls "security theater." Everyone's heard stories of 90-year-old grandmothers being pulled aside to have their sewing kits thoroughly scrutinized by the watchful agents of the Transportation Security Administration. It's easy to laugh at such incidents, but our current airport security practices are no joke. Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the federal government has operated an aviation security regime that simultaneously fails to prevent real threats and infringes upon Americans' constitutional rights.

The sad truth is that the TSA's current airport security system is ill-equipped to thwart a determined terrorist. A 2007 review conducted by the Government Accountability Office found that "investi-

gators succeeded in passing through TSA security screening checkpoints undetected with components for several improvised explosive devices ... and an improvised incendiary device ... concealed in their carry-on luggage and on their persons." Such failures are to be expected. A government bureaucracy like the TSA has little incentive to develop effective security measures. Everyone, of course, wants to prevent terrorism. But in the short-term, the TSA's main objective is to look like it's doing something in order to satisfy the public demand for action. Meanwhile, the agency has no competition and faces few consequences for failure.

Sadly, ineffectiveness isn't the TSA's only problem. In its attempts to increase security, the organization has trampled upon Americans' civil liberties. The Fourth Amendment to the Constitution prohibits unreasonable search and seizure and requires the federal government to obtain a warrant before invading a citizen's privacy. Yet when we enter an airport, we permit government agents to rummage through our possessions, order us to remove our clothing, herd us through metal detectors and pat us down, all without the least indication that we have broken a law. In our quest for security, we have allowed the state to disregard our nation's Constitution and to violate our most basic freedoms — the very liberties so hated by the terrorists we seek to deter.

A recent incident provides a disturbing

example of what happens when we allow the federal government to ignore the basic restraints embodied in the Bill of Rights. Steve Bierfeldt, a political activist affiliated with Congressman Ron Paul's Campaign for Liberty, was detained at a St. Louis airport and questioned by TSA agents because he was carrying \$4,700 in cash. Possessing large sums of money, of course, is perfectly legal, but the federal agents who harassed Bierfeldt apparently weren't concerned with such a minor detail. The unlucky traveler managed to use his cell phone to record most of the interrogation, and the audio is widely available on the Internet. On the tape, TSA agents can be heard asking Bierfeldt an array of intrusive and irrelevant questions. Bierfeldt responded by calmly and civilly asking if he was legally required to share the information. The agents replied with foul and abusive language and threatened to bring him to other federal agencies for further questioning. After all, they said, if he was innocent, why wouldn't he want to answer their questions? Never mind that Bierfeldt was being harassed by government agents who were violating his Constitutional rights — the law apparently doesn't apply in airports, where Soviet-style intimidation is the rule.

Incidents such as Bierfeldt's unlawful detainment expose a government unconcerned with upholding the basic laws and principles upon which our nation was founded. Federal airport security does lit-

tle more than violate our rights while infringing upon our freedoms. Thankfully, there's a simple solution to this problem: privatization. There's no reason that airlines couldn't handle security themselves by hiring private businesses to screen for threats. Such a system would introduce competition, providing an incentive for security organizations to constantly improve their methods. Furthermore, because a single successful terrorist attack would put a firm out of business, there would be no room for the type of failure repeatedly displayed by the TSA. At the same time, passengers would be free to choose to fly at airports and airlines that used non-intrusive security measures, instead of being forced through the federal government's invasive, one-size-fits-all system. There's no good reason for the federal government to be in the business of airport security. It's time for Congress to defend our constitutional liberties and turn aviation security over to private airlines, which are better equipped to protect passengers than an incompetent and tyrannical government agency.

Ben Linskey, a sophomore majoring in political science and philosophy, is co-president of the College Libertarians. He can be contacted at blinskey@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Employer intimidation

I am writing in response to Brian Benjamin's April 1 letter "Unions May be the Problem." He argues that the Employee Free Choice Act will create a situation in which unions will coerce workers to sign cards. Despite his concern for the worker, he has a completely misguided view of the balance of power in the workplace. In fact, all of the power is in the hands of the people writing the checks (the employers) who often hire "union-busters," men and women whose job it is to help employers run anti-union campaigns.

Employers can and do threaten and intimidate their workers into voting against a union. Many employers would rather violate the terms of the National Labor Relations Act and suffer the consequences than let their workers unionize. Statistics show that a worker in an organizing campaign has a one in five chance of being fired for union activity, despite the fact that employers know full well that it is illegal to do so. If workers are not fired, they are often forced into repeated, one-on-one, anti-union meetings with their supervisors in which they are coerced and threatened into voting against a union. What power does a union organizer have in coercing employees to sign a union card? They cannot threaten a worker's job or benefits; they have no power because they are not writing the checks.

The Employee Free Choice Act will help to eliminate some of the extreme harassment that workers face in union campaigns. It will make the penalties harsher for employers who violate the law by firing workers or intimidating employees.

Fifty-three percent of non-unionized workers

want a union (www.efca.org). However, because the power is in the hands of the employer, the process to form a union is far more difficult than it should be. Even if a secret ballot election is conducted and a majority of workers vote in favor of a union, 44 percent of the time they cannot get a first contract. Employers often use various tactics to delay or halt negotiations with their employees in order to avoid making the changes that the workers want.

In his letter, Benjamin notes that he is not alone in his opinion; Democratic Senator George McGovern is against the EFCA as well. With the backlash from corporate America, Benjamin and McGovern find themselves standing with corporate CEOs across the nation, including the extremely vocal former Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott. These CEOs, who in fact have contracts themselves to protect their grossly inflated pay and benefits, are often the people who lead anti-union campaigns of intimidation and harassment in their businesses. As for the rest of America, 73 percent support the act.

Luckily for Benjamin, if employees find that their rights are being ignored, and they are being coerced by union representatives because of the card check system, workers can still choose to have a secret ballot election instead. However, I think we will find that this is not even an issue.

Sarah Furman
sophomore
Welsh Family Hall
April 1

EFCA dangerous

The Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) will allow non-union workers to immediately unionize if over 50 percent of the workforce signs union authorization cards. These cards are signed and turned over to the union so that an accurate count may be made. Currently, the National Labor Relations Act requires a vote by private ballot to be held as soon as the union can demonstrate that 30 percent of the workers have signed a card. Under EFCA, no such process would occur. The union would simply be required to obtain, by either coercion or extravagant promises, the signed cards of half the employees. Currently, less than eight percent of private sector workers belong to unions, a number that has been falling for decades.

In her March 31 letter ("Unions a necessity"), Sarah Lyons explains this is because "employers hire anti-union consulting firms, hold captive-audience meetings and even fire employees to intimidate others." But the National Labor Relations Board, which fields these complaints, rejects almost all of the allegations after inspection. For example, in 2005, the NLRB found evidence of illegal firings in only 2.7 percent of the organizing campaigns that took place that year.

This bill will also impose a 120-day deadline for companies to sign a labor contract — after which government arbitrators would dictate labor contracts. An example of this can be seen in the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. The result has been costly contracts with no linkage to productivity improvement, cost reduction or product pricing. Salaries and benefits continue to rise, while mail volume and revenue decrease.

If EFCA passes, it will create conditions whereby employees are liable to be badgered and intimidated into signing authorization cards and employers will be forced into accepting contracts that are apt to fiscally hamstring them. In today's economy, the risks of EFCA are just too great.

Kiel Hockett
senior
Dillon Hall
March 31

Something to be proud of

I am fond of many traditions from my home state of Iowa. It seems, however, that the rest of the world is not very familiar with these traditions. The word "supper," not "dinner," draws amused stares for its parochial ring and I have yet to find a fellow Notre Dame (non-Iowan) student who can share my joy in the idea of creek-stomping, mushroom hunting or what the butter cow will look like this summer.

Yes, despite the obscurity of these traditions outside of my home state, I am proud of them. With the overturn of a 2007 court ruling banning same-sex marriages on Friday, one of Iowa's traditions has been placed in the public spotlight. I am talking, of course,

about the tradition of promoting equality in social issues. Iowa "was among the first states to legalize interracial marriage and to allow married women to own property. It was also the first state to admit a woman to the bar to practice law and was a leader in school desegregation" (Amy Lorentzen, "Iowa Supreme Court Legalizes Gay Marriage").

Now, Iowa has become the third state in the nation — and the first state in the midwest — to legalize same-sex marriages. The unanimous decision of Iowa Supreme Court justices keeps with a tradition of leadership in social issues. If only one of Iowa's traditions is noticed outside of the state, I am glad that it

is this tradition. Assuredly, the rest of the world will not care which team wins the traditional Cy-Hawk game this year and the rest of the student body will continue to ridicule me for my fondness of "supper." I hope, however, that they will all take notice of the precedent that has been set for social equality and strive to further promote this ideal. Yes. Now, more than ever, I am proud to be an Iowan.

Kirsten Adam
freshman
Welsh Family Hall
April 3



MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Scene Writer

"Adventureland," written and directed by "Superbad's" Greg Mottola, is the sort of coming-of-age, eccentric-boy-meets-cool-girl movie that people just seem to eat up these days. But don't let Mottola's "Superbad" credit mislead you — this definitely isn't "Superbad." Jesse Eisenberg plays the very real, very not-cool, Renaissance studies major that gets stuck working at a Pittsburgh amusement park over the summer in 1987. But Adventureland, the amusement park in question, turns out to not be so bad when he meets Em ("Twilight's" Kristen Stewart). She plays the prototypical "I'm-

cool-and-emotionally-unavailable" girl that he just can't help but fall for. She's also sleeping with Adventureland's married handyman Connell (Ryan Reynolds). The movie has plenty of laughs, particularly from Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig, but it's more of a nostalgic tale about finding yourself than a screwball comedy. The jokes, when they happen, are pretty laugh-worthy.

"Adventureland" is rooted in an 80s soundtrack (count how many times you hear Falco's "Rock Me Amadeus"), and has enough sly references to maybe make you

Eisenberg plays James in the same awkward vein as Michael Cera, but seems more genuine. He is adorable but never seems infallible. Unlike so many protagonists of these types of movies, he makes the same mistakes that real people actually do, and those mistakes aren't just letting the perfect girl get away.

