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ND holds first Shakespeare Sonnet Fest

Students, faculty and staff read the Bard's 154 poems in O'Shaughnessy

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
News Writer

Students, faculty and staff read aloud each of Shakespeare's 154 sonnets Wednesday at the first Notre Dame Sonnet Fest in the Great Hall of O'Shaughnessy.

Students passed through the Great Hall, stopping to grab a cookie, a cup of hot apple cider and listen to a sonnet or two.

Maryam Zomorodian, a Ph.D. candidate in English, came up with the idea for the Sonnet Fest last fall.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity [for us to] bring together faculty, staff and stu-

dents over poetry," Zomorodian said.

Eighty-five total students, faculty and staff signed up to read a sonnet. About half of the readers were students and the remainder were faculty and staff. The sonnets were read continuously from 11 a.m. until around 3 p.m.

"Listening to a bulk of Shakespeare's sonnets, poems or plays allows the listener time to become comfortable with the language and intention of each piece," Scott Jackson, director of Shakespeare at Notre Dame and a coordinator of the Sonnet Fest, said. "The goal for those

see SONNET/page 6



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer
Marie Blakey, director of Marketing and Communication, reads a sonnet at Notre Dame's first Shakespeare Sonnet Fest Wednesday.

Got Dance? workshop showcases talent

By SARAH GUNN
News Writer

Got Dance? — a dance workshop featuring 15 students from Saint Mary's and Notre Dame — will be running Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in O'Laughlin Auditorium on Saint Mary's campus.

Indi Dieckgrafe, professor of Dance at the College, hails the show as the long anticipated reward of "demanding dance."

"I don't know if people understand how involved this process is," Dieckgrafe said of the preparation and development of the show.

"Got Dance?" is the culmination of months of work on the part of the Saint Mary's Dance Ensemble, faculty and many other crew members. The group has been developing the show since the second week of classes of the fall semester. Dieckgrafe said the 15 members are the "the cream of the crop."

The dancers in the Ensemble have collaborated with professors to create the pieces for the show.

"We work from the ground up, we have to craft it," Dieckgrafe said.

Some pieces are solely student choreographed. "Got Dance" will display an "eclectic, broad spectrum" of dance styles, including

see DANCE/page 4

Spring Visitation weekends approach

Event brings prospective minority students to campus in hope of drawing them to the University



Photo Courtesy of Kristine Yuen

The Spring Visitation team poses in front of the Main Building. They will host the year's first weekend Feb. 25-28.

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

As spring slowly approaches, high school seniors anxiously await their acceptance letters to the university of their choice. However, while many potential Notre Dame students begin to decide whether or not to make their home under the Dome, the University is reaching out to minority students in an effort to bring more diversity to campus.

Spring Visitation 2010 — an event held annually for high-talented prospective minority students — will host

its first group of high school seniors Feb. 25-28, with two more weekends in March.

Spring Visitation is an all-expenses-paid visit for 225 minority students to come to campus and experience life at Notre Dame for a weekend in the hope they will select the University as their home for the next four years.

"Spring Visitation is an opportunity for the University to reach out to highly talented minorities," Spring Visitation recruitment coordinator and senior Erdina Francillon said. "Our work is to specifically target

see SPRING/page 6

Observer chooses next top editors

Observer Staff Report

Madeline Buckley, Laura Myers and Sam Werner have been chosen to help oversee The Observer's editorial operations in 2010-11, incoming Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber announced Wednesday.

Buckley will assume the position of managing editor, the No. 2 spot at the paper, and Myers and Werner will serve as assistant managing editors.

A junior majoring in American Studies and Spanish with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, Buckley will assist Gamber in managing all depart-

ments of The Observer's print and online editions.

A native of Northbrook, Ill., Buckley lives in Breen-Phillips Hall and currently serves as News Editor. She has covered a variety of topics for The Observer, including student government, the controversy surrounding President Barack Obama's 2009 Commencement address and University President Fr. John Jenkins' recent participation in the 2010 March for Life in Washington, D.C.

"I have had the opportunity to

see EDITORS/page 4

Prayercast offers homilies, liturgy

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Notre Dame Campus Ministry's weekly Prayercast is approaching its three-year milestone, director of Folk Choir and Liturgy Resources Steve Warner said.

"We got this idea about four years ago," Warner said. "The idea was we started to hear about other places doing podcasts. We thought this would be a great way for us to get a short broadcast every week out to both Notre Dame alums, people that are interested in the University and students that are away from the University for a period of time."

The first broadcast was three

see PRAYER/page 6



Photo courtesy of Steve Warner

Steve Warner, director of the Notre Dame Folk Choir, plays in the studio. Warner launched the digital Prayercast at the University.

INSIDE COLUMN

Thanks, parents

When was the last time you called your parents or grandparents or best friend just to say, "Thank you for everything." Today in my Spanish class our teacher asked what we said the last time we talked to our parents. She called on a junior boy who answered, "Gracias por mi educación." She jokingly asked him why he was just thanking them for the first time in the second semester of his junior year, and we all laughed.



Megan Finneran

Sports
Production
Editor

That little answer really got me thinking. I don't think I ever specifically thanked my parents for putting aside hundreds of thousands of dollars for my college education and all the other things they paid for as I was growing up, as I'm sure many college students never have. I remember constantly complaining about painful nuisances like braces and dentist appointments, never thanking them for paying so I could have practically perfect teeth years later.

When is the time to thank your parents for dealing with you when you were a crying baby and did nothing but scream through the night? Or when she drove you "all over God's kingdom," as my mom always said, so you could make it to every extracurricular your heart desired? Apologies and thankfulness often don't come out until it's too late.

How many family parties have you had to endure, or how many holidays have you had to dress up for just because your grandparents were coming over? I know at least for me, I would rather eat Thanksgiving in my sweatpants so I could eat as much pumpkin bread as my heart desired and not have to feel buttons digging into me. However, every year we dress up to share a meal with the grandparents we rarely see. For those of you who still have those grandparents to worry about you, pinch your cheeks, annoy you with their inability to hear during telephone conversations and the inability to even find the power button on a digital camera, try not to think about those times when they drive you nuts.

Instead, think to the times when they call just to see how you are feeling, send you little care packages and how their faces light up when they see you. Give your grandma a call, and trust me, it will make her week.

I guess the moral of the story is, call your parents and thank them. Thank them for the opportunity to be away at school, to have a dorm room to call home (whether it is cramped Morrissey or beautiful Ryan!) and to have people that love you.

A few weeks ago a girl in my dorm found the following quote: "Today is the youngest you will ever be; live like it." Let's face it ... none of us are getting younger, and neither are our loved ones. Appreciate every day, have fun, and never take anything, or more importantly anyone, for granted.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY CONCERT COME TO ND, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



Chase Riddle

sophomore
Keenan

"Carrie Underwood, because I like her body of work."



Devin Mahon

sophomore
Keenan

"Toss-up between Yo-Yo Ma and Taylor Swift. Toughie."



Sara Taylor

sophomore
Ryan

"Lady Gaga."



John Wachowicz

sophomore
Stanford

"Billy Joel."



Mike Rodio

sophomore
Keenan

"The Kooks."

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



MAGGIE O'BRIEN/The Observer

Students play in the snow on South Quad Tuesday. After the winter storm Tuesday, the Michiana area had a total accumulation of 47.7 inches of snowfall throughout the winter season.

OFFBEAT

Mugger stole coat off back of NY woman's terrier

NEW YORK – A Brooklyn woman said a mugger stole a doggie coat right off the back of her mild-mannered terrier. Donna McPherson said she tied up Lexie, her 10-year-old Westie, outside a Park Slope supermarket "for two minutes" while she bought milk. She heard a "funny bark." When McPherson went outside, she found the little white dog shivering. His green wool coat, with leather trim and belt, were nowhere in sight.

McPherson said the dog coat was worth \$25. She

said that, fortunately, Lexie wasn't wearing his pricier Burberry.

Cafeteria worker, teen face charges for food fight

WATERBURY, Conn. – A Connecticut school cafeteria worker and a 13-year-old girl face criminal charges after police said a food fight turned into a real fight. Waterbury police said the fifth-grader at Gilmartin Elementary School threw vegetables at 55-year-old lunch aide Rosa Robles last Thursday, and Robles responded by throwing vegetables in the girl's face. Police said a fight broke out

when the girl punched Robles in the face. Authorities said both suffered cut lips, and the girl also had scratches on her face. School officials said Robles is on paid leave and the girl has been suspended.

Robles posted \$500 bail after being charged with assault and other crimes. Police didn't release the girl's name or the charges she faces because of her age. A telephone listing for Robles could not immediately be found.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A lecture titled "The State of the Humanities: A Discussion" will be held at 12:30 p.m. today in 339 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

"Nuclear Alarmism From Hiroshima to Al-Qaeda" will be held at 2 p.m. The lecture will take place in 118 Nieuwland Hall today.

A seminar titled "Public Intellectuals and National Security Policy in the Internet Era?" will be held in 119 O'Shaughnessy Hall. The seminar will begin at 4 p.m. today.

"The Neoliberalization of Participatory Democracy: Grassroots Community Leaders' Perceptions of Change and Continuity in Porto Alegre Brazil" will begin at 4:15 p.m. today. The lecture will be held in C103 Hesburgh Center.

"Tolstoy and Shakespeare" will be held at 5 p.m. in the McKenna Hall Auditorium today.

"Broken Embraces" will be shown in the Browning Cinema in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center today at 6:30 p.m.

The "Bridging Majors Seminar" will be held in 135 Spes Unica today at 6:30 p.m. at Saint Mary's College.

"Project Pink," Pangborn Hall's fashion show, will be held at 7 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom today.

"New Moon" will be shown at 10 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall today. Admission is \$3.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 22 LOW -2	HIGH 13 LOW -2	HIGH 23 LOW 8	HIGH 27 LOW 15	HIGH 30 LOW 20	HIGH 32 LOW 17

Atlanta 50 / 25 Boston 35 / 26 Chicago 26 / 13 Denver 43 / 18 Houston 45 / 37 Los Angeles 61 / 49 Minneapolis 23 / 5 New York 36 / 25 Philadelphia 33 / 23 Phoenix 66 / 46 Seattle 50 / 42 St. Louis 35 / 17 Tampa 59 / 35 Washington 34 / 24

ImproveND survey a success

Carroll Hall wins contest for highest participation rate at 94 percent

By ANN-MARIE WOODS
News Writer

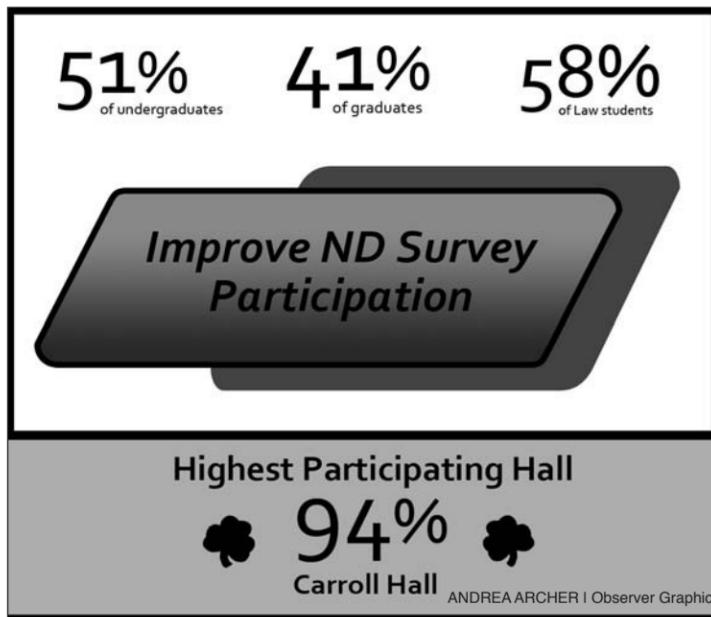
In its introductory year, the ImproveND survey ended with successful participation rates, as both undergraduate and graduate students took advantage of the opportunity to provide feedback regarding various aspects of University life, Heather Tonk, director of Strategic Planning, said.

“For a brand new survey of this type our goal was an overall participation rate of 50 percent,” Tonk said. “We are very excited to achieve that mark.”

Fifty-one percent of undergraduates, 41 percent of graduate students and 58 percent of Law students participated in the survey, which will be given every two years in order to track progress over time.

As an added incentive for completing the survey, the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Research sponsored a contest for the residence hall that achieved the highest participation, as well as individual prizes from random drawings throughout the administration period.

“Carroll Hall won the contest for the highest participation rate for a dorm at 94 percent,” Tonk said. “They won the opportunity to



be the first dorm to host a dance in the Purcell Pavilion.”

Additional prizes included gift cards to the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore and local eateries, free personal training and RecSports classes, an iPod shuffle and a private tour of Notre Dame Stadium, Tonk said.

While the data from the survey is still being analyzed, the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Research hopes to have the complete results by late March, which they

will communicate to the student body via student government.

“Based on the results, various units will spend the summer months considering action plans to address opportunities for improvement,” Tonk said.

Students can expect to see concrete changes by next fall, as ideas gathered from the survey will be put into action throughout the summer.

“Results will begin to be implemented in the fall,” Julia Sama, the administrator who coordinated the survey project, said. “Some changes may take longer than others, [but] it’s hard to predict since we have not yet analyzed all of the survey results.”

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at awoods4@nd.edu

“For a brand new survey of this type our goal was an overall participation rate of 50 percent.”

Heather Tonk
director
Strategic Planning

TAP to visit, provide free local tax assistance

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

As April 15 looms in the not-so-distant future, students from the Tax Assistance Program (TAP) are heading into South Bend to provide free aid and tax services for low-income and disabled taxpayers in the local community.

“Essentially, we are about providing free income tax assistance to people who cannot afford to pay a professional at the same time that we provide practical and hands-on practice for students,” TAP faculty coordinator Ken Milani said.

Nearly 100 volunteers from Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s visit nine different locations in South Bend and Mishawaka from February through April. These students file more than 3,000 tax income returns, according to Milani.

“We clearly do something very different from a lot of other college programs when we go to the taxpayers,” Milani said.

Bringing the service to libraries and other community centers lessens the intimidation factor and makes participating in TAP more convenient for those that need the help the most, he said.

Milani said volunteering at TAP is “an eye-opening experience” for students.

“The major benefits for students really focus on the practical experience of working with clients in a real world situation and gaining a real understanding of what it means to be among the working poor in South Bend,” Milani said.

Senior Caitlin Flynn is stationed at River Park Library for her second year with TAP.

“The most awesome part of TAP is that we provide the service for free,” Flynn said. “The fee to go to

a professional for this is a big deal for a lot of these people, and it is really hard when someone’s return is too complicated for what we can do.”

To be involved with TAP, students must take a class on federal income taxes, spend the first four weeks of the spring semester in detailed training and pass an IRS exam. The students focus on learning the nuances of the refunds specific to the program’s low-income demographic.

“This is a really cool volunteer opportunity,” graduate student Dana Gates said. “It is a specialized service that not many people know how to do.”

Senior Ronnie Thompson said he is particularly excited to work on a “SWAT” team — groups of volunteers that makes special visits to homes and hospital rooms.

“With TAP, I am using my accounting background and class work knowledge to help others who need it,” Thompson said.

“The most difficult part is trying to do the tax return right,” Gates said. “We get examples in class, but each person is different. We care about what we do, so we want to get it right.”

While the program has expanded substantially since its conception in 1972, Milani would like to see an electronic sector for TAP in the future.

TAP has successfully adapted to people’s needs over the past 30 years, Flynn said.

“I know at this point that the amount of Spanish speakers is not a whole lot,” Thompson said. “I am only one of two at my site, so I think that the program could reach out to more students who could help with this area.”

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SGA approves three club sponsorships Wed.

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Saint Mary’s Student Government Association (SGA) approved three sponsorships at their meeting Wednesday night.

Le Mans Hall Council president Maddy Peterek presented a sponsorship request for the council’s next three events. There will be a Valentine’s Day Breakfast Thursday morning in Le Mans.

They are also planning a Spa Day, with nail painting and other spa treatments for Le Mans residents the day of the all-school formal, Peterek said.

Also, on March 21 the Council will be having an all-hall Mass, and there will be refreshments to follow. SGA approved their sponsorship for all three events. The funds will supplement what the Le Mans Hall Council has already made through fundraising.

The Circle K Club will be sending members to a convention and leadership conference with all other Indiana Circle K chapters,

Circle K president Megan Alexander said.

All the members attending the conference will be returning to the club next year to bring what they learn back to the school, Alexander said.

Their sponsorship was approved by SGA to fund the attendance of nine members to their all-inclusive conference, she said.

The final sponsorship of the night was proposed by three clubs jointly: The Chinese Culture Club, Pacific Islander Club and the Around the World Club. They will be hosting China Night, to celebrate the Chinese New Year, Chinese Culture Club representative Joan Chen said.

The two-hour program will feature dance, musical and martial arts presentations, and refreshments will be served. It will be held in Moreau Little Theater Sunday, Chen said.

“It’s a good opportunity to celebrate Chinese culture,” she said.

SGA granted the sponsorship money.

Procedures and rules for the next SGA elections were voted and passed at the meeting as well after a few minor changes. Campaigning for next year’s major boards will begin on Feb. 22.

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntyalo01@saintmarys.edu

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STUDENT SENATE

Senate approves printer resolution

By SCOTT ENGLERT
News Writer

In an effort to improve the general well-being of students, senators examined two important issues during its Wednesday night meeting, passing a resolution for the installation of a color printer at LaFortune and proposing a student medical amnesty policy.

Currently, there are only two color printers on campus intended for student use. These are located in DeBartolo Hall and the Hesburgh Library. Realizing the need for an additional printer, 22 senators voted unanimously to pass the resolution — “A Resolution Proposing the Installation of a Color Printer in the LaFortune Computer Complex.”

The resolution “requests that the OIT install color printing solution in the

LaFortune Computer Complex.”

The second proposal — “A Resolution Proposing a Student Medical Amnesty Policy” — aims to protect a student who is seeking help for an injured friend. The resolution is proposed by Nick Ruof, Chairman of the

Committee on Residence Life. Ruof was clear in stating the purpose of the resolution.

“We want to students to feel safe and confident in calling emergency response and not worry about the repercussions,” Ruof said. “It’s not a policy where kids can

wander around the dorm drunk and seek out medical amnesty.”

Debate on the resolution was postponed due to quorum. Debate will resume at a later time.

“We want to students to feel safe and confident in calling emergency response and not worry about the repercussions.”

Nick Ruof
chairman
Committee on
Residence Life

Contact Scott Englert at
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Dance

continued from page 1

tap dance, modern dance, traditional Chinese dance and classical ballet, Dieckgrafe said.

Dieckgrafe said she believes even though the collaborative effort put forth by the students and faculty is stressful, “the educational process has been great.”

“We have to collect and look at what student pieces to bring in, and it shows the time and dedication that the students have put in,” she said. “They have been able to handle demanding schedules, tested their time management skills and tested their health by always being prepared to meet the demands of dance.”

Jingjiu Guan, a junior at Saint Mary’s, agreed that developing the show can be a challenge.

“The real challenge is actually how to balance dance with other academic classes and other extracurricular activities because dance takes a lot of time,” Guan said.

Guan said she spends hours a week working on dance.

“Since I am in five pieces, I am in rehearsals for about six to seven hours a week,” Guan said. “Other than that, I also take both intermediate and advanced ballet, pointe, jazz and some ballet classes off campus. I enjoy dancing, so I really enjoy the rehearsals and classes.”

