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Academic Council votes to dissolve Econ dept.

Economics and Policy Studies branch, in existence since 2003, will be disbanded by the end of this semester

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

The Academic Council voted to dissolve the Department of Economics and Policy Studies (ECOP) at its meeting Thursday.

The department will cease to exist effective at the end of the semester.

The existing Department of Economics and Econometrics will be renamed the Department of Economics, and will serve as the University's sole economics department.

The University has supported two economics departments since 2003, when the Academic Council voted to split the Department of Economics into

Economics and Policy Studies and Economics and Econometrics.

Since 2003, the ECOP, which emphasizes alternative economics theories, has not been allowed to hire new faculty members or accept doctoral candidates.

John McGreevy, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, initially proposed the dissolution of ECOP last year. Continuing to support two economics departments is "not sustainable," McGreevy said in September.

Fate of the Faculty

The tenure of ECOP faculty members will be respected, McGreevy said. The University is currently working with the

faculty to identify new institutional areas for them. McGreevy said he hopes to find new departments for ECOP professors by the end of the semester.

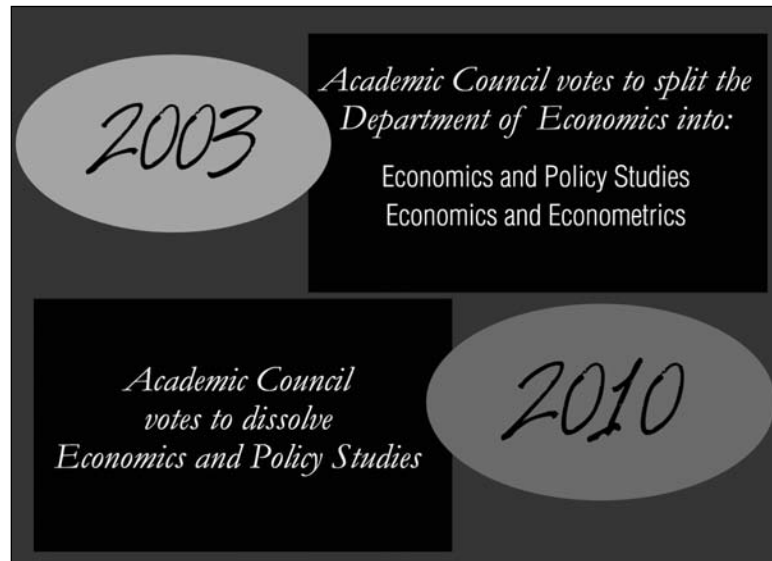
Some Policy Studies professors might move to the reestablished Department of Economics, but they will have to be invited by the department itself, McGreevy said.

"It's a mutual process," he said.

McGreevy cited the Kroc Institute, the Kellogg Institute and the Poverty Studies minor as potential homes for ECOP faculty.

The Poverty Studies minor is currently administered by the

see ECON/page 6



BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

Chesley, Smith to lead SMC student body

Duo beats current student body president Meg Griffin and running mate Emily Skirtich

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's juniors Rachael Chesley and Laura Smith said they will bring a "fresh perspective" to their roles as Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president, respectively, when they take office April 1.

The pair defeated junior Meg Griffin, current SGA vice president, and sophomore Emily Skirtich, SGA executive secretary in the Feb. 26 election.

Chesley has served as a member of the Student Activities Board (SAB) as well as on Dance Marathon and the Class Gift Campaign. Smith has also participated in

Dance Marathon and has served on the first year, sophomore and junior boards.

Neither Chesley nor Smith has sat on SGA.

One of their main goals is to be a strong voice for the student body, Chesley said.

"We will reach out to [the student body], and we want [them] to reach out to us and all of SGA," she said. "We have open minds that are ready for your thoughts and ideas."

Chesley and Smith also want to work on increased communication between SGA and campus clubs.

"We want to see more integration of the clubs on campus, more support, more open communication," Chesley

see CHESLEY/page 4



Photo courtesy of Rachel Chesley

Rachael Chesley, right, and Laura Smith, left, were elected SGA president and vice president Feb. 26. They will take office April 1.

Students elect leaders for SAB, SDB, RHA during Feb. 26 elections

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Saint Mary's College chose new leaders for the Student Activities Board (SAB), Student Diversity Board (SDB) and Residence Hall Association (RHA). The elections took place on Feb. 26.

Student Activities Board

With plans to "bring a new face to Student Activities Board," sophomore Jennifer Kline said she and sophomore Allie Courtney are excited to take the reigns as SAB leaders.

Courtney and Kline won SAB president and vice president uncontested.

see SAB/page 6

Alum wins Amazon writing contest to get novel published

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
News Writer

For Notre Dame alumnus Jim King, a long-awaited dream came true last May when he received an unexpected call from Amazon on a train ride into New York City.

King, a member of the Class of 1977, was one of three finalists for the second annual Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award, an international competition seeking the "next popular novel." He would later be

selected as the grand prize winner out of more than 6,500 manuscript entries.

"I got a call one day from a guy from Amazon and he told me that I was one of three finalists," King said. "Of course I just wanted to scream because I [have been] trying to



King

get a novel published ever since I graduated from Notre Dame in 1977."

As the winner of the competition, King landed a \$25,000 publishing contract with The Viking Press to publish his novel, "Bill Warrington's Last Chance." The novel is due for release in August.

"The total number of manuscripts was around 6,500 and I had entered the contest almost on a lark," King said. "I almost forgot about it because I didn't think I stood a chance to win."

The panel that reviewed the top three manuscripts included "Secret Life of Bees" author Sue Monk Kidd, "Alphabet Mystery Series" author Sue Grafton, literary agent Barney Karpfinger and Penguin Press Vice President and Editor-in-Chief Eamon Dolan.

King's novel is the story of a man, Bill Warrington, who is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, although King never explicitly mentions the disease in the book. Warrington is trying to reconnect with his three adult children who want nothing to do with him.

"The main character was inspired by a neighbor of mine who had lost his wife shortly before I met him," King said. "Over the years the house he built with his own hands was falling apart around him."

In the novel, Warrington decides the only way to bring his family back together is to kidnap his 15-year-old granddaughter April, who dreams of becoming a rock star. The two of them take off across

see NOVEL/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Freshman flashback

Junior year is a time where you are apparently focused on the future. Lately, I've been so focused on the future, that I've noticed I've carefully compartmentalized my past.

Now, not all memories are being suppressed because of their traumatic content. Even the "traumatic events" of my freshman year are on the whole pretty laughable. I was mortified to have to appear in a swimsuit in front of a large group of people who didn't know me yet but who I'd be spending my college career with. My solution was to toss on an old racing suit from my Varsity swimming days, avoid mirrors and get in and out as quickly as possible. After drying off with the miniscule towels provided by the university, I rushed home to my room where I got the first glance in a mirror that day. It wasn't until then that I discovered that my racing suit was indeed quite old ... so used that it finally became transparent. My entirely sheer suit in fact turned out to be an inadequate covering of my birthday suit.

That was just the start of my haphazard Freshman year. There was also the day where I wiped out face first on the floor of DeBartolo. And the day where I was called to front of the stadium seating, 150-person lecture, because I was late. After serving as a live human model in the professor's lecture, I climbed 100 stairs to the applause of my friends who thought it was the funniest thing they'd seen that day.

Admittedly, all the memories I've imparted so far are traumatic. But I swear I'm not repressing them, I'm simply forgetting them in the jumble of my fragile 20 year old mind. I also usually forget great memories like seeing my mom's face for the first time since I started college. Her look of shock and horror that I had pierced my nose in our three-month separation was brilliant. There was the time I attended my first Scene meeting, and of course seeing my first print byline. There was the day I befriended my current, beloved roommate. I apparently went up to her, said I recognized her from a class and had decided we should be friends. There was the day my boat fell apart at Fisher Regatta and me, and four other freshman, swam the bits to other end of St. Mary's Lake.






During one of the best days of my life, someone turned to me and said "I can't wait until this becomes a memory." The point is, I recovered from my clumsiness, changed out of my see-through bathing suit and have in some ways lost the thrill of being at Notre Dame for the first time. The good and the bad, they all pass. But there is not reason not to hang onto the savory memory of moments that shaped a simple, forgettable day or the most defining experiences of your life.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE OLYMPICS?

				
Jerry Shields <i>senior</i> <i>Morrissey</i>	Richard Si <i>freshman</i> <i>Siegfried</i>	Sam Burke <i>freshman</i> <i>Pasquerilla West</i>	Andrew Alea <i>freshman</i> <i>Stanford</i>	Jessica Fay <i>freshman</i> <i>Pasquerilla West</i>
<i>"America's hockey failure."</i>	<i>"USA beating Canada."</i>	<i>"Curling."</i>	<i>"Shaun White's gold medal run."</i>	<i>"The USA-Canada hockey game."</i>

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



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer
Calie Mohamed, Katie Adams and Marilia Figueiredo enjoy the rare sunshine in the middle of the South Bend winter Monday by moving a futon to the middle of South Quad.

OFFBEAT

Russian chimp sent to rehab
MOSCOW — A Russian chimpanzee has been sent to rehab by zookeepers to cure the smoking and beer-drinking habits he has picked up, a popular daily reported on Friday. An ex-performer, Zhora became aggressive at his circus and was transferred to a zoo in the southern Russian city of Rostov, where he fathered several baby chimps, learned to draw with markers and picked up his two vices.

"The beer and cigarettes were ruining him. He would pester passers-by for booze," the Komsomolskaya Pravda paper said.

It added he has now been transferred to the city of Kazan, about 500 miles east of Moscow, for rehabilitation treatment.

Goat leads cops on 30-minute police chase
ODESSA, Texas — All over town ran a lone goat as Odessa police and animal control officers tried to catch the roaming animal. The report to police came in Saturday as a sheep on the loose. Officers then determined it was a goat loping through a Taco Bell parking lot, a park and the dorm area at the University of Texas-Permian Basin.

It took four police officers, two animal control officers and one off-duty police officer on motorcycle to corral the goat after about 30 minutes.

Animal control officers subdued the goat with a tranquilizer gun and took custody of it.

There was no immediate word on who owned the goat.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

An exhibit titled "All Art is Propaganda" will open at 8 a.m. today in Special Collections Room 102 of the Hesburgh Library.

A funeral mass for Dr. Gail Walton, director of music at the Basilica, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart will be held at 9:30 a.m. today.

"Markings by Koo Kyung Sook" will be on display in the Milly and Fritz Kaeser Mestrovic Studio Gallery of the Snite Museum of Art. The exhibit will open at 10 a.m. today.

Daily Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.





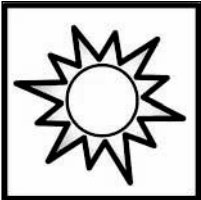

The Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences will host a seminar on "Small-scale Structures in Coastal Flows: Observations and Modeling" in Room 258 of Fitzpatrick Hall at noon today.

Children's storytime at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore will feature "My Heart is Like a Zoo" today at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

"Boundary-value Problems in the Theory of Lipid Membranes" will be discussed in Room 138 of DeBartolo Hall. The seminar will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Catholic Common Ground will hold discussion groups at 8 p.m. tonight on sexual orientation issues in Stapleton Lounge of Le Mans Hall at Saint Mary's College.