Em, as said perfect girl, isn't all that perfect herself. Stewart never seems like she's acting. Her idiosyncrasies just make her more sincere as a character. She gives Em a heart and the rare glimpses of vulnerability in her otherwise invulnerable character that the audience really needs to see. But James' and Em's flaws fit perfectly together. Unfortunately, the audience knows it's right before either of them does.

Eisenberg and Stewart may be the heart of "Adventureland," but the supporting cast fills the movie out into something more than just a corny romance. Hader and Wiig are perfect as the quirky park owners, and their comedic timing is always right. Martin Starr ("Knocked Up") is Joel, another literature buff work-

ing at the park. His presence alone gives the movie some extra weight. Ryan Reynolds, while not a very likeable or important character, provides Em with her much-needed emotional vulnerability.

Mottola, who also wrote "Adventureland," gave his semi-autobiographical film a necessary taste of authenticity. It's this authenticity that keeps the film from being a cliché.

"Adventureland" looks fondly back on a time, 22 years ago, that many loved, some hated and plenty just never got to see. It's reminiscent of "American Graffiti" and "Dazed and Confused." But while those opened up a new generation to their cultural predecessors, "Adventureland" seems less bent on showing the 80s and more interested in showing how the 80s weren't really all that long ago, even though they sort of were. These kids are the same as now; trying to grow up too fast and thinking they know everything about life. "Adventureland" is close to nostalgia at its best. Where it fails in being a supremely moving film, it has a whole lot of heart. Mottola brings a fresh and fine-tuned eye to his movie and proves that he shouldn't be pigeonholed as a go-to comedy guy.

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

Adventureland

Director: Greg Mottola

Starring: Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, Bill Hader, Kristen Wiig



sunshine
gives bleak outlook



CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CRIM

MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By CORNELIUS ROGERS
Scene Writer

Are you one of the many people who loves "Little Miss Sunshine?" If so, then you may be wondering what "Sunshine Cleaning," which opened this weekend, has to do with it. The film's marketing campaign tried to attach itself as much as possible to "Little Miss Sunshine" (LMS), including

a similar title with similar font and Alan Arkin reprising his role as the grandfather — although probably not in an Oscar-winning performance this time.

The film's trailer made the film out to be a movie that, like LMS, would combine hilarity with serious drama. This is where the similarities between the two movies end. While LMS told a fairly upbeat and humorous story about a family's love for each other, "Sunshine Cleaning" tells a story about life's many messes, and the biggest one of all — death.

The film's central character is Rose Lorkowski (Amy Adams) a single mother working as a maid hoping to earn enough money to send her child to school and acquire a real estate license for herself. Rose also struggles with her affair with married man Mac (Steve Zahn). Rose's less successful sister Norah (Emily Blunt) moves from job to job, and both were left emotionally traumatized by their mother's death when they

were children. The two agree to run a crime scene cleanup business to earn more money.

The job of removing the physical damages caused by death in other people's lives causes the two sisters to take a deeper look at the emotional damage left behind by their mother's death in their own lives. Rose realizes how pathetic her attempts to one-up her high school friends really are. Norah befriends Lynn (Mary Lynn Rajskub), the daughter of one of their crime scene's victims.

Very little about the film marks it as outstanding. The film leaves several of its plot lines unresolved. Rose ends her affair with Mac, but does not find any successful romantic relationship, and Norah's relationship with Lynn (Mary Lynn Rajskub) collapses. Instead she goes on a road trip, an idea which pops into her head during the final minutes of the film.

The film's redeeming qualities come from the wealth of acting talent. Amy Adams delivers a convincing performance as the single mother dealing with

both inner and outer turmoil. Her moments of vulnerability are sure to evoke empathy from the viewers. However, the real talent in this film comes from Emily Blunt, an actress who has consistently delivered solid supporting actress performances, but has never had a definitive leading lady role.

Blunt does an impressive job of balancing the inner and outer frustration of her character while getting the viewer to laugh both with her and at her. If the film will be nominated for any Academy Awards, it will surely be for her performance.

The film's director and writer, Christine Jeffs and Megan Holley respectively, do not have many films on their resumes, and it shows. While the film delivers a few awkward laughs in a seemingly morbid narrative, its final message is as murky and muddled as the many crime scenes Rose and Norah clean up.

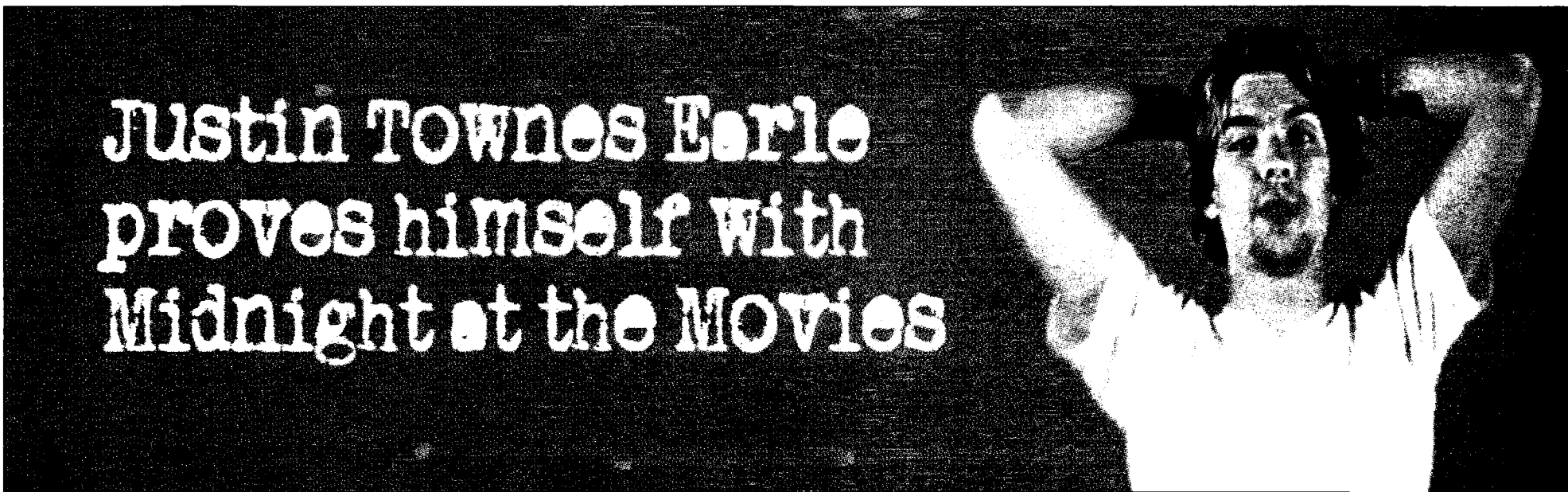
Contact Cornelius Rogers at crogers1@nd.edu

Sunshine Cleaning

Director: Christine Jeffs

Starring: Amy Adams, Emily Blunt, Steve Zahn





MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By JAMES DuBRAY
Scene Writer

Justin Townes Earle has been through, well, a heck of a lot more than you have. The first son of the rebel troubadour himself, Steve Earle, and the namesake of a country God, Earle was born with colossal expectations. Between his father's escapades (seven marriages and a tough-to-kick drug habit) and his own penchant for getting high, Earle's post-adolescent years weren't a walk in the park either. Despite his somewhat recent problems,

which included getting kicked out of his father's backing band, Earle's sophomore record seems to have borrowed a thing or two from fellow rebellious Southern son, Ryan Adams ("I've had a pretty hard life/ Such as easy heart").

Yet, Earle clearly hasn't left his past completely behind. In light of his current sobriety, Earle appears ready to acknowledge his mistakes and move forward.

On the album's best track, "Mama's Eyes," Earle reveals, "I went down the same road as my old man" almost whispering beneath his brilliantly simple strumming. Yet, as the song continues, Earle gives a window into his recent optimism: "I've got my mama's eyes/ A long thin frame and a smile."

"Midnight At The Movies" lasts barely 30 minutes. Yet, in this small stretch of time, Earle manages to provide a tour of raw blues and

pre-rock country stylings, while producing an album that is notable in its cohesion.

Earle's second record could not be more different than fellow indie peer Animal Collective's recent electro-pop explosion, yet it stands with "Merriweather Post Pavilion" as one of the few very good albums of 2009.

In the middle of "MATM," Earle includes a half-minute finger picking demonstration as much to brag about his playing ability as to dictate a mood change. The instrumental separates the aforementioned "Mama's Eyes" from the album's only cover, the conspicuous enough "Can't Hardly Wait."

Townes Earle's performance is a worthy take on one of Westerberg's best songs. Initially it seems odd to hear a traditional country appropriator covering perhaps America's greatest underground band. That's until the realization hits that even though Earle's album testifies to the heart of punk music better than any Fall Out Boy or All American Rejects record ever could.

Ditties "Black-Eyed Suzy" and "What

I Mean to You" display Earle's ability to write darn catchy tunes, while songs like "They Killed John Henry" and "Halfway to Jackson" are a testament to the rebel son's vintage country record collection.

Yet the album's opener and closer form the thematic crux of the record. The former and title track reveals an optimistic Earle's take on what must be Tom Waits' favorite movie theater. The latter, "Here We Go Again," is the once in a career,

rare view into an artist's heart and psyche.

Singing with more confidence than anywhere on his first record, Earle reveals his opening mind commenting on a feeling that lies in all of us: the fear that anything of worth will soon disappear, the three in the morning thought that we're all destined to become victim to our failings.

With his second record, Earle may be on the way to doing something his father has never done: proving himself wrong.

Contact James DuBray at
jdubray@nd.edu

Midnight at the Movies Justin Townes Earle

Label: Bloodshot

Recommended Tracks: "Mama's Eyes," "Can't Hardly Wait," "Black Eyed Suzie"



Dining Hall Dish

By ELLIE HALL
Scene Writer

Sometimes the best way to enjoy food is to mix it all together. From ice cream to salads to smoothies, everything tastes better blended. Today's dining hall recipes follow this same concept. Mix it up and enjoy!