In the show, Guan will perform a traditional Chinese piece called “Swan Dance.”

“I have been learning Chinese dance since I was in kindergarten because I am from China,” Guan said.

According to Guan, studying abroad in France made her fall in love with ballet, and her time at the College has allowed her

to embrace other forms of dance.

Saint Mary’s junior Katie Brown has also put a lot of time into dancing at Saint Mary’s. Brown recognizes the work non-dancers have contributed to the performance.

“The show takes a lot of planning between getting a cast and crew together as well as figuring out all the technical features of the show,” Brown said. “This year for the concert, we have a number of props and set details that had to be discussed before creating.”

Personally, Brown said she spends anywhere from six to 18 hours per week in the studio. “This is a learning process,” Brown said. “The dances vary in style and technique each year. It’s always nice not just for the dancers but for the audience to be exposed to these differences to learn more about the art of dance.”

Brown agreed with Dieckgrafe — believing the experience of collaboration can be difficult, but the synergy has very positive effects.

“Working with the students is a wonderful experience,” Brown said. “Just like in classes, we can easily learn from one another during rehearsals. With all the hard work and the demands that come with the dance show, it is rewarding.”

Brown said it is nice to see the rehearsal time translated onto the stage.

“To dance on stage and to make something that was once an idea into a living truth is amazing,” Brown said. “We are not just moving on stage, we — between the dancers, lighting designers, costume crew and the rest of the dance show crew — are creating art.”

Contact Sarah Gunn at
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Students use Rome as classroom

Special to The Observer

Hers is not a typical diary entry. “The merits of firsthand exposure to the art and architecture of ancient Rome are hard to articulate, but there is something affective about the experience that raises questions and inspires critical thought beyond a textbook reading,” wrote Tracy Jennings, a senior classics major at the University of Notre Dame, in a journal she kept while traveling through Rome last fall.

But it is precisely the reaction Keith Bradley, Eli J. and Helen Shaheen Professor of Classics, was hoping to evoke in his students when he took them on a weeklong trip to the ancient city as part of “Literature and Empire: The Roman Experience”—a course he taught for the first time this fall to a group of upper-level undergraduate and graduate students.

Students in the seminar explored major works of literature from the Roman imperial era including such texts as Virgil’s “Aeneid,” Lucan’s “Civil War,” and Tacitus’ “Annals.” They examined the political and ideological contexts in which the works were written and how the authors expressed reactions to the harsh and repressive form of autocratic government that the Roman emperorship embodied.

An ancient historian who specializes in the social and cultural history of Rome, Bradley says he took the students to Rome so that they could see for themselves some of the ancient monuments for which Rome’s military monarchs were responsible and tour the major

museums of Rome where representations of imperial power and magnificence are on display. Highlights included face-to-face confrontation with the Prima Porta statue of Augustus in the Vatican Museums, the great equestrian statue of the philosopher-king Marcus Aurelius in the Capitoline Museums, and the Altar of Augustan Peace in the Campus Martius, with its catalog of Augustan accomplishments that was reinscribed much later in history by the new Romanizing ruler, Mussolini.

“The idea was for the students to understand something of the topography of Rome and of what the city was like in antiquity, where all of the literary works we were studying were written or where their authors at some point lived,” Bradley explains. “And we wanted also to see as much as we could of Roman sculpture and artistic productions—mosaics and frescoes and other forms of material remains—that would help us enrich our investigation of the course’s theme.”

Bradley also wanted the students to use what they saw during their visit as part of their individual research projects.

Jennings, for example, was able to do research for her senior thesis on the nature of emperorship.

“I’m investigating how the Emperor Hadrian deified an unusual number of individuals, including his lover Antinous, and how those acts reflected on his policies and the nature of the emperorship,” Jennings says. “Seeing material evidence of deification reinforced how widely accepted this practice was in the Roman Empire, which contrasts with our modern standards of monotheism and the relationship between religion and state. My experience in Rome helped me to connect the archaeological evidence with the literary record.”

The trip also was valuable for Mary Clare Murphy, a Classics major whose senior thesis explores Ovid’s “Fasti.” Murphy had the opportunity to see the “Fasti Praenestini,” an ancient ceremonial calendar from Praeneste, just outside of Rome.

“This is the best-preserved Roman calendar, and its text reflects Augustus’ influence not only on the calendar but on all Roman life,” Murphy says. “For example, it celebrates the anniversary of the dedication of Augustus’ ‘Ara Pacis,’ or Altar of Peace. I had seen the calendar before, but now, since I was familiar with Ovid’s ‘Fasti,’ I could see how similar the two were in their constant references to the Emperor Augustus.”

Editors

continued from page 1

work with so many great people at The Observer, and I look forward to continuing to work with everyone to put out the best paper possible,” Buckley said.

Myers, a resident of Cavanaugh Hall, is a junior majoring in economics and theology with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. She is a native of Wadsworth, Ohio, and currently serves as an Assistant Sports Editor.

She has coordinated The Observer’s coverage of Baraka Bouts and Bengal Bouts, and her previous assignments include covering Irish men’s basketball and tennis and women’s basketball, volleyball and softball.

“I’m excited to step into an increased role with the paper and cannot wait to get started,” Myers said.

Werner served as an Associate Sports Editor during the fall semester and is now studying abroad in London. A native of Norwalk, Conn., Werner is a junior pursuing majors in American Studies and Arts and Letters Preprofessional and a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy.

He previously served as inter-hall editor and has covered Irish football, hockey, men’s lacrosse, volleyball and softball.

“I am excited to take on this new position at The Observer. There are a lot of talented people on the staff who I very much look forward to working with over the coming months,” Werner said.

Gamber will begin his duties as Editor-in-Chief on March 1, and the rest of the Editorial Board will assume their roles March 15.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Brazil heat wave kills 32 elderly people

BRASILIA — Thirty-two elderly people died in a southeastern Brazilian city this week because of a heat wave that has pushed temperatures to unseasonably high levels, a health official said Wednesday.

All of the fatalities in the coastal city of Santos near Sao Paulo involved people between 60 and 90 years old with pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or hypertension, according to the health ministry in Santos.

The first deaths were registered Monday, when the temperature in Santos reached 39 degrees Celsius (102 Fahrenheit). Temperatures were well above 30 degrees (86 F) in the following days.

Kenya relocates thousands of animals

SOYSAMBU — Kenyan authorities have begun a plan to restore the predator-prey balance in one of the country's premier game parks after a recent drought — by moving thousands of zebras and wildebeests closer to the lions.

As the sun rose over the 44,000-acre (17,800-hectare) Soysambu Conservancy on Wednesday, a herd of dozens of terrified zebras stampeded as a helicopter buzzed overhead, herding them into a funnel-like trap and into waiting trucks. After three trips, the helicopter had helped capture 88 zebras. Earlier in the week, 49 were herded.

At the end of a three-week operation, the Kenya Wildlife Service aims to relocate 4,000 zebras from different parts of the country to Amboseli National Park. In March, after the wildebeests have finished giving birth, the service plans to move 3,000 of them to the same park.

NATIONAL NEWS

Snow breaks mid-Atlantic records

WASHINGTON — Worst winter ever? The second blizzard in less than a week buried the most populous stretch of the East Coast under nearly a foot of snow Wednesday, breaking records for the snowiest winter and demoralizing millions of people still trying to dig out from the previous storm.

Conditions in the nation's capital were so bad that even plows were advised to get off the roads, and forecasters were eyeing a third storm that could be brewing for next week.

For many families, the first storm was a fun weekend diversion. People even went skiing past Washington's monuments. But Wednesday's blizzard quickly became a serious safety concern. The Pennsylvania governor shut down some highways and warned that people who drove were risking their lives.

Air Force decertifies warheads unit

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The Air Force has decertified a unit responsible for maintaining an estimated 2,000 nuclear warheads at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico, but top military officials won't discuss specifics of the decision.

Decertification means members of the 898th Munitions Squadron cannot perform their usual duties with nuclear weapons.

Air Force officials declined to specify what that means.

Air Force officials also declined to disclose what concerns prompted the action, but Ron Fry, a spokesman for the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, said Wednesday the move wasn't prompted by any risk to the public.

LOCAL NEWS

Ind. launches plan to track student growth

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Department of Education will track each student's academic growth instead of focusing on standardized tests to measure their progress and that of their schools, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett said Wednesday.

The Indiana Growth Model will help school districts to identify which teachers and teaching methods are most effective at improving all students' performances.

Bennett said many schools now concentrate on getting "bubble" students who are close to passing annual state tests over that hurdle, instead of spending more time and resources on those who score very low.

IRAQ

Iraq orders Blackwater guards out

Mandate applies to about 250 security contractors with ties to company

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq has ordered hundreds of private security guards linked to Blackwater Worldwide to leave the country within seven days or face possible arrest on visa violations, the interior minister said Wednesday.

The order comes in the wake of a U.S. judge's dismissal of criminal charges against five Blackwater guards who were accused in the September 2007 shooting deaths of 17 Iraqis in Baghdad.

It applies to about 250 security contractors who worked for Blackwater in Iraq at the time of the incident, Interior Minister Jawad al-Bolani told The Associated Press.

Some of the guards now work for other security firms in Iraq, while others work for a Blackwater subsidiary, al-Bolani said. He said all "concerned parties" were notified of the order three days ago and now have four days left before they must leave. He did not name the companies.

Blackwater security contractors were protecting U.S. diplomats when the guards opened fire in Nisoor Square, a busy Baghdad intersection, on Sept. 16, 2007. Seventeen people were killed, including women and children, in a shooting that inflamed anti-American sentiment in Iraq.

"We want to turn the page," al-Bolani said. "It was a painful experience, and we would like to go forward."

Backlash from the Blackwater shooting has been felt hardest by private security contractors, who typically provide protection for diplomats, journalists and aid workers. Iraqi security forces have routinely stopped security details at checkpoints to conduct searches and question guards.

Security guards will be



In this Feb. 7, 2007 file photo, a helicopter operated by Blackwater flies over Baghdad. Iraq has ordered about 250 former and current employees of the company to leave the country.

required within the next 10 days to register their weapons with the Ministry of Interior, al-Bolani said. Failure to do so could result in arrest, he added.

Based in Moyock, North Carolina, Blackwater is now known as Xe Services, a name change that happened after six of the security firm's guards were charged in the Nisoor Square shooting. At the time, Blackwater was the largest of the State Department's three security contractors working in Iraq.

Xe Services said the company had no employees currently in Iraq, including with its subsidiary, Presidential Airways.

"Xe does not have one,

single person in Iraq," said Xe spokeswoman Stacy DeLuke.

The U.S. Embassy in Baghdad declined comment. The State Department in Washington did not immediately respond to requests seeking comment.

The Blackwater guards involved in the incident said they were ambushed, but U.S. prosecutors and many Iraqis said they let loose an unprovoked attack on civilians using machine guns and grenades.

One of the accused guards pleaded guilty in the case, but a federal judge in Washington threw out charges against the other five in December, ruling that the Justice

Department for mishandling the evidence.

The legal ruling infuriated Iraqis and Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki vowed to seek punishment for the guards.

Last month, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden flew to Baghdad to assure Iraqis the Obama administration to appeal the case and bring the guards back to trial.

The shooting further strained relations between the United States and Iraq, leading the parliament in Baghdad to seek new laws that would clear the way for foreign contractors to be prosecuted in Iraqi courts. The U.S. government rejected those demands in the Blackwater case.

Ariz. girl kept in bathroom for two months

Associated Press

PHOENIX — A malnourished Phoenix girl was locked in a bathroom without running water for two months, beaten with metal rods, and forced to exercise until exhaustion because her father said she had stolen food and cheated on a home-school test, police said Wednesday.

Scott and Andrea Bass, the 14-year-old girl's father and stepmother, were arrested Feb. 4 for investigation of child abuse, kidnapping and unlawful imprisonment.

"No one on this earth needs to be treated the way this child was treated," Phoenix police Officer Luis Samudio said.

Andrea Bass, 31, who was released from custody Tuesday after posting a \$36,000 bond, did not immediately return a message left at her home Wednesday morning. The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office did not immediately respond to a request Wednesday to interview Scott Bass, 33, who remained jailed on a \$45,000 bond.

The girl escaped from the bathroom through the attic on Feb. 4 and rode her bike to a nearby movie theater, where a concerned couple gave her \$50. She then rode about 13 miles to a Phoenix strip mall and bought water, food, a backpack and clothes because she hadn't been allowed to change for weeks, Samudio said.

The girl then rode to a coffee shop in Scottsdale, where she asked an employee to call police.

Samudio said when police arrived at the girl's home to interview Scott Bass, he thought the girl was still in the bathroom and was "visibly surprised" when he unlocked the door and she was gone.

Inside the bathroom, police found a 5-gallon bucket containing human waste and a blanket on the floor that served as the girl's bed, according to a probable-cause statement released Wednesday.

Scott Bass told investigators that he locked his daughter in the bathroom because she stole food from the kitchen and cheated on a home-school test, according to the document.

Sonnet

continued from page 1

attending is to shed any stereotypes they may have about the modern relevance of Shakespeare's words, and allow themselves to experience his works as they were originally intended — by lifting them off the page and into the air."

Notable readers at the Sonnet Fest included University President Fr. John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters John McGreevy, Notre Dame Chair of English, John Sitter and guest lecturer, Princeton University professor Caryl Emerson.

McGreevy said he was one of the first to recite a sonnet.

"I read a sonnet in the morning," he said. "[Many] different people were there from Arts and Letters. It was a lot of fun."

Some participants were able to choose their favorite sonnet to read, but most were assigned certain sonnets depending on

their schedules.

"Scheduling was tight," Jackson said. "Some readers requested specific sonnets, and while I tried to facilitate those requests, in the end the schedule was dictated by the availability of each participant."

Jackson said Sonnet Fest was the first mass reading that Shakespeare at Notre Dame has ever attempted. He said he hopes the event will spark interest in more public readings in the community.

"It is my hope that such a far-reaching event like this will create the possibility of future public readings of Shakespeare's canon," Jackson said. "The strong interest that we have received from the Notre Dame community demonstrates that we certainly have the interest to make something like that work. It might not be the sonnets [in particular,] but we will endeavor to make any selection relevant to the community that supports us."

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

Spring

continued from page 1

minority groups since there is a diversity problem on campus."

Francillon is a member of a five-person team that spends the year recruiting minority students to Notre Dame. She and senior Kristine Yuen, junior Steven Corrales and sophomores Amanda Meza and Raymond Umipig spend much of the fall semester calling potential applicants and then the spring semester organizing and participating in Spring Visitation weekends.

"When the students come up here for Spring Visitation, we show them what Notre Dame is about," Yuen said. "We take them to the different departments, they meet the faculty, go to classes, Mass and multicultural events."

Spring Visitation success rates have been good over the past few years; 51 percent of the students who attended last year's visit entered Notre Dame as members of the Class of 2013.

Corrales, who attended Spring Visitation as a high school senior, said his weekend on campus gave him a very positive outlook on a school he had previously known little about.

"Spring Visitation changed my life," he said. "I hadn't been considering Notre Dame at all but once I got here that completely changed; after a few hours of being on campus I really saw myself here."

Francillon said it's very common for minority students like Corrales to come to visit the University and to know very little about the school and the community.

"In our experience, we have found that Notre Dame does not hold the same weight in the minority communities like it does in the white communities," she said. "Minorities have heard of the school but we have to give them a reason

to go here when they are also considering schools like Harvard and Yale."

Meza said it's the community spirit of Notre Dame that they hope to show to the students.

"The way campus impacts people when they get here is crucial," she said. "It really is the community. You can't describe it and you have to experience it to know what it's truly like, but it's something that I want to give the same opportunity to others."

Umipig agreed, and said, "Spring Visitation is really the best opportunity we have to expose these students to what Notre Dame has to offer them."

All five recruitment officers believe Spring Visitation is necessary because of the lack of diversity within the student body. In the Class of 2013, minorities account for 25 percent of the students.

"I don't think the diversity on campus has really changed since I was a freshman," Francillon said. "The numbers are there but

you don't have to look at them to know that diversity is a problem; all you have to do is look around and you can see that it's a problem."

Yuen said greater awareness needs to be raised so non-minority students have a better understanding of the issues facing Notre Dame's lack of diversity.

"When people use the word 'diversity' there is a stigma attached," she said. "Non-minorities hear the word and don't think that it applies to them so there is a constant challenge."

Francillon said the diversity situation at Notre Dame is not unique.

"The diversity issues at Notre Dame are issues that are being faced in any area of affluence," she said. "There needs to be recognition that this is something that requires a collective effort."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu

Prayer

continued from page 1

years ago on this coming Ash Wednesday, Warner said. Since then, over 200 broadcasts were produced.

"We were committed to making sure we did it every week of the year," Warner said. "Then we started adding extra broadcasts. For instance, we'll have a special one coming up for Saint Patrick's Day."

The Prayercasts consist of a sung responsorial psalm, Gospel of the week with an accompanying homily, meditation and specific prayers or intentions, Warner said.

"We have a team of about 10 homilists, Holy Cross guys — including a few guests every once in a while — that are working on this," Warner said. "We're usually working about six weeks out to plan all of these things. Right now we're already halfway through the Lenten season."

With little to no advertising, around 250,000 visitors tuned in to the 20- to 25-minute long Prayercasts in the past three years, with around 7,000 hits a week coming from 52 countries, Warner said.

Catherine Crecelius, a 2009 graduate and current Campus Ministry intern, listened to the program while she was abroad in Senegal.

"It's a way to participate in and appreciate a Holy Cross and Notre Dame prayer experience, even when you're not on campus," Crecelius said. "For me, that happened when I was in Senegal. I was liv-

ing in a place where I didn't have very much Internet access and no connection to any other Notre Dame people besides my friend Colleen who was there with me."

Crecelius said it was a nice way to relate to the Notre Dame campus while she was away.

"I could close my eyes, lay down in my bed and kind of be brought back to an environment that made me feel safe and like I was at home," she said.

Crecelius said the Prayercasts are a way to stay connected with the campus.

"It was really nice to have that ability to bring myself back to Notre Dame when I had been away from it and was homesick for the community," Crecelius said.

Besides an audio portion, the Prayercast is partnered with MassCast — a streaming video of Mass held at the Basilica assembled by students in Film, Television and Theatre, Warner said.

"A 20 minute piece will probably take about two to three hours to create, including the engineering of the music — that is the mixing and the mastering of it — and that doesn't count the hours of preparation that it takes for a homilist to actually write his own meditation," Warner said.

Jenny Lewis, a graduate student in sacred music and gradu-

ate assistant with the Folk Choir, is the Prayercast's producer.

"My main job under the umbrella of working with the Folk Choir is producing the

Prayercast every week," Lewis said. "Once a month, on a Friday, we come into CoMo and we set up a portable recording studio, which is really high quality stuff we have now, as far as computers, software, microphones and things."

After recording, Lewis takes the raw material and creates the finished product.

"Some days it's more work than others," Lewis said. "Sometimes there are one-hit wonders and sometimes it takes some creative work on the computer and the software."

The Prayercast team is introducing something new during Lent, Warner said.

"We're also going to push the envelope a little," he said. "We're actually going to do an audio broadcast every week of Christian mantra."

The mantras are to assist meditation and deeper spiritual learning, Warner said.

The finished Prayercasts are Warner's favorite part of the process.