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	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 34 LOW 30	HIGH 28 LOW 23	HIGH 35 LOW 23	HIGH 37 LOW 24	HIGH 41 LOW 29	HIGH 40 LOW 32
	Atlanta 36 / 29 Boston 42 / 32 Chicago 34 / 27 Denver 51 / 34 Houston 59 / 37 Los Angeles 63 / 50 Minneapolis 37 / 18 New York 45 / 34 Philadelphia 45 / 32 Phoenix 76 / 54 Seattle 57 / 44 St. Louis 57 / 44 Tampa 67 / 47 Washington 47 / 37					

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

CLC debates du Lac changes

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

The Campus Life Council (CLC) debated recommendations for du Lac revisions Monday, specifically focusing on medical amnesty and clarification of language.

"We wanted this in written form for two reasons," student body president Grant Schmidt said. "One is to have this on record for future reference, and two, we wanted a response from [Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman] as to why or why not these recommendations would be adopted."

The Council passed four resolutions to be sent to Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) after considerable discussion.

The Council focused on the recommendation for a medical amnesty policy.

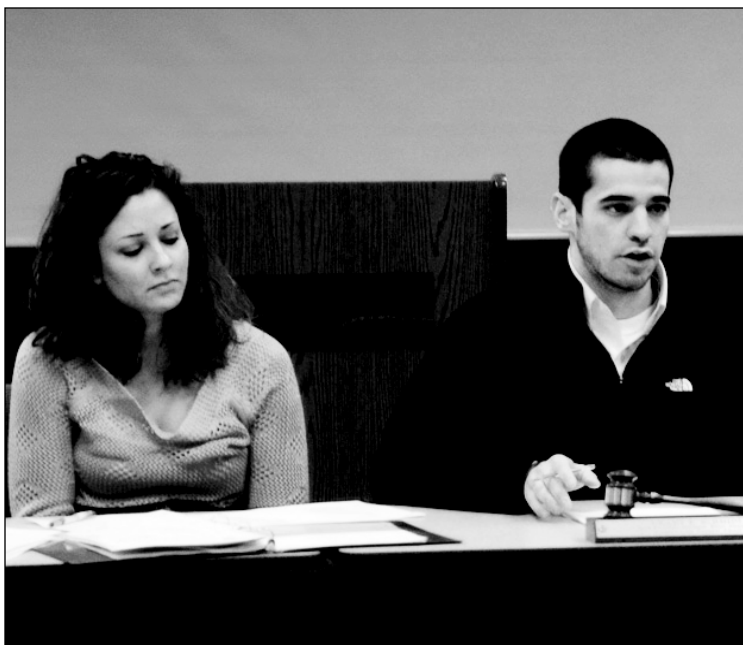
"We realize that we want this to be educative," chief of staff Ryan Brellenthin said. "We want it to change student behavior so they can actively seek out help for their friends."

Debate was raised over whether a rigid policy should be recommended, or if ORLH should present a more formal statement similar to an honor code.

"Having the guidelines there makes it easier to make a decision in a situation where student is already irrational," Student Senate representative Claire Sokas said. "You are not able to weigh the pros and cons unless you know what is going to happen."

Schmidt said Student Senate has already passed a resolution recommending the University adopt a formal medical amnesty policy.

Student representative John DeLacio said many freshmen specifically do not know or understand the University's position on medical amnesty, and a policy



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber lead a CLC meeting on Feb. 9.

supported by the ORLH would send a "strong message" on this subject.

This discussion was not resolved and remains on the table for future CLC meetings.

CLC members also recommended a serious consideration of the language used when ORLH discusses sanctions in du Lac. The Council will ask that the du Lac revisions include changing the word "shall" to the word "may" to clarify various texts.

"It seems like a small change," Schmidt said. "But it is important."

The recommendation states the change should be made to "broaden the options of the Office of Residence Life and Housing."

Changing the words would allow a more "case-by-case" judgment, Brellenthin said.

This recommendation was previously discussed when Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk said part of the du Lac revisions would clarify the language to match up with the actions

of ORLH.

CLC members also wanted to distinguish between the jurisdictions of Indiana state law and the laws of other nations and states where students may reside. They specifically suggested du Lac should clarify this distinction.

"The spirit of this recommendation is to clarify that students are not subject to Indiana state law at all times but to the law of the nation or state where they are residing," Brellenthin said.

The Council members also unanimously supported a recommendation for continuing service hours as a sanction, an issue that Kirk specifically asked CLC to consider.

Other recommendations for future meetings address first-time incidents of intoxication within a student's residence hall, discipline at lower administrative levels, undergraduate tailgating policy and the issue of drinking games in dorms.

Contact Megan Doyle at
mdoyle11@nd.edu

American Studies club awaits official status

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

Although Notre Dame's Department of American Studies has been in existence for nearly 40 years, the American Studies club is a recent addition to the University.

The club, still waiting for official recognition from the Student Activities Office (SAO), began the initial formation process last semester, according to Jason Ruiz, assistant professor of American Studies.

"The department hopes to help form a community among the American Studies majors," he said. "That is really our goal in sponsoring the club."

Ruiz said the students who founded the club were looking for a way to enrich the meaning of their major.

"The club will give members an opportunity to meet their fellow students, as well as professors, outside of the classroom and in a more relaxed setting," he said. "And if that isn't enough, we'll also be making t-shirts because, apparently, Notre Dame students love t-shirts."

Senior Cynthia Curley, one of the club's founders, said her primary motivation in starting the club was to get young majors involved in the American Studies community on both an academic and social level.

"Beyond bringing all the majors together, we wanted to bring American Studies to the rest of Notre Dame," she said. "We study the complexities of the American identity, or identities, and it's really challenging and enlightening."

Junior Amanda Johnson, acting vice president of the club, said once the club is officially established, the members hope to sponsor at least one event each month. Possible events include film

screenings, movie nights and field trips. According to Johnson, plans for a trip to the Chicago Art Institute are currently underway.

"We want to make sure people know what American Studies is and increase the presence of American Studies as a major on campus," she said.

Although the club currently consists of only American Studies majors, non-majors are certainly welcome, Johnson said.

"Hopefully we'll be granted the status of an official student organization by April, and then things can really get started," she said.

The club's first trivia night, hosted by the Department of American Studies, will take place March 18 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Alexander's Grill in South Bend.

Students interested in joining the American Studies club should contact Ruiz.

Contact Emily Schrank at
eshrank@nd.edu

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Student government jobs open



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Student Senate meets on Sept. 24. Student body president-elect Catherine Soler and vice president-elect Andrew Bell are seeking candidates for various student government positions.

By **CARLY LANDON**
News Writer

Each year, a new student government regime comes to office, bringing a fresh crop of students with them in order to put their agenda into effect.

Student body president-elect Catherine Soler and vice president-elect Andrew Bell, whose terms begin on April 1, are now looking for students to fill positions in Student Senate, different committees and other student government positions.

Soler and Bell said they are looking for hard-working students to fill these spots.

"To be a chair [of a student government committee], you have to be here all [year] so you can't be studying abroad, but there are lots of positions available to anyone studying abroad," Soler said. "We really want to encourage anyone who wants to apply. We are looking for people who are passionate, hard-working, genuinely motivated and interesting."

Bell said dedication is an important part of the job.

"When I think of who we are looking for, I am reminded of this story: One of the committee chairs this past year was thanked by Grant for her work, and she said, 'You don't have to thank me. I'm doing it because I care.' I really want people like that," Bell said.

Soler and Bell also emphasized passion as integral to the functions of student government.

"We want people who are passionate about their positions, passionate about Notre Dame and passionate about making a difference," Bell said.

Soler and Bell also want to reshape student government to make it more about the students.

"We don't want résumé builders or people who like the titles. Those are legitimate things because we are Notre Dame, but we want people who care about improving student life, social concerns or all the other community topics," Bell said.

"Andrew and I are really in it for the students, not the power," Soler said. "We want to make a difference, so students with a good attitude who will really put their heart into it are the best candidates for these positions. We need people who want to improve student life just like we do."

Soler and Bell said they want to reach out to a wider pool of possible applicants by breaking out of the mold of simply choosing former student government members. In order to hire students with new perspectives, they said they are looking for a wide range of applicants.

"We want people with past

experience but no amount of experience can compensate for a deep passion for what they are working with," Bell said.

Soler is currently president of the sophomore class and Bell is a Knott Hall senator.

Soler said positions on the University Affairs, Residence Life and Community Relations committees are generally popular.

"I think that we are going to be careful in picking each of the positions, but there are a few that personally stick out to me," Bell said.

Bell said the Social Concerns Committee chair and University Affairs Committee positions are important positions.

"Catherine and I really want to focus on the [Social Concerns Committee] this year," Bell said. "Our vision is about making student government not only about improving student life through offering conveniences or providing opportunities ... but also by realizing that we can make a huge difference in the world."

Applications for the various student government positions are available at the student government office in LaFortune Student Center or online at studentgovernment.nd.edu.

Contact Carly Landon at clandon1@nd.edu

Ally Week reaches out to LGBTQ community

By **ALICIA SMITH**
News Writer

In order to understand what it means to support members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) community, Saint Mary's College is hosting Ally Week, Laurel Javors, vice president of the Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA), said.

"[Ally Week] is a week to honor the brave allies supporting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning community," Javors said.

The week will also provide an opportunity for others to come out as an ally and friend of the LGBTQ community, Javors said.

Ally Week began Monday and offered free t-shirts and rainbow ribbons. A booth was set up in the Student Center Atrium during lunch and dinner and offered information about what it means to be an ally.

"We hope that more students will realize that being an ally does not mean a person is gay. It only means that that person support human rights for every human," Javors said. "We also hope to combat some of the homophobia on campus, [for example] tearing down signs advertising our events, using the word gay as a synonym for dumb or speaking poorly of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters."

Events will continue throughout the week, Javors said. A discussion will be held Tuesday titled "Catholic Theological Union: Common Ground Dialogue on Homosexuality" in Stapleton Lounge at 8 p.m.

During the dialogue, students, faculty and staff are invited to hear a variety of perspectives about homosexuality from members of the Saint Mary's community.

The film "Prayers for Bobby" will be shown Wednesday. The movie will take place in Vander Vennet at 6 p.m.

"[The film] is a Lifetime movie based on the true story of a teenage boy who commits suicide after feeling rejection

from the religious messages instilled in him by his community and his mother," Javors said.

"In Good Conscience," a movie about Sr. Jean Gramick, a Catholic sister who is working to gain acceptance and support for the LGBTQ community within the Catholic Church, will be presented at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Vander Vennet.

The week will conclude with rainbow ribbons, information and any extra t-shirts put on display in the Cushwa-Leighton Library.

The week is sponsored by SAGA, the Justice Education department, the Center for Spirituality, the Office of Civic and Social Engagement, the Social Work Club and the Africa Faith and Justice Network.

Javors said SAGA has worked hard to insure Saint Mary's College remains a safe place for LGBTQ persons and allies.

"It is a place where all are welcome to be themselves and not have to pretend to be something other else in order to appease the status quo," Javors said. "Just as Christ welcomed those on the fringes of Palestinian society, so do we as members of the Straight and Gay Alliance."

Javors said SAGA has been on campus for several years. The group has hosted a variety of events to provide support and love for the LGBTQ community.

"I want to ensure that our heterosexual allies know how much they are needed in the lives of LGBTQ persons. Without them, it would be even harder than it already is for LGBTQ persons to come out," Javors said. "Our allies provide us with hope, support and love when others in society reject us. This is an opportunity for more students to become allies by learning how simple it is to be an ally. The only two requirements are tolerance and love."