Mixed-up Oatmeal

Oatmeal is a morning staple, regardless of the dining hall. This delicious and nutritious breakfast dish can be made so much more enjoyable if you take advantage of your surroundings.

Fill a bowl with oatmeal, but leave about an inch of

room from the top.

Go to the waffle station and add a ladleful of maple syrup.

Add a layer of raisins from the fruit and salad bar.

Make your way to the spice rack and add two or three shakes of cinnamon to the top of your oatmeal.

Procure a glass of milk and add about three tablespoons (just a little bit).

Mix it all together and enjoy your tasty breakfast!

Mexican Fiesta Bowl

A strange, yet delightful twist on KFC's Famous Bowls. The combination of mashed potatoes and sea-

soned beef gives a Mexican kick to this new take on Shepherd's Pie.

Get a large pasta bowl and add one large scoop of mashed potatoes

Take your bowl to the Mexican food line and add one scoop of seasoned beef, a small dollop of sour cream, and a sprinkling of cheese.

Add a large spoonful of corn from the steamed vegetables section.

Mix the different food together.

Cheesy Potatoes

Not the healthiest of snacks, but they're delicious! Get your cheese fry

fix in the dining hall and avoid those late night cravings that send you cross-campus to Reckers.

Find the form of fried potatoes that the dining hall is offering (the fried seasoned potato cubes are the best, but any fries work well too).

Get one of the small bowls used for Jell-O and pudding and fill it with the Nacho cheese sauce from the Mexican food section. A little sour cream is good too.

Dip and enjoy!

Have your own dining hall recipe? We would love to feature it! E-mail ehall4@nd.edu

NBA

Knicks knock Raptors out of playoff hunt

Brewer leads the way for dominant Jazz with 23 points as Utah sweeps season series with New Orleans

Associated Press

TORONTO — The New York Knicks and Toronto Raptors ensured there won't be playoff basketball in either city this year.

Wilson Chandler scored 17 points, David Lee added 16 points and 10 rebounds and the Knicks beat the Raptors 112-103 on Sunday night, eliminating Toronto from the playoffs.

It came one day after the Knicks saw their postseason hopes end with a 102-95 home loss to the Raptors.

"They were just as long a shot as we were," Knicks guard Chris Duhon said. "They needed a miracle, we needed a miracle and we just ended those miracles for each other."

New York's victory snapped a nine-game losing streak in Toronto. The Knicks had not won north of the border since March 5, 2004.

"We just came out to play; it wasn't revenge," Chandler said.

Quentin Richardson scored 16 points, Jared Jeffries added 14 and Nate Robinson scored 13 for the Knicks, who snapped a four-game losing streak and won for the first time in six tries on the road.

Chris Bosh had 31 points and 14 rebounds for Toronto, whose season-high six-game winning streak came to an end.

"All the things we were doing

to keep the winning streak going, we did the opposite tonight," Raptors forward Shawn Marion said.

Andrea Bargani scored 18 points, Anthony Parker had 15 and Marion 13.

Toronto had made the playoffs in each of the past two years, losing in the first round each time.

"Would I like to be there? Of course," Bosh said. "It's the best basketball in the world. This year we're going to have to watch. I'll just have to be a student of the game and see how I can get better by watching other teams."

The Knicks had lost 10 of 11 coming in and briefly looked to be in danger of throwing another one away. Leading by 16, New York missed seven straight shots to begin the fourth, allowing Toronto to cut it to 92-85 with a 9-0 run. Richardson ended the drought with a 3-pointer with 8:47 left and Robinson followed with a jumper, putting New York up by 12.

Toronto rallied again when Marion made a rare 3-pointer, then followed it with a steal and was fouled making a jumper, cutting it to 103-96. But Marion failed to convert the three-point play and Al Harrington replied with New York's 13th 3-pointer.

"Guys hit key shots for us down the stretch, kind of keep-

ing the distance and keeping the pressure on them," Duhon said. "That's something we've struggled with all year is finishing games. I know we only have a few games left but we want to do as good a job as we can of fixing the areas we've struggled with throughout the year."

Toronto led 34-33 after the first quarter but fell behind in the second, shooting just 9-for-30. The Knicks made four of five 3-pointers in the second to take a 65-54 lead at the half.

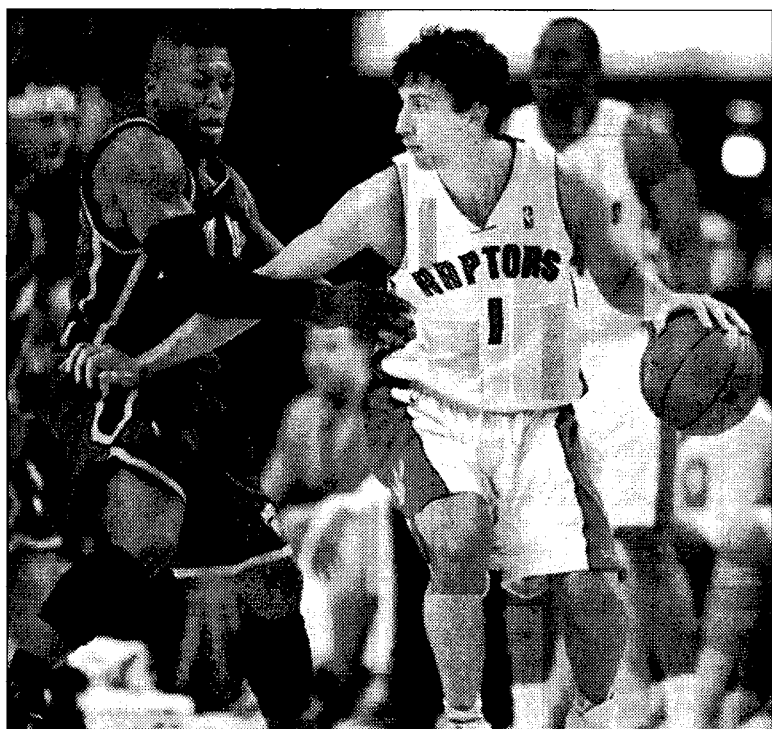
"We gave them a lot of open looks early," Bosh said. "Once they got their confidence, Q-Rich came in and really lit it up and Chandler hit a lot of tough shots too. When you give guys open looks, especially early in the game, they get that confidence and they're a little bit tougher to stop."

Richardson scored 10 points in the third, including a pair of 3-pointers, as the Knicks took a 92-76 lead into the fourth.

Utah 108, New Orleans 94

Ronnie Brewer scored 23 points and the Utah Jazz completed a convincing season sweep of the New Orleans Hornets with their victory on Sunday night.

Deron Williams had 21 points and 11 assists for Utah, which led by 30 in the second quarter and snapped a three-game skid with its first road victory



Knicks guard Nate Robinson, left, defends Raptors guard Roko Ukic during New York's 112-103 win over Toronto on Sunday.

against a winning team in the Western Conference this season.

David West had 23 points and 12 rebounds for New Orleans, which could have clinched a playoff spot with a victory, but instead lost its second straight game. Chris Paul had 19 points and 12 assists for the Hornets, who lost all three games against Utah this season by double-digit margins.

Utah, currently seventh in the Western Conference, used a well-rounded effort to pull within a half-game of New Orleans for the sixth spot. Andrei Kirilenko, starting because C.J. Miles was out with a dislocated left index finger, scored 16 points. Carlos Boozer had 10 points and 10 rebounds, and Mehmet Okur scored 18 points.

For a team that had yet to beat a Western Conference playoff contender on the road this season, Utah came out brimming with confidence, perhaps seeking redemption for an unlikely loss at home to struggling Minnesota on Friday night.

Utah outscored New Orleans 41-19 in the first quarter, marking the most points allowed by the Hornets in a quarter this season. Okur had 13 points during those first 12 minutes and Brewer had 12, each hitting an array of shots from inside and the perimeter. Williams, meanwhile, had eight assists and seven points in the period.

The Jazz shot 76 percent (19-

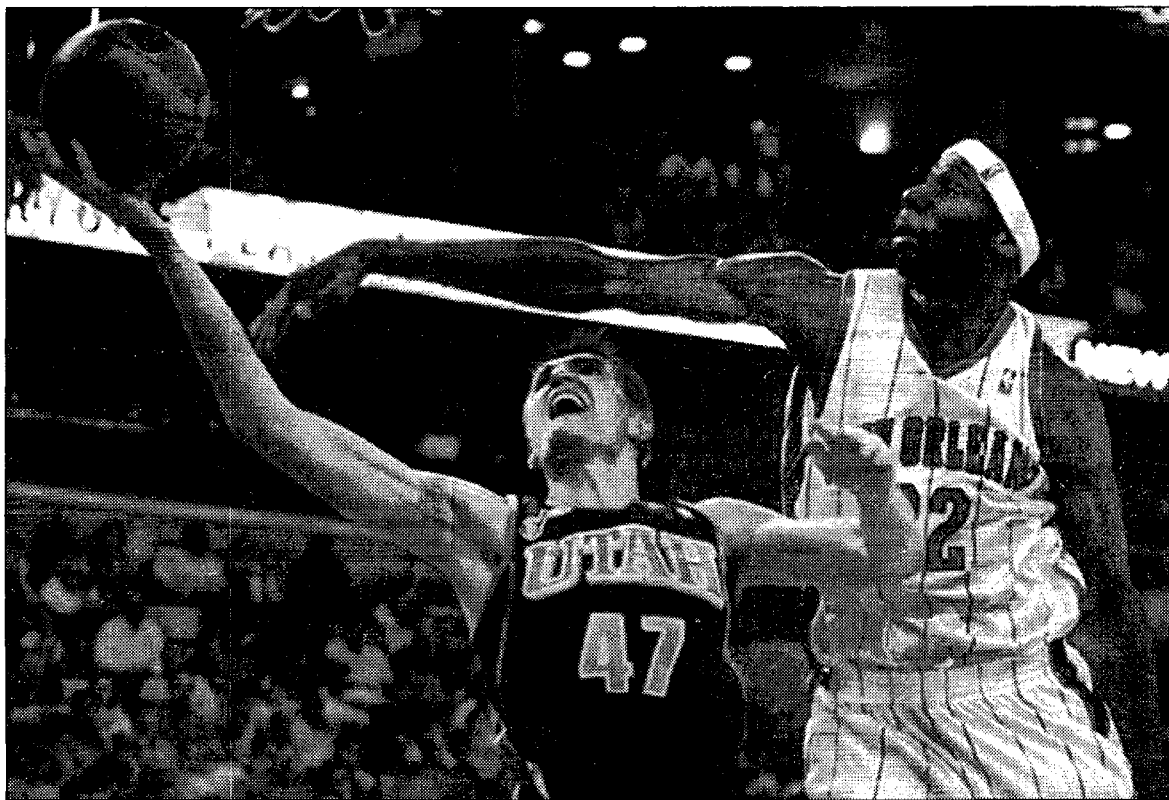
of-25) in the quarter. Utah also ignited its transition offense with good defense, forcing six early turnovers. Boozer twice stole the ball from West. Williams tied up Paul near half-court. Paul showed his frustration by complaining to officials, who called a technical foul on him.