"I really like listening to them afterwards," he said. "I like hearing what happens when everyone comes at the gospel in different ways. Every week something new comes together as a result of that."

For more information, visit www.ndprayercast.org or Notre Dame's iTunesU page.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

"I like hearing what happens when everyone comes at the gospel in different ways. Every week something new comes together as a result of that."

Steve Warner
director
Notre Dame Folk Choir

"It's a way to participate in and appreciate a Holy Cross and Notre Dame prayer experience, even when you're not on campus."

Catherine Crecelius
campus ministry intern

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For more details: kellogg.nd.edu/events/carnaval

KELLOGG INSTITUTE

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,038.38	-20.26	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
1,791	154	154	687,973,489

AMEX	1,786.24	-7.13
NASDAQ	2,147.87	-3.00
NYSE	6,819.12	-16.04
S&P 500	1,068.13	-2.39
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	9,963.99	+31.09
FTSE 100 (London)	5,131.99	+20.15

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+0.63	+0.02	3.20
SPRINT NXL CP (S)	-7.95	-0.29	3.36
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-0.20	-0.21	107.01
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	+1.38	+0.20	14.67

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+1.68	+0.61	3.63
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	0.10
30-YEAR BOND	+1.49	+0.68	4.57
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.69	+0.62	2.31

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.12		74.64
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-1.10		1,076.1
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.45		84.50

Exchange Rates	
YEN	89.9650
EURO	1.3735
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0623
BRITISH POUND	1.5599

IN BRIEF

American to charge \$50 for standby

DALLAS — Next time you think about flying standby on American Airlines, be prepared to give the gate agent your name and \$50.

The days of hanging around the agent's desk, hoping for a free switch to an earlier flight are over at American for many passengers.

The nation's second-largest airline said Wednesday that starting with tickets bought on Feb. 22, only elite frequent fliers, travelers in first or business class, military personnel and people who bought pricey coach tickets will be allowed to fly standby for free.

Everyone else switching flights on their day of travel will have to pay \$50 to get a confirmed seat.

In announcing the change, American played down the price and said it was improving the boarding process by eliminating the gaggle of standby fliers who flock to the desk before flights.

"On some flights we have over 100 people going standby," and their names must be manually entered into the computer system, said American Airlines spokesman Tim Smith. "Because of the sheer numbers, it can be cumbersome to get the boarding process started on time."

Toyota repairing 50k vehicles per day

CHICAGO — A Toyota executive said Wednesday that dealers have so far reinforced the sticking accelerator on more than 220,000 recalled vehicles, with repairs continuing at a rate of about 50,000 vehicles a day.

"Nothing is more important to Toyota than the safety and reliability of our vehicles, and right now we are completely focused on fixing the vehicles that have been affected under this recall," Bob Carter, Toyota group vice president and general manager, said at the Chicago Auto Show.

Some dealers have been open around the clock while others are carrying out the repairs at offsite facilities, he said.

Carter added that the voluntary recall of the 2010 Prius and Lexus HS 250h models to update braking software, in response to complaints about braking problems, also is proceeding.

GREECE

Greek unions stage walkout

Workers strike over deficit slashing measures; Greece's fiscal problems have shaken euro

Associated Press

ATHENS — Greek workers shut down schools, grounded flights and walked out of hospitals Wednesday to protest austerity measures brought on by the nation's staggering debt, as European leaders wrangled over whether and how to come to the country's financial rescue.

Greece's prime minister headed to a European Union summit where leaders will take up the debt crisis Thursday. Greece's fiscal problems have shaken the euro and underscored the interconnectedness of the global economy.

European stocks rose on hopes for a rescue plan that might take pressure off other struggling eurozone countries such as Portugal and Spain, but it is unclear what wealthier EU nations will do to help Greece.

The EU's largest economies, Germany and France, are ready to offer their support to Greece at the summit but will wait to see if other countries join the effort, a French diplomatic official said in a briefing ahead of the summit. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, did not provide specifics.

"Here's the message: we are behind Greece," the official said. "I don't think (financial) aid needs to be extended to Greece tomorrow; I think a message needs to be given to markets that we will know how to resolve the Greek question."

Officials in Germany said there is no urgent need for a bailout at the moment and that "no decision on such help" is imminent. They also said EU rules prohibited them from guaranteeing another country's debts.

"Of course, we are running through worst-case



Demonstrators protest outside Parliament in Athens Wednesday. About 7,000 people took part in two peaceful marches against the government's plan to ease Greece out of a major debt crisis.

scenarios," a German government official said on condition of anonymity. "Greece has to present a credible volume of cuts. Agreement on that would be an important signal from tomorrow's summit."

The head of France's national assembly, Bernard Accoyer, said that European countries must show solidarity with Greece.

"The reality is obvious to everyone. The issue is not to let Greece go bankrupt," he said.

Greece came under intense EU pressure to slash spending after it revealed a massive and previously undeclared budget shortfall last year that continues to rattle

financial markets and the euro, the currency shared by 16 EU members. Its deficit spiraled to more than 12 percent of economic output — more than four times the eurozone limit — in 2009.

Prime Minister George Papandreou's new government has announced sweeping spending cuts that will freeze salaries and new hiring, cut bonuses and stipends and increase the average retirement age by two years to 63. The government also announced new taxes, which it insists will increase the burden on the rich but safeguard the poor.

European governments, initially reluctant to help Greece out of a crisis it

created itself, now appear ready to help after market concerns intensified in recent days, dragging the euro down to an eight-month low against the U.S. dollar and hitting stocks worldwide.

European stocks closed up Wednesday, and the spread, or interest rate difference, between Greek and benchmark German bonds narrowed, indicating that fears of Greek default in the bond market are waning.

Stephen Lewis, an analyst at Monument Securities, said financial markets "are taking it for granted that support will be forthcoming and would probably react negatively if the summit's outcome fell short of expectations."

Report: Silicon Valley economy sputtering

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Silicon Valley's economy took a big hit during the global meltdown and could have trouble climbing out, according to a report released Wednesday.

The 2010 Index of Silicon Valley said the region is entering a "new phase of uncertainty" where job losses, a shrinking foreign talent pool, a drop in investments and state legislative gridlock could put its standing as the center of technology at risk.

The report, released annually by local nonprofit groups the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and Joint Venture, examines trends in employment, housing, education and

other issues to provide a snapshot of the region's well-being.

"It's a report with a lot of bad news in it. Most years, Silicon Valley has all this good news. But this year, it's not entirely clear when the recession ends if we're going to be able to very easily get back. That's not a given," said Russell Hancock, president and chief executive of Joint Venture, an alliance of business and community institutions.

The report noted that the region lost 90,000 jobs from November 2008 to November 2009, and unemployment is higher than national levels. It's also the worst in the region since 2005.

And there are other signs of weakness.

The number of patents dipped slightly in 2008, and venture capital financing, which provides money to start-ups, plunged. Office vacancy rates also were up 33 percent from 2008 to 2009, and incomes dropped 5 percent between 2007 and 2009, to \$62,003.

The authors also worried that as other areas seek to compete with Silicon Valley, including India and China, the region will have a hard time attracting top talent, particularly for science and engineering positions. The report noted high high-school dropout rates, fewer students meeting basic state college entrance requirements and persistent racial disparities in education.

Power plant explodes during construction, safety, 'sub-standard'

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — The brother of one of five workers killed in an explosion at a power plant under construction says his brother called the project "screwed up," and a worker on the job the day before the explosion says safety on the job was "sub-standard."

The concerns about pressure to get the job done and safety standards at the Kleen Energy Systems plant in Middletown were raised in interviews with The Associated Press on Wednesday, and add to a growing number of questions about work conditions at the site.

Carl Crabb told the AP that his brother, Ron, and other workers evacuated the building after they smelled gas. He said they made it outside the building, but Ron was killed.

"Ron wasn't too happy the way this job was going," Carl Crabb said. "They had a lot of problems. I know he said the job was really screwed up."

Crabb, who did not cite specifics, said his brother and others felt pressure to get the job done and wished he hadn't taken the assignment.

"They felt they were slipping further behind — lot of tension on the job," he said.

Tom Alferi, 58, a steamfitter who worked on the plant as recently as the day before the explosion, said electrical and

welding cords were strewn all over the site.

"It was a very messy place," Alferi said. "They didn't hire enough laborers. The safety on the job was substandard."

Alferi said there was pressure in recent weeks to get the job done, but he described it as normal for that kind of job. He said his immediate concern was for those who lost friends and loved ones.

The son of another worker killed said Tuesday his father was working more than 80 hours per week and felt pressure to finish. Robert Reardon, an attorney for a worker injured in the blast, also said workers were spending seven days a week on the project.

"There's no doubt my client felt he was being rushed in his job," Reardon said Wednesday.

"The word was coming down from above, so to speak, that they had to work longer hours and they had to work on Sundays because they were behind. He made it clear to

me the pressure was on to get the job done and it was daily."

Paul Gaskins, who was working on a steam turbine at the time of the explosion, said Tuesday that he and his colleagues worked 12 to 13 hours every day, but said they were not rushed.

The powerful explosion blew apart large swaths of the nearly completed 620-megawatt Kleen Energy Systems plant as workers for O&G purged a gas line Sunday morning. The cause is

being investigated, and authorities launched a criminal investigation Monday, saying they couldn't rule out negligence.

O&G Industries said in a statement Wednesday that while it is the general contractor on the project and a minority shareholder in the plant's ownership, the company did not perform the majority of specialized work, including mechanical, electric and piping.

Subcontractors were "required to have and adhere to their own safety plan, as well as having a safety officer on site," according to the statement.

O&G said safety personnel regularly inspected the site. An O&G spokesman said he could not comment on the complaints from some workers and their families.

John Chavez, a public affairs officer for OSHA, said Wednesday he is not aware of any federal laws or regulations that would limit the number of hours an employer can require their employee to work.

Daniel Horowitz, a spokesman for the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, which investigates chemical disasters, said it was too early to tell whether fatigue is an issue because investigators have only done a handful of interviews due to a dispute with local authorities over whether they can have access to the site and investigation. But he said fatigue and performance issues are something the agency would typically look at.

OSHA records show O&G Industries had one violation on the site after a July 2009

inspection, but it was minor and the company settled it by paying a \$1,000 fine.

Telephone messages were left Wednesday for union officials were not returned.

Middletown Deputy Fire Marshal Al Santostefano told AP that officials are close to identifying the point of origin for Sunday's explosion at Kleen Energy Systems, and that will help them determine the cause.

Santostefano says investigators wrapped up work site around 11:30 p.m. Tuesday

because of the winter storm, plan to return Thursday and might know the cause by Friday.

Also Wednesday, Don Holmstrom, the lead investigator for the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, said he was concerned that employees of O&G have had unfettered access to the site and could compromise probes into the deadly blast.

He said evidence, including a camera and a combustible gas detector, has been removed.

"They had a lot of problems. I know he said the job was really screwed up."

**Carl Crabb
victim's brother**

John Edwards sex tape turned over to judge



AP
Superior Court Judge Abraham Penn Jones listens at a hearing over John Edwards' "private" videotape on Feb. 5.

Associated Press

HILLSBOROUGH, N.C. — A former aide to John Edwards turned over the now infamous sex tape to a judge Wednesday, then faced tough questions from attorneys for the ex-presidential candidate's mistress who were frustrated with his changing story about where the tapes had been kept.

On top of that, Andrew Young said Elizabeth Edwards has threatened to sue him for contributing to the downfall of

their marriage.

Young's attorneys turned over several items to be placed under seal, including an original videotape marked "special" that purportedly shows John Edwards in a sexual encounter with mistress Rielle Hunter. Young also turned over a copy of the tape.

The former Edwards confidant struggled to answer why he said last week that the only copies of the sex tape he had access to were in an Atlanta lockbox.

Wanted: Software Sherpas

By: DR. SEYMOUR GRADS
EpicPress

VERONA, WI — Sherpas are local people who are employed as guides for expeditions in the Himalayas. They are highly regarded as elite experts in their local terrain, as well as having great endurance and resilience to extreme conditions. Sherpas are renowned for their hardiness, expertise, and experience at high altitudes. They are of immeasurable value to explorers in the Himalayan region.



Sherpas seen crossing a Himalayan bridge. Software Sherpas are in high demand for one company.

Installing an integrated healthcare software system isn't that different from a Himalayan expedition; it's full of exhilarating peaks and difficult passes, culminating in the unparalleled achievement of reaching the summit. For the mountaineer, it's the adventure of a lifetime, and always somewhat scary.

We need Sherpas to guide our customers on their expeditions to the top of the healthcare industry. We'll teach you the routes and the terrain. You'll need to come ready to climb, to guide, and to inspire others to reach the highest peak.

Potential Software Sherpas need the following:

- Bachelor's degree (any major)
- Top-notch academics
- Willingness to travel nationally 50%
- Authorized to work in the US
- Relocation to Madison, WI required

Does this sound like your kind of adventure? If so, please apply online at careers.epic.com.

Former Rep. Charlie Wilson of 'War' fame dies at 76

Associated Press

DALLAS — Charlie Wilson, the fun-loving Texas congressman whose backroom deal-making funneled millions of dollars in weapons to Afghanistan, allowing the country's underdog mujahedeen rebels to beat back the mighty Soviet Red Army, died Wednesday. He was 76.

Wilson died at Memorial Medical Center-Lufkin after having difficulty breathing after attending a meeting in the eastern Texas town where he lived, said hospital spokeswoman Yana Ogletree. Wilson was pronounced dead on arrival, and the preliminary cause of death was cardiopulmonary arrest, she said.

Wilson represented Texas' 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. House from 1973 to 1996 and was known in Washington as "Good Time Charlie" for his reputation as a hard-drinking womanizer. He once called former congresswoman Pat Schroeder "Babycakes," and tried to take a beauty queen with him on a government trip to Afghanistan.

Wilson, a Democrat, was considered both a progressive and a defense hawk. While his efforts to arm the mujahedeen in the 1980s were a success — spurring a victory that helped speed the downfall of the Soviet Union — he was unable to keep the money flowing after the Soviets left.

Afghanistan plunged into chaos, creating an opening eventually filled by the Taliban, which harbored al-Qaida terrorists.

After the Sept. 11 attacks — carried out by al-Qaida terrorists trained in Afghanistan — the U.S. ended up invading the country it had once helped liberate.

"People like me didn't fulfill our responsibilities once the war was over," Wilson said in a September 2001 interview with The Associated Press. "We allowed this vacuum to occur in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which enraged a lot of people. That was as much my fault as it was a lot of others."

His efforts to help the Afghan rebels — as well as his partying ways — were portrayed in the movie and book "Charlie Wilson's War." In an interview with The Associated Press after the book was published in 2003, he said he wasn't worried about details of his wild side being portrayed.

"I would remind you that I was not married at the time. I'm in a different place than I was in at the time and I don't apologize about that," Wilson said.

Charles Wilson was born June 1, 1933, in Trinity. He attended Sam Houston State University in Huntsville before earning his bachelor's degree from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1956.

Wilson served as a Naval lieutenant between 1956-60,

then entered politics by volunteering for John F. Kennedy's presidential campaign. He served in the Texas House and then in the Texas Senate before being elected to the U.S. House in 1972.

"Charlie was perfect as a congressman, perfect as a state representative, perfect as a state senator. He was a perfect reflection of the people he represented. If there was anything wrong with Charlie, I never did know what it was," said Charles Schnabel Jr., who served for seven years as Wilson's chief of staff in Washington and worked with Wilson when he served in the Texas Senate.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, Wilson helped secure money for weapons that were delivered to the mujahedeen by then-CIA agent Mike Vickers. The Soviets spent a decade battling the rebels before pulling the Red Army from Afghanistan in 1989. Two years later, its economy in ruins, the Soviet Union fell apart.

Vickers, now assistant secretary of defense for special operations, said Wednesday that Wilson was a "great American patriot who played a pivotal role in a world-changing event — the defeat of the Red Army in Afghanistan, which led to the collapse of communism and the Soviet empire."

Longtime friend Buddy



Charlie Wilson stands with his wife Barbara at the premiere of 'Charlie Wilson's War' on Dec. 10, 2007. He died Wednesday.

Temple, who was with Wilson when he collapsed Wednesday, said that despite Wilson's reputation as a playboy, he was serious about representing east Texas, including helping to create the Big Thicket National Preserve — almost 100,000 acres of swamps, bogs and forests.

"Charlie was a giant. We have lost a giant. There won't be another like him," Temple said at a hospital news conference announcing Wilson's death.

Wilson left politics in 1996, after he no longer found it any fun. He lobbied for a number of years before returning to

Texas. In 2007, he had a heart transplant after being diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, a disease that causes an enlarged and weakened heart.

Schnabel said he had just been with Wilson a few weeks ago for the dedication of the Charlie Wilson chair for Pakistan studies at the University of Texas, Austin, a \$1 million endowment. He said Wilson had been doing "very good" and said his former boss described himself as "a poster boy" for heart transplants.

Ogletree said Wilson is survived by his wife, Barbara, whom he married in 1999, and a sister.

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Abroad blog!

Hey guys! I just flew into Budapest, and boy are my arms tired! Anyway, a lot of stuff has happened over here, some interesting, some not. It's a foreign country though, so the prosaic details of every-day life automatically take on a special significance!

Brooks Smith

Buda Boy

Anyway, here's a quick recap of the events of the last few weeks.

The first day I came here I went to the beautiful Holnap Szives Museum of Artistic Expressionism, named after a famous Hungarian painter. Inside were many beautiful paintings by the artist, including one very artistic piece of a little girl, finger to lip and clad in blue, staring over her shoulder as a Nazi tank rolled over her doll. The van Gogh influence was obvious, but not overstated. Truly Szives deserves to be better known. It was so much cooler than anything back in the United States!

Then I went to a beautiful Hungarian restaurant, or "ristorante" (that's the local word for such things). The Hungarians have developed an exquisite and little-known cuisine which has at its core the art of deep-frying things in the lipids of various animals. I personally enjoyed the "almas dios," which — just like it sounds — is an apple deep-fried in the same tank as a duck liver, both presented on a white china plate with a garnish of parsley and a generous sprinkling of Black Sea salt. As the Hungarians say, "Buen provecho!" Definitely much better tasting than anything I've had in America.

I closed out that whirlwind first day

(though I was super duper jet lagged!) with a night out at a local dance club — "el nicht club," as it's known in the local vernacular. Please believe me when I say that the partying was wilder and more fun than anything I've experienced in the continental U.S.A. And the girls are hot! Apparently my flight out of America's Breadbasket landed right in Europe's Meatmarket! (No pun intended.)

Basically every day since then has been exactly the same, except it just kept getting more fun every day. The fun didn't stop! I feel bad for those stuck in the ol' 48 plus two, they can't ever understand what I mean.

Here are some more highlights of my life so far:

Jan. 22 — I visit a national monument to Hungarians who died tragically in wars throughout the years. Truly a majestic setting and one which makes you reflect solemnly upon the shortness of one's own life. Life is too short to not wring every last bit of fun out of it like water from a towel. You're only on this earth for a short time, bra, make the most of it. Ya dig?

Jan. 25 — Meet a beautiful Hungarian girl with blue eyes. We fall madly and passionately in love, take it back to my place, and no strings attached. Truly a majestic experience and one which makes you reflect solemnly upon the importance of universal love. Life's too short not to love other people. We're only on this earth for a short time together, bras and bra-ettes, make the most of it. Ya dig?