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@stmarys.edu

Novel

continued from page 1

America. Warrington forces his children to come together and talk to one another in order to locate April and him.

"The book is about a man trying to bring the family together before it's too late," King said.

The novel took King about a year and a half to write. He began writing the novel in a masters program he had entered after nearly 30 years of being away from school.

"I found out about [the contest] on an agent's blog and decided to investigate it and

found out I was a day or two from missing the deadline," King said. "I put together a pitch, description and manuscript and sent it in."

"Bill Warrington's Last Chance" was already complete when King spotted the contest. King had previously written two novels that were not published. Winning the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award was truly King's "first chance."

"I majored in American Studies. [Professor] Elizabeth Christman, who recently passed away, really encouraged me. She was confident that one day, I would have a novel published," King said.

King is currently a free-

lance corporate writer but hopes his breakthrough novel will lead him into a career of fiction writing.

"I've already started on another novel, and I'm hoping this is beginning of a different kind of writing career," he said.

King tells aspiring writers getting published may take awhile, but the key to success is just to keep trying.

"It helps to be a stubborn Irishman — which I am. It may take you awhile but keep writing, keep submitting, and don't give up on the dream."

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

Chesley

continued from page 1

said.

Smith said this would include members of SGA attending meetings of other clubs when possible as well as holding events that bring together club leaders to create a dialogue among them.

They also have goals to connect alumnae back to the campus community.

"We want to stress alumnae networking," Chesley said. "This College is built on the foundation of tradition, and one of the things that attracted me to this college is the alumnae base."

Chesley and Smith said their mission can be stated in two words: "Community" and "integrity."

Both Chesley and Smith have studied abroad and hope to bring those experiences to campus as well.

"Everybody is involved in some way, and we want to encourage students to be the

face of Saint Mary's," Chesley said. "We want them to be this face of Saint Mary's whether they are here on campus or off campus and even after they graduate."

Smith said she was happy to see student involvement on campus during the elections.

"I feel so grateful to have all the support that we did this past week. The student body really responded well to our efforts, and it really feels worthwhile to know that we were able to at least see some excitement on campus because of it," Smith said.

Chesley said she looks forward to taking on the role of student body president.

"I am excited for the opportunity to be a visible and involved voice for the students," Chesley said. "This opportunity will be a challenging and rewarding one, and it will surely be an opportunity to provide a fresh perspective and to be an enthused and involved leader for the student body."

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

Please recycle The Observer.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mexican police arrest sex trafficker

MEXICO CITY — Federal police in central Mexico have captured a man wanted by the FBI for allegedly trafficking women and minors for prostitution in the United States.

The Attorney General's Office says police acting on an anonymous tip captured Mexican suspect Gerardo Salazar on a highway in the central state of Tlaxcala.

The office says Salazar is being held for attempted bribery and possible extradition to face the U.S. charges. It said in a statement Monday that when police stopped Salazar, he offered them a house and a car to let him go.

The FBI alleges Gerardo Salazar used beatings, threats and deception to force Mexican women and girls to work as prostitutes in the Houston, Texas, area in 2004 and 2005.

African sports journalists kidnapped

LAGOS, Nigeria — Gunmen kidnapped three sports journalists Monday working for an African satellite channel in the oil-rich and restive Niger Delta, a region that has seen a lull in violence because of a government amnesty program, a colleague said.

The SuperSport journalists, including two Nigerians and one South African, were near Warri on their way to an airport when they were attacked by unknown assailants, SuperSport journalist and announcer Charles Anazodo told The Associated Press. Anazodo said the South Africa-based sports network, distributed by satellite throughout the continent, had yet to receive a ransom demand.

NATIONAL NEWS

Base fails nuclear inspections

HELENA, Mont. — Two Air Force units responsible for the nuclear missiles warehoused in Montana failed inspections last month, military officials said Monday.

There is no threat to the public and the units at Malmstrom Air Force Base near Great Falls are still performing their missions while correcting the problems, according to Global Strike Command and Air Force Materiel Command, which oversee the units.

The 341st Missile Wing and 16th Munitions Squadron received "unsatisfactory" ratings in February from Air Force inspector general teams evaluating the units' ability to carry out their missions. Neither Global Strike Command, which oversees the 341st Missile Wing, nor Air Force Materiel Command, which oversees the 16th Munitions Squadron, would detail the problems found in the nuclear surety inspections, citing security reasons.

Cal students protest fee hikes

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — University of California students from around the state have traveled to the state capital to protest steep fee hikes and cuts to higher education funding.

More than 150 students gathered Monday outside the Capitol in Sacramento, waving signs and urging lawmakers to take action against rising fees.

The demonstration comes three days before a planned "National Day of Action for Public Education." Students from the UC, California State University and community college systems will hold rallies, marches, teach-ins and class walkouts throughout the state on Thursday.

Similar protests are planned around the country.

LOCAL NEWS

State Senate passes microbrew bill

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Senate has given final legislative approval to a bill allowing Indiana's microbreweries to sell beer for carryout on Sundays.

The Senate voted 28-17 Monday to endorse House changes to the bill. The measure now heads to the desk of Gov. Mitch Daniels for his consideration.

The bill would limit the amount of beer a microbrewery can sell to about two cases per transaction. Indiana's 32 microbreweries have limits on how much beer they can make each year.

The bill also repeals a law that prohibits alcohol sales during voting hours on election days.

Chicagoans fight against gun ban

Average citizens take 28-year-old restriction all the way to U.S. Supreme Court

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A couple worries that burglars who tried to break in when the wife was home alone will return. A retiree fears the drug dealers and junkies just outside his window will attempt — again — to steal what he spent a lifetime earning. And a businessman wants to protect himself as he could when he was a police officer.

Together, they are the face of the most serious challenge yet to Chicago's 28-year-old handgun ban.

On Tuesday, the four will take their seats inside the U.S. Supreme Court as their attorneys argue a lawsuit that bears their names: David and Colleen Lawson, Otis McDonald and Adam Orlov.

The four plaintiffs are not stereotypical gun rights advocates. They don't represent the agenda of any national group or organize rallies. Instead they represent average Chicagoans — the kind of people that opponents of the city's ban say should be allowed to protect themselves from gun violence.

"Some people want to stereotype advocates in any case, to make them look like a bunch of crazies," said Alan Gura, a Virginia attorney who will argue the case. "But these are plaintiffs who reflect the city in which they live."

Chicago's ban on the sale and possession of handguns has been weathering legal challenges for years. But it gained newfound attention after the Supreme Court in 2008 struck down a similar handgun ban in the District of Columbia. The court now plans to decide whether the ruling on D.C., a city with unique federal status, should apply to local and state laws, too.

The lead plaintiffs in the Chicago suit decided to fight the city's gun ban for different reasons.

For the Lawsons, it stemmed from a scare in 2006, when Colleen Lawson



AP

Otis McDonald glances out the window in his south-side home. McDonald is one of four plaintiffs in the Chicago gun ban lawsuit going before the Supreme Court this week.

was home alone with the flu and three men tried to jimmy open her back door. They ran off when they saw her through a window.

"That's how close they were to getting in," said Lawson, 51.

The Lawsons believe a handgun would allow them to protect their family and give them the kind of peace of mind Colleen Lawson had as a child, when she knew her grandmother kept a pistol in her apron.

"I knew without any doubt my grandmother would be able protect us," she said. "I can't say that to my children."

Seventy-six-year-old McDonald knows the feeling.

He came to Chicago from Louisiana when he was 17, as part of the Great

Migration of blacks. He worked his way up from a janitor to a maintenance engineer, a good job that allowed him and his wife to buy a house on the city's far South Side in 1972, where they raised their family.

In recent years, McDonald, now a grandfather, has watched the neighborhood deteriorate, the quiet nights he once enjoyed replaced by the sound of gunfire, drunken fights and shattering liquor bottles.

Three times, he says, his house has been broken into — once the front door was wide open and the burglars still out front when his wife and daughter came home from church. A few years ago, he called police to report gunfire, only to be confronted by a man who told him he'd

heard about that call and threatened to kill him.

"I just got the feeling that I'm on my own," said McDonald. "The fact is that so many people my age have worked hard all their life, getting a nice place for themselves to live in ... and having one (handgun) would make us feel a lot more comfortable."

Orlov didn't grow up with guns and doesn't hunt. But his four years as a police officer only underscored his belief that people hurt by the city's handgun ban are those obeying it.

"The law only prohibits the actions of those who are law-abiding," said Orlov, 40. "The more law-abiding the more likely you are to be vulnerable to the activities of criminals."

CHILE

Rescue efforts continue, death toll rises

Associated Press

CONCEPCION — Rescuers found signs of life in the wreckage of a 15-story building Monday as the world offered aid to victims of an earthquake that killed more than 700 people. Looters roamed the streets even after troops and police arrested dozens of people for violating a curfew.

The toll of dead rose to 723, with 19 others missing, the National Emergency Office announced, in a magnitude-8.8 quake that President Michelle Bachelet called "an emergency without parallel in Chile's history."

Some coastal towns were almost obliterated — first shaken by the quake, then slammed by a tsunami that carried whole houses inland and crushed others into piles of sticks. Shocked survivors were left without power, water or food.

In Concepcion, the biggest city near the epicenter, rescuers heard the knock of trapped victims inside a toppled 70-unit apartment building and began to drill through thick walls to reach them, said fire department Commander Juan Carlos Subercaseux.

Only the chop of military helicopters flying overhead broke the silence demanded by rescuers straining to

hear signs of life inside the building.

Firefighters had already pulled 25 survivors and nine bodies from the structure.

Mayor Jacqueline van Rysselberghe told Radio Cooperativa that some food aid was arriving in the city of 200,000 Monday for distribution to the hungry.

Electricity was still out, however, water was scarce and looters re-emerged at dusk despite beefed up security. Dozens of people sacked stores selling food, clothing and drugs, fleeing when police appeared to drive them away. Some struck gas stations, stealing cash from attendants.

Econ

continued from page 1

Department of Economics and Policy Studies.

“We envision [the minor] as part of the Center for Social Concerns,” McGreevy said.

Faculty Senate passed a resolution calling for ECOP faculty to be allowed to return to the reestablished Department of Economics.

The resolution protested the “removal of a faculty member from a continuing department without his or her consent.”

Because current ECOP faculty members were tenured in the pre-2003 Department of Economics, Faculty Senate claims these faculty members “have been involuntarily excluded from the Department of Economics,” according to the resolution.

Faculty Senate was concerned about the “treatment of the faculty in this particular case,” Seth Brown, chair of Faculty

Senate’s Administrative Affairs Committee, said.

Concerns about Academic Freedom

Economics and Policy Studies faculty members protested the plan to eliminate the department in a letter released last month. The letter expresses the unanimous opinion of the ECOP faculty, department chair Jennifer Warlick said.

Dissolving the department would “undermine the strong and vibrant conversation about economics that currently exists within our University,” the letter said.

“[The Academic Council’s action] represents a dangerous precedent for academic freedom and university governance,” the letter said.

Dissolving the department inhibits ECOP faculty members’ ability to “participate in the education of our students, to conduct our research, and to engage in service activities,” the letter said.

The decision to dissolve the

department, however, was made in part to broaden the “economics conversation” at the University, McGreevy said.