When Kirilenko sank a 3-pointer to close out scoring in the quarter, the home fans were booing, and the Hornets didn't do much to change that in the second period. Matt Harpring's free throws, followed by his short hook over Morris Peterson, capped an 8-0 run that put Utah ahead by 30 with 4:24 still remaining in the half.

Soon after, Paul was called for his third foul and came out. Unable to respond with any sustained runs of their own, the Hornets trailed 66-39 at half-time.

New Orleans made a bid to climb back into the game in the third quarter, outscoring Utah 37-21 during the period to pull to 87-76 heading into the fourth quarter.

West had 10 points in the period, mostly on midrange jump shots, while Paul scored eight points and set up eight other scores, including an alley-oop to Rasual Butler, who finished with 21 points. Peja Stojakovic, playing as a reserve in his second game since returning from an ailing back, added a pair of 3-pointers.



Jazz forward Andrei Kirilenko, left, drives to the basket in front of Hornets forward Julian Wright during the first half of Utah's 108-94 win over New Orleans. Utah swept the season series with New Orleans.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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In the middle of the night,
I go walking in my sleep,
From the mountains of faith,
To a river so deep,
I must be looking for something,
Something sacred I lost.
But the river is wide,
And it's too hard to cross

Even though I know the river is wide,
I walk down every evening and I stand by the shore
I try to cross to the opposite side,
So I can finally find what I've been looking for

AROUND THE NATION

Monday, April 6, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Softball USA Today/NFCA Top 25

	team	points	previous
1	Florida	747	1
2	Stanford	719	3
3	Washington	680	2
4	Arizona St.	646	6
5	Alabama	644	4
6	Georgia	590	7
7	UCLA	552	5
8	Northwestern	540	10
9	Arizona	482	11
10	Michigan	456	12
11	Missouri	423	13
12	Oklahoma	407	8
13	Tennessee	394	9
14	California	378	16
15	North Carolina	326	18
16	Louisville	285	14
17	Ohio St.	282	15
18	LSU	260	17
19	Texas A&M	171	20
20	Lafayette (La.)	138	21
21	Florida St.	135	19
22	DePaul	109	23
23	Massachusetts	96	22
24	Southern Ill.	65	25
25	Texas	50	NR

IWLCA Women's Tennis ITA Division I Rankings

	team	points	previous
1	Northwestern	87	1
2	Georgia	79	2
3	NOTRE DAME	72	3
4	Baylor	69	4
5	Miami (Fla.)	67	5
6	Georgia Tech	67	6
7	Southern California	65	10
8	California	65	8
9	Duke	63	7
10	Stanford	55	11
11	Clemson	53	12
12	UCLA	52	9
13	Tennessee	46	13
14	Fresno St.	44	15
15	Arkansas	43	23
16	Florida	41	14
17	Florida St.	39	25
18	North Carolina	38	18
19	Vanderbilt	37	NR
20	Kentucky	37	19

NCAA Men's Volleyball Division I-II Top 15

	team	points
1	UC Irvine	238
2	Pepperdine	222
3	Cal St. Northridge	200
4	Southern California	195
5	Stanford	174
6	BYU	163
7	Long Beach St.	142
8	Penn St.	132
9	UCLA	102
10	UC San Diego	98
11	Lewis	82
12	UC Santa Barbara	50
13	Hawaii	40
14	Ohio St.	35
15	Loyola (Ill.)	24

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball Championship

Michigan State vs. North Carolina
9 p.m., CBS

MLB

Chicago Cubs at Houston
7:00 p.m., ESPN2

PGA TOUR



Paul Casey of England watches his tee shot on the eleventh hole during the second round of the Houston Open on Friday. The 31-year-old Casey won his first PGA Tour victory after beating J.B. Holmes in sudden death.

Casey tops Holmes in first playoff

Associated Press

HUMBLE, Texas — Paul Casey finally considers himself one of the world's top golfers, just in time for the Masters.

Casey won the Shell Houston Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory, beating J.B. Holmes with a bogey on the first playoff hole. The 31-year-old Englishman has nine international victories since 2001, but had never won in the United States. The victory boosted Casey from No. 12 to No. 6 in the world rankings, a career high.

"It's time to start believing I can be a top 10 player in the world and maybe I can be in the top five," Casey said. "We'll see when we get there. Clearly, I just took a little while to sort of get used to things and feel comfortable. Now, I feel comfortable out here."

Holmes needed a win to earn a trip to next week's Masters, and is the only player from last year's Ryder Cup who failed to qualify. Casey bogeyed the 18th hole in regulation to complete a 72 and tie Holmes at 11 under par. Holmes wrapped up a 69 almost three hours before Casey finished.

The players met on the

tee of the 488-yard 18th hole, the most difficult of the tournament with an average score of 4.336.

Holmes hooked his tee shot into the pond that lines the hole, admitting that the long wait threw him off.

"It was rough," Holmes said. "I posted that three hours before they were done. That was an advantage I thought I had, but when you get into a playoff after waiting three hours, it turns out to be a bit of a disadvantage. I hit a bad shot and didn't deserve to win."

Casey then drove into the fairway bunker on the right side and hit a safe

layup to the front of the green. Holmes reached the green with his fourth shot, then missed a long bogey putt. Casey two-putted from 27 feet to secure the win.

Casey made a last-minute commitment to play in Houston and would now be flying to Augusta with a helpful dose of confidence.

"The self-belief, this is a very difficult thing to explain and to work on, because you don't want to be arrogant," he said. "But yet you have to believe in yourself. For me, it's just been a lot of hard work, playing a lot of golf, and a bit of time."

IN BRIEF

Joba retires 16 straight in final warmup

TAMPA, Fla. — New York Yankees right-hander Joba Chamberlain allowed two runs and two hits over 5 1/3 innings in his final spring training start on Sunday.

Chamberlain, pitching for Double-A Trenton in a camp game against Triple-A Scranton/Wikes-Barre, retired 16 in a row — including five strikeouts — after allowing two hits and a walk to start the game.

The Yankees' No. 5 starter faced additional batters after three outs were recorded — two in the third and three during the fifth — to reach his scheduled pitch count of 75.

"It took me just a little bit to get going," Chamberlain said. "I wanted to work on fastball command and my changeup, and I think I did a great job with those two. I think it was one of my most productive days as far as consistency. It was good."

Patrick, Matos have heated discussion

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Danica Patrick's season got off to a tough start after she crashed out early in the season-opening Honda Grand Prix.

She was running ninth in the 22-car field on Sunday when rookie Raphael Matos tried to pass as the two went into one of the tightest turns on the 1.8-mile, 14-turn temporary street circuit.

Both cars crashed, with Patrick's Andretti Green Racing entry slamming hard, rear end first into a tire barrier.

As the uninjured drivers walked away, Patrick patted Matos on the helmet as if to say, "Use your head." The two then waited for a ride back to the pits, with a lively discussion taking place as Matos sat on a wall and Patrick stood in front of him.

Gordon snaps skid at elusive Texas

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jeff Gordon had gone so long without winning a race that he picked up a new trick or two watching other drivers celebrate.

No, not a backflip a la Carl Edwards.

After the obligatory burnout on the frontstretch for his first victory ever at Texas, one that ended his career-high 47-race winless drought in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series, Gordon pulled up to the start-finish line and got the checkered flag to take on a long-awaited victory lap.

"It was the coolest. It was like winning for the very first time," Gordon said. "Things have changed since I won a race ... That's the first time I've ever carried a checkered flag in NASCAR. I used to do that in quarter-midgets when I was 8."

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Michigan State itching for rematch with UNC

Associated Press

DETROIT — Michigan State has been itching for this do-over since December.

Not only is the NCAA title at stake when the Spartans play North Carolina on Monday night, Michigan State will try to avenge that 35-point beatdown the Tar Heels laid on them four months ago. It was the most lopsided loss for Michigan State since 1996, Tom Izzo's first year as coach.

"We got embarrassed," Kalin Lucas said after the 98-63 loss in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge, also played at Ford Field.

Oh, how things have changed.

The Spartans (31-6) are an inspired bunch these days, playing for their third national title and the pride of their downtrodden state.

"The whole country is going through an extremely difficult time period right now. ... Perhaps it's even a little more difficult for those people here. I appreciate that and understand what they're grabbing onto," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "I'm happy for them. I will not be as happy for them on Monday night."

Few places have been hit harder by the economic crisis than Michigan, Detroit in particular, and folks are desperate for something to rally around, even if only for a few hours. The Spartans have been happy to oblige, knocking off not one, but two No. 1 seeds to get to the NCAA title game.

Now comes another in North Carolina (33-4). It will be the fifth meeting between the Tar Heels and Spartans in the NCAA tournament, and North Carolina has won the first four. The Tar Heels are an early 7-point favorite.

"I hope we were a ray of sunshine, a distraction for them, a diversion, anything else we can be," Izzo said after the Spartans ran over Hasheem Thabeet and Connecticut in an 82-73 upset Saturday night. "We're not done yet."

The mighty Big East, however, is.

The best conference in the country got seven teams in the tournament, and two made it all the way to the Final Four. But both went down Saturday night and, really, it wasn't even close for Connecticut or Villanova. After banging and brawling their way through the Big East season, both teams were outmuscled all night.