Jan. 27 — I meet my roommates. We go to local bars, buy hella drinks for everyone, and in general cement a life-long friendship which will last. As

I was stone-colding brews while my bros chanted behind me, I had a majestic epiphany which made me reflect solemnly on the importance of friendship. Friendship between two people is one of the most important things there can be in this world on the long and winding road to the grave. We're only on this chunk of space rock for a little time together, dawg, so we gots to live it up. Word to ya mama.

Jan. 33 — First day of school! I spent an edifying day in class learning all about the Hungarian language and culture. As I was learning, I had an epiphany: Hungarian culture actually kinda sucks compared to American culture. In fact, most other cultures kinda suck compared to American culture, because our culture is the best culture. Try telling that to some wack-ass Hungarian teacher though! I got in a fight and was escorted out of the building. How come other countries try to keep America down? I will never understand.

Well, I guess my abroad blog got a little disjointed and rambling there, but I know other people like to hear about every single detail of my life, so whatever. I even got a little philosophical in the middle there, but sometimes that's the way the cookie crumbles in terms of where my head's at. Look for my next blog update 40 minutes from now!

Brooks Smith is a junior math and English major at Notre Dame. He can be contacted at bsmith26@nd.edu

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

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OBSERVER POLL

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Let no man imagine that he has no influence. Whoever he may be, and wherever he may be placed, the man who thinks becomes a light and a power."

Henry George
U.S. economist

Praying to the god of wind and snow

In the middle of this weekend's blizzard that buried the East Coast, my 3-year old nephew (who lives in Philadelphia) left me a pointed voicemail in my dual role as uncle and priest, the benefits of which he is assiduously trying to figure out. Clearly, he was eyeing up the 2 feet of snow that had already fallen in his backyard. Remember what 2 feet of snow looked like when you were 1-foot-8? Paradise! But, alas, the wind chill was negative 15 — paradise lost, or at least delayed. "Uncle Lou," the voicemail pleaded with piqued urgency, "can you tell God or Jesus to stop the wind but not the snow. Soon. Thanks. Bye."

Fr. Lou DeFra

Faith Point

As a priest, I have an obligation to pray for intentions that people bring to me. As a priest at Notre Dame, this obligation necessarily includes 2 a.m. requests from stressed-out Dillon-ites to pass tests they haven't studied for, and affirmatives to dates that — let's face it — they have little chance at landing (but keep hoping, my fellow Big Red, miracles do happen!). It also includes annual autumn requests from plaid-panted alumni for football wins, especially against ranked opponents, and grandchildren acceptances to the incoming freshmen class. And you know what? I pray for them all. (Well, almost all — one BC alum asked me to pray for

a win over Notre Dame this Fall, for ecumenism's sake, but I somehow let that one slip my list ...)

Who am I to judge? Especially since I throw in my own share of self-interested-wishes-disguised-as-pious-approaches-to-the-Almighty — flights taking off on time, specified annoying people losing my number and e-mail, unprepared homilies making an impact, etc. etc. So, trusting fully in God's ability to sort through all our self-centered wishes and stay focused on the big picture of universal salvation, I dutifully offer all these petitions up to God. But the whole process does raise the troubling question ...

How often do we allow our prayer to grow beyond our own grown-up version of "Can you please stop the wind but not the snow?" If I made a clear-eyed examination of my prayer, I suspect I would be a bit embarrassed to realize how much of it fits pretty snugly into the formula: "Can you please eliminate the struggles of my life, and if possible, without removing any of the upside?"

Now, I do not wish to suggest that prayers of petition for improvement of situations in our life are invalid, or are always disguised expressions of self-centered wishes. On the other hand, I have learned this much from nearly 40 years of trying to dialogue with God: almost inevitably some of our prayers are self-centered wishes. And when they are, prayer (and, indeed, our relationship with God) can become, not an

intense encounter with the Other who leads us precisely beyond ourselves into love of God and neighbor. But rather, an intense encounter with Me. And Me is fairly often concerned with one thing: leading Me into ever-greater Me-ness (defined broadly as the universe, its 6.8 billion inhabitants, and all their activities working together to solve my problems, or at least not getting in my way of solving them).

It's not that the prayer "God, help me land this particular job" is not an authentic expression of an entirely valid longing. Rather, it seems that Christian prayer invites us to offer the petition within a consciousness that transcends our own personal gain.

There is, it seems to me, an important difference between "God, help me land this job" and "God, help me to see and understand your plan and vocation for my life." The former is often a slightly older and more complex form of "Please stop the wind but not the snow." While the latter prayer tugs us (often not without tentativeness and fear on our part, but that's natural) beyond our own wants and needs, and places our lives squarely in the hands of God and at the service of others.

"Lord, show me what you would have of my life. Give me a life where I might find you. Lead me where my life might serve others." The way to intensify the first type of prayer is often to repeat it more and more frequently. The way to intensify the second type of prayer is to

stop talking, and wait and rest in God. This alone points to the efficacy of the second!

Such prayer, of course, requires us to relinquish a huge amount of control to God, which is precisely why it is a more difficult prayer to make. Yet, if we think about it, we cannot help but realize how much more room this type of prayer provides — both for God to act in our lives and for us to recognize God's activity. Perhaps, if we think of prayer less as telling God a bunch of things God already knows and asking God to fix them, and more as clearing space within us for God to lead us and others to true peace, we can see the advantage of the latter prayer. The first type of prayer — "Help land me this job, date, grade, etc" — fills our heart and mind with more of us — our wants and needs. The second type of prayer — "Lead me where you will" — invites our selves to quiet down and encounter the God of Providence, who holds our entire lives in the mysterious, but gentle and loving, palms of His hands.

Not sure how to break this to my nephew.

This week's Faith Point was written by Fr. Lou DeFra. Fr. Lou is the director of bible studies and chaplain to the ACE program. He can be contacted at delfra.2@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern for human dignity lacking in porn panel

As club leaders of the Identity Project of Notre Dame (idND), we would like to address the GRC's recent pornography panel and viewing of "The Price of Pleasure," which our club sponsored along with the Theology Department. In our interactions with the GRC prior to the event, we had good reason to believe that this event would foster lively discussion about this widespread violation of human dignity, presenting theological, Natural Law and feminist arguments in opposition to prevalent cultural acceptance of pornography. Unfortunately, in retrospect, this event failed to present these perspectives and address the issue of pornography appropriately (particularly due to the extremely graphic nature of the film).

Rather than dwell on this serious misunderstanding, we would like to take this opportunity

to invite you to the fifth annual Edith Stein Project ("No Man is an Island: Creature, Culture, and Community"), held this coming weekend (Feb. 12-13) in McKenna Hall. This student-organized conference offers a variety of perspectives informed by the Catholic tradition on issues of gender, sexuality and authentic personhood (the full schedule is available at <http://www.nd.edu/~idnd/edithstein/schedule10.html>). All are welcome.

Katie Heinzen

junior

Welsh Fam

Claire Gillen

sophomore

Welsh Fam

Feb. 9

A chili catastrophe

In response to Matt Mooney's praise of the Lenten dining hall food to come ("Say cheese," Feb. 9), I am once again reminded of a horrible atrocity our dear dining hall commits on a weekly basis. Every day that I pass by the soup stand in North Dining Hall and spot the placard listing "Texas Chili" as one of the options I cringe with distaste. How can it be that our dining hall, ranked one of the top in the nation, catering to students around the world, can make the appalling mistake of putting beans in Texas chili? To quote a Texas chili purist, "If you know beans about chili, you know chili ain't got no beans." As the official state food of Texas, it hits home when I see

something so iconic misrepresented. I'm not saying that some chilies can't have beans, though personally why would you want miniature dirt-like globs in your chili is beyond me. I just hate that the dining hall in their attempt to add unnecessary adjectives before their food has wronged a Texas tradition. So dear dining hall, feel free to leave the beans in, just please please change your placard. Name it New York chili, Pennsylvania chili, [insert Yankee state] chili, just not my dear ol' Texas chili.

McKena Kovar

junior

Cavanaugh Hall

Feb. 9

LSU

Care training for dementia to enhance life quality of aging

The University's Life Course and Aging Center has partnered with Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area to offer dementia care training in compliance with a new state law.

The Louisiana Legislature passed Senate Bill 810 in 2008, requiring all employees of adult residential care and nursing facilities in Louisiana to pass a training course in dementia care.

The partnership was certified Jan. 21 and is currently the only group certified in Louisiana.

Alzheimer's disease often has a mor-

bid stigma attached to it, said Dana Territo, director of services at ASCA.

"They deserve a quality of life like anyone else," Territo said.

The first training course will be held Feb. 10 in the Rosemary Conference Room at ASCA. After the first program, courses will be held quarterly.

Workers in full-time care must have eight hours of approved training within 90 days. Those in maintenance positions must have four hours of training.

The curriculum was created by Territo, psychology professor Katie Cherry and communication sciences and disorders professor Neila Donovan.

The curriculum consists of five topics to be taught in eight hours — an overview of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, communication with persons with dementia, behavior management, promoting independence in activities of daily living and understanding and dealing with family.

Five million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 5 percent of people 65 to 74 and almost 50 percent of those 85 and older may suffer from the disease, according to the CDC.

One of the goals of the program is helping the community prepare for an aging population.

The research faculty continues to be dedicated to its goals despite budget cuts, Lilly Allen, associate director of the LCAC and associate professor in the school of social work, said.

"What we find is that faculty is always committed to promoting education and keeping with flagship agendas," Allen said. "All the faculty, across the board, is working harder."

This column first ran in the Feb. 8 edition of The Daily Reveille, the daily newspaper serving Louisiana State University.

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

CROSS MURDER
NEW YORK POST

PEMCO. ON 'PARADE'

PEMCO. BRINGS 'PARADE' TO LIFE

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Assistant Scene Editor

This weekend, Friday through Sunday, the Pasquerilla East Musical Company will be performing Jason Robert Brown's "Parade." The musical tells the true story of a Jewish factory superintendent living in Atlanta, Ga., in 1913 who was wrongly accused of raping and murdering a 13-year-old employee. "Parade" premiered on Broadway in December 1998 and was nominated for nine Tony awards, winning two of them, one for best book and the other for best score.

The story opens up in a town called Marietta, Ga., during the Civil War, with a Confederate soldier singing to his love and the town he will be leaving behind. Suddenly, though, it is 1913, and this same soldier is now a veteran, missing a leg from his time in the war. It is the

day of the Confederate Memorial Day parade. Leo Frank, a Jewish man from Brooklyn who manages a pencil factory, feels out of place, both in his town and in his marriage. He does not understand the southern way of life he is surrounded by, but stays only for his good job and for his wife. His wife Lucille is mad that he has chosen to go into work on the holiday, hoping to have a picnic with him instead. She laments their crumbling marriage while the parade carries on outside.

Meanwhile, young Mary Phagan rides a trolley car to the factory so she can pick up her pay from Leo. Her friend Frankie Epps wants to take her to the picture show, but she needs to get paid and take the money home. That night, Leo is awoken by police officers that drag him to his factory to find the body of Mary Phagan, raped and murdered. Leo is arrested and slowly becomes the main suspect in the case. A trial com-

mences and Leo is the scapegoat for being different. What follows is the harrowing tale of one man's struggle for freedom. "Parade" deals with serious issues such as race, prejudice, truth, law, love and everything else in between. It is not for the faint of heart, but holds important messages at its core.

Everyone involved in the PEMCo. production has risen to the challenge of taking on this tough material and put together a great ensemble. All the elements of the production, from the cast and the music to the set and lights, come together to create a great rendition of an acclaimed show. They do not shy away from the issues of the musical, but embrace them as a part of the story. "Parade" has a grace in handling its own material, paying careful attention to the truth of this real historical event. This story that shook America almost 100 years ago is rarely talked about

anymore, but deserves to never be forgotten. "Parade" is a small reminder of our country's past, and speaks to the way we should handle our present.

Tickets for the show are \$6 for students and \$8 for the general public. Following the Sunday performance, held at 3 p.m., composer Jason Robert Brown and National Touring Cast Member Keith Byron Kirk will be holding a talk with the audience. That evening at 8 p.m., Brown will also be giving a concert in the Snite Annenberg Auditorium. Tickets to this concert are \$2 with a "Parade" ticket stub, or \$5 for general admission.

Performances of "Parade" are at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. It will be performed in Washington Hall. Tickets are now available at the LaFortune Box Office.

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INTERVIEWS WITH CAST AND CREW OF 'PARADE'

By STEPHANIE DEPRez
Assistant Scene Editor

Scene sat down with the cast and producers of Pasquerilla East Musical Company's (PEMCo.) annual mainstage, "Parade." Amid a hectic dress rehearsal, last-minute tweaks and the knowledge that the show's composer, Jason Robert Brown, is days away from arrival, producing duo Kelly Rice and Elizabeth Kuhn stepped away from



their ensemble roles to sit in the audience and see their show in a new light.

Rice and Kuhn sat in the back of the audience answering questions while making mental notes (often out loud) about what still needs to be done ("His pants are still on stage,") and just how far it's come ("The tree looks amazing!").

"Parade" is the story of Leo Frank, a Jewish factory superintendent who is

accused of raping and murdering one of his 13 year-old female employees. The media sensationalizes the situation, and Frank is eventually convicted. The story itself paints a very raw picture of the post-Confederate South, and the Anti-Semitism that arose during

the trial.

Why did you decide to do "Parade?"

Producers: The director, Kevin Stein, came to us with the show. We knew we wanted to do something more serious than what PEMCo. has traditionally done. "The Producers" was hugely successful as a comedy, and we wanted to move the company in a different direction. The story is appealing in that it's true. It also has beautiful music and allows for large ensemble involvement.

What was the biggest challenge to producing this show?

Space was an issue — finding adequate space for a cast of 45 people to rehearse. We're no longer a permanent resident of Pasquerilla East. It was also a challenge to make sure we could find people to act and sing parts well. There aren't many minority performers that participate, even within FTT and the Opera. We needed to find someone for this student show, which we had to consider when we picked the show. It's also been a bit of a challenge organizing a visit from the composer, Jason Robert Brown.

That's right! The composer and lyricist Jason Robert Brown is coming to campus this weekend. How did you get him to come?

We went to his Web site and e-mailed his publicist. What better time to try and meet these people who you won't have access to at a later time? We've been planning this since October. We started a dialogue and had lots of options. When he comes, he either has to give a master class or have a concert. We figured a concert would allow the greater campus to participate, like people who do music outside of PEMCo., and not just our cast. So Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium in the Snite Museum, Jason Robert Brown will be performing. Tickets are \$2 with your "Parade" ticket stub, or \$5 without. There's also a forum/talk back with him and Keith Byron Kirk, who was in the national touring cast and is now a graduate candidate at Northwestern.

How did you prepare before working on the show?

We did a lot of research beforehand.

There is a PBS documentary called "The People Versus Leo Frank," which recently came out. We watched that as a cast. The script is very historically accurate, and there are a lot of lines that are direct quotes from the trial. All of the leads except the reporter were real people, and the reporter exists to act as a narrator, to tell the story.

Scene also got a chance to talk to the director and cast of "Parade."

Why did your company go with "Parade?"

Kevin Stein, director: "'Parade' is hard because of its music and story, and it's really affecting. We want to stretch the muscles of this company."

Is there a moment in the show when you get chills and just think, "Wow!"

Lucy Lavelly, "Mrs. Phagan:": "In the finale, when we co-a capella. The whole ensemble is on stage. You can feel the presence of every character on and off stage standing there as we sing the same anthem that begins the show. It's really eerie and invigorating, and at the same time so wonderful."

Joe Edmonds, "Leo Frank:": "The show's anchor and what in my mind redeems it from what some may see as complete morbidity is the resilient and blooming relationship between Leo and his wife, Lucille. I am lucky enough to act opposite Carolyn Sullivan, an actor who understands the importance of real connection onstage, and the scene of which I am most proud is in some ways no more than that — two people finally and fully connecting with each other, even in the direst situation imaginable."

What is the biggest challenge you have faced as a cast?

Edmonds: "Much of what happens in this show is emotionally draining to experience, both for the audience and especially for the performers who have to repeat it daily in rehearsals and in three straight performances. I left our first read-through of the entire script extremely shaken, even despite what I saw then as an inability to realize or relate to Leo's lengthy ordeal. Our cast has done a tremendous

job of fleshing out the history on which our show is based, and as such there are certain ensemble scenes that just wreck me every time, that I couldn't emotionally bracket if I wanted to."

Matt Callanan, "Britt Craig:": "The hardest part was shaving my beard."

Stein: "The rehearsal schedule has been long and grueling, and it hasn't gone according to plan all the time. Our process has been to focus on the music first and learn that, and then focus on staging, then work on character. I was pushing for doing a lot of runs, and figuring out the flow of the show. It's so convoluted and it goes so fast that it was really important for the actors to understand the flow of the show."

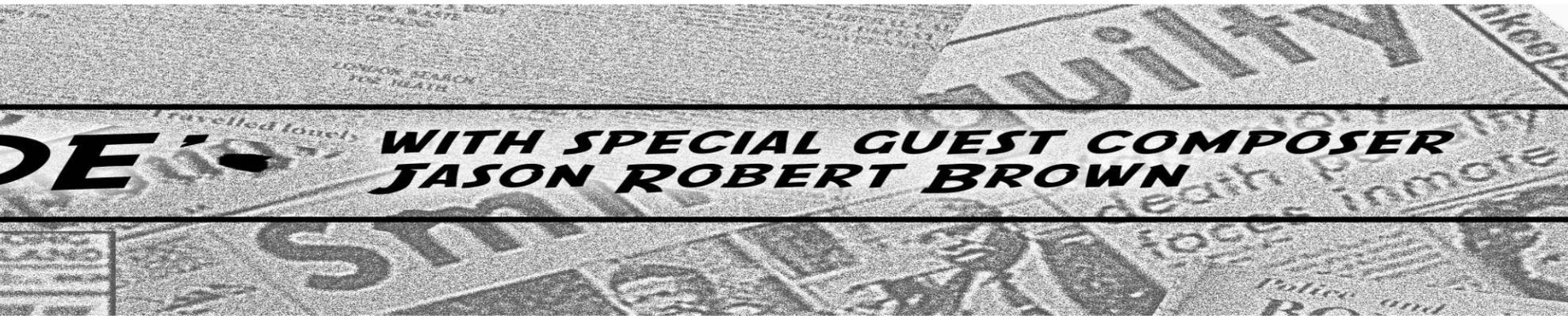
Edmonds: "Also, playing Leo presents a number of unique difficulties. For one, he's a historical figure, which means that there's a wealth of information I can use for character development but also adds for me a certain pressure to ensure that my performance is in keeping with what this real human being may have been like. At the same time, this is a fictionalized account. The Frank case was an unbelievably complicated and drawn-out process that had to be trimmed down and streamlined to fit into a 2 1/2 hour show, and as such I've found it more helpful as an actor to focus on the individual circumstances of each scene than the minute details provided by history. And with a show as loaded as this one, even this limited focus provides more than enough to latch onto."

What will the average Notre Dame student get out of this show?

Kelly Rice, producer: "We're getting the opportunity to tell the real story of a history tragic miscarriage of justice. We didn't know about it 'til we read the script. It's cool to present it in a new way."