“We’re not eliminating their ideas, and we hope they continue to make as big a contribution as they have made,” he said. “The faculty may be in different units, but I’ve always thought that’s less important than the broader conversation.”

McGreevy said the new Department of Economics will be “open to different ideas and methodologies,” as opposed to embracing only one approach to economics.

Faculty Senate did not argue “that there was some particular affront to academic freedom in this face,” Brown said.

The Senate’s concerns about academic freedom were part of its concerns about tenure.

“The purpose of tenure is to safeguard academic freedom,” Brown said.

Reducing the protections of tenure makes faculty members less willing to pursue unpopular or cutting-edge research,

according to Brown.

Student Involvement

Student Senate passed a resolution calling for the delay of the decision to dissolve the department last week.

“We opposed this on the grounds that student input hasn’t been included,” student body chief of staff Ryan Brellenthin said.

Student body president Grant Schmidt said he has gotten feedback from many students.

“We emphasized that students were frustrated with the process,” Schmidt said.

After the decision was made to dissolve the department, student government hopes to make the Department of Economics as academically viable as possible, Schmidt said.

“I have confidence the Economics Department will continue to be successful,” Schmidt said. “It’s important for us to continue to be a part of the conversation.

“We want to have a spot at the table when it comes to dis-

cussing major academic decisions.”

Brellethin said he hopes to work with McGreevy to “ensure that the aspects of the old department that were beneficial continue to exist,” he said.

“We want to make sure the decision doesn’t take anything away from the undergraduate education,” he said.

McGreevy cited the sensitive nature of closing a department as a limitation to how much he could dialogue with students before the decision was finalized, but he said he is open to student input.

“Students need to take charge of their education at Notre Dame,” he said.

McGreevy said he welcomes student involvement in economics now that ECOP has been dissolved.

“I am happy to think through with groups of students how we can best build an economics major at Notre Dame,” he said.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

SAB

continued from page 1

Courtney has been a member of SAB for two years. She has served as co-chair of the Entertainment Committee. She also helped bring poet Gabriela Garcia Medina to campus in the fall of 2009.

“I am passionate about helping students become engaged in the Saint Mary’s community,” Courtney said. “I want to create an environment where students are excited to come to, and have fun, at events. I think that students deserve great events, and want to be part of the team that plans these events for the students.”

Kline has also been involved with SAB for the past two years. She has served as co-chair of the Traditional Committee for one year. She also attended the National Association for Campus Activities National Convention (NACA Conference) in Nashville, Tenn., last year. This year she attended the National Conference in Boston.

“Ever since I began the Board

freshman year, I have loved every minute of it,” Kline said. “Last year at the NACA Conference in Nashville, I was able to really get involved in the behind-the-scenes work of planning campus activities. The Conference, both this year and last, reinforced my drive to bring the very best events to campus and put my acquired knowledge to good use.”

Courtney and Kline plan to utilize student feedback in order to gain insight as to what is wanted on campus.

“We both feel student surveys are necessary and helpful to bring and plan successful acts around campus,” Kline said.

Student Diversity Board

With new ideas to expand the Student Diversity Board, junior Morgan Gay and sophomore Kelly Reidenbach are ready to take office as the new president and vice president.

They were the only ticket to run during the Feb. 26 election.

Gay has been a member of SDB for two years. She has worked as chair for the SDB Bonfire Committee. She has also served as a member of the Committee for Diversity Desserts and has

been the College Track committee member of the Diverse Student Leadership Conference (DSLCL). As College Track committee member, Gay has been responsible for recruiting students from other universities and colleges to attend DSLCL, which will be held from March 17-19 at the College.

“When I came to college, I heard about the Student Diversity Board and I think it’s really important to promote diversity,” Gay said. “It all starts with treating people with respect. With the events that SDB holds, just learning about other cultures and understanding them and their point of view, I think [we] can make a difference.”

Reidenbach has been a member of SDB for one year. She has acted as the DSLCL Sodexo Chair.

She has also been on the SDB Bonfire Committee and the Committee for the Hunger Banquet as well.

Gay and Reidenbach said they are planning on having many of the same events that have been held in the past, but hope to expand them.

“We just want to try and expand, get more people in the Saint Mary’s community, as well as the Notre Dame and Holy Cross Community involved in what we do,” Reidenbach said.

Gay added that they hope to get the word out and generate more interest and involvement.

“I think we have really good events,” Gay said. “I really like what we do with them but I’d like to expand them and get more people to come to them because I really think that’s what we’re

here for.”

Residence Hall Association

Juniors Marianne Jones and Jessica Robbins will take over as Residence Hall Association president and vice president on April 1. They were the only ticket to run for the office.

Jones will take her place on the SGA board, replacing the current president, Cristen Dalessandro.


RHA currently oversees activities within the four residence halls on campus as well as the senior living apartment, Opus Hall. Most recently, they held a formal on Feb. 27.

Ashley Charnley contributed to this report.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Have an idea for a news story?

E-mail Sarah at smervosh@nd.edu



Coffee at the CoMo

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Questioning Students of Notre Dame

Tuesday, March 2
7:00pm-9:00pm
316 Coleman Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal gathering at the Coleman Morse.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,403.79	+78.53	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
2,969	115	846	127,371,829

AMEX	1,868.93	+23022
NASDAQ	2,273.57	+35.31
NYSE	7,100.75	+65.71
S&P 500	1,115.71	+11.22
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,201.39	+29.74
FTSE 100 (London)	5,405.94	+51.42

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
Sirius XM Radio Inc. (SIRI)	-12.79	-0.13	0.89
BANK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+0.30	+0.05	16.71
CITIGROUP INC. (C)	-0.29	-0.01	3.39
STANDARD & POOR'S (SPY)	+1.04	+1.15	111.89

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+4.35	+0.05	0.12
13-WEEK BILL	+0.31	+0.11	3.61
30-YEAR BOND	+0.62	+0.28	4.56
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.04	-0.01	2.28

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.08		78.78
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-0.06	1,118.30	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+2.90		94.20

Exchange Rates			
YEN			89.2450
EURO			1.3534
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0435
BRITISH POUND			1.4942

IN BRIEF

Google acquires Picnik photo editing

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — Google Inc. is adding online photo editing service Picnik to its basket of recent acquisitions. Financial terms of the deal announced Monday weren't disclosed.

The Internet search leader said it doesn't plan immediate changes at Picnik, which employs 20 people in Seattle.

Picnik's software is used for editing images on Google's photo sharing service, Picasa, and at other Web sites, including Facebook and Yahoo Inc.'s Flickr.

The deal brings Jonathan Sposato, Picnik's CEO, back to Google for a second tour of duty.

In early 2005, Sposato sold another startup called PhatBits to Google, where he remained for nearly a year before Picnik lured him away.

Picnik is the eighth small technology company Google bought in seven months. The shopping spree reflects Google managers are renewing their optimism after limiting their spending in 2009.

Google also wants to buy AdMob, a mobile advertising service, for \$750 million, but that deal is still being reviewed by antitrust regulators.

Company pushes to mine Montana coal

BILLINGS, Mont. — The push to mine Montana coal continued to pick up steam Monday, as a company with Texas roots said it was pursuing mines northeast of Billings that could tap into an estimated 1.2 billion ton underground seam of the low-cost fuel.

The proposal is the latest in a string of coal mine openings and announcements for Montana, which has more coal than any other state — but relatively few mines.

Nick Shakesby, chief operating officer at Maple Carpenter Creek, said Monday that a new mine could be running by 2014, at a site the company controls about 50 miles northeast of Billings.

"We're not interested in sitting on it. We're interested in developing it and putting in a mine," he added. "We're marketing it offshore — Asia and India."

The Billings-based company is owned by Jack Hanks of Dallas, founder and former chairman of Maple Energy. It has a permit application pending before state regulators to dig a 300,000 ton test pit near rural Melstone.

UNITED KINGDOM

Global holdings see strong rise

European countries seek rescue deal for Greece; Japan's stocks make sharp recovery

Associated Press

LONDON — World stock markets rose strongly Monday amid mounting hopes that European countries will announce some rescue deal for Greece and the release of a raft of fairly upbeat manufacturing surveys.

In Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed up 51.42 points, or 1 percent, at 5,405.95 while Germany's DAX rose 115.05 points, or 2.1 percent, to 5,713.51. The CAC-40 in France was 60.74 points, or 1.6 percent, higher at 3,769.54.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 71.20 points, or 0.75 percent, at 10,396.46 around midday New York time while the broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 9.05 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,113.54.

Reports of a plan to prevent a Greek default came as the EU's Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn met in Athens with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou and insisted that Greece take additional austerity measures.

"I want to encourage the Greek authorities to consider and announce additional measures in the coming days" to meet deficit targets for 2010, Rehn said.

The meeting took place amid reports the German and French governments are preparing to support a bailout package involving state-owned banks buying Greek government bonds. Greece has to roll over a large amount of its debts in the next couple of months and is expected to start shortly with a 10-year bond issue, worth as much as euro5 billion (\$6.8 billion).

"Any aid will likely come with demands for more action to reduce Greece's yawning budget deficit, which will fuel further weakness in economic



AP

A passer-by looks at a stock price indicator flashing the day's gain at the Tokyo Stock Exchange. In Japan, the Nikkei 225 stock average is up about 56 points to 10,229.

activity," said Mitul Kotecha, an analyst at Credit Agricole.

Kotecha thinks the market reception to the expected Greek bond issue will be broadly positive given the EU assurances already in place. That certainly appears to be the view in the bond markets, where the spread between Greek and German 10-year yields continues to narrow.

Positive sentiment in markets was boosted by positive manufacturing surveys around the world. Following recent signs that the global economic recovery was stalling, the surveys for the eurozone, Britain and the U.S. helped soothe investors' concerns for the time being.

In the wake of upbeat surveys from the eurozone and Britain, investors were cheered to see that the ISM survey's employment index improved. That's important as investors position themselves for Friday's U.S. nonfarm payrolls report for February — the U.S. jobs report often sets the market tone for a while after its release.

"After a couple of shaky weeks of economic data, this has helped to calm investors' nerves somewhat," said Tim Hughes, head of sales trading at IG Index.

Earlier in Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index advanced 46.03 points, or 0.5 percent, to 10,172.06, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng

benchmark jumped 448.23 points, or 2.2 percent, to 21,056.93.

Shanghai's market was up 35.09, or 1.2 percent, at 3,087.84, while Singapore rose 0.9 percent and Taiwan climbed 1.9 percent.

Markets in South Korea, India and Thailand were closed.

Oil prices advanced alongside the rally in stocks, with benchmark crude for April delivery up 16 cents to \$79.82.

Despite an early relief rally associated with the prospective bailout of Greece, the euro was soon on the retreat, trading 0.9 percent lower on the day at \$1.35. A fall below \$1.3444 would mark a new ten-month low.

Maine lobster value drops with economy

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Maine lobstermen had a record harvest in 2009, but the value of the catch continued to plunge amid the sour global economy.

Lobstermen caught 75.6 million pounds last year, up 8 percent from 2008, the Maine Department of Marine Resources announced Monday. But the value of the catch fell \$23 million, to \$221.7 million.

The catch numbers show the supply is in good shape and that lobstermen are fishing hard to make up for the lower prices they're receiving, said Marine Resources Commissioner George Lapointe.

The low value is a reflection of the poor economy worldwide and people cutting luxury items out of their budgets, he said. The value of last year's harvest is \$96 million less than its peak value in 2005.