The Spartans were a weakened bunch when they played the Tar Heels back in December. Center Goran Suton was out with a knee injury, and Michigan State was playing its fourth game in a week. They managed to stay with Carolina early but had fallen behind by 14 at the half and were thoroughly outmatched in the second half.

But Suton is back — way back. He led the rough-and-tumble Big Ten in rebounding, and was picked as the most outstanding player of the Midwest Regional after averaging a double-double in the first four games. He only had seven boards and four points Saturday, but he played a big part in smothering Thabeet, who wasn't much of a factor despite his 17 points and six rebounds.

Raymar Morgan shook off his late-season slump with a spectacular game, finishing with 18 points, nine rebounds and five steals against the Huskies. Lucas, the Big Ten player of the year, had 21 points.

Then there's the crowd factor. With their Breslin Center home court just 90 miles away, Michigan State is playing the closest to home of any Final Four team since Kansas won the 1998 title in Kansas City, and Detroit is awash in green and white. A Final Four-record crowd of 72,456 turned out Saturday night, and about two-thirds of the fans were there for the Spartans.

How's this for some karma? Magic Johnson, Spartan-in-chief since leading Michigan State to its first title in 1979, will present the game ball before Monday's title game along with Larry Bird.

"We definitely know they've gotten better," Deon Thompson said. "They didn't have Suton last time, and he's a big-time player. I really think it's a different team from when we played them back here."

North Carolina, however, is just as daunting.

With Tyler Hansbrough, Ty Lawson and Wayne Ellington back from last year's Final Four team, the Tar Heels were the unanimous preseason No. 1 and a fifth national championship seemed a given. But they looked vulnerable after losing to Florida State in the ACC tournament, especially with Ty Lawson missing that game and two others with a bum big toe.

So much for that.

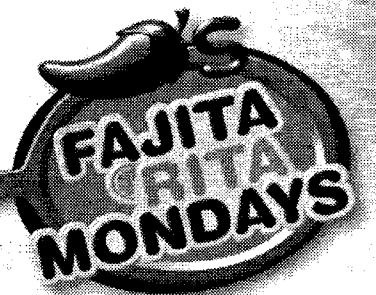
They've won every tournament game by 12 points or more. They took a lead three minutes into the game Saturday night and never trailed again. They had four players in double figures, led by Lawson's 22 points and eight assists. Ellington chipped in with another 20, and Hansbrough had a double-double with 18 points and 11 boards.

They limited the Wildcats to 33 percent shooting, including just 5-of-37 from 3-point range.

"We are a confident team, but we will not be overconfident Monday night. That's just not going to happen," Williams said.

"I've coached in games before where we beat a team easily or got killed and turned around and beat them the second time. ... My team knows that they'll have the battle of the state of Michigan."

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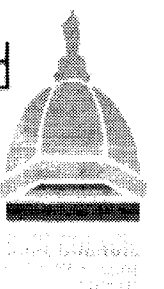
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NCAA FOOTBALL

Purdue opens QB battle

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Justin Siller's dismissal from Purdue opens the competition for starting quarterback that could stretch beyond spring practice into the fall between fifth-year senior Joey Elliott and redshirt freshman Caleb TerBush.

Siller, a sophomore who started three games last season, was kicked out of school through the 2009-10 year for an undisclosed violation of the university's academic policy. Coach Danny Hope wouldn't elaborate on the violation, but he said it changes the Boilermakers' plans at that crucial position for next season.

"It changes because Justin is a heck of a player and figured into things and was competing to be a starter," Hope said. "He would've played next year whether he was a starter or not."

Siller led Purdue to a win over Michigan last season, and Elliott was effective before he was sidelined with a shoulder injury.

TerBush was introduced to Purdue at a football camp in

the summer of 2007 and impressed the coaches with his intelligence, arm strength and athletic ability. In his final year of high school, he passed for 1,575 yards and 16 touchdowns and ran for 859 yards with 16 scores while leading Metamora Township to the Illinois 5A championship. He was red-shirted last season at Purdue.

"Caleb has done a great job this spring," Hope said. "He's been very accurate with his passes. He's the best natural passer we have on our football team. He has a great upside. He'll be forced into more reps, which will be good for his development."

Whoever gets the job will replace four-year starter Curtis Painter.

Hope said he was made aware of Siller's situation a couple of weeks ago but allowed Siller to continue to practice while going through a university appeal process.

"He received a three-semester sentence and that appeal was denied," Hope said. "We have to press on and focus on our football team."

The 6-foot-4 Siller played in six other games besides his

three starts. The Detroit native completed 59 of 106 passes for 496 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions. He also rushed 60 times for 167 yards and two touchdowns.

Hope called the dismissal from school "very disappointing."

"Our heart goes out to Justin and his family. He made one poor decision and received a severe penalty and one that terminates his immediate future at Purdue as a student and as an athlete," Hope said.

But Hope, who replaced the retired Joe Tiller at the end of last season, said he would welcome Siller back to the team if he fulfills all of his academic requirements. If not, he said Siller still has other options.

"He can transfer to a I-AA school and be immediately eligible as long as he makes up the hours that he'll lose this semester," he said. "He could go to a I-A school and sit out for a year and establish residency. ... That's something he and his family have to sit down and discuss. I'm sure that will be way down the road because he has a lot of work to make up academically."

LPGA

Lincicome wins first major with late eagle

Associated Press

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — Her heart racing and her hands shaking, Brittany Lincicome did whatever she could to keep it together on the final holes of the Kraft Nabisco Championship.

She breathed deep. She and her caddie sang country songs, mostly Sugarland and Kenny Chesney.

It worked, because she hit two brilliant shots on 18 to set up a 4-foot eagle putt that she rolled in to win her first major on Sunday.

"I can't even describe it," Lincicome said moments after taking the traditional plunge into the lake that surrounds the 18th green. "It's surreal, really."

Never worse than three strokes behind in the final round, Lincicome stayed close as her good friend Kristy McPherson and Cristie Kerr traded the lead back and forth on a perfect day at Mission Hills.

Trailing McPherson by one stroke, the 23-year-old Lincicome broke through with an amazing sequence of shots on the par-5, 485-yard 18th.

McPherson calls Lincicome "Bam-Bam" because of the length of her drives, and Lincicome lived up to that by booming a 275-yard drive down the middle of the fairway.

"It just came down to 18, and luckily my length is a strong point and I bombed it out there and went for the green," Lincicome said.

She hit a hybrid from 210 yards that cleared the water and landed on the upper part of the green, with the ball curling down just above the hole.

"Please be good," Lincicome said as she watched the ball fly through the desert air, then smiled when it was.

"Right when I hit it, it came off the clubface and it was exactly where we were trying to hit it and it took the slope like I was hoping it was going to, and it was really close, thank God," Lincicome said. "If I had to make anything further than that ... my hands were shaking so bad, I was almost crying. The fans were so great and cheering for me and just walking up there was a great feeling."

Kerr rolled in a birdie putt from the fringe to tie McPherson, but Lincicome made it a moot point when she made her putt to finish with a 3-under 69. She pumped her fist and hugged McPherson, who finished tied for second with Kerr, one shot back.

It was the third career victory for Lincicome, whose previous best finish in a major was a tie for second at this tournament in 2007.

Playing in the all-Florida final threesome, she became the first American winner in the last six women's majors. Kerr was the last to do so in the 2007 U.S. Open.

After receiving her trophy, Lincicome joined hands with her father, Tom, and caddie, Tara Bateman, and jumped into the lake.

"She was telling me at the turn, 'Dude, I'm going to have a heart attack. My heart is beat-

ing out of my chest,'" McPherson said about Lincicome. "Anytime she was nervous she came over to me to calm her down. She was pretty funny out there. Yeah, we talked a good bit, and yeah, it was good to have a good friend in the last group with me."

Lincicome, who took the first-round lead Thursday with a 66, finished with a 9-under 279. McPherson shot a 72 and Kerr a 71 on Sunday.

McPherson, leading by one shot heading to No. 18, was trying to hold on for her first LPGA Tour victory when Lincicome broke through. Lincicome opened the final round with seven straight pars before two straight birdies gave her a chance.

McPherson had a seesaw day.

She lost her overnight lead to Kerr on the second hole, pulled into a tie by making three birdies in four holes spanning the turn, dropped back when Kerr birdied the par-3 14th, then jumped back into the lead on the 15th when Kerr took a double-bogey after losing her ball out of bounds, hitting it through some trees and apparently clearing a wall onto Gerald Ford Drive.

"That hole definitely owes me in the future," Kerr said.

"In tournaments in general, but majors in specific, it's such a fine line you have to walk to be able to end up winning. You have to have everything go your way. Maybe it hits the tree and drops instead of going out of bounds."

Lindsey Wright (70) was fourth at 6 under, while Suzann Pettersen (66) and Meaghan Francella (69) tied for fifth at 5 under.

Defending champion Lorena Ochoa shot a 66 for her best round of the tournament and finished in a tie for 12th at 1 under.

Kerr started the round one shot behind McPherson, but had a three-shot lead after five holes despite some wayward driving.

Kerr jumped into the lead on the par-5 second hole, despite driving into the rough and failing to extricate herself with her second shot. She had a nice approach shot and sank an 18-foot birdie putt while McPherson had a bogey after her sand shot was short of the green.

Kerr saved par on No. 3 despite driving into the left rough, getting a break when her lie was in grass that had been trampled by the gallery.

Kerr birdied No. 4 with a tricky 10-foot downhill putt, then took a three-stroke lead when McPherson bogeyed the par-3 fifth hole by hitting her tee shot into the water.

"I felt like I was out of it early," McPherson said. "Brittany started off slow, as well, and made a couple of good par saves. Cristie, she was springing up on both of us at one time."

"But finally on the back nine we got it to where it was a good match between all three of us. Cristie and I made a few mistakes, and Brittany made a couple of great par saves to stay in there and bring it down to the 18th hole."