Herman: "It's very entertaining. We won't beat you over the head. You will enjoy yourself. People at Notre Dame don't go to plays all the time. It's a good thing to do on

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DIVERSITY TAKES CENTER STAGE IN THEATER WORKSHOP FOLLOWING 'PARADE'

By JORDAN GAMBLE
Assistant Scene Editor

Last summer when Pasquerilla East Music Company (PEMCo.) picked out its February show, they had some idea that the content of "Parade" would spark some controversy. It takes place in 1913 Atlanta, and shows a lynch mob go after an innocent outsider from New York.

"The play has lots of dichotomy — North versus South, Jew versus Christian, agrarian versus industry, and white versus black," said senior Elizabeth Kuhn, one of the show's producers.

But when it came time to cast the show in the fall, those themes were not a problem so much as the cast list — PEMCo. had difficulty finding enough students to audition for the African-American roles.

Kuhn, senior co-producer Kelly Rice and the show's director, Kevin Stein, went to Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS) to reach out to the minority student groups on campus. With help from Toby Blake, the assistant director of MSPS, the parts were filled quickly.

But some student leaders with MSPS objected to the secondary roles reserved for African-American actors in "Parade."

"Some in the African-American community, who aren't necessarily involved in musical theatre, see that the blacks in the show are on the chain gang or even being implicated as a murderer. There's this feeling that too many times African-Americans are secondary characters," Blake said.

"So the appropriate response, it was decided from the group from PEMCo. and the group of some of the students who had some of the worries, was to get together and come up with something that was going to be the last a little bit longer than just 'Parade,'" Blake said.

The students helped develop a workshop that would deal with the presentation of race in performing arts. Participants will see the same scene performed several times by actors from different racial backgrounds, and then discuss how the against-type casting changed their reaction to the scene. Beyond an academic goal, Blake and the student leaders hope this will help a larger, more diverse talent pool get exposed to the opportunities in performing arts at Notre Dame.

"This is so play selections will never again be met with criticisms," Blake said in an e-mail to The Observer.

Junior Rachael Banks, president of the Notre Dame chapter of the NAACP, was one of the student leaders involved in the formation of the workshop.

"It's really important that Notre Dame works to promote the spirit of inclusion that everybody talks about but that they don't really see in action," Banks said.

"PEMCo. didn't come with purpose of breaking down barriers but that's what it has done. We came up with a really, really constructive way to address the problem to get everybody — minorities, students, faculty, everybody — on board to tackle the problem," Banks said.

Blake and Banks both said "Parade" was not an extreme example, but another part of a pattern.

The last time there was serious discussion about race and performing arts was with PEMCo's performance of "Ragtime" in 2007. By the numbers, "Ragtime" had a diverse cast, but it raised ire because of its controversial subject matter: a racially charged story, with violent black characters and repeated use of the "n" word in the script.

Class of 2009 graduate Kyle Carter played Coalhouse — one of the show's leads and a black character — in "Ragtime."

"'Ragtime' was actual turmoil. Ragtime was people legitimately trying to get the show shut down," Carter said.

To address the controversy, PEMCo. hosted a panel discussion about the show. It brought heightened debate, Carter said, but not much progress.

"I think [the workshop] will work better because it's the second time around. That first panel was just rough and raw because it was the first time anyone had ever done anything like that ... That, I think, is where the growth has to come," Carter said.

"I think that this isn't a bad thing, I think this is great, because it's even more of a serious issue. People who were around for 'Ragtime' are saying, 'Okay, we remember what happened, we're seeing what's happening now, let's make this forum [the workshop] the best that it can possibly be and get literally the best dialogue possible with regard to diversity in theatre programs on campus.'"

Senior D.C. Smith, who plays several of the African-American roles in "Parade" joined PEMCo. this year and said a play like this, because of its basis in a real historical event, needs to be true to the script.

"If the white person being the lead is necessary — I feel like you have to do what's best to the play," Smith said.

Senior Erdina Francillon is the president of Shades of Ebony, and was one of the student leaders that worked with PEMCo. She said she understood the hesitation to "break the mold" in any play with roles not written for diverse actors, but she feels that "Parade" was a poor choice of musical to perform during Black History Month.

"People are missing the point that minorities don't always want to play these stereotypical roles," Francillon said.

Francillon said she hopes that the workshop will give PEMCo. an audience of more diverse students while

also shaking up preconceptions about racial typecasting.

and "Parade" — was casting constrained to race, he said.

"It's disconcerting to me that this is the only time that people

wanted to talk about it. Where was this in 'Kiss Me Kate,' when I was the lead in a show that had nothing to with me being black?" Carter asked.

Kelly Rice, the show's co-producer and Carter's former co-star in "Kiss

Me Kate," said PEMCo's tight resources are also a hindrance.

"Groups that are student theatre groups don't have the reach, or the advertising capabilities or the time to specifically go up to every single minority group and say 'Hey, we think this is great for you,'" Rice said.

"We have to do the broad advertising and hope we get enough people, and in the past we have. We've had great talent, we always find it, and if there is a specific role that we need to fill, then we take the time to find it."

For students like D.C. Smith, who are involved in both PEMCo. and performance groups in the black community, the controversy surrounding "Parade" has been difficult.

"It's kind of sad to see these two great groups that I'm a part of, because of the play selection, be at odds," Smith said.

He said he hopes Monday's workshop can help bridge the gap.

"If there would be a point where these two groups could come together, it would broaden the

options for PEMCo.," Smith said.

"I'm all for diversifying it, because I think all it can do is make it better."

The workshop entitled, "Casting: Breaking the Mold" with special guest Keith Byron Kirk,

Broadway actor and former star of "Parade" is Monday, February 15th from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm in DeBartolo 101.

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

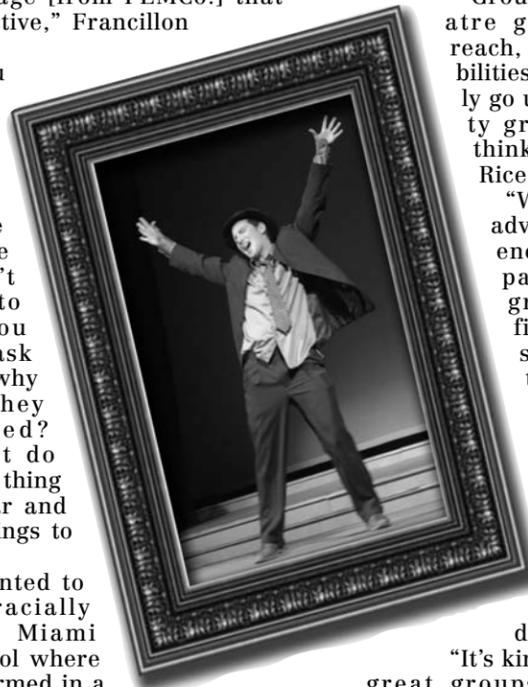


"These communities exist on campus — they're performing communities ... It's the recruiting message [from PEMCo.] that isn't effective," Francillon said.

"You can't sit around and say 'our club is not diverse because they don't come to us.' You have to ask yourself why aren't they interested? You can't do the same thing every year and expect things to change."

She pointed to her racially diverse Miami high school where she performed in a group similar to PEMCo.

"We did 'Fiddler on the Roof' — a show where every character is white — with people from all backgrounds. If you say it can't be done, you're not trying



hard enough," Francillon said.

But Carter said he believes the group has tried, and succeeded, in casting minority students in significant roles. He has been in nine PEMCo. productions (and played two leads), but in only two of those shows — "Ragtime"

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Buford and Madsen lead Buckeyes to victory

Johnson and Joseph bring back lead for Syracuse; Dews' buzzer shot brings Miami ahead; Fuller and Cole stop Wildcats

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Ohio State didn't need a big game from Evan Turner on Wednesday night.

The fill-ins did just fine against Indiana.

William Buford scored 21 points and Kyle Madsen had a career-high 11, leading the 13th-ranked Buckeyes to a 69-52 victory. It was so lopsided that Hoosiers fans started leaving with approximately 11 minutes left — with about 5 minutes to go, many of the seats were empty.

The Buckeyes (19-6, 9-3 Big Ten) have won eight straight Big Ten games and four in a row over the Hoosiers. It is Ohio State's longest winning streak in the rivalry since 1968-70.

Dallas Lauderdale matched his career high with 14 points for the Buckeyes, and seniors Mark Titus and Danny Peters earned their 100th career wins.

Fortunately for the Hoosiers, they didn't get a full dose of Turner, who has already tied a Big Ten record by winning five player of the week awards this season. Turner spent the final 17:25 of the first half on the bench after drawing his second foul and wound up with 10 points.

Otherwise, the rout might have been even worse.

The Hoosiers (9-14, 3-8) were led by freshmen Christian Watford with 15 points and Jordan Hulls, who had a season-high 13. Indiana has lost five straight.

The Buckeyes outscored Indiana 40-28 in the paint and 18-3 off turnovers.

Ohio State opened the game by scoring the first nine points. When Turner sat down, the Hoosiers took advantage by cutting the deficit to 13-9 and eventually 18-17 with 7:48 to go in the first half.

But the Buckeyes exposed Indiana's soft middle, closing the half on a 16-3 run and shutting out the Hoosiers for the final 6:07 to make it 34-20. Fourteen of Ohio State's points in the spurt came from within 2 feet of the basket. The other two were free throws.

Indiana got as close as 44-34 early in the second half. Then Ohio State went back to its original plan.

It scored eight straight points in a 12-3 run from within 2 feet or free throws, and when it ended, Ohio State led 58-37 with just under 11 minutes to play.

Syracuse 72, Connecticut 67

Wes Johnson and Kris Joseph

combined to make six straight free throws in the final 33 seconds, and No. 2 Syracuse held off Connecticut on Wednesday night after squandering a 16-point lead in the second half.

Jerome Dyson's 3-pointer for the Huskies tied it at 65 with 2:33 left, but Johnson put the Orange back in front by hitting two foul shots with 30.4 seconds to go.

Syracuse opened the season with 13 wins before losing to Pittsburgh. It's the first time in school history the Orange have had two 10-game winning streaks in one season.

Connecticut (14-10, 4-7) dropped to 0-6 on the road this season and 1-5 against ranked teams. That lone victory was over Texas when the Longhorns were No. 1, and the Huskies are still looking for another signature win.

George Blaney fell to 3-4 in place of coach Jim Calhoun, who took a medical leave of absence last month.

Dyson paced Connecticut with 19 points and Stanley Robinson had 16, but only two in the second half. Kemba Walker added 14 and Gavin Edwards 12.

The Orange seemed in command after Jackson's shot over Edwards gave Syracuse a 50-34 lead with 13:50 left.

But the struggling Huskies roared back with a 14-2 run. Dyson scored six points, drawing a key charge on Scoop Jardine to set up a dunk by Edwards, then converted a follow on the third try to move Connecticut within 52-48 with 8:36 to go.

Syracuse held the lead, but never by more than six, and Dyson's 3 from the top of the key had the Huskies within 61-60 with 4:06 remaining.

Johnson's soaring dunk along the baseline over Ater Majok put the Orange back up 65-62, but Dyson followed with another 3 from the left wing to tie it at 65 with 2:33 left.

Walker then missed a 3, Dyson snared the long rebound from Joseph and missed a runner as the shot clock was about to expire.

After a timeout, Rautins missed a 3 off the inbounds pass, Jackson rebounded and Orange coach Jim Boeheim called a timeout with 36.6 seconds left and 32 on the shot clock.

Johnson was fouled by Robinson as soon as play resumed and sank both free throws to give Syracuse a 67-65 lead with 30.4 seconds left.

Joseph followed with two more free throws with 11.5 seconds to go. Walker hit a layup to cut the lead back to a basket, but

Joseph sealed it with two more free throws after he was intentionally fouled by Majok on a breakaway with 5.8 seconds left.

Miami 64, Georgia Tech 62

After missing a chance to seal the win, James Dews made a 15-footer at the buzzer Wednesday night to give Miami a victory over No. 20 Georgia Tech.

Dews missed the front end of a one-and-one with 19 seconds left, and Iman Shumpert sank a layup for Tech to tie the game with 10 seconds to go. That capped a comeback by the Yellow Jackets, who trailed by 14 early in the second half.

Following a timeout, the Hurricanes moved the length of the court and Durand Scott fed Dews, who faked out a defender before swishing his shot. Dews then leaped into a mob of jubilant teammates.

The Hurricanes (17-7, 3-7 Atlantic Coast Conference) won for only the second time in the past eight games. Georgia Tech (17-7, 5-5) fell to 1-4 on the road in the league, while Miami improved to 11-1 at home this season.

The Hurricanes fell behind 8-0, then outscored Georgia Tech 41-19 the remainder of the first half. They won despite shooting 32 percent in the second half.

Dwayne Collins had 13 points and 11 rebounds for Miami. Adrian Thomas scored 12, all on 3-pointers, and Malcolm Grant had 11, all in the first half. Reserve Reggie Johnson added 10 points and seven rebounds in 16 minutes.

Brian Oliver scored 19 points off the bench for Georgia Tech, and junior Gani Lawal had 17 points and a career-high 18 rebounds. Teammate Zachery Peacock, a Miami native, shot 2 for 9 and totaled only four points.

The crowd numbered less than 500, pep band included, when the Hurricanes took the court a few minutes before tip-off. Despite their tradition of poor attendance, the Hurricanes are playing their best at home, where they're 11-1.

They missed their first seven shots before Garrius Adams hit a 3-pointer more than five minutes into the game. A pair of 3-pointers by Grant put the Hurricanes ahead, and with a 14-3 run they increased the lead to 29-18.

Tech went to a press in the second half and that threw the Hurricanes out of their offensive rhythm. Oliver sank a pair of 3-pointers during a 13-2 run by the Yellow Jackets that cut the deficit to 52-50.

The Hurricanes rebuilt the



Ohio State guard William Buford shoots against Indiana forward Tom Pritchard during the Buckeyes' 69-52 win Wednesday.

lead to 60-52, and Collins' dunk made it 62-58. But Shumpert sank two free throws with 20 seconds left for Tech, then hit the layup for the tie.

Iowa 78, Northwestern 65

Matt Gatens scored 16 points, Devan Bawinkel broke out of a scoring slump with a season-high 15 and Iowa snapped a four-game losing streak with a victory over Northwestern on Wednesday night.

Aaron Fuller added 13 points and 11 rebounds and Jarryd Cole also scored 13 for Iowa (9-16, 3-9 Big Ten), which delayed Northwestern's bid for a school record-tying 17th regular-season victory.

Michael Thompson's 20 points led Northwestern (16-8, 5-7), while John Shurna scored 16. No one else had more than seven points for the Wildcats, who fell behind by 15 in the first half and never rallied.

Bawinkel, who had scored only 12 points in the previous six games, hit four of his first five 3-point shots and finished 5-for-8 from long range. It was his first game in double figures since he scored 11 against Prairie View A&M on Dec. 5.

With Bawinkel setting the pace, Iowa made 12 of 24 3-point shots against a team that entered the game leading the Big Ten in 3-point percentage defense (.290).

Iowa shot better than 40 per-

cent only once during its losing streak, but the Hawkeyes were sharp from the start in this one and never trailed. Gatens hit a 3-pointer less than 30 seconds into the game and the shots kept falling after that.

The Hawkeyes built a 35-22 halftime lead and were up by as many as 19 late in the game. Northwestern, sixth nationally in 3-point field goals at 9.3 per game, made just 3-of-12 from long range in the first half and finished 8-for-26.

Bawinkel entered the game six minutes in and hit his first 3 at the 11:51 mark to give the Hawkeyes a 17-9 lead.

He then knocked down three more 3s over the next 6½ minutes, the last one putting Iowa up 28-18. Brennan Cougill's 3-pointer from the top of the key capped a 7-2 run that increased the lead to 35-20 before Northwestern's Mike Capocci scored on a put-back just ahead of the halftime buzzer.

Northwestern got the lead under double figures only once in the second half, pulling to 40-31 on Shurna's long 3. But Cully Payne, Gatens and Cougill answered with 3-pointers to return the momentum to the Hawkeyes and the Wildcats never made another serious run.

Reserve Eric May hit a pair of 3s to put the Hawkeyes up 55-40. Cole's three-point play ended a 9-2 burst that made it 64-45 with 5:15 to play.

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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\$375.00 per month per person includes utilities downstairs apartment 2 bedroom kitchen bath livingroom diningroom and laundry room. References and lease required Please call 574-274-2110

PERSONAL

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UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's web site: <http://pregnancysupport.nd.edu>

To find what you seek in the road of life, the best proverb of all is that which says: "Leave no stone unturned."
-Edward Bulwer Lytton

All men dream but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity; but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dream with open eyes to make it possible.
T.E. Lawrence

When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us.
Helen Keller

It is not work that kills men, it is worry. Work is healthy; you can hardly put more on a man than he can bear. But worry is rust upon the blade. It is not movement that destroys the machinery, but friction.
Henry Ward Beecher

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, February 11, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Division I Men's Indoor Track and Field Rankings

team	previous
1 Texas A&M	1
2 Florida State	2
3 Florida	5
4 Oregon	3
5 LSU	4
6 Nebraska	6
7 Arizona State	8
8 Arkansas	7
9 Oklahoma	9
10 Texas Tech	8
11 Stanford	15
12 Virginia Tech	10
13 Indiana	17
14 Baylor	11
15 Penn State	15
16 California	14
17 Minnesota	16
18 Auburn	13
19 South Carolina	20
20 New Mexico	18
21 Kentucky	19
22 Georgia	21
23 Oklahoma State	22
24 Washington State	24
25 Arizona State	23

NCAA Division I Women's Indoor Track and Field Rankings

team	previous
1 Texas A&M	1
2 BYU	3
3 LSU	4
4 Oregon	2
5 Florida	9
6 Tennessee	5
7 Clemson	7
8 Villanova	12
9 Penn State	8
10 Florida State	6
11 Arkansas	11
12 Louisville	14
13 South Carolina	10
14 Southern Illinois	22
15 Nebraska	13
16 UTEP	24
17 Auburn	17
18 Arizona	16
19 Oklahoma	15
20 West Virginia	NR
21 Virginia Tech	20
22 Baylor	19
23 Washington	18
24 Indiana State	21
25 Indiana	NR

NCAA Division I Wrestling NWCA/USA Today Poll

team	points
1 Mercyhurst	147
2 Minnesota	129
3 Minn. Duluth	129
4 Clarkson	95
5 Harvard	91
6 New Hampshire	80
7 Connecticut	47
8 Providence	44
9 Northeastern	30
10 Wisconsin	22

NBA



Denver Nuggets guard Chauncey Billups, right, works the ball inside past Dallas Mavericks guard Jose Juan Barea in the third quarter of the Nuggets' 127-91 victory in an NBA basketball game in Denver Tuesday.

Carmelo returns to help Nuggets beat Mavs

Associated Press

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 19 points in his return from an ankle injury and the Denver Nuggets had their biggest win of the season, routing the Dallas Mavericks 127-91 on Tuesday night.

Anthony, the NBA's second-leading scorer, returned after missing eight consecutive games with a left ankle sprain. However, the Nuggets were without Kenyon Martin, who missed the game because of tendinitis in his left knee.

The 36-point victory margin against a Dallas team Denver eliminated in

last season's semifinal round of the playoffs surpassed the Nuggets' previous high of 28 points, which they achieved twice in wins against Toronto and New Jersey in November.

Nene led Denver with 21 points, Chauncey Billups added 16 and Chris Andersen had 14 points to go with 10 rebounds. The Nuggets won at home for the 23rd time in 27 games.