That means lobstermen have less money to spend on new boats, pickup trucks, gear and other things in Maine's coastal communities.

"If there's \$20 million or \$100 million less they're spending in their local economies, that ripples through grocery stores and gas stations and things like that, just like the rest of the economy," Lapointe said.

Maine is the nation's lobster breadbasket, accounting for 80 percent of the U.S. catch of the so-called Maine

lobster.

Lobstermen have taken a huge hit since the economy melted down in 2008, sending lobster prices to levels not seen in decades.

Lobstermen last year got an average of \$2.93 a pound, roughly the same price they were getting in 1998. They averaged \$3.50 a pound in 2008 and \$4.39 a pound in 2007.

Lobstermen were pleased with last year's catch, but the low prices — coupled with the higher costs of diesel and bait and new rope required to reduce whale entanglements — have forced fishermen to rethink the way they do business, said Dwight Carver, who fishes out of Beals Island in eastern Maine.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Matt Gamber

MANAGING EDITOR

Bill Brink

BUSINESS MANAGER

Stacey Gill

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PHOTO EDITOR: Ian Gavlick

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ADVERTISING MANAGERS: Theresa Bea

Mary Clare Rodriguez

AD DESIGN MANAGER: Jaclyn Espinoza

CONTROLLER: Patrick Sala

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: Steve Lagree

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO

(574) 631-7471

FAX

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

(574) 631-4542 mgamber@nd.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 wbrink@nd.edu

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4324 asteiner@nd.edu

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 observersports@gmail.com

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 jshaffe1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S DESK

acharn01@saintmarys.edu

PHOTO DESK

(574) 631-8767 igavlick@nd.edu

SYSTEMS & WEB ADMINISTRATORS

(574) 631-8839

THE
OBSERVER ONLINE
www.ndsmcobserver.com

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

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Spread the word to end the word

Tomorrow, a human rights movement will sweep our country. Thousands of college students on hundreds of campuses, joined by students of all ages, are trying to jog the consciousness of a nation. They are sensitizing Americans to a subtle but pernicious prejudice reflected in our language — in the common use of the slur “retard.” Every one of us can join their effort. It's as simple as changing the way we speak.

But are we fighting something that even exists? We say yes.

Recently, one of the authors was shopping with his 14-year-old sister, Olivia Palumbo. With a slew of children's books under her arm, Olivia bounded down an aisle, her brother in tow. As she pointed at something that caught her interest, her laugh nearly drowned out a taunting voice from behind: “Who let the retard in? Look guys, I can run like the retard!” The boy and his posse ran by, pointing. Olivia's intellectual disability had attracted negative attention for years. She did not turn around. Nor did her brother.

This prejudice exists. And it is virulent.

Retard, like other slurs, does more than hurt feelings. These words crystallize discrimination and encapsulate marginalizing stereotypes. What slurs do against ethnic or other minorities, so does “retard” when used pejoratively against people with intellectual disabilities. Because of their effects, society has made these forms of hate speech reprehensible. So it should be

with “retard.” Olivia, her friends, her family and all those with intellectual disabilities deserve as much.

But the word often appears in a subtler and, ultimately, more dangerous form. We've all heard it before:

A sports fan disparages an official, “Ref, are you a retard!?” A comedian accuses a celebrity of being “retarded.” A politician refers to his colleagues as “f---ing retarded.”

In these examples, the word “retard(ed)” seems to mean something close to “stupid,” “incapable” or “undesirable.” And this seems like harmless fun. After all, if no one like Olivia is being made fun of, what's the problem? The problem is this. Because of past use of “mental retardation” as a diagnostic term, “retard(ed)” became inextricably tied to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. When the R-word is used, these people are invoked by this connection. When society warps “retard(ed)” to mean something close to “worthless”, or “undesirable,” this bleeds into the image of those with intellectual disabilities and they are associated with this negativity.

The bigotry is subtle but very real. Every pejorative use of the term “retard(ed)” reinforces this stereotype of undesirability. Olivia is neither incapable nor worthless. She is an incredible person with a wealth to contribute to the world.

Unfortunately, she lives in a society that, through its language, demonstrates and perpetuates its belief to the contrary. The words we use blind us to the abilities and worth of people with intellectual disabilities, ultimately robbing us of the invaluable contribution they offer. Is this not enough

for us to reconsider our language?

Tomorrow, on March 3, thousands of students are rallying their peers to challenge their language and pledge to end their pejorative use of the R-word. Their intentions are not to ban a word or censor society but rather to awaken others to the harmful effects of this label.

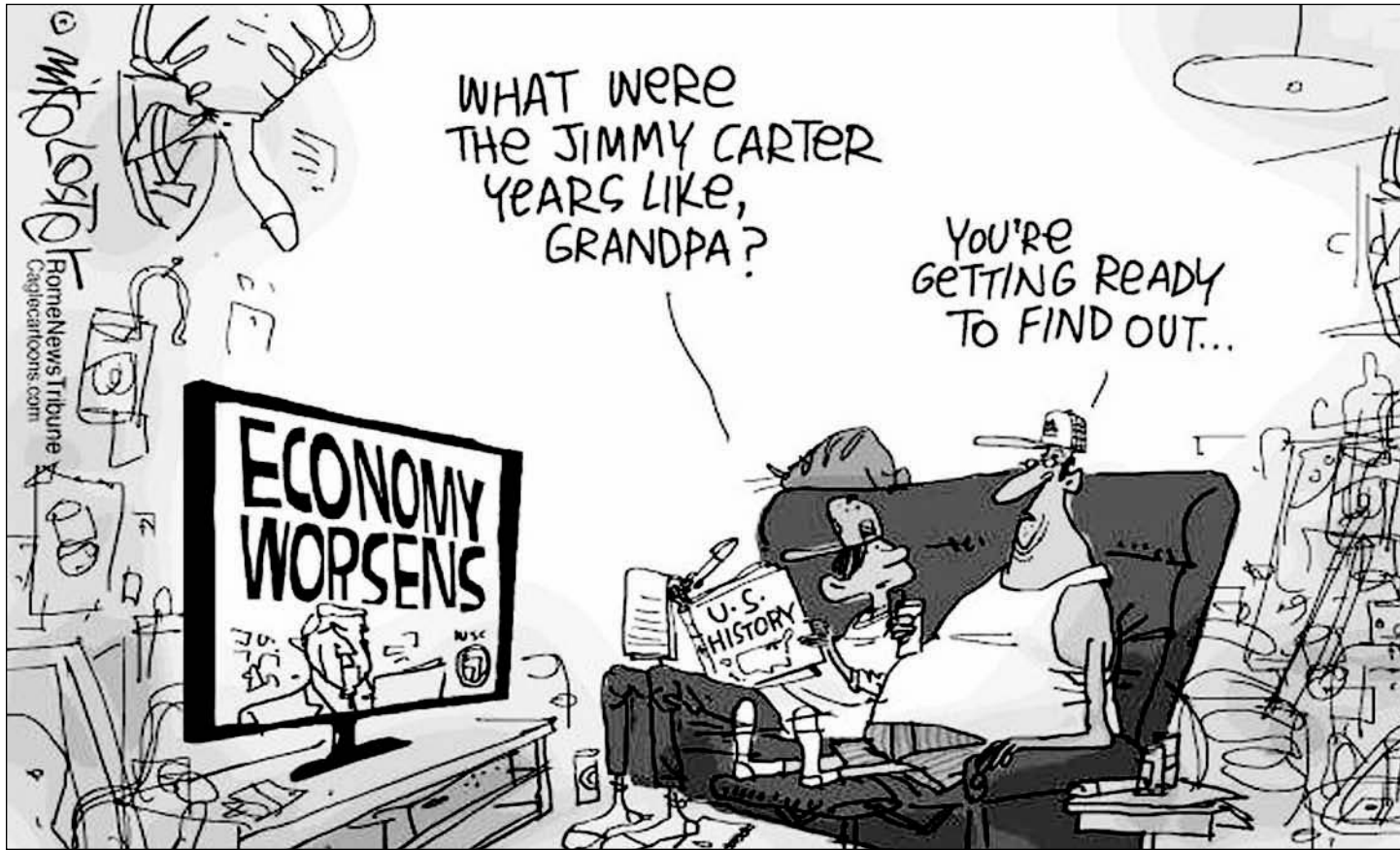
Yet we ask for more than a single day of activism and a pledge. As many critics have pointed out, language is dynamic; if “retard” fades away, new words will rise as replacements. For this reason, this movement calls for a change of not only our language but also our actions and attitudes. We must go beyond words and embrace those oft-ignored members of society whose talents and personalities go forgotten and neglected. Volunteer for Special Olympics or Best Buddies, support legislation that promotes access to healthcare and education and encourage employers to hire people with intellectual disabilities.

By recognizing these people as valuable citizens, we chip away at the wall of intolerance and exclusion that has too long plagued our society. The first step is to change society's language. Today and tomorrow, we challenge you to change yours. Give two minutes tomorrow and sign your pledge on the banners in Lafortune and the dining halls.

Change the conversation. Spread the word to end the R-word.

Soeren Palumbo, Notre Dame Class of 2011, and Tim Shriver, Yale Class of 2011, are co-founders of the Spread the Word to End the Word campaign. The views expressed in this column are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

Albus Dumbledore
Hogwarts Headmaster

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I intend to live forever. So far, so good."

Stephen Wright
American actor and writer

Undergraduate research integral to Notre Dame

In response to Justin DeRosa's letter in Viewpoint ("An argument against research," Feb. 24), Mr. DeRosa is mistaken in saying that Fr. Jenkins "in his inaugural address, asserted that he is simply committed to 'maintaining' [Notre Dame's] traditional excellence in undergraduate teaching." This statement is nowhere in Fr. Jenkins' address (see http://inauguration.nd.edu/ceremonies/inaugural_address.shtml), and the suggestion that Fr. Jenkins and the University are merely settling for a status quo in teaching is also unfounded. Instead, Fr. Jenkins was visionary in tying undergraduate research to his goal of constantly improving undergraduate education across the board. Undergraduate research is education, and research is service. As such, undergraduate research embodies the best of what Notre Dame has to offer.

DeRosa's letter shows that there are misunderstandings about research and the University's promotion of it among undergraduates. At our new Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (CUSE) — which is one symbol of the University's commitment to academic

excellence — we try to dispel myths about research and intellectual pursuits overall. First, research is not diametrically opposed to teaching and learning, as some may think. In fact, research is the cutting edge of undergraduate education. Top universities around the nation and the world recognize this, and Notre Dame strives to be a leader in undergraduate research. Students flourish when they challenge themselves and venture into the unknown, investigating ideas and beliefs about themselves and others, cultures, the world ... whether through science, engineering, the humanities and arts, architecture or the social sciences and business.

Second, research is a far broader enterprise than many believe. Undergraduate research involves not just laboratory experiments, but also critical analysis of texts and artifacts, ethnographies, oral histories, creative endeavors, studies of the theory and form that underlie creative works and so on. For many students across the University, research is an integral part of learning, one that takes students beyond the classroom. Through the research experience, students take full ownership of their education — pursuing their own questions, working independently many times, collaborating one-on-one with faculty members and becoming creators

of knowledge.