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MLB

Ichiro placed on 15-day DL

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Mariners star Ichiro Suzuki is being treated for a bleeding ulcer and was placed on the 15-day disabled list Friday, sending Seattle into Opening Day minus one of baseball's best players.

The Mariners said the ulcer is no longer bleeding. Doctors have restricted the 35-year-old outfielder's activity but are optimistic he'll be ready to play when he's eligible to come off the DL on April 15.

Suzuki played for Japan in the World Baseball Classic. He complained of severe fatigue earlier this week and missed Seattle's final three spring training games in Arizona, and was diagnosed with the ulcer—a relatively rare condition for an athlete—after seeing doctors Thursday.

"I know how much [Ichiro] cares. This is the first time in eight years he's been on the DL," Mariners manager Don Wakamatsu said Friday night in Las Vegas before the team opened a two-game weekend set against

Colorado. "Every indication is that it will be 15 days. We'll see how he is after that."

The All-Star right fielder didn't accompany the team to Las Vegas, instead staying in Arizona and having a light workout at their spring training complex in Peoria on Friday. Seattle opens the season Monday at Minnesota.

"It was a very difficult decision to place Ichiro on the disabled list, especially since we know what a fierce competitor he is and how important it is to him to help the team," Mariners general manager Jack Zduriencik said. "However, we determined it was in both his best interest, and the best interest of the club, to place him on the DL at this time."

It's the first time in his major league career Suzuki has been on the disabled list. He's been remarkably healthy since arriving in Seattle in 2001, missing just 16 games in his eight-year career and only three games in the last five seasons. Suzuki had played in 197 consecutive games.

The move was retroactive to March 31, meaning Suzuki won't be eligible to come off the disabled list until the second week of the season when Seattle is at home. Wakamatsu said Friday night that either Franklin Gutierrez or Endy Chavez will take over the leadoff spot in the batting order and that a variety of players could be used in right, including Ken Griffey Jr.

"It's unfortunate, but conversely, it is important for him to get healthy," Griffey said Friday night. "We'd rather see him as healthy as possible."

Suzuki didn't arrive at Mariners spring training until March 26, after leading Japan to a second consecutive WBC title. The high pressure of playing in the WBC combined with the expectations from his home country made the championship hugely satisfying.

Suzuki hit .273 for Japan in the WBC, playing in nine games, including his game-winning two-run single in the 10th inning of the championship game to give Japan a 5-3 win over Korea.

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish finish tied for 14th off the tees in NC

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame finished a disappointing 14th this weekend, tied with Georgia, in the Bryan National Collegiate tournament as the team ended with a final round of 315 (27 over par).

"We didn't play very well, but we're hoping to rebound and win Big East," senior captain Lisa Maunu said.

Maunu and junior Ammie Brophy led the way for Notre Dame on the third and final day with marks of 78 (6 over). Freshman Becca Huffer finished round three at 79 (7 over) with 11 pars, while sophomores So-Hyun Park and Katie Conway shot 80 and 81, eight- and nine-over par.

For the three-day tournament, Notre Dame's top overall finisher was Huffer, who tied for 43rd overall with her total of 231. Behind her, Maunu and Brophy tied for 52nd with their 17-over scores of 233. In the final round, Maunu had birdies on the first,

fourth, and 13th holes. Brophy birdied on the third and 11th holes in the final round. Overall, Brophy's play included five-under mark on the 12 par-fives to tie for the second best combined score at the event for par-five play.

Park finished tied for 69th with a 21-over mark for a total 237 overall, including a birdie on the 15th and 10 pars on the day.

Conway posted a total of 240, placing her tied for 76th. In the third round, she birdied the ninth and added eight pars.

LSU won the tournament with a 23-over par total of 891, four strokes ahead of second-place Virginia. LSU's Megan McChrystal placed first for the tournament with a minus-1 total of 215.

Next up for the Irish is the Big East tournament on April 19 where they're looking to capture their second consecutive Big East title.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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Attention Seniors!

Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring Admissions Counselors this spring!

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the Admissions Counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic territory.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic territory, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions. Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment and the Director of Admissions Operations.

Among our candidates, we may seek individuals who will assist with our diversity recruitment efforts.

Minimum Requirements: Candidates should possess a Bachelor's degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of academic and student life at Notre Dame. Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after April 10.

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ROWING

Irish place third, fifth in San Diego

By BRENDAN CORSONES
Sports Writer

The first and second Irish varsity boats finished third and fifth, respectively, in the San Diego Crew Classic this weekend.

The first varsity eight, coxed by Stephanie Szegedi, finished with a time of 6:51.07 in the Group A heat. The Irish were competitive in a group that featured No. 4 Washington, No. 6 Michigan and No. 18 Oregon State.

The second eight, coxed by Kelsey Otero, put in a time of 7:09.47 in their final, just getting edged by Washington (7:00.00), Michigan (7:02.08), Wisconsin (7:04.71), and USC (7:04.73) in the Women's

Collegiate JV Grand Final. The Irish did manage to beat Oregon State, who clocked a 7:11.92 in the final.

Otero's boat finished an impressive second in their qualifying heat Saturday, clocking a 7:06.49, bested only by Washington (6:56.90).

Irish coach Martin Stone said he was proud of his second boat's results.

"It's the first time they've reached the grand final in the five years we've been coming to the (San Diego) Classic," he said.

Stone did say, however, that his first varsity boat had room for improvement, and that the crew would train even harder during this week in preparation for next week's regatta against Ohio State, Brown and Minnesota in Columbus, Ohio.

"I hoped we'd run faster," he said. "But we have a chance to prove ourselves next weekend against Ohio State."

Contact Brendan Corsones at bcorsones@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame takes two of three

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

The Irish won two out of three matches over the weekend to stay undefeated in Big East play.

Friday, No. 3 Notre Dame (19-4, 3-0) topped DePaul 5-2 and Sunday it swept Marquette 7-0. In between the two Big East victories, Notre Dame dropped a closely contested match to top-ranked Northwestern 4-3 Saturday.

As is usually indicative of the team's success, Notre Dame won the doubles point in both victorious matches this weekend, and lost it against Northwestern. In fact, against the Big East competition, Notre Dame swept all three doubles matches. Against Northwestern, only the top Irish duo, the third-ranked combination of senior Kelcy Tefft and fresh-

men Kristy Frilling, managed a doubles victory as they defeated the No. 14 pairing of Georgia Rose and Lauren Lui 8-3.

"We have three very strong doubles teams," Tefft said. "Although we have won most of our doubles points, we are not yet playing to our potential. We should win all of our doubles points. If we could have gotten the doubles point on Saturday it would have been a much different story for us."

Against DePaul, the Irish earned four singles victories. Tefft, juniors Kali Krisik and Cosmina Ciobanu and freshmen Shannon Mathews all were victorious in their matches. Against Northwestern, Krisik and Mathews maintained their perfect weekends, while No. 36 Frilling pulled out an upset over No. 20 Rose.

"Kristy played very well against Northwestern," Tefft said. "She lost to Rose in February and has been working on the things that she needed to be a player like Rose ever since then."

The Irish had lost to Northwestern once earlier this year, 4-1, at the National Indoor semifinals. Saturday's match was much closer, even though it was in Evanston, Ill.

"We have changed our lineup around some since February which helped make the match closer," Tefft said. "Next time we play them we really could beat them."

In the Marquette match, not only did the Irish sweep the doubles point, but the team dominated in the singles matches as well. Notre Dame won all six matches, as no Irish player gave up more than five points en route to victory. The closest matches were those of Frilling and sophomore Kristen Rafael, each ending 6-2, 6-3.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu

"Next time we play [Northwestern] we really could beat them."

Kelcy Tefft
Irish senior

SMC GOLF

SMC in second after first day of Trine tourney

By BOBBY GRAHAM
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's was in second after the first round of play Saturday at the Trine Invitational.

The Belles shot a combined score of 339 on the day, just three strokes behind conference rival Olivet, who paced the field with a score of 336.

Leading Saint Mary's was sophomore Mary Kate Boyce, who shot an 82 on the day. Close behind Boyce were soph-

omore Rosie O'Connor with an 83 and senior Meredith Fantom with an 84.

Sophomore Emily Gore and freshman Natalie Matuszak rounded out the Belles scorecard with rounds of 90 and 92, respectively.

The Saint Mary's athletic department Web site reported that the second day of play was cancelled Sunday. Play will resume today after a one-day delay.

Contact Bobby Graham at bgraham@nd.edu

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UConn cruises to title game

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Geno Auriemma has coached perfect teams and national champions before. He's also worked with some of the best players in the history of women's basketball.

On the doorstep of another unbeaten season, the Connecticut coach wants to add senior guard Renee Montgomery and the rest of these Huskies to those lists.

"I don't want this team to come up short," Auriemma said. "I don't want them to stop playing. I wanted them to be in the championship game. You love when your best players, the ones who have given their heart and soul to the program and have accomplished so many things have a chance to win the last college game of the year."

Montgomery scored 26 points, Maya Moore added 24, and unbeaten UConn cruised to its first title game in five years with an 83-64 victory over Stanford on Sunday night.

UConn will face Big East rival Louisville on Tuesday night. The

Cardinals missed their first 13 shots before rallying to beat Oklahoma 61-59.

The Huskies (38-0) already have routed Louisville twice this year, including dismantling the Cardinals 75-36 in the Big East tournament championship game in early March.

"I wish we were playing anyone but Louisville," Auriemma said. "Anyone, I don't care who. The last team you want to play is a team you beat the way we beat them the two times we beat them, especially the last time we played them."

The Huskies have made almost everyone look silly this season, winning by nearly 31 points a game and not allowing a team to come within single digits.

With an imposing lineup that featured five starters over 6-feet, Stanford (33-5) was supposed to be an obstacle. The Cardinal were the last team to beat Connecticut, knocking them out of the Final Four last season.

That challenge didn't last long — just like most of the other ranked teams UConn has faced

this season.

After Jayne Appel got off to a quick start, the Huskies swarmed the Stanford star on defense, sometimes sending four players at her. The Cardinal couldn't stop Montgomery on the other end, who sliced through Stanford's defense with ease.

"They went on a run where one time we totally lost Montgomery," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "For their team they really capitalized on any time someone was open."