Dallas, losing to Denver for the sixth time in the last seven meetings, was led by Dirk Nowitzki, who had 17 points on 5 of 17 shooting from the floor. Jason Terry had 16 points and Josh Howard 14 for Dallas.

Up by 26 at the half, the Nuggets pulled ahead 78-46, connecting on three 3s in a row, two by Arron Afflalo and the third by Anthony.

The Mavericks tried to get back in the game with a 14-5 run but Denver answered with a 7-0 burst touching off by a pair of baskets by Anthony, pulling in front 90-60 with 3:13 remaining in the third quarter and taking a 103-70 lead into the final period.

At halftime, the Nuggets led 65-39.

Dallas managed to pull to 49-35 on a three-point play by Nowitzki with 4:13 left in the second quarter but the Nuggets scored 16

of the next 20 points leading up to the break. Nene had five points in the flurry, including a three-point play in which he muscled in a layup underhanded as Kidd grabbed his arm. Billups' culminated the spree by hitting consecutive 3-pointers in the final seconds of the period.

Notes: Hall of Fame quarterback John Elway watched the game from a courtside seat. ... The Nuggets are 21-2 when holding opponents below 100 points. ... Dallas has made a 3-pointer in 908 consecutive games. ... Dallas split its back-to-back set that began Monday with a 127-117 win at Golden State.

IN BRIEF

Six NHL teams to start 2010-11 season in Europe

NEW YORK — The NHL is sending more teams across the pond.

The league and its players' association announced Tuesday that six clubs will open the 2010-11 season in Europe, the fourth straight year the NHL will begin play overseas.

The Boston Bruins, Carolina Hurricanes, Columbus Blue Jackets, Minnesota Wild, Phoenix Coyotes and San Jose Sharks will combine to play a total of six games in Europe at the start of next season.

The Hurricanes and Wild will meet in a pair of games in Helsinki on Oct. 7-8; Columbus plays San Jose in Stockholm on Oct. 8-9; and the Bruins and Coyotes face off in Prague on Oct. 9-10.

"We are extremely pleased that six teams — more than ever — will open their season in Europe," NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said in a statement.

Former Knicks star Carl Braun dies at 82

NEW YORK — Carl Braun, who was chosen for five consecutive All-Star games as a member of the New York Knicks, died Wednesday of natural causes. He was 82.

Braun died in Florida, the team said. He is the second former Knicks star to die in a week. Hall of Famer Dick McGuire, Braun's teammate, passed away last Wednesday.

"Carl Braun was the first superstar of the New York Knicks and a cornerstone of our franchise's early success," team president Donnie Walsh said in a statement. "Watching him play at the old Garden was a privilege for us New Yorkers in the 1940s and 50s. He is a true legend in our sport and he will be missed."

Braun was an All-Star from 1953-57 — he missed the 1956 game because of injury — and retired as the team's career scoring leader with 10,449 points. He's still in fifth place on the career list behind Patrick Ewing, Walt Frazier, Willis Reed and Allan Houston.

Court upholds dismissal of suit against two Pacers

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The Michigan Court of Appeals has upheld a decision dismissing a lawsuit by a Palace of Auburn Hills employee against two Indiana Pacers players over her injuries in a 2004 brawl.

The court released a decision Wednesday sustaining an Oakland County judge's decision to throw out the case against then-Pacers players Jermaine O'Neal and David Harrison and the team itself.

The Nov. 19, 2004, brawl involved players and fans at a game between the Pacers and the Detroit Pistons.

Palace worker Julie Socia was hurt when a spectator threw a chair as she was clearing a tunnel so players could leave. She said the defendants had a duty not to endanger her, while the defendants say a third party was responsible.

around the dial

NBA Basketball
Magic at Cavaliers
8 p.m., TNT

Men's NCAA Basketball
St. Mary's at Gonzaga
11 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Cavaliers look to continue streak against Magic

Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — LeBron James hopes Thursday's matchup with the Orlando Magic is as successful as his Super Bowl commercial with Dwight Howard.

Cleveland, on a 12-game winning streak which is also the NBA's longest this season, can tie the franchise record with a victory in a rematch of last season's Eastern Conference finals.

It won't be easy. The Magic entered Wednesday's game at Chicago having won nine of their past 11.

"They're coming into our building, and right now we're the best team in the NBA," James said. "It's going to be a fun one."

Orlando eliminated Cleveland in six games last spring, but the Cavaliers won the first meeting this season 102-93 in November.

Thursday's game is the Magic's first trip to Cleveland this season.

James and Howard are cordial, but not close, away from the court. The pair won Olympic gold medals two years ago and their commitment to Team USA has kept them together for quite a few summers recently. But James walked off the court following Orlando's series-clinching win last season without congratulating Howard or any of his teammates.

James said it wasn't hard getting along with Howard during the filming of the

fast-food commercial, even though the two are rivals on the best two teams in the East.

"Business is a big part of what I do," he said. "I don't bring my on-court battles off the court."

In the spot that aired just prior to Sunday's kickoff between Indianapolis and New Orleans, James and Howard recreated the classic commercial between Michael Jordan and Larry Bird. In the original, Jordan and Bird traded crazy trick shots from inside — and outside — the gym. In the remake, James and Howard traded dunks, with Howard ultimately ripping down the backboard as glass shattered around them.

"That was so much fun to make," Howard wrote on his blog. "I would love to do something like that during a game."

He nearly did during last season's Eastern Conference finals, when Game 1 in Cleveland was delayed for nearly 10 minutes after Howard knocked down the 24-second shot clock with a ferocious dunk.

"I've broken a few rims when I was in high school," Howard wrote, "but nothing like blowing up the backboard."

The Cavaliers (42-11) have been handling opponents throughout the first half. Cleveland will carry the NBA's best record into the All-Star break.

"We've been playing well," Shaquille O'Neal said. "LeBron and I have pretty

much the same formula: Stay dominant at home, beat teams you're supposed to beat and play above .500 on the road. Most of the time if you do that, things will go your way."

O'Neal, who has thrown a few verbal jabs at Howard in the past, could only remember winning at least 12 straight games two other times in his career. Both of those seasons ended with championships.

"Hopefully this is deja vu of what's to come," he said.

The Cavaliers acquired O'Neal over the summer for precisely these types of matchups. Howard averaged 25.8 points and 13 rebounds in the East finals against Cleveland, which didn't have a center physically strong enough to contain him.

So Cleveland went out and got one.

O'Neal, who has tweaked Howard for using Shaq's "Superman" nickname, limited Howard to 11 points and seven rebounds in the first meeting this season. The veteran O'Neal is done taking shots at Howard, even calling him one of the league's few great centers.

"It's going to be a good matchup," O'Neal said. "Hopefully they play me one on one and hopefully they let us play"

"But it ain't about me vs. him. I've played against some of the greatest guys ever and I've stood up (to them). If I can stand against them, I can stand against anyone."



Cleveland's LeBron James goes for a shot against the New York Nets' Brook Lopez in a game on Feb. 9 in Cleveland.

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MLB

Atlanta Braves hope for outfielder Damon

Associated Press

ATLANTA —The Atlanta Braves appear interested in adding Johnny Damon to the top of their lineup.

The Braves have made an offer to the free-agent outfielder, according to a person familiar with the negotiations. The person spoke Wednesday on condition of anonymity because no agreement had been reached.

Atlanta's offer is believed to be for one year and include deferred money. Damon's agent, Scott Boras, has said he is seeking at least a two-year deal.

The 36-year-old Damon hit .286 with 24 homers for the New York Yankees last season and likely would bat leadoff for the Braves.

Atlanta added another former Yankees outfielder in December when it acquired Melky Cabrera in a five-player deal that sent right-hander Javier Vazquez to the World Series champions.

Nate McLouth is set as Atlanta's starter in center field, and is the probable leadoff hitter if the team does not add Damon or another outfielder. Matt Diaz is expected to get most of the playing time at one corner outfield spot.

Braves manager Bobby Cox said last week he envisions Cabrera playing all three outfield spots and possibly sharing a position with Diaz.

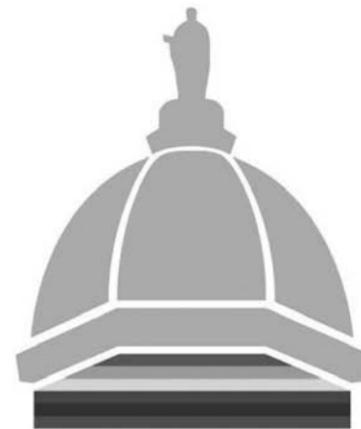
Cox said the team is prepared to give 20-year-old outfield prospect Jason Heyward a chance to win a starting job in right field. Heyward made only a brief appearance at Triple-A last season and has fewer than 200 at-bats above Class A.

"Well, there's no reason not to give him a crack at making it," Cox said. "If he is too young, that's fine, too. He can spend some time in Triple-A. But if we think he's ready and he can help us, then let's go."

Heyward (6-foot-4, 225 pounds) has the power potential the Braves need in their outfield. He was voted baseball's top prospect by Baseball America after hitting .323 with 17 homers and 63 RBIs at three minor league stops in 2009.

"If he makes the team, he's playing — lefties, righties, everybody," Cox said.

The Braves' willingness to give Heyward an opportunity could keep them from engaging in a bidding war for Damon. According to reports, Detroit and Tampa Bay also have interest.



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& QUESTIONING STUDENTS

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The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

(Information, education, and resources)

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NHL

Wilson and Tootoo bring Nashville a win on the road

Gagne's overtime goal sets Flyers ahead; Blue Jackets shut out Sharks; Kunitz's two goals bring victory for Penguins

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rookie Colin Wilson scored the go-ahead goal on a second-period power play, Dan Ellis made 37 saves and Nashville Predators snapped a five-game road losing streak with a 2-1 victory over the New York Rangers on Wednesday night.

The game was played in front of a surprisingly large crowd of 13,128 at Madison Square Garden despite a daylong blizzard. The Rangers had sold out 187 consecutive home games since Oct. 31, 2005.

Wilson scored in the closing seconds of an extended power play and helped Ellis win for the first time since Jan. 15 at Calgary. He was 0-3 since and had played only once in Nashville's previous eight games. Jordin Tootoo also scored for the Predators, who were 0-4-1 in their five previous road games. They are 3-6-2 in their past 11 overall.

The only goal he allowed was a power-play tally by Vinny Prospal in the second period. The Rangers' already struggling offense was dealt another blow when leading scorer Marian Gaborik was forced to sit out because of a cut on his right leg sustained Tuesday in practice when he made contact with goalie Henrik Lundqvist's skate.

Gaborik is day to day, and the Rangers hope the Slovak Olympian will play Friday at Pittsburgh. New York is 2-8 in its past 10 and has dropped below the playoff cutoff in the Eastern Conference. The

Rangers have scored three goals or fewer in all but one of those games.

Wilson turned good fortune into the winning goal.

Rangers defenseman Michal Rozsival's clearing attempt was knocked down by teammate Ryan Callahan, and the puck came to Wilson, who snapped in a shot from the bottom of the right circle at 16:10 for his second goal in his 12th NHL game — all this season.

The goal came as a direct result of 19-year-old rookie defenseman Michael Del Zotto, who compounded a hooking call against him by complaining to the referee. The lack of discipline earned him an extra two minutes for unsportsman-like conduct, and Nashville took advantage after the Rangers had done a solid job in killing all but 24 seconds of the four-minute power play.

When Del Zotto returned to the bench, he got an earful from angry coach John Tortorella and spent the rest of the period at the far end. Zel Zotto then slinked back to the dressing room when the period was over.

Del Zotto was back on the ice in the opening minute of the third.

Lundqvist made 34 saves.

New York had gotten even at 9:48 when Prospal scored during the Rangers' two-man advantage. Olli Jokinen, shortly after he made a deft play at the blue line to keep the puck in the zone, fired wide of the net. The puck caromed hard off the end boards and came to Prospal at the right post for a

shot that struck Ellis and bounced in.

Nashville, showing no signs of fatigue after a 4-3 shootout loss at the New York Islanders on Tuesday night, took a 1-0 lead with 2:15 remaining in the first when Kevin Klein's shot from the point hit Tootoo and sailed past Lundqvist.

Philadelphia 3, New Jersey 2

Simon Gagne scored at 3:27 of overtime and the Philadelphia Flyers rallied once again to beat the New Jersey on Wednesday night.

Gagne had chances on a wraparound and a shot in close before beating Martin Brodeur with a shot from between the circles to give the Flyers a sweep of the home-and-home series.

Jeff Carter and Aaron Asham also scored for the Flyers, who once again rallied from a 2-0 deficit to beat New Jersey for the fourth time in five meetings this season. Michael Leighton made 21 saves.

Travis Zajac and Rob Niedermayer scores for the Devils, while Brodeur made 13 saves.

With both teams already in Newark, a winter storm that dumped a least a foot of snow could not prevent the game from going on, attracting an announced crowd of 5,580 that looked smaller.

For the second time in three nights in the home-and-home series, the Devils took a 2-0 lead only to see the Flyers come back to tie the game entering the third period.

Zajac and Niedermayer put

New Jersey ahead with somewhat fluky goals in the opening 8:01 only to see Asham and Carter tie the game with goals in the first and second periods.

Leighton gave Zajac a gift 18th goal of the season 45 seconds after the opening faceoff when he let a routine shot from the top of the left circle dribble through his pads and rolls ever-so-slowly into the net.

Niedermayer threw a pass in front from along the goal line at the 8-minute mark and the puck hit off Leighton, deflected into the skates of Flyers defenseman Kimmo Timonen and into the net.

Asham, a former Devil, got the Flyers on the board less than a minute later when his shot from the right faceoff circle deflected off New Jersey defenseman Andy Greene and zipped past Brodeur.

Scott Hartnell nearly tied it with 5 minutes left in the first period, but Brodeur made a diving glove save on the goalline to prevent his tap-in from going into the net. The play was reviewed and videotape didn't help Hartnell.

Carter, whose hit on Anssi Salmela on Monday gave the Devils' defenseman a concussion, tied the game with about 6 minutes left in the second period. Danny Briere sent a cross-ice pass entering the Devils zone and Carter got his 24th of the season with a shot from the left circle.

Devils and U.S. Olympic forward Zach Parise missed his first game of the season with an undisclosed upper-body injury.

Columbus 3, San Jose 0

Steve Mason made 40 saves for his second shutout in three games since a coaching change and the Columbus Blue Jackets beat San Jose on Wednesday night, ending the Sharks' road winning streak at nine games.

With the victory, interim Blue Jackets coach Claude Noel improved to 3-0 since taking over for the fired Ken Hitchcock on Feb. 3.

Rick Nash scored his 26th goal, Jake Voracek ended a long scoring drought, and Antoine Vermette added an empty-netter for the Blue Jackets.

The shutout was Mason's fourth of the season and raised his franchise record to 14. He led the league in shutouts as a rookie a year ago with 10, but has been near the bottom in goaltending stats for most of this season. He has stopped 90 of 91 shots he's faced in the Blue Jackets' three-game winning streak.

In the only game with Noel behind the bench that Mason didn't have a shutout, he didn't allow a goal until there were just 46 seconds left in a 2-1 victory over Dallas.

Voracek broke a 26-game goal drought when he made it 2-0 at 8:40 of the second period. A 2-on-1 rush began when a San Jose pass went off Raffi Torres' skate and ricocheted to mid-ice. Derick Brassard feathered a pass that got through defenseman Kent Huskins and right to Voracek, who faked and then slid the puck between goaltender Thomas Griess' leg pads. Voracek's last goal had come on Dec. 14.

The Blue Jackets, who came in just 8-6-3 when leading after a period, grabbed a 1-0 lead on Nash's goal. While Kristian Huselius carried the puck to the right dot, Nash battled for position in a physical struggle with defenseman Douglas Murray at the left doorstep. Nash won out, just in time to drop his stick on the ice as Huselius pinpointed a pass that Nash simply had to redirect in.

Mason was at his best in the third period as the Sharks — with the Western Conference's best record — amped up the pressure. He stopped Ryane Clowe's shot during a wild scrum in which 11 players were piled in front of the net early in the period.

Mason received a standing ovation from a crowd of 15,234 after making a sterling glove save of Huskins' jam shot with 8 minutes left.

Mason added kick saves on shots by Clowe and Dan Boyle and also smothered a blast by Nicklas Wallin in the final minutes to preserve the shutout.

Pittsburgh 3, New York Islanders 1

Evgeni Malkin took advantage of a couple of favorable bounces to score a goal and set up one of Chris Kunitz's two goals and the Pittsburgh Penguins bounced back from a pair of road losses to beat the New York Islanders on Wednesday night.

With Kunitz scoring his first two goals since Dec. 29, the Penguins shook off a 5-4 loss Sunday to Washington in which they couldn't hold a 4-1 lead to win their seventh in a row at home against the Islanders. New York lost its eighth in nine games as Marc-Andre Fleury turned aside 37 of 38 shots.

Malkin, one of five Penguins players headed to the Olympics next week, repeatedly showed off some fancy stickwork — and, for a brief moment, it looked as if he might fight defenseman Freddy Meyer on a play in which both were sent off for roughing.

Late in the first period, Malkin bounced the puck off the end of his stick yo-yo like as he tried to keep his balance while skating toward the net and managed to get off a shot, although it didn't go in. Malkin had better luck in the second period.

Malkin, who scored three goals during the Penguins' 6-4 win over the Islanders on Jan. 19, skated hard down the left wing boards near the midpoint of the period and threw the puck toward Kunitz. Defenseman Mark Streit got his stick on the puck, but it deflected directly to Kunitz for his seventh goal. Kunitz played his second game after missing 15 games with an abdominal injury.

Later in the period, Malkin won a faceoff in the Islanders' zone. Sergei Gonchar's shot — though it may have been a pass in disguise — was redirected by Malkin off the heel of his stick past Dwayne Roloson for Malkin's 21st goal.

Seconds before that faceoff, Roloson seemed willing to drop the gloves on a night when there were two fights and nearly a couple of more.



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NFL

Gary Kubiak extends contract with Texans through 2012

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston Texans owner Bob McNair watched with admiration as the New Orleans Saints celebrated their first Super Bowl victory.

McNair is confident that Gary Kubiak will lead the Texans to one very soon.

The Texans announced Wednesday that Kubiak has signed a contract extension that runs through the 2012 season, a vote of confidence after the team finished 9-7 — the first winning record in the franchise's eight-year history.

"We have a foundation in place," McNair said. "We don't have to go out and establish the foundation, which is what we've been doing the last eight years. We've got some outstanding players, and we just have to keep building on that."

"In evaluating where we were and looking at our coaching situation," McNair added, "I believe Gary can take us to the Super Bowl."

Houston is 31-33 in Kubiak's four seasons, though the team is still seeking its first playoff berth. The 48-year-old Kubiak took over the Texans in January 2006 after the team finished 2-14. His original contract was due to expire after the 2010 season.

"Bob has taken a hard look at where we were four years ago and where we are today and with that, made the decision that we're heading in the right direction," Kubiak said. "I want to finish what I started. We still have a long way to go, but I'm enjoying the work, I'm enjoying the challenge."

McNair admitted he was disappointed that the team missed the playoffs again last season. But he said the team has showed "a lot of progress" under Kubiak and he wanted to maintain continuity by keeping him in charge.

"The most disruptive thing you can do is go in every two or three years and change your coaching staff," McNair said. "When you do that, the new coach might have different schemes that he wants to employ and all of a sudden, the players you have don't fit that scheme. It just sets you back several years."