Why do research? A few practical reasons include discernment about majors and post-graduate opportunities and the honing of technical and communication skills. The real reasons, though, have to do with authentic learning and discovery. Through research, undergraduates not only discover knowledge and truths about the world, but also discover something about themselves — who they are, what they believe, what they might be capable of. Research requires a bit of risk-taking, venturing into unfamiliar physical spaces and intellectual territories. It can be a personal as well as an academic challenge, and we invite students to embark on that venture.

Another reason to participate in research is that Notre Dame is a research institution, with a treasure trove of faculty, graduate students, laboratories, libraries, archives and access to additional resources all over the world. Notre Dame is a relatively small institution compared to many research universities, but that means there are even more opportunities for undergraduate research. Students here can more easily get to know faculty and graduate students well, especially when collaborating on research projects. At CUSE, we are here to help undergraduates take full advantage of what Notre Dame has to

offer.

Perhaps the best reason to conduct research is that it is a form of service. In his inaugural address, Fr. Jenkins quoted Pope John Paul II, who stated that our proper activity as members of a Catholic university is "Learning to think rigorously, so as to act rightly and to serve humanity better." Notre Dame students are talented intellectually; to not use the gift of one's mind would be to waste that gift. Put another way, participating in research, scholarship and creative endeavors serves the greater good. It is no accident that our new center is located in Geddes Hall, home to the Center for Social Concerns and the Institute for Church Life. At CUSE, we promote intellectual pursuits enthusiastically because we know that undergraduates have much to contribute to our understanding of the world, to improving the quality of life and to addressing some of the important, exigent challenges that we face today.

Dan Lindley is the Director of the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement and Cecilia Lucero is the Assistant Director for Undergraduate Research.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The hurtfulness of one word

Someone once told me he loves people who have developmental disabilities because they remind him "just how neat God really is." Unfortunately, most people do not share this man's point-of-view. People with developmental disabilities are one of the most ostracized groups in America. Seventy percent of people with developmental disabilities are unemployed, 60 percent of parents do not want developmentally disabled children to attend the same school as their children and over 90 percent of babies diagnosed with Down Syndrome are aborted. There is growing awareness about the value of people with developmental disabilities, but much of our country remains oblivious to the tangible benefits people with disabilities offer.

On March 3, 2010, Special Olympics will hold its second annual "Spread the Word to End the Word" day, which raises awareness about the offensive use of the word "retarded" in casual conversation.

The r-word is deeply offensive and demeaning to the special needs community, yet its use continues to be prevalent. This is because many people do not realize that the way the r-word is often used can bring a person with special needs to tears.

Ending the use of the r-word will not end the prejudice towards people with special needs, but it is a start. Our words are a reflection of our ideologies, and by changing our language, we can begin to influence our ideologies. The ultimate goal of "Spread the Word to End the Word" is not to stop the use of the r-word, but to make known the fact that people with developmental disabilities are truly blessed, and that they can contribute to society in a tangible way. So please, think about what you are saying next time you use the r-word, and remember who you are offending.

Nicholas Pellegrini
freshman
Knott Hall
March 2

In gratitude to Gail Walton

I was among those who were deeply saddened to receive word of the death of Dr. Gail Walton on Wednesday. I only know a small fraction of the students who had worked with Gail during her many years as director of music at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, but in the wake of her passing, all have expressed remarkable sentiments of gratitude. She was a trusted mentor, who helped instill lifelong passions for choral music. Some tell me they are indebted to her for their entire professional careers in Church music, and still others affirm that Gail played a key role in their decisions to enter the Catholic Church, by her example of faith and by her devotion to beauty and reverence in sacred music.

For my own part, I will be eternally grateful to Gail for providing me an opportunity to appreciate the grandeur and breadth of the Church's living liturgical tradition. When I first came to Notre Dame, I had never experienced time-honored hymnody, the use of the pipe organ, choral masterpieces or Gregorian chant at Mass before. She fostered a repertoire and culture of prayer that broadened my perspective and shaped my love for the Mass. I was also blessed to get to know Gail better in recent years. On a personal level, Gail

helped my wife, a Liturgical Choir alumna, and me to prepare our wedding music at the Basilica. And at a professional level, I found Gail always open to service of the Church, both within and beyond the campus of Notre Dame.

The last month has seen the University of Notre Dame suffer the loss of two great figures in her Catholic heritage. First, the death of Dr. Ralph McNerny, and now the passing of Dr. Walton. The former devoted his prolific academic career to the integrity of the Catholic intellectual and literary tradition. Gail's influence came in subtle form, through her commitment to the evangelizing power of the Church's artistic treasury. In liturgical studies, we are taught that the manner in which we pray lays the foundation for what we believe. Gail Walton may not have realized during her earthly life how catechetical her work was, but I suspect it has helped many to encounter the Divine in a profound way.

May her legacy live on, and may she rest in peace amidst the communion of Saints and the choirs of Angels.

Brian MacMichael
class of 2004
MTS, class of 2006
March 2

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Love the earth.
Recycle The Observer.



I forgot my plaid shirt. And my can of beer. But I had my sway on and a friend by my side and that was all that was needed to enjoy the folksy musical trolling of the Avett Brothers Sunday night.

Adriana Pratt

Assistant Scene Editor

As the Murat Egyptian Room lights dimmed in Indianapolis and the opening act, The Low Anthem, took the stage, filling the atmosphere with hippie folk rock, a sense of serenity fell over the crowd preparing us for the magical night that was ahead. The opening band, a group of four from Rhode Island, brought their own flair to the stage and invited us into their trance of musical harmony, opening our ears to new sounds with innovative instruments. Their ending song changed pace and quickly shook us from our reverie, waking us up just in time for the two brothers, Scott and Seth Avett, their bassist Bob Crawford and their cellist Joe Kwon to take the stage.

Never have I seen a cellist like Joe Kwon. He was the most fascinating character to watch by far (even more so than the drunken college bros in front of me) and worked his bow with

such precision that he seemed as practiced as a doctor using his scalpel in surgery. His look was a total contradiction — a classy suit with shaggy hair and a Genghis Kahn-like mustache/beard combo. He rocked that cello though, forcefully and passionately, adding vigor to the mutt musical styling of the Avett Brothers.

The Avett Brothers, though their instruments include a banjo, cello, standing bass and acoustic guitar, don't quite fit the bluegrass genre, nor are they fully folk, punk or rock and roll. They're a mix of genres, a unique entity unto their own. This, combined with their simple yet surprisingly profound lyrics, makes them a fascinating band to listen to. Just when you think you can push them into one category and set aside their CDs for chill time, you hear a

song like "Distraction #74" that makes you want to link arms with a person nearby and spin around (which we did with those drunken bros in front of us).

The set list weaved between fast and slow numbers, highlighting each member of the band at one point or another. Scott and Seth took turns singing the lead vocals, allowing for one favorite moment in particular when Scott (or "Hottie Scottie" as my friend likes to call him) performed the cryptic song "St. Josephs," one I hadn't heard before. The melancholy soft strumming of Scott and his brother's guitar strings matched with the mysterious lyrics about a hospital stay were entrancing and bitter-sweet. "Murder in the City" was also

poignant and sweet, recalling memories of sibling rivalry, parental pride and a last will made of love for a family. The closing two lines, "Always remember, there's nothing worth sharing / Like the love that let us share our name," are as charming as a song can get, and struck a chord with the women lusting after the simple loving world of the Avett Brothers.

There's a reason these men were picked to open for Dave Matthews Band during a portion of their spring 2009 tour. They've got talent, sincerity and simple passion that reverberate with every pluck of their instrument strings. The only thing that left me blue was the fact that they didn't play my personal favorite Avett song, "I Would Be Sad." Regardless, I left the concert feeling refreshingly light and worry-free ... until I got back to campus and remembered it's Midterms Week. Oh well, it was nice while it lasted. Thanks for the break from reality Avett Brothers — to put me in such a serene mood, there really are no others.

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

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

Shamrock shake season has arrived

It's the most wonderful time of the year! No, not Lent. Shamrock Shake season, of course! Those wonderful green milkshakes are back at McDonald's in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. As a member of the Notre Dame Irish community, it's your responsibility to enjoy and support the Shamrock Shake at this magical time of the year.

Maija Gustin

Assistant Scene Editor

The Shamrock Shake was first introduced to the public in 1970, and was available in nearly all McDonald's until the early 1990s. Though widely considered the predecessor to all seasonal beverages, the Shamrock Shake has, since its reign in the '70s, '80s and early '90s, become something of a domestic rarity. However, it seems that McDonald's has recently come back to its senses. In the last few years, there has been a rise in the availability of Shamrock Shakes come late February

through St. Patrick's Day.

A Shamrock Shake is a hard thing to describe. While technically considered mint milkshakes, to the trained connoisseur, they are so much more. As a person who doesn't typically enjoy mint-flavored ice cream, it would be a disservice for me to label these delicacies as mere mint milkshakes. The light flavor is something of a delight to the taste buds regardless of proclivity to mint. There is some secret ingredient buried within that green milkshake-y goodness that adds a complex flavor to something that seems so simple. And they're green!

McDonald's has changed things up on us a little this year. It seems the mega-restaurant chain has decided to class up its products by serving all milkshakes in a clear plastic cup, much like those used for frozen coffee beverages, with

whipped cream and a cherry on top. While many will be horrified to see that their favorite wax-paper cups are no longer available, the beautiful light green color of the Shamrock Shake can now be shown off to all.

This year, I had my first Shamrock Shake of the season on Feb. 19. The McDonald's on Ironwood did right by me and had my favorite seasonal beverage waiting for me at my first free moment on Friday afternoon. What a way to start out a weekend.

It has come to my attention that many at Notre Dame are unfamiliar with the ways of the Shamrock Shake.