Appel finished with 26 points, but she had little help. Nnemkadi Ogumike added 12 points and 12 rebounds and Kayla Pedersen added 10 points.

UConn beat Stanford 87-60 in the Final Four en route to its first undefeated season in 1995, and also went unbeaten in 2002. The Huskies also entered the NCAA tournament undefeated in 1997, but fell to Tennessee in the regional final.

Besides Connecticut, only the Lady Vols and Texas have run through a season unbeaten.

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The Office of Undergraduate Admissions
welcomes the **Reilly Weekend** students to campus.

Valdivia

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out 15 Panthers on Saturday, matching a career high.

"[Valdivia] has really come into her own," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "She has always been a very good pitcher. She has a lot of confidence right now. She is focused in on every single pitch and that's a big difference."

In Saturday's first game, Pittsburgh (15-18, 3-9) scored three runs in the second inning and two in the fourth off of senior pitcher Brittany Bargar (13-7), who took the loss despite only two of the runs being earned.

The Irish were unable to muster any significant offensive challenges in the game, scoring one in the third inning on a double by junior first baseman Christine Lux and another in the sixth when Lux scored on a wild pitch.

"It wasn't a bad weekend in that we did take three out of

four," Gumpf said. "Every team that comes into Notre Dame is out to play their best game and beat us and that's what Pittsburgh did."

Lack of offense wasn't a problem for the rest of the weekend.

"My whole goal every year is to have the best hitters hitting and the best hitters playing," Gumpf said. "They're making it tough on me because I have not only nine hitters doing well, I have 10 or 11. I like that they're competing with each other for playing time."

The Irish scored seven runs on eight hits in game two against Pittsburgh, departing from the home-run driven offense they have used for the past couple weeks.

Sophomore right fielder Erin Marrone and senior second baseman Linda Kohan each had two hits for the Irish in that game.

Marrone stood out again Sunday when she came to bat with the bases loaded in the fourth inning of the first game against Seton Hall and hit it over the fence for her

first career grand slam.

"Marrone has put herself in the starting lineup with some really great at bats," Gumpf said.

Lux also homered in game one, a two-run shot that put the Irish up 3-0 after the first inning.

It was more of the same in the second game, as the Irish scored five times in the first inning and four times in both the second and third frames.

After the offensive explosion of the first game, Gumpf said the team was not expecting to do so well in the next.

"You hope they don't get comfortable, and they didn't," Gumpf said. "They came out and attacked Seton Hall again the second game. I was very impressed. I thought they did a great job."

Notre Dame now sits in third place in the Big East, behind Louisville and DePaul, who will come to South Bend on Wednesday for a doubleheader that will begin at 5 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers2@nd.edu



Belles outfielder Hayley Bojorquez takes a swing during last April's game against Alma.

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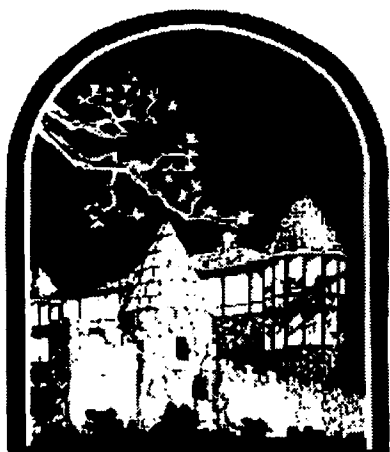
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Scots

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big inning in the first game, the Belles came out ready to play in the back end of the doubleheader. In a display of fundamental softball, Saint Mary's scored three runs on three hits in the bottom of the third to take the early lead.

Senior Cathy Kurczak and freshman Lauren Enayati got

the ball rolling by leading off the frame with a pair of back-to-back singles. MIAA player of the week Maureen Healy moved the runners into scoring position after executing a sacrifice

bunt, and junior Ashley Peterson walked to load the bases.

Senior Ashley Fusaro, batting .492 coming into the weekend, drove in Kurczak on a single to left field. Two batters later, freshman Hayley Bojorquez hit a two-out double to right-center field to bring home Peterson and Fusaro.

Nevertheless, the Scots

came back to steal a win from the Belles, scoring four runs over the last three frames to secure a 4-3 win and the sweep.

"I really hope we play them again," Sullivan said. "I know we'll win the next game. We know exactly what they're going to do."

Freshman Angela Gillis went the distance, striking out three along the way only to pick up her first loss of the season. Despite the heart-

breaking loss, Sullivan was fully confident that her pitching staff will be ready to go this week.

"She [Gillis] is just one of the most composed pitchers I think I've ever seen," Sullivan said.

"If someone gets a hit off her, you can see it in her face that she wants to get the next out. She never overreacts, she's never overemotional."

The Belles will try to start a new winning streak when they take on cross-town rival Bethel College tonight at 6 p.m. at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

Erin Sullivan
Belles coach

"[Gillis] is just one of the most composed pitchers I think I've ever seen."

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Johnson

continued from page 24

from the get-go, as the visitors didn't manage a hit until the fourth and a run until the ninth in a 3-1 Notre Dame victory that lasted less than two hours.

"He's been outstanding all season for us," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "Changing speeds, his cutter was probably the best it's been. Overall, just a great performance to set the tone on a Friday."

The defense did its part in Friday's opener, as the Irish turned three inning-ending double plays and made several diving catches despite winds that neared 30 miles per hour and played tricks with every ball that was hit in the air.

Notre Dame scored all three of its runs in the first inning, receiving a two-run double from sophomore David Casey and a run-scoring double from senior Jeremy Barnes to grab an early lead the Irish wouldn't relinquish.

"The best thing in the world is to go out there, put up a zero and then have your offense put up a crooked number for you," Johnson said. "That's exactly what happened today."

Notre Dame used a spectacular pitching performance from Dupra (3-3, 5.01) and three solo home runs to defeat Villanova 4-0 in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Dupra dominated the Wildcats throughout the game, allowing just three hits while going the distance. The right-hander struck out six and walked none.

The Irish were first on the scoreboard, getting an early run off Villanova starter Kevin Crimmel in the bottom of the first.

Notre Dame notched another run in the bottom of the second off the bat of sophomore catcher Cameron McConnell. With two out, McConnell connected on a Crimmel fastball, easily clearing the left field fence for a solo homer.

Outfielder David Mills added a solo shot of his own in the fifth inning, taking advantage of a breaking ball that Crimmel left up in the zone. Mills deposited the

curve out of the ballpark and gave Notre Dame a 3-0 lead.

The Irish got their third solo home run of the day the next inning, as Barnes got in on the action. Barnes took a fastball to the opposite field and put it just outside the park in right.

Dupra was sensational for the Irish, locating his fastball well and mixing it effectively with breaking balls for strikes. The Wildcats were held hitless until the top of the fifth, when Villanova catcher Wesley Borden singled up the middle.

Outfielders Mills and sophomore Golden Tate led the Irish with two hits each.

In the second game of Saturday's doubleheader, the Irish used a five-run spurt in the eighth inning to break open the game on their way to a 9-3 victory and a series sweep over the Wildcats. Barnes and McConnell each had triples in the monster inning, as the pair combined to drive in all five runs in the frame.

Casey had a strong game at the plate going 2-for-2 with a run scored and reaching base in all four of his at-bats.

Notre Dame struggled early, allowing Villanova to load the bases in the first inning. But Maust (3-2, 5.93) was able to escape the inning while limiting the Wildcats to just one run. After Villanova tacked on another run in each of the next two innings, Maust found his rhythm giving up just two hits the rest of the way.

Maust picked up the win for Irish behind 8 1/3 solid innings of work allowing just three earned runs on six hits.

Villanova's offense, which has not had trouble creating runs so far this season, ran into major trouble this weekend managing just four runs in the three-game set.

Notre Dame will play an exhibition game against the South Bend Silverhawks on Tuesday before continuing Big East play with a three-game road series against Cincinnati.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu, Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu and Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Air Force

continued from page 24

half on a goal from sophomore midfielder Vinny Sandtorv to cut the Irish lead to four heading into the half.

Notre Dame jumped out to a fast start in the second half as goals from sophomore midfielder Zach Brennenman and Hicks gave the Irish a 7-1 lead with 12:48 left in the third period. The Falcons cut into the lead

once again on a goal from freshman attackman Adam Paranka, but Notre Dame responded with a score from junior midfielder Grant Krebs to make the score 8-2. An Air Force goal from senior midfielder Eric Evans cut the Notre Dame lead to five at the end of the third quarter.

Air Force scored first in the fourth quarter with a goal from senior long-stick midfielder Dan Gnazzo to narrow the Irish lead to 8-4. However, that would be as close as the

Falcons would get, as goals from senior attackman Duncan Swezey and senior midfielder Peter Christman later in the period iced the game for the Irish.

With the win, Notre Dame remains one of two undefeated teams in Division I lacrosse, along with No. 1 Virginia. The Irish return to action when they travel to the University of Denver Saturday.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Scioscia

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Ansley Stewart, whose four goals were good for a career high.

"[Stewart] played very well," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "She was just really in the flow of the game. I think the team was finding her when she was open and she was capitalizing on the defensive looks they were giving her."

Both teams started slowly, but with the score tied at one, the Irish went on to score the next four goals, and nine out of the next eleven goals scored in the first half. The Irish were paced by Stewart, who contributed three of her four goals before the break.

Notre Dame did not let up in second half, scoring the first five goals, including Stewart's fourth and Byers' third and fourth.

The victory over Cincinnati marked the 10th on the season for Notre Dame, which has now won at least that many for the fourth consecutive year, a first in the program's history.

The Irish then defeated Louisville on Sunday, led once again by the scoring from Byers. She contributed another five goals and two assists in the blowout victory.

"I thought we played well today against Louisville," Coyne said. "I think we recognize that the conference is competitive and I think the team came out and gave Louisville the respect that they deserve and played a great game."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

think that's a step in the right direction."

After scoring two quick goals in the first four minutes of the game, the Irish gave up a goal before scoring six more unanswered, giving them an 8-1 lead. Scioscia and Byers combined for five of the first eight goals for Notre Dame.