The Texans ranked fourth in total offense last season (383 yards per game), but assistant head coach Alex Gibbs left for Seattle and offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan went to join his father, Mike, in Washington.

Kubiak hired former Denver offensive coordinator Rick Dennison to replace Shanahan and former Atlanta offensive coordinator Greg Knapp to become Houston's quarterbacks coach. Dennison worked on the Broncos' staff during Kubiak's 11 years as Denver's offensive coordinator, and Knapp coached Houston quarterback Matt Schaub for three seasons with the Falcons.

Both Dennison and Knapp are also signed through the 2012 season.

"We have strengthened our coaching staff," McNair said. "I'm pleased we were able to finalize our contractual nego-

tiations with Gary and with our coaches, so everybody will be on the same timeline. That makes everyone feel very good about the situation."

McNair said the Texans need to bolster their offensive and defensive lines and their depth at running back before next season.

Houston ranked 30th in rushing last season (92 yards per game), ahead of only Indianapolis and San Diego. Both those teams won their divisions, but Kubiak said the Texans need a stronger running game to complement their high-powered passing attack.

"We can go out there and throw it with anybody in the business. I don't think that's what's best for our team in the long run," Kubiak said. "We've got to be more dominant late in games. Some games we lost, it was because we couldn't hang onto the

football late in those games. It's very important in the development of our team, taking the next step. It wasn't good enough last year."

The Texans have 15 unrestricted free agents, including cornerback Dunta Robinson, offensive lineman Chester Pitts and receiver Kevin Walter. McNair said there's no rush to re-sign any of the players, since free agency doesn't begin until March 5.

"A lot of what we do will be dependent on who we might sign from free agency, and who we get in the draft and what our needs are," McNair said. "We won't look at that until later."

McNair said he would prefer to continue replenishing his roster with draft picks. He said free agents are riskier investments.

"We believe you have to build through the draft and we will continue to do that," McNair said.



Houston Texans coach Gary Kubiak watches as his players warm up before the Dec. 13 game against Seattle in Houston.

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NBA

Trail Blazers hold off Suns' late-game rally

Bulls' Rose suffers injury from Howard in loss to Magic; Nets have trouble getting on the board in 48th loss of season

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Steve Blake had 20 points and 12 assists, both season highs, and the depleted Portland Trail Blazers held off a late rally by Phoenix to snap the Suns' five-game winning streak 108-101 on Wednesday night.

The Blazers, who led by as many as 22 in the third quarter and 17 in the fourth, shot 58 percent, the highest the Suns have allowed this season. Portland made 71 percent of their first-half shots while ending a 10-game losing streak in Phoenix.

The Blazers, without All-Star Brandon Roy and three other injured important players, bolted to a 14-point lead in the opening minutes and were up by as many as 17 in the second quarter.

LaMarcus Aldridge led five Portland players in double figures with 22 points. Amare Stoudemire scored 24 for Phoenix.

The Trail Blazers last won in Phoenix on Feb. 4, 2004, but they have beaten the Suns four straight times — three in Portland — for the first time since Dec. 5, 1999.

The closest the Suns got after the early minutes was 103-99 after Steve Nash's long 3-pointer with 18.8 seconds to go, then Blake and Miller made seven of eight free throws to finish it off.

The Blazers, who managed just 77 points in Tuesday night's 89-77 home loss to Oklahoma City, shot 71 percent in the first half (27 of 38)

and led 60-44 at the break.

The Suns, who hadn't played since Friday, scored the last six points of the third quarter and first nine of the fourth. The 15-0 run that started and ended on 3-pointers by Jared Dudley cut the lead to 83-76 with 10½ minutes to play. But Nicolas Batum and Blake made 3-pointers, and Dante Cunningham had a breakaway layup to ignite a 12-2 spurt by Portland.

The Blazers led 95-78 after Aldridge's thundering dunk with 7:07 remaining.

Phoenix managed a last gasp. Channing Frye made a 7-footer from the baseline, followed by a fastbreak dunk, then Nash made a 3-pointer in an 18-6 run that cut it to 101-96 after Stoudemire's two free throws.

Blake missed a long 3 at the shot clock buzzer, but Aldridge grabbed the offensive rebound. That led to two free throws by Blake that boosted the lead to 103-96 24.2 seconds from the end.

The Blazers, without Roy for the 12th straight game, made 12 of their first 15 shots to go up 24-10. After Aldridge's 20-footer made it 26-12, Phoenix coach Alvin Gentry called a time out and gave his team a profanity-laced tongue lashing.

Magic 107, Bulls 87

Dwight Howard insisted his intentions were pure, that he was simply trying to block a layup and in no way meant to injure Derrick Rose.

It's just that the lane can be

a dangerous place. Particularly when "Superman" is lurking.

"He hit the 'Man of Steel,'" Howard said.

Howard had 18 points and 14 rebounds, and the Orlando Magic pulled away early for a victory over the Chicago Bulls on Wednesday night for their 10th win in 12 games.

Orlando led 41-17 through the first quarter and didn't have to contend with Rose, Chicago's All-Star point guard, after he left with a bruised right hip following the hard foul by Howard in the opening minutes. That was a chilling sight on a night when little went right for the Bulls, and the Magic could do no wrong.

They certainly look ready for LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers on Thursday, a showdown between the Eastern Conference's top teams before the All-Star break.

Howard had his league-leading 41st double-double, while Vince Carter scored 15 points after pouring in a season-high 48 in a win over New Orleans on Monday. Matt Barnes added 14 for the Magic, who had seven players in double figures.

"We had so many guys rolling tonight," Carter said.

Luol Deng led Chicago with 23 points, his fourth straight game with 20 or more, but the Bulls never had a chance — particularly after Rose went down, throwing his status for the weekend's All-Star game into question.

"Quite honestly, without

Derrick, they're a little easier to defend," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said before correcting himself. "Not a little easier."

Selected to the U.S. national team pool Wednesday, Rose's day took a drastic turn for the worse almost as soon as the game began. He drove the lane hard for a layup about 2½ minutes into it and got knocked to the floor by Howard, clutching his lower back before slowly rising to his feet. Rose then hit a free throw to complete the three-point play but left right after that.

"Hopefully, he's OK," Howard said. "It's never my intention to hurt him or anybody, but it's my job to protect the basket."

Bulls coach Vinny Del Negro said: "I don't think there was anything intended there at all, just to try to block a shot."

Rose went for an MRI at a nearby hospital after X-rays taken at the arena showed no structural damage and was unavailable for comment. His availability for the All-Star game depends on the test results and how his body responds. That injury also left Chicago without two of its best players, with center Joakim Noah sidelined by plantar fasciitis in his left foot.

"Let's see what the MRI says," Del Negro said. "Let's see how much discomfort, how stiff he is tomorrow. Usually, those things tend to loosen up rapidly, and luckily, we do have the All-Star break. I just hope he's all right to participate because he deserves it and I want him to enjoy himself."

There was nothing enjoyable about this one for the Bulls. The Magic followed up a 68-point second half in Monday's win over New Orleans with their second-most prolific quarter this season. They hit 15 of 22 shots in the opening period, including 11 of their first 13 while jumping out to a 30-11 lead. With a 9-6 lead after Rose's three-point play, they scored 11 straight to break it open — a layup by Barnes, a 3-pointer by Rashard Lewis and another layup by Barnes capping that run.

Carter, meanwhile, hit a 3-pointer and a 16-footer to make it 30-11 with about five minutes left in the quarter. After two free throws by Deng, Howard spun toward the rim for a thunderous

alley-oop dunk from Jameer Nelson.

"(Rose) does so much for us. But from the beginning, we were kind of out to lunch," Bulls guard Kirk Hinrich said.

Bucks 97, Nets 77

It was a sad sight in a sorry season.

In front of about 1,000 fans, the New Jersey Nets lost for the 48th time before the All-Star break, trounced by the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night.

Andrew Bogut scored 22 points and Ersan Ilyasova added 18 for Milwaukee.

A storm that dumped more than a foot of snow on the New York region kept the crowd at the IZOD Center to a turnstile count of 1,016, most of whom moved to the court-side seats and the first few rows of the lower bowl.

"Fans couldn't get out, but it was tough to generate energy you need in a situation like this. Unfortunately we didn't," Nets forward Jarvis Hayes said.

Up close, the few fans in attendance saw the Bucks shoot 50 percent against the worst team in the league.

New Jersey, led by Devin Harris with 27 points, extended its latest losing streak to eight games. The Nets head into the All-Star break at 4-48, the same record the Philadelphia 76ers had when they recorded an NBA-worst 9-73 mark for the 1972-73 season.

"I'm not sure exactly what happened, but this is the first time in I think eight or nine games where we didn't compete in the second half," Nets interim coach Kiki Vandeweghe said. "I'm not sure exactly what happened ... people looked very tired to me."

The Bucks used an 18-1 run that bridged the third and fourth quarters to pull away. Leading 68-60 to start the fourth quarter, Milwaukee scored 10 straight points — including five from Luke Ridnour (17 points) — to open up a 78-60 lead with 8:57 left.

"We had an up-tick in our energy level," Bucks coach Scott Skiles said. "We played well defensively and it paid off for us."

Courtney Lee (11 points) temporarily stopped the deluge for the Nets with a 3-pointer, but Carlos Delfino answered right back with his own 3.

"Fans couldn't get out, but it was tough to generate energy you need in a situation like this. Unfortunately we didn't."

**Jarvis Hayes
Nets forward**



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NHL

Ducks defeat Oilers in record-setting home win

Avalanche come back in overtime to defeat Thrashers; Coyotes skate closer to first playoffs since 2002 with win over Wild

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Todd Marchant scored the go-ahead goal with 11:39 left in the third period and the Anaheim Ducks beat Edmonton 3-2 on Wednesday night, setting a franchise record with their 11th straight home victory and extending the Oilers' club-record road losing streak to 11 games.

Bobby Ryan scored twice, and Jonas Hiller made 17 of his 37 saves during the first period in the opener of the four-game season series.

The Ducks are 13-5-0 in their last 18 and just two points behind Calgary for the eighth and final Western Conference playoff spot. They played without Ryan Getzlaf, who sprained his left ankle Monday night in a 4-2 win over Los Angeles.

Ryan Potulny and Ethan Moreau scored short-handed goals in the second period for the Oilers, whose penalty-killing unit had produced only one over the first 58 games. Jeff Deslauriers made 27 saves.

Edmonton, mired in a 3-22-2 freefall, is at the bottom of the NHL standings with 42 points — seven behind Toronto. The Oilers have never finished a season with the NHL's worst record. They had the best record three times during the

Wayne Gretzky era.

The Oilers haven't won a road game since Dec. 11, when they concluded a 5-1 trip with a 5-2 victory at St. Louis. That also was the last time they scored more than four goals in a game. The defeat tied their longest road winless streak — set in 1990-91 when they went 0-7 with four ties.

Marchant, who spent nine-plus seasons with Edmonton, redirected James Wisniewski's slap shot from the right point past Deslauriers' glove for his first game-winner of the season less than a minute after the Oilers had killed off an interference penalty against Steve Staios.

Ryan opened the scoring at 13:58 of the first period, converting a pass from behind the net by Corey Perry after Perry worked the puck free from defenseman Ladislav Smid.

The Oilers came up empty during a 5-on-3 power play they had for a minute and 32 seconds early in the second period, but were able to tie the score while killing off a tripping penalty against Staios.

Moreau's persistent forechecking behind the net caused Steve Eminger to cough up the puck and it bounced out in front, where Potulny scored his first career short-handed goal on a one-timer from the

slot.

Moreau put Edmonton ahead 2-1 at 14:33 of the second with his 15th short-handed goal, beating Hiller to the glove side on a breakaway just 9 seconds after Smid was sent off for holding Jason Blake. But the Ducks tied it with 42 seconds still left on Smid's penalty, as Ryan carried the puck into the right circle and beat Deslauriers to the glove side for his team-high 27th goal.

The teams meet again Saturday at Edmonton before heading into the

Avalanche 4, Thrashers 3

Kyle Cumiskey scored 9 seconds into overtime and the Colorado Avalanche overcame a two-goal deficit to beat the Atlanta Thrashers on Wednesday night.

Chris Stewart had a goal and an assist, Chris Durno also scored, Paul Stastny had three assists, and Craig Anderson made 33 saves for Colorado.

In overtime, the Avalanche won the faceoff and Cumiskey skated into the Thrashers' zone. He split two defenders and beat Johan Hedberg for his seventh goal of the season.

Nik Antropov, Niclas Bergfors and Bryan Little each had a goal and an assist for the Thrashers, and Hedberg made 31 saves. Atlanta has lost three

straight on the road.

The Thrashers took a 3-1 lead on Antropov's goal with 15:41 left, but Colorado battled back to force overtime. Stewart knocked in his own rebound with 11:26 left, and Durno beat Hedberg with 5:29 remaining in regulation.

Little gave Atlanta a 2-1 lead when his shot from the left circle got past Anderson with 14:28 left in the second period.

The Thrashers thought they had a 3-1 lead when a ruling on the ice gave them a goal with 2:08 left in the second, but a video review showed the puck didn't completely cross the goal line and it was overturned.

Moments after killing a Colorado power play, the Thrashers opened the scoring in the first. Antropov won a faceoff in his own zone and got the puck to Bergfors, who skated into the Avalanche zone and used a screen by Little to beat Anderson.

Colorado struck back 46 seconds later when Clark beat Hedberg.

Coyotes 3, Wild 2

With their first trip to the playoffs since 2002 inching closer and closer to a certainty, the Phoenix Coyotes may want to find a way to face Minnesota in round one.

Martin Hanzal had a goal and an assist and the Coyotes completed a season sweep of the Wild with a victory on Wednesday night.

Hanzal scored in the first period and assisted on Radim Vrbata's team-leading 20th goal in the third period. The Coyotes won twice in Minnesota and twice in Arizona for their first season sweep of the Wild in franchise history.

"We're just trying to get in the playoffs first," said Coyotes coach Dave Tippett, unconcerned with which opponent they may face there. "We'll worry about ourselves. We're not going to worry about Minnesota."

Minnesota got an early power play goal by Guillaume Latendresse — his fourth in three games against Phoenix this season. Martin Havlat also scored for the Wild, who failed to get at least a point at home for the first time in the past nine games.

Wild coach Todd Richards said his team needs to adopt a shoot-first mentality as they fight to catch Calgary for the final playoff spot in the West.

"We're looking to make that extra-pretty pass, looking for the empty net," Richards said. "We have to be a team that shoots the puck and goes to the net."

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Pitchers

continued from page 24

Shannon Kelly and two freshmen, Jackie Bowe and Brittany O'Donnell, who will be throwing innings for us."

The remaining Irish defense will remain similar to last season with only one infield position to be held by a new player.

"Our goal defensively is to be solid, make consistent plays," Gumpf said. "We will be working on getting better every day we are out there and becoming a consistent team."

Last year, the Irish team featured many strong hitters.

Returning top hitters include senior Christine Lux and sophomore Dani Miller.

"Our hitters this year potentially could be even better than last year's squad," Irish assistant coach Kris Ganeff said. "With what we have returned and our added freshmen bats I would look for the Irish to come out swinging."

The Irish start their season this weekend playing in the Kajikawa Classic, hosted by Arizona State. The Irish will play last year's NCAA

Champion team and preseason top-ranked team, the Washington Huskies.

"We always play a tough but balanced preseason schedule," Gumpf said. "It prepares us for the Big East competition."

Playing the big name teams from highly competitive softball conferences, such as the Big 12, SEC and Pac 10, help prepare the Irish for their in-conference portion of the schedule, which kicks off March 27 against Seton Hall.

"When it comes to Big East, every team is gunning for us," Gumpf said. "Each team is our biggest game on the day we play them."

Notre Dame will also play other competitive programs before starting the Big East portion of its schedule, including No. 16 Ohio State, Auburn, Purdue, San Diego State and Oregon.

"The possibility should be great for us to win another ring," Ganeff said. "We have a lot of talent and great leadership. If we stay focused throughout each part of our season, we should put ourselves in a good spot for the postseason."

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

"Each team is our biggest game on the day we play them."

Deanna Gumpf
Irish coach

"If we stay focused throughout each part of our season, we should put ourselves in a good spot for the postseason."

Deanna Gumpf
Irish coach

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles look to prove themselves

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

The Belles face Wheaton College tonight in a non-conference match-up in which they will be looking to exact a measure of revenge for an early-season loss.

Saint Mary's (12-9, 7-6 MIAA) took on the Thunder (12-9, 6-5 CCIW) in what was both teams' second regular-season game on Nov. 20 at the Bluffton University Tip-Off Tournament. The game was tied at 73 before Wheaton broke through for a 78-73 win. The first meeting was characterized by an intense battle between the two teams. They switched the lead 13 times and were tied at 12 different points in the game, including at the half.

Neither team was able to gain more than an eight-point advantage at any time.

The Thunder were led in that game by a breakout performance from freshman guard Breanna Bohlen, who scored 24 points as well as chalking up seven rebounds and three assists off the bench while sophomore forward Elisabeth Potts added 11 points.

"We let [that game] slip away," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said.

Wheaton sophomore guard Lindsey Brenneman leads the Thunder overall, averaging 13.6 points per game. Bohlen is second among active players, averaging nine points per game. In the frontcourt, junior forward and captain Annie Bowen will look to establish herself in the paint.

Saint Mary's will depend on sophomore guard Patsy Mahoney and junior guard Liz Wade to defend the powerful Wheaton backcourt, and to junior forward Jessica Centa and senior

forward Anna Kammrath for a presence at the post. The Belles are expecting a tough offensive threat from the Thunder.

"Wheaton is a very good team," Henley said. "They are very well coached and have some great shooters."

Despite the scheduling of this non-conference game in the middle of the MIAA homestretch and only two days before a trip to league-leading Hope, Henley does not see the game as a distraction. Instead, she sees it as a positive for her team.

"This is our bye week during the conference," she said. "It's nice to have a game to stay on schedule rather than be off an entire week."

Saint Mary's looks to avenge its early loss to Wheaton at 7 p.m. tonight in the Angela Athletic Facility.

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

NHL

Canadiens take out Capitals 6-5

Associated Press

MONTREAL — After coming back with three third-period goals to send the game to overtime, the Washington Capitals finally saw their team-record winning streak come to an end within 8 seconds of making it to a shootout.

Tomas Plekanec scored his second goal of the game at 4:52 of overtime and the Montreal Canadiens ended Washington's 14-game streak with a 6-5 victory Wednesday night. Washington, which hadn't lost in nearly a month, fell three wins short of tying the 1992-93 Pittsburgh Penguins' NHL-record streak of 17 games.

Brooks Laich drew the Capitals even at 5, scoring his third goal of the game with 18.4 seconds left and goalie Jose Theodore off for an extra attacker.

"We always battle hard," coach Bruce Boudreau said. "Normally we'd say that was a good point but we were trying to do something special so it's a deflating loss. I think it was 7 seconds left to get to the shootout where we would have felt pretty confident tonight that we would have been successful, but those things happen."

Trailing 5-2 after Plekanec scored Montreal's fourth goal of the second with 1:04 left in the period, Washington battled back with three goals in the third — including two by Laich — to send the game to overtime.

"Well eventually you're playing with fire getting down by two or three goals," Laich said. "During the streak we have been able to come back. We can't continually do it, it's not a recipe for success, and eventually when you play a good hockey team they're going to find a way to beat you."