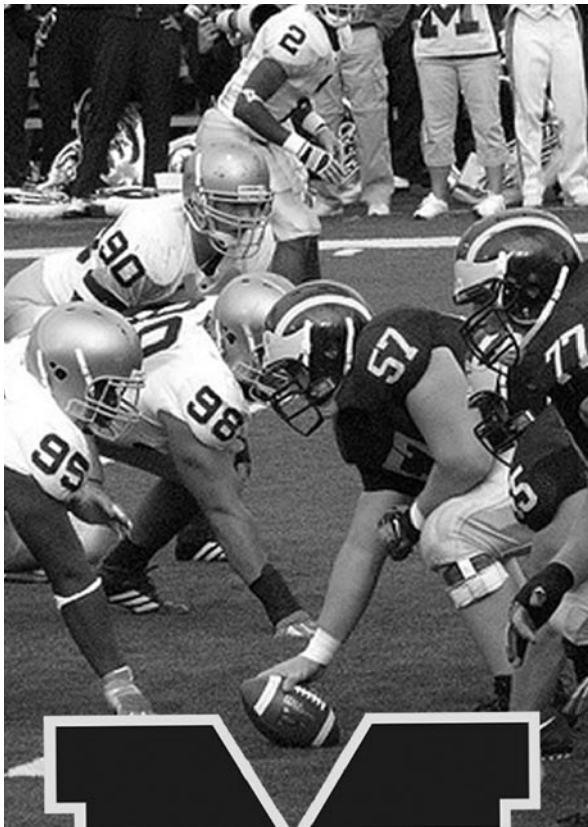
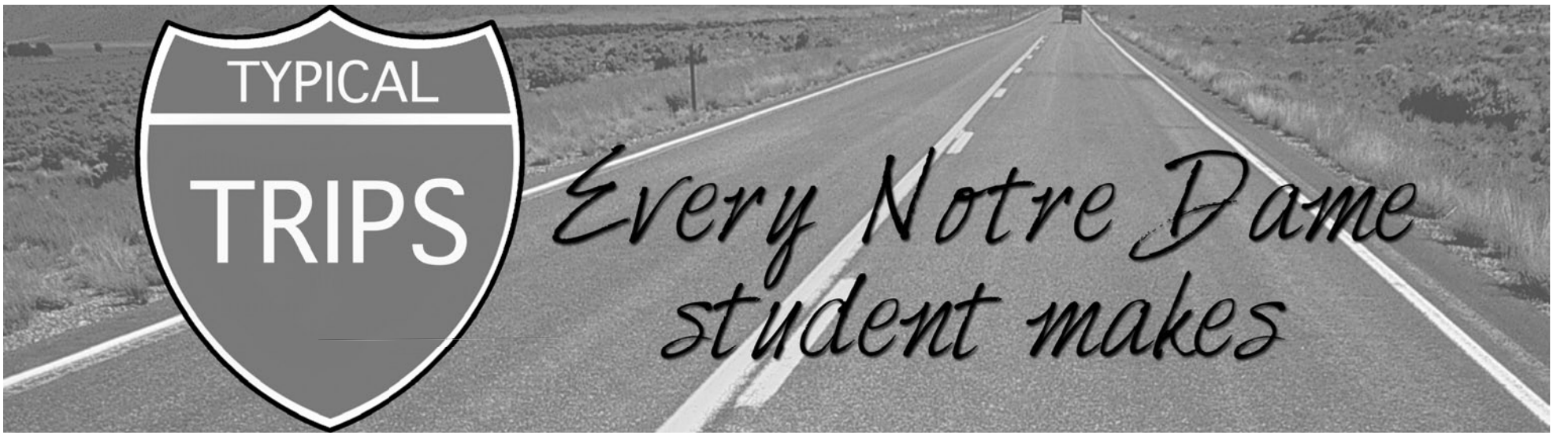
To this, I say for shame! Many will find it difficult to share the love for it that I have, but you owe it to yourself, and really to humanity as a whole, to at least try it. You might not like it, in which case I feel sorry for you, but at least you can say that you have tried the mighty Shamrock Shake. You will instantly garner the respect and admiration of those around you. And for those of you who have experienced the magic, I say there isn't a moment to lose! Head over to the nearest McDonald's and start March off right!

For further inspiration on the quest for the Shamrock Shake, just search "Shamrock Shake commercial" on YouTube, and prepare for your mouth to water and your eyes to pop at the kitschy '80s era commercials. The only thing left to say, really, is bon appétit!

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

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu





By TATIANA SPRAGINS
Scene Writer

Midterm week means sleepless nights and stressful studying, but thankfully Spring Break is coming along to bring a smile to everyone's distressed face. And with Spring Break, many of our Notre Dame students will be making their way either to some warm and exotic location, or just home to sleep and watch TV for many uninterrupted hours. Yes, we all know these midterm breaks always come in at exactly the right time, and the very much-anticipated Spring Break is only a few dreadfully long, exam-packed days away.

As of mid-February, plans were made, and the "So, what are you doing for Spring Break?" question is the newest go-to conversation starter. Fewer students seem to stay on campus for Spring Break as compared to Fall Break, and travel plans have been in full swing for weeks now. Taking this into account, and thinking of other breaks and typical Notre Dame student traveling habits, I have assembled a list of trips that every Domer makes throughout their time as a student. In a sort of undergraduate bucket list, you cannot graduate with "student experience honors" without completing most, if not all, items on this list. Appealing to the reality and the stereotypical, in no particular order, here goes:

Notre Dame-Michigan football game in Ann Arbor

Fall at Notre Dame means football, and going up to the Big House to watch the Irish play the Wolverines is definitely one of the defining experiences for Notre Dame undergraduates. Forget about those difficult books you had to read in class and that one time you understood what was being taught in your Orgo class. Wearing Muck Fichigan shirts and driving three hours to maybe have the chance to glorify your victory against one of ND's favorite rivals in their own stadium — that is Notre Dame.

Appalachia

It seems everyone does Appalachia. Service is, without a doubt, a big part of Notre Dame life and these trips serve as proof to this. Students who go always love it, and the number of applicants for these programs is always large, and increasing. Included in this section are the SSLP and ISSLP, which also offer summer service programs that are extremely popular and successful.

Chicago

All Notre Dame students go to Chicago for a weekend. They take pictures at the Bean and make it their Facebook profile picture, and then they eat deep-dish pizza.

Pro-life march in Washington, D.C.

Much like Appalachia, another aspect of your typical Catholic Notre Dame student is going to D.C. in January to the pro-life march. Frequently, during that week of January, you'll see students absent for class, and then back with a "Irish Fighting for Life" sweatshirt. To some, hopping on that bus to D.C. is a marking experience of life at Notre Dame, where Catholic principles can easily be applied in every aspect of daily life.

Home for the weekend

If you go to Notre Dame, you're from Chicago — which basically means you live anywhere in the Midwest. Therefore, you sometimes go home for the weekend. Actually, on your way there you'll probably be sitting next to someone who decided to go to the city for the weekend (view item No. 3 of the list).

Michigan City outlets

This is mostly for the girls, although it applies to both sexes. Since South Bend isn't your typical idea of the perfect college town and the Mishawaka Mall can become a little tiring after a while, the outlets in Michigan City provide a quick escape from academia to the wonderful world of shopping. An experience Notre Dame students have to have, at least once.

Spring Break in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Finally, the most relevant item in the list for this week! Although some decide to be more "culturally diverse" and go to Puerto Rico or Cancun, this trip is not so much a Notre Dame must-do, but more of a college student requirement. Popular nation-wide, Spring Break in Daytona Beach is where all things tan and sunny happen. Many wild nights are experienced and yet memories of them are lost as you wake up hungover, in the clothes you wore last night, and completely unable to recall anything that happened after 9 p.m. Might sound like a regular weekend at Notre Dame, minus the sun, bikinis, beaches and tanning.

Contact Tatiana Spragins at tspragin@nd.edu



CLUB SPORTS

Women’s water polo notches four victories

Squad sweeps weekend slate; two more equestrians qualify for regionals; women’s hockey season ends

Special to The Observer

This weekend the Notre Dame Women’s Club Water Polo Team won all four of its games in a tournament at Grand Valley State. The team initially squared off against Miami (Ohio), winning 14-6. Erin Gibson (one), Maisie O’Malley (five), Eileen Flanagan (one), Meghan Pearl (three) and Ali Durkin (four) each contributed offensively. Goalie Betsy O’Neill had 14 saves.

In their second match, the Irish defeated Ohio University 14-2 in a cohesive team effort. Nine different players scored: Gibson (one), Durkin (four), Cristina Romano (four), Pearl (two), Adi Austgen (one), Victoria Anglin (one) and Rosemary Kelly (one). O’Neill had five saves while Kelly Gibson had three.

In their third game of the day, the Irish faced their toughest opponent and long-time rival, Grand Valley State. Emily Harig and O’Malley put the Irish on the board with one goal each in the first quarter. In the second period, freshman Victoria Anglin had a breakaway steal for the point to give the Irish a renewed energy. The Irish returned with vigor and ultimately prevailed with a final score of 6-5 in the second half. Cristina Romano, O’Malley and Durkin scored the remaining three goals. O’Neill had 10 saves.

In their fourth and final game of the tournament, the Irish faced Miami once again. The Irish were victorious with a final score of 14-5. Durkin scored five goals; Romano, O’Malley and Flanagan each scored two, Gibson, Danielle Guidry and

Victoria each contributed one. The Irish are currently undefeated in league play with an overall record of 8-1. The team will travel to California over spring break to compete against various West coast opponents.

Women’s Ice Hockey

Notre Dame finished its season this weekend with three games. Margo DeBot’s unassisted goal at the 9:41 mark of the second period was the only Irish scoring in the first match as the club dropped a 3-1 decision to Hoffman Estates.

The squad fell 4-3 to X-factor as it was unable to hold onto its 3-2 lead going into the third period. Four Irish skaters served penalties during the two-goal outburst. Emily Chappell ripped the nets twice for the Irish,

assisted on the second goal by Caitlin Ryan. Ryan scored the second Irish other goal unassisted.

In the other game, the Irish broke from a 1-1 tie to throttle the Chicago Inferno, 6-1. DeBot, Karen Reidl, Chappell, Megan Aimola, Brinya Bjork and Ryan all registered goals in a dominating performance.

Equestrian

Whitney Preisser and Celina Tolson became the seventh and eighth Notre Dame/Saint Mary’s riders to qualify for Regionals this weekend in IHSA competition. The Irish finished fifth in a 10-team event where Illinois and Purdue took first and second, with Indiana and Saint Mary’s of the Woods tying for third. Katie Pietrucha claimed the sole first

place for the club in intermediate fences.

Men’s Volleyball

Notre Dame opened with a pair of wins before dropping its final three matches this weekend to finish ninth in a 32-team field. The Irish defeated Baldwin Wallace 26-24, 25-23 with Mark landolo as the top performer. The squad then topped Florida 25-17, 25-17 with Steve Walsh garnering game honors.

Grand Valley and Illinois B were victorious in the next two matches, 25-17, 23-25, 16-14, and 17-25, 25-19, 15-9. Rob Bauer was singled out for outstanding player in both contests. landolo was again recognized as best player in the closing competition, a 25-16, 25-16 loss to Lakeland College.

OLYMPICS

Medvedev blasts sports ministers

Associated Press

MOSCOW — President Dmitry Medvedev demanded Monday that Russian sports officials step down over the country’s dismal performance at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

Russia, a traditional winter sports powerhouse, won just 15 medals—with only three golds—in one of its worst performances. Officials said before the games that 30 medals and a top-three finish in the medal standings was the target.

Russia placed 11th for golds and sixth in the overall medal count.

In televised comments, Medvedev said if those responsible for preparing the athletes don’t resign then the decision will be made for them. He did not mention anyone by name.

“Those who bear the responsibility for Olympic preparations should carry that responsibility. It’s totally clear,” he said. “I think that the individuals responsible, or

several of them, who answer for these preparations, should take the courageous decision to hand in their notice. If we don’t see such decisiveness, we will help them.”

In post-Soviet history, Russia had never previously finished outside the top five in the medal standings and only won fewer medals once before, in 2002 at Salt Lake City. Russia was the top nation at the 1994 Lillehammer Games, garnering 23 medals—11 gold.

In nine Winter Olympics between 1956 and 1988, the Soviet Union failed to top the medal standings only twice, finishing runner-up on those occasions.

Medvedev lamented that Russia “has lost the old Soviet school ... and we haven’t created our own school—despite the fact that the amount of money that is invested in sport is unprecedentedly high.”

The results leave Russia particularly red-faced as it

takes the torch for the next Winter games in its Black Sea resort of Sochi in 2014.

“Without messing around, we need to start preparations for Sochi. But taking into account what happened in Vancouver, we need to completely change how we prepare our athletes,” Medvedev said.

In an interview with the newspaper Vremya Novostei, sports minister Vitaly Mutko blamed several factors for the Vancouver flop. New sports such as freestyle skiing that “no one takes seriously” in Russia have allowed other countries to race ahead, he said.

Mutko also claimed luck was not on the country’s side, saying in several disciplines Russia lacked “a shot here, a second or a point there,” singling out Evgeni Plushenko, who took silver behind Evan Lysacek of the United States in a closely fought men’s figure skating competition.

Doping bans had also deprived Russia of several leading medal contenders, he said.

Several Russian politicians have called for Mutko, who was appointed sports minister in May 2008, to step down.

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Syracuse moves up to top spot in rankings

Associated Press

Syracuse took quite a route to its first No. 1 ranking in 20 years.

The Orange weren’t in the preseason Top 25 and, just days after it was released with them in “Others Receiving Votes,” they were beaten by Division II LeMoyne in an exhibition game.

But they were back in the poll—at No. 10, in fact—just two weeks into the season after impressive wins over California and North Carolina in the 2K Sports Classic.

The Orange haven’t been out of the top 10 since and on Monday moved from fourth into the No. 1 spot, taking advantage of a weekend that saw the top three teams lose.

“It’s a great honor, a great testament for these players, these kids, to be number one,” Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said. “We all know it doesn’t matter that much in the big picture, it’s where you are at the end of the year. These kids have worked hard, been unselfish. They deserve it. They really do.”

This is the third time the Hall of Fame coach has had the

Orange at No. 1. There was the preseason poll in 1987-88 and a six-week stint in 1989-90.

“It’s been a long time and we’re happy to be there,” said Boeheim, who has 826 wins in his 34th season at his alma mater.

Syracuse (27-2), which received 59 first-place votes from the national media panel, moved to the top off its 95-77 victory over then-No. 7 Villanova in front of an on-campus record crowd at the Carrier Dome.

As always, it’s Syracuse’s 2-3 zone defense, which it didn’t use in the loss to LeMoyne, that is drawing all the attention in the rise up the polls.

“The biggest thing is that we’ve been the biggest we’ve been inside in a long time and we just cover better. These guys have worked a little harder at it,” Boeheim said. “We’re also still leading the nation in field goal percentage (52.2) so we’ve also been a very good offensive team. They really move the ball and pass the ball extremely well. We’ve been good on both ends of the court. It’s not one thing really.”

CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

SUMMER CAMP POSITIONS: Make a difference in the life of a child! Summer therapy camp for children with physical disabilities. Located on shore of Lake Superior in Big Bay, MI. Positions available for Counselors, Waterfront, Instructors for Nature/Arts & Crafts/Recreation, Nurses, Therapists, Food Service, and Auxiliary. Must be enthusiastic, responsible, and love children. June 13 through August 8. Salary, room & board, and experience of lifetime provided. Download application: www.baycliff.org For more information call or email: (906) 345-9314/email baycliff@baycliff.org

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NOTICES

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If interested please contact:

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TICKETS

Need Strega Nona tix.

PLEASE CALL!

PERSONAL

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help.

For more information, visit Notre Dame's website:

<http://csap.nd.edu>

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>

Rule number two, never say you're bored in my class. You're not bored with school, me, or my class. You're bored with your pathetic little lives!

"We've made living biological attractions so astounding that they'll capture the imagination of the entire planet."

"Until this battle station is fully operational, we are vulnerable."

Steve, Jeff, Tom, Rob and Bobby, you guys are the bomb-diggity. I'm out.

"You see, it would be this mat that you would put on the floor... and would have different CONCLUSIONS written on it that you could JUMP TO."

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Division I Men's Basketball AP Poll

	team	previous
1	Syracuse	4
2	Kansas	1
3	Kentucky	2
4	Duke	5
5	Kansas State	6
6	Ohio State	9
7	Purdue	3
8	New Mexico	10
9	Villanova	7
10	West Virginia	8
11	Michigan State	14
12	Butler	15
13	Vanderbilt	16
14	BYU	13
15	Wisconsin	17
16	Tennessee	19
17	Pittsburgh	12
18	Gonzaga	18
19	Georgetown	11
20	Temple	20
21	Baylor	24
22	Maryland	NR
23	Texas A&M	22
24	UTEP	NR
25	Xavier	NR

NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Coaches Poll

	team	previous
1	Syracuse	4
2	Kansas	1
3	Kentucky	2
4	Duke	5
5	Kansas State	6
6	Purdue	3
7	Ohio State	9
8	West Virginia	7
9	Villanova	8
10	New Mexico	12
11	Butler	10
12	Michigan State	14
13	Tennessee	17
14	Gonzaga	15
15	BYU	11
16	Temple	18
17	Wisconsin	19
18	Pittsburgh	16
19	Vanderbilt	20
20	Georgetown	13
21	UTEP	25
22	Baylor	NR
23	Maryland	NR
24	Texas A&M	23
25	Texas	21

NCAA Men's Ice Hockey USCHO Poll

	team	points
1	Denver	998
2	Miami (OH)	940
3	Wisconsin	907
4	St. Cloud State	833
5	Boston College	738
6	Yale	723
7	North Dakota	714
8	Bemidji State	671
9	Cornell	601
10	New Hampshire	544

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball
Villanova at Cincinnati
7 p.m., ESPN2

NHL Hockey
Flyers at Lightning
7:30 p.m., Versus

MLB



Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez watches his teammates during spring training workouts Monday. The 34-year-old slugger has been contacted by federal agents about Anthony Galea, a Canadian doctor accused of selling an unapproved drug.

Rodriguez contacted by feds about doctor

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Yankees star Alex Rodriguez has been contacted by federal investigators regarding a Canadian doctor accused of selling an unapproved drug.

Rodriguez said Monday he was “aware” of the investigation and plans on cooperating with government officials who are looking into Dr. Anthony Galea. Rodriguez said a date for an interview has not been set.

“I can’t really get into that,” Rodriguez said. “I have to speak to those guys first. I’ve just got to wait for instructions.”

Galea is facing four charges in his country related to the drug known as

Actovegin, which is extracted from calf’s blood and used for healing. His assistant also has been charged in the U.S. for having HGH and another drug while crossing the border in September.

A-Rod said the probe won’t have an effect on him because “this is about someone else.” He declined comment when asked if he has even been treated by Galea.

“I’m focused on baseball,” Rodriguez said.

New York general Brian Cashman was informed of the situation Monday, and added that he has not been told about any other Yankees’ players being involved.

“Not aware of any,” Cashman said.

The Yankees released a statement saying they had not been contacted about the matter.

“The Yankees never authorized Dr. Tony Galea to treat Alex Rodriguez, nor do we have any knowledge of any such treatment,” the statement said. “We will continue to monitor the situation.”

Cashman said the Yankees have not had any dealings with Galea. He declined comment on Rodriguez’s situation, saying “I don’t have much to comment off of.”

It had been uneventful start of the new season — except for a minor car acci-

dent that caused no damage or injuries — for Rodriguez.

Last year, he started spring training by addressing his use of performance-enhancing drugs and underwent right hip surgery in March that sidelined him until May 8. The third baseman then put together a 30-homer, 100-RBI season that ended with the Yankees winning their first World Series title since 2000.

Galea is known for using a blood-spinning technique — platelet-rich plasma therapy — designed to speed recovery from injuries. Among the athletes he has treated are golf superstar Tiger Woods and Mets shortstop Jose Reyes.

IN BRIEF

Cabrera says he is done drinking after 2009 incident

LAKELAND, Fla. — Detroit Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera wants to clear a few things up after the ugly incident last fall, right before his team surrendered the American League Central Division title to the Twins.

First, he’s done drinking alcohol. And he’s not an alcoholic.

“You guys write in the paper ‘alcoholic,’ that’s not right,” the Detroit first baseman said Monday before the Tigers’ morning workout at spring training. “I don’t know how to explain, but it’s not an alcohol problem.”

Five months ago, Cabrera went 0 for 4 and stranded six runners in a 5-1 loss to Chicago. That game started about 12 hours after Tigers general manager Dave Dombrowski picked him up at a police station following a fight with his wife — apparently after a late night out.

Judge dismisses charges of assault against Reed

PITTSBURGH — A judge on Monday dismissed charges of simple assault and resisting arrest against Steelers kicker Jeff Reed, who was accused of raising his fists at a Pittsburgh police officer when ordered back in his vehicle as police dealt with a teammate.

The two misdemeanor charges dismissed by state District Judge Richard King at Reed’s preliminary hearing were the most serious he faced. King postponed for six weeks a decision on whether to hold Reed for trial on charges of disorderly conduct and public drunkenness.

King directed Reed to perform 40 hours of community service and said he would consider dropping the two summary charges if Reed complies.

The judge said that “something was there” between Reed and police on Oct. 18, 2009, several hours after the Steelers beat Cleveland 27-14, but that it didn’t rise to the level of simple assault or resisting arrest.

Blackhawks send two players to Blues for goalie

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Blues have acquired goaltender Joe Fallon from the Chicago Blackhawks in exchange for goalie Hannu Toivonen and defenseman Danny Richmond.

The 25-year-old Fallon has played in 29 games this season with the American Hockey League’s Rockford IceHogs. The Blues said Monday that Fallon will report to their AHL affiliate in Peoria, Ill.

Fallon was originally picked by the Blackhawks in the sixth round of the 2005 entry draft.

The Blues also recalled forward Derek Armstrong from Peoria. The 36-year-old forward has played in 30 games for Peoria this season, scoring 22 goals.

Toivonen, 25, was 11-11-3 record with a 2.73 goals-against average and a .906 save percentage in 26 games with Peoria this year. Richmond, 25, has 15 assists, 16 points and 135 penalty minutes in 54 games in Peoria.

NHL

NHL returns to play after classic Olympics

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — A thrilling Olympic tournament capped with a gold-en goal.

Hockey was enjoying a sudden burst of popularity Monday, a day after Sidney Crosby lifted Canada to a 3-2 overtime victory over the United States to win the gold medal at the Vancouver Games.

The ending could not have been better for the NHL, with the U.S. and Canada in the final and Crosby's Stanley Cup champion Penguins playing U.S. goalie Ryan Miller's Buffalo Sabres on Tuesday, when most teams are back in action.

Yet the irony is that Crosby's wrister sliding under Miller might be the last Olympic memory the NHL can share.

The league has not yet agreed to stop the season again in four years to enable its players to participate in the 2014 Sochi Olympics. Two-time defending MVP Alex Ovechkin has already vowed that he will play in the games in his host country regardless of what the NHL decides.

Debate continues to rage as to what effects—both positive and negative—taking a two-week break in the heart of the season has on the NHL. It all seems good when the Olympics are held in North America and its conducive time zones for television coverage of the games, and when the gold medal game features a dream matchup.

But for every finish like this one, there is also the possibility that Sweden and Finland could fight for gold on the last day, as was the case at the 2006 Turin Olympics. And next time out, the games will be in a time zone that makes for weak television ratings in North America.

NBC said Monday that Sunday's gold medal game was the most-watched hockey game in 30 years, drawing an average viewership of 27.6 million. Not since the finals of the Americans' 1980 Miracle On Ice run, when the U.S. secured gold against Finland, had so many viewed a hockey game on American television (32.8 million).

Canada's latest golden victory was seen by 10.5 million more viewers than in 2002 when the Canadians topped the U.S. for gold at Salt Lake City—a 61 percent increase.

Still, even as NHL commissioner Gary Bettman praised the Olympic tournament, there was no discussion of the future.

"The 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver served as the latest affirmation that the quality of our play—and our players—is the finest in the world. We send our Olympians back to their NHL teams with our congratulations, appreciation and thanks for having represented their NHL teams, their league and their fans with such distinction," Bettman said in a statement.