Notre Dame never looked back, scoring five unanswered goals near the beginning of the second half, and putting the game out of reach.

"[Byers] did something today that was very quintessential," Coyne said. "She had one really awesome goal, where she was one-on-one with the goalie and made a great fake and just placed her shot. I was happy to see her do that."

The two victories were boosted by strong defensive performances, and Coyne was specific in pointing out senior Shannon Burke and junior Rachel Guerrera.

"[Burke] played great on Friday," Coyne said. "And [Guerrera] played awesome. She was kind of on a mission [Sunday]."

Notre Dame returns to action Saturday when they will travel to Syracuse, N.Y. to take on the No. 8 Orange.

"We have three big games in a row, so I think that's going to be a key test for us," Coyne said. "We have things that we can look back on, experiences that we've had over the season that have prepared us for some of these tough stretches down the road."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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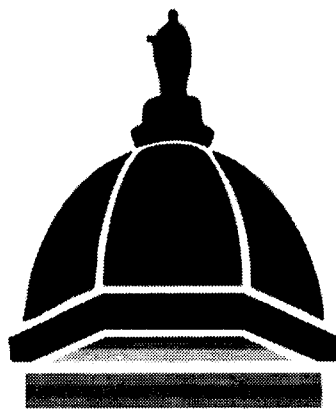
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WILL SHORTZ

EUGENIA LAST

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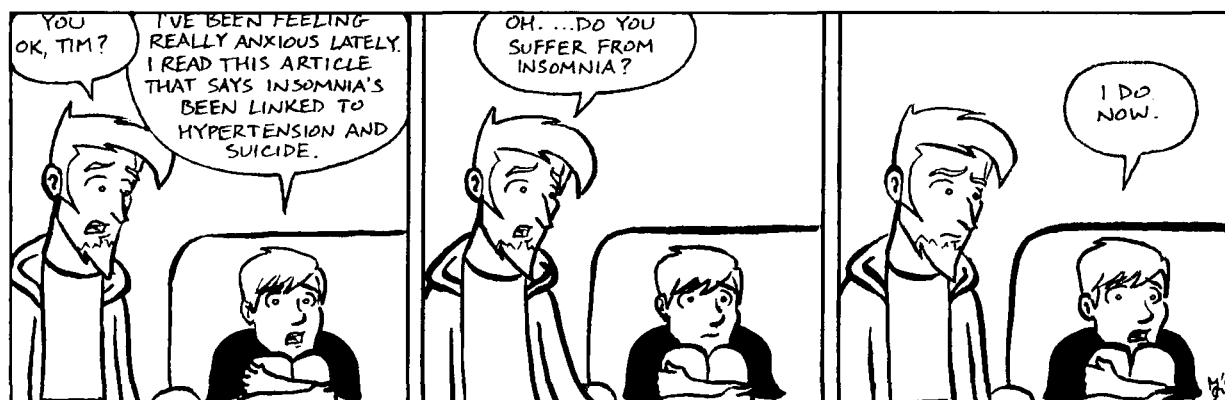
Puzzle by Lynn Lempert

28 One of 100 on the Hill: Abbr.	39 Salad cube	49 George M. who composed "Over There"
31 Ink stain	40 John Steinbeck book, with "The"	52 Holds the title to
33 Soapy froth	42 Hacky Sack, basically	54 Swimmers' distances
35 Cheapskate	43 Form rust, say	55 Money for the senior yrs.
36 Yeats's homeland	44 Popeye's Olive	57 Afternoon social
37 Ninth-inning relief pitcher	46 Indigenous	58 Antlered animal
38 Source of PIN money?	47 Sty : hogs :: _____ : horses	59 Black goo

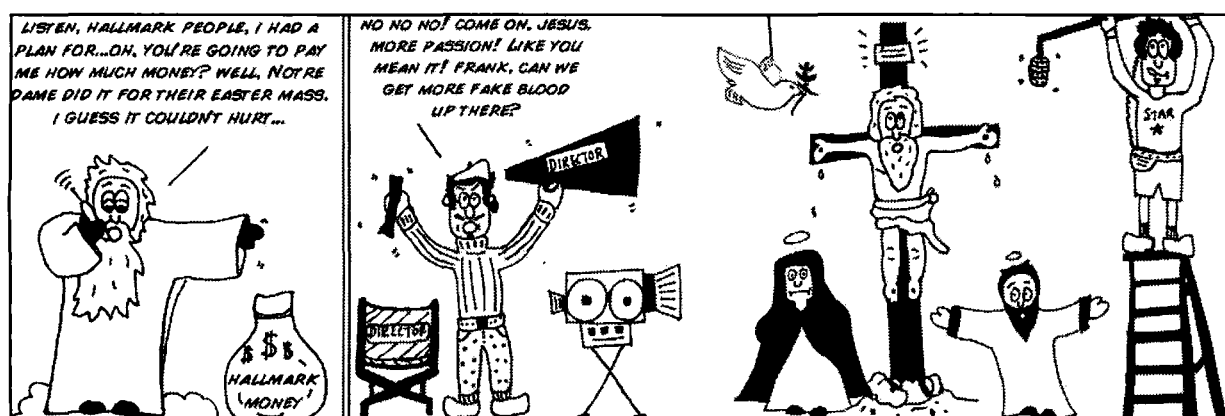
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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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Saturday's | **Jumbles.** **Answer:** What eveni

Keep your head down

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MANY RICH GUYS
CAN BE ---

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

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The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

BASEBALL

Finishing the job

Johnson, Dupra pitch complete games en route to sweep of 'Cats

By MATT GAMBER, ALEX BARKER and MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writers

Notre Dame needed its bullpen to record just two outs over the weekend, as the Irish beat Villanova three times for their first Big East series sweep since last April's sweep of the Wildcats.

Notre Dame (19-10, 5-4 Big East) got complete game victories from sophomores Cole Johnson and Brian Dupra in the first two games, and junior Eric Maust threw 8 1/3 innings in the tail end of Saturday's doubleheader to earn the win.

Johnson (4-0, 2.40 ERA) stymied the Wildcats (14-15, 1-8)

see JOHNSON/page 22



Notre Dame junior pitcher Eric Maust delivers a pitch to a Villanova batter during Saturday's 9-3 win over the Wildcats.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

ND SOFTBALL

Team wins three over weekend

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The Irish took three of four games in Big East competition this weekend, splitting a doubleheader with Pittsburgh Saturday and routing Seton Hall twice Sunday.

Notre Dame (21-12, 7-2 Big East) lost the first game 5-2 Saturday, ending its eight-game win streak, before coming back for a 7-1 win in the second. Sunday, the Irish won the first game 9-0 and the second 13-0. Both contests were shortened to five innings.

In her two starts, freshman pitcher Jody Valdivia (8-5) gave up only one run in 12 innings of work. She struck

see VALDIVIA/page 21

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish run team-record unbeaten start to 9-0 vs. Falcons

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

No. 4 Notre Dame extended its unbeaten record to 9-0, a school record, Saturday thanks to a 10-4 win over Air Force. The win also extended Notre Dame's program-record home winning streak to 24 games.

The Irish took control of the game early and were able to set

the tone for the contest with a strong defensive effort.

"Defensively we played really well," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We really limited their opportunities. From early in the game, we made it obvious that they were gonna have to work to create quality chances."

Much of Notre Dame's success on defense was a result of its ability to limit Air Force's transition game.

"We didn't let them get going in the transition game where they're really good and forced them into a half-field game," Corrigan said.

The first period was quiet offensively. Senior attack Ryan Hoff scored off an assist from junior attack Neal Hicks with 3:51 left in the opening period to put the Irish up 1-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Despite the slow start, the

Irish offense came to life in the second quarter. Sophomore David Earl scored the first of his three goals on the day to give Notre Dame a 2-0 lead early in the period, and junior long-stick midfielder Mike Creighton followed with his first goal of the year to increase the Irish lead to three. Earl then scored back-to-back goals to seal his hat trick and give Notre Dame a 5-0 lead with 4:52 remaining in the first

half.

On the whole, Corrigan said he liked what he saw out of the offense.

"I was happy with our offensive performance," Corrigan said. "We maintained possession of the ball better and kept pressure off the defense."

Air Force got on the board with 54 seconds left in the first

see AIR FORCE/page 22

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

ND earns two Big East wins

Byers, Scioscia lead squad to easy wins over Cincy, L'ville

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

The No. 9 Irish rolled through the weekend, earning two Big East conference wins by defeating Cincinnati 16-5 and Louisville 20-8.

The Irish move to 11-2 on the season overall, with a 4-1 Big East record, good enough for sole possession of third place in the conference.

In Friday's matchup against the Bearcats, the Irish were led by their top scorers, senior Jillian Byers, who scored five times for the Irish, and junior Gina Scioscia, who chipped in two more goals and three assists, and by sophomore

see SCIOSCIA/page 22



TOM LA/The Observer

Irish defenseman Rachel Guerra handles the ball during Notre Dame's win over Loyola (Md.) on Mar. 23.

SMC SOFTBALL

Saint Mary's falls in two straight vs. Alma

Belles lose back-to-back games for the first time all season

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

The Belles' seven-game winning streak came to an abrupt end this weekend as the team dropped a pair of games to Alma.

Saint Mary's (18-4, 4-2 MIAA) and dropped to fourth in the MIAA rankings.

The Scots' (16-9, 6-2 MIAA) bats were silenced for the better part of the opening match, as Belles freshman Monica Palicki kept them guessing her first time through the lineup.

But Alma, who finished first in the MIAA regular season

standings last year, wouldn't be shut out for long. The Scots erupted for three runs in the bottom of the fourth and six in the bottom of the sixth to cruise to a 9-1 win in five innings.

"We came out real flat in the first four innings," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "We were just a little intimidated, weren't really playing our game, so it kind of took us out of it right away."

Palicki, who entered the game with an ERA of 1.18 and 20 strikeouts on the year, suffered the loss. Freshman Kristen Nelson was responsible for the Belles' lone run, smashing her second big fly of the season over the center field wall in the top of the fifth.

Unable to prevent the Scots'

see SCOTS/page 21