Laich, who scored 6:23 into the first to tie it at 1, scored his second of the game midway through the third to draw the Capitals to 5-4 after Mike Green scored a power-play goal 16 seconds into the third.

"It's obviously disappointing," Green said. "We really wanted to push and keep this thing going. I think it builds character for a team and it's

disappointing, but I thought we played well there in the third period and we battled back to give ourselves a chance and you know that also builds character."

Glen Metropolit and Maxim Lapierre scored 12 seconds apart in the second for Montreal. Tom Pyatt also scored in the middle period for the Canadiens, and Scott Gomez scored in the first. Sergei Kostitsyn had three assists.

"To beat this hockey club is great for us, Plekanec said. "We needed two points in the standings and we got them."

Carey Price made 33 saves in his first start in six games for Montreal, which played its first game since general manager Bob Gainey's surprise resignation Monday.

"Carey showed some character and determination," Canadiens coach Jacques Martin said. "He made big saves when we needed them."

Nicklas Backstrom also scored for Washington, which hasn't lost since dropping a 7-4 decision at Tampa Bay on Jan. 12.

Alexander Ovechkin extended his points streak to eight games with an assist on Backstrom's 26th goal, which tied it at 2 early in the second. Ovechkin added his second assist on Laich's hat trick goal.

Washington's Michal Neuvirth stopped 12 of 14 shots before he was replaced by Jose Theodore 6:11 into the second with the score tied at 2. Theodore, who allowed three of Montreal's four second-period goals, made 21 saves the rest of the way.

Metropolit got his 12th goal of the season on a power play 12:45 into the second to give the Canadiens their third one-goal lead at 3-2.

Lapierre beat Theodore with a shot from the slot shortly after the ensuing face-off to put Montreal up 4-2 at 12:57.

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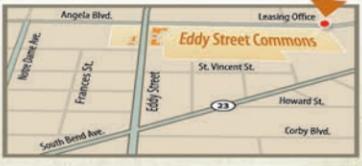
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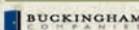
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Pink

continued from page 24

Valvano. Adding significance to the event, Yow recently passed away on Jan. 24, 2009, after her 22-year battle with the disease, which has provided a new galvanization in the basketball community to support the fund.

The Irish first became involved with The Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund in the 2007-08 season when they played in their own "Think Pink" game. The game collected only a modest sum of money for breast cancer research, but it provided an inspirational spark that would lead to the movement gaining steam at Notre Dame in the years to come.

"We started with 'Think Pink' three years ago," Menio said. "We started very small in the 2007-08 season. I think the girls wore pink shoelaces, that kind of thing, and we raised maybe \$2,000."

Menio, along with the entire staff of the women's basketball team, decided that there was a great opportunity to expand from this initial game and spread

the event across Notre Dame's campus and the South Bend area, as well as to the entire country.

"Last year we got a bunch of people on campus together and said, 'Let's see if we can challenge the top 20 teams in the country in attendance to see who can raise the most money for breast cancer awareness and research,'" Menio said. "So we called the Tennessees and the Connecticut's of the world and said, 'hey, bring it.'"

"So we called the Tennessee's and the Connecticut's of the world and said, 'hey, bring it.'"

Stephanie Menio
Irish Coordinator of Basketball Relations

And the Notre Dame and South Bend community did bring it, earning more money for breast cancer research and awareness than any of the other 19 programs involved.

"We ended up last year winning the challenge with more than \$48,000 raised," Menio said. "So this year we talked to the WBCA and said we wanted to open it up to everyone across the country and see who could raise the most money."

The game is now coordinated by the Women's

"We ended up last year winning the challenge with more than \$48,000 raised."

Stephanie Menio
Irish Coordinator of Basketball Relations

Basketball Coaches' Association, and is extended to every NCAA women's basketball team across the country.

Menio's goal for the game and fundraisers are to raise at least \$55,000, but she is hopeful that they will be able to surpass that number.

North Carolina State, the former coaching home of Yow, has already raised money in the \$90,000 range in their "Pink Zone" game.

The game's proceeds will benefit two different foundations. The first 25 percent will go to the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund, with the other 75 percent going to three organizations supported by the St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in the local community: the Women's Task Force, the Secret Sisters Society and the Young Survivors Group.

According to Menio, the Irish are receiving donations and items for the silent auction, making her hopeful for a great showing Sunday. The Irish will take on DePaul at 3 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilion in another Big East battle.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

Tough

continued from page 24

It worked: Jones, averaging 29 points per game in his past nine before facing the Irish, shot 3-for-17 from the field.

Hansbrough will have plenty of time to catch up on his reading before the Irish (17-7, 6-5 Big East) face Seton Hall (12-9, 3-7) in Newark, N.J., tonight, because the team left a day early, Tuesday afternoon, to avoid inclement weather in both South Bend and the east coast. The players spoke near the Purcell Pavilion loading dock, where the team bus, covered with snow and dripping water everywhere from the already-thick snowfall, waited to take them to the airport.

Irish coach Mike Brey said he thought the team would be fine with the early departure and that it might lessen distractions and help increase its focus.

"We've done this before and we had success when we did it," Brey said, referring to Notre Dame's win on the road at South Florida, where the Irish also had an extended stay.

"Sometimes when you get away you have a little more focus. You get them all in a hotel, there's no distractions of class and things around here."

Hansbrough said he wasn't a big fan of sitting around snowed in at a hotel, but that he would persevere.

"I hate being still," he said. "I can't do it, but I'll be alright, I'm sure I'll find a pool somewhere."

The Pirates' leading scorer, junior guard Jeremy Hazell, is second to Irish forward Luke Harangody in the Big East in scoring with 22 points per game. Sophomore Herb Pope, at 6-foot-8 and 236 pounds,

leads the conference in rebounding with 10.9 rebounds per game (Harangody is right behind him at 10.1).

Jackson said the Irish would approach Hazell in a similar fashion that they approached Jones, but that they can't key on him.

"We can't focus too much on him," Jackson said. "He's going to get shots up so don't get yourself down, keep your head high and continue to be aware of where he is."

Brey said keeping athletes off the glass and out of the lane is the key to facing not just Seton Hall but every Big East team.

"If we can keep the athletic ability out of our league and off the backboard enough, we can compete with anybody in the league," he said. "When we don't, anybody in the league can beat us."

Seton Hall has lost three straight, but they were three tough opponents: South Florida in overtime, Villanova and Pittsburgh, all on the road. After losing four of five, Notre Dame has won two straight at home and hopes to continue the success, Brey said.

"We'd like to take a little bit of the same personality we've had in here the last two games on the road," he said.

Hansbrough said the team realized that it could be tougher than it was, and that it needed to channel that focus tonight.

"We have to go in there like it's a do or die game," he said. "We could be .500 in the Big East or we could be 7-5. We have to go in there and play as tough as we can and focus on defense."

The Irish will tip-off at 7 p.m. on ESPNU.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

"As soon as he catches it, your belly button's touching his belly button."

Ben Hansbrough
Irish guard

"Sometimes when you get away you have a little more focus. You get them all in a hotel, there's no distractions of class and things around here."

Mke Brey
Irish coach

Recruits

continued from page 24

Islanders, center Anders Lee is also starring in the USHL, for the Green Bay Gamblers. Lee leads the Gamblers with 21 goals and 21 assists, and in 2008 was named Minnesota's Gatorade Player of the Year for his accomplishments as a quarterback at Edina High School.

"[Ander's] got good hands and with his size, his puck skills and his instincts has shown that he is more of a power-type forward who has become an effective goal scorer while also being a good playmaker," Jackson told UND.com in November.

Joining Costello and Lee from the USHL will be Gerths, Lind, right wing Garrett Peterson and center T.J. Tynam.

Three members of the USA Hockey National Team Development Program complete the recruiting class and are each included in NHL's Central Scouting's mid-term ratings, along with Lind. Defenseman Stephen Johns is rated the 28th best North American skater, followed by Lind at 32nd, defenseman Jarred Tinordi at 42nd and center Bryan Rust at 76th. His time on the U.S. Under-18 team has brought Johns a reputation as a very physical player, and in their two years with USA Hockey, Slaggert said Tinordi and Rust have gained ideal experience.

"Any diverse experience is good, not always playing with the same guys, always in the same role, always asked to do the same thing," he said. "A more varied

hockey experiences makes for a more complete player."

While the letters of intent seemingly ended the process of recruiting these nine players, Slaggert said he and Jackson continue to scout them even now.

"We're not going to sign them and not pay any attention to them, so actually

coach Jackson and I went to see the [USHL] All-Star Game in Indianapolis last weekend, and [associate head] coach [Paul] Pooley went to see the National Team as well," Slaggert said. "We have to evaluate them to try and figure out where they're going to fit in, what they bring to the table."

"A more varied hockey experiences makes for a more complete player."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

Contact Douglad Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu



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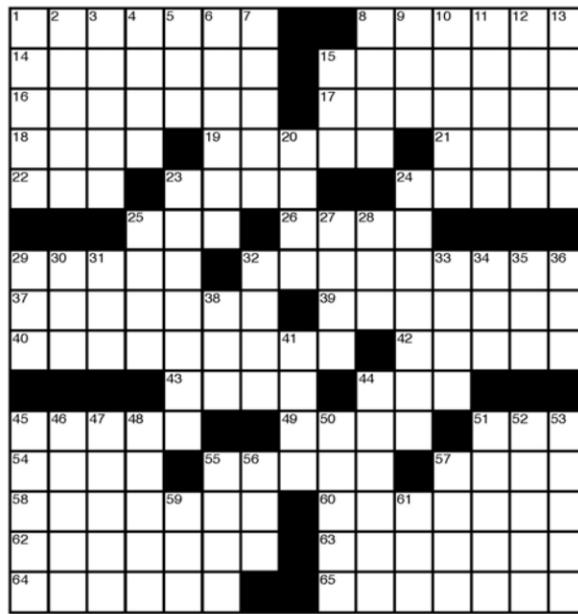
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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Heebie-jeebies
 - 8 They may have titles
 - 14 Landing
 - 15 Expensive way to the hospital
 - 16 Enemy encounter
 - 17 Unlikely section in a religious bookstore
 - 18 Last word in "Oh! Susanna"
 - 19 "The Glass Bead Game" novelist
 - 21 Lead
 - 22 High flier, once
 - 23 Teacups, e.g.
 - 24 Asks (for)
 - 25 Bashes
 - 26 Web ____
 - 29 Bashes
 - 32 Absolutely terrific
 - 37 Japanese flower-arranging art
 - 39 Selfish, as an attitude
 - 40 Gets upset
- Down**
- 1 10 superiors
 - 2 Fetters
 - 3 Citi Field mascot
 - 4 See eye to eye
 - 5 Gardner of "Mogambo"
- 6 His 1959 album "Heavenly" was #1 for five weeks
 - 7 Set upon a slope, say
 - 8 A Dumas
 - 9 Hullabaloo
 - 10 "See what I mean?"
 - 11 Big brand of 55-Across
 - 12 Something that might work on a full stomach?
 - 13 Optical readings
 - 15 "____ amis ..." (start of a French oration)
 - 20 Trig function
 - 23 Cash in the music business
 - 24 "Shut up already!"
 - 25 Actress Olivia of "Law & Order: Criminal Intent"
 - 27 Soupy Sales and others
 - 28 Former Japanese P.M. Shinzo ____
 - 29 Yankee fighter
 - 30 Letters between two names
 - 31 Yours may be asleep while you're awake
 - 32 Fluster
 - 33 Ali, the ____ of God
 - 34 CBS newsman Bob
 - 35 NATO founding member
 - 36 Trough location
 - 38 Goose egg
 - 41 Once, once
 - 44 Picadors assist him



Puzzle by Xan Vongsathorn

- 45 Cry at a poker game, maybe
- 46 Title film character who's idolized by a boy named Joey
- 47 Some Balkanites
- 48 Full-length
- 50 Georges with the best seller "Life: A User's Manual"
- 51 Arise anew
- 52 Many a freshman course
- 53 Photographer Adams
- 55 Like eights in crazy eights
- 56 Don't just sit there
- 57 With 65-Across, extermination ... or what can be done to 10 answers in this puzzle without affecting their clues?
- 59 Distinctive Dilbert feature
- 61 M.L.K. Day month

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Happy Birthday: You will have to make some serious decisions regarding the people and organizations with whom you get involved this year. It's important that you align yourself with industrious groups that have a message and the means to bring about necessary reforms. Your contributions will help you get ahead both personally and professionally. Change is good and can help you stabilize your future. Your numbers are 3, 10, 12, 28, 34, 40, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put your skills to the test and you will excel. Getting all worked up over what others say or do will be a waste of time and could hold you back or affect your status. Stay calm and speak with authority. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Push for what you want. Don't count on others to know the ins and outs of what you are doing or to give you the benefit of a doubt. You have to take a lead position or someone who opposes you will. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take the initiative to raise issues that have been bothering you. Taking on too much or being pressured to do so will leave you in a compromising position. Love is in the stars and should be on your agenda. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll tend to be emotional, sensitive and uncertain regarding your personal relationships. An opportunity to try something new will lead to a better position or a change in the way you do your job. Deal with problems swiftly. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't mess with rules and regulations or you will have to face a critical individual who can affect your position. Spending on something you don't need will lead you to deception. Focus on work and making more cash. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take one step at a time and do your best to stay in control. Sudden, unexpected changes will come your way, so be ready to deal with them immediately. Networking will ensure you have other opportunities should a problem develop with someone for whom you are working. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do what you say without hesitation or you may be criticized. You may not be able to make all the changes necessary at home but you can start to talk about your plans. A chance to make some creative, personal changes is apparent. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let anyone get the better of you by making you angry. A practical and rational approach will enable you to handle the situation with dignity and grace. It's diplomacy that will impress others. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your experience will help you out now. Someone you love and trust will be able to help you see things from a better perspective. A solution can be found as long as you don't overreact or overindulge. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Refuse to let anyone pressure you into doing something you don't feel right about. Come up with alternative ideas that will allow you to spread around the responsibilities. If you delegate, you will remain in control. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you need help, ask for it. A new plan will help you make decisions about your future that can lead to higher income and a better sense of what you are capable of doing. Separate yourself from negative people. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take control and offer solutions. Be upfront about what it will cost to implement your plans. Take the attitude that less is more and you will even win over your toughest critic. ★★★★★

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While we congratulate the "Old Perspective" on winning the election, we would like to provide a "New Perspective" and let you know that we think the election showed a "Bad Perspective" on the part of the "Student Perspective." A "New Perspective" is going to be needed if we are going to allow for the "New Prospective" that people should actually care about student government. This "New Perspective" will live on in the hearts, minds, and loins of those who value "Perspectives," "New Perspectives," and "Obnoxious Slogans."

Yours in Retrospective, Eons Christmas

T.I.N.D.

DAN POHLMAN



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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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O O O O

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O O O O

HOCCUR
O O O O

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

Ans: " O O O O - O O O O O O O O O O "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LARVA AUGUR TALLOW FLABBY
Answer: How the poker player ended up when he went all in — ALL-OUT

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Raising the stakes in 'Pink'

Irish host annual 'Pink Zone' game Sunday to raise funds for breast cancer research

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Born from humble origins here on campus a year ago, Notre Dame's annual "Pink Zone" game, which serves to raise money for breast cancer research and awareness, will tip-off Sunday against DePaul. The event has rapidly grown in the past year to take on a national significance.

"It was really exciting how it started," Coordinator of Basketball Operations Stephanie Menio said. "It was a bunch of people just coming together on campus. It was myself, [Chief of Staff and Special Assistant to the President] Frances Shavers, and it was somebody from Rolfs, and someone from the Physics department; it was just a lot of people. The great thing about this event is that it is so grass-roots here on

campus. People can give just a dollar here and a dollar there."

Irish coach Muffet McGraw and her players are excited for the opportunity to make a difference in the community with such an important issue.

"It feels great," McGraw said. "It is a great game for the community. Last year was a really emotional day with seeing all the survivors on the court. It is such an important cause."

The origins of the event stem from the formation of The Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund on Dec. 3, 2007, in support of former North Carolina State coach Kay Yow's battle with breast cancer. The fund is also a branch of the V-Foundation, a cancer research foundation formed by ESPN and the late North Carolina State men's basketball coach, Jim

see PINK/page 22



TOM LA/The Observer

Irish junior Brittany Mallory takes on Panther center Selena Nwude in a Feb. 6 game at Purcell Pavilion. Notre Dame will host the second annual "Pink Zone" game to raise funds for breast cancer Sunday.

HOCKEY

Irish boast impressive lineup of recruits despite record

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Judging by its record, and last weekend's debacle at Western Michigan, Notre Dame isn't one of the nation's elite teams this year. But if Irish coach Jeff Jackson's latest recruiting haul is any indication, Notre Dame is still a big player in college hockey —

and should be for some time.

The class of nine boasts two players already drafted by teams in the NHL, four players within the top-100 of the NHL's Central Scouting's mid-term rankings and five USHL All-Stars. Yet it is not these accolades that draw the attention of Jackson and associate coach Andy Slaggert, Notre Dame's lead recruiter.

"We don't really evaluate

based on NHL capability or potential," Slaggert said. "It is really more if we think they could help us here ... We look for kids that are really competitive, that know the game well — are smart hockey players — and kids that skate well."

This class certainly has had its chances to compete, and win in doing so. Three members, left wing Jeff Costello,

right wing David Gerths and defenseman Kevin Lind won gold-medals with the U.S. Junior Select Team that won the World Jr. A Challenge in early November.

"As a class, [competing] is a strength of theirs," Slaggert said. "Talking to some guys who play against him, Jeff Costello tends to stand out as a player that other kids don't necessarily enjoy paling

against, which is a good thing."

Costello was drafted 146th overall in the 2009 NHL Entry Draft by the Ottawa Senators, and currently leads the Cedar Rapids Rough Riders of the USHL with 21 goals and 13 assists.

Drafted six spots after Costello by the New York

see RECRUITS/page 22

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish ready to guard tough

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

For the second straight game, Notre Dame faces one of the Big East's leading scorers. Luckily, Ben Hansbrough has a method for keeping them in check, a reverse golden rule if you will: Guard them like he doesn't want to be guarded.

A strategy taken from North Carolina coach Roy Williams' book, "Hard Work," the senior guard said he and fellow senior Tory Jackson used that strategy against South Florida guard Dominique Jones Sunday.

"Just get all up in him, make everything tough," Hansbrough said. "As soon as he catches it, your belly button's touching his belly button."



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Senior guard Ben Hansbrough is prepared to get close with Seton Hall tonight as they take on the Irish in Newark, N.J.

see TOUGH/page 21

ND WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Team opens season with winning hopes

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

After breaking numerous records at the plate, on the mound and in the field, and winning the title of Big East champions last season, the Irish softball team is ready to begin the 2010 season with even loftier goals.

"Our expectations are higher this season," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "We have a veteran team who knows how to win."

Though Notre Dame was not granted a pre-season ranking, some of those who voted did see potential in the Irish, which hopefully promises that they will be ranked within the first few

weeks of play, if all goes well.

"In the voters' minds we lost some key players from last season," Gumpf said. "It also gives us an opportunity to rise in the rankings early."

The Irish graduated five seniors at the end of the 2009 season, including celebrated pitcher Brittany Bargar. But the coaching staff boasts that they do not predict the Irish will struggle at the mound with four pitchers and varying the rotation.

"I expect Jody Valdivia to lead the way with her experience and success from last year," Gumpf said. "We also have junior

see PITCHERS/page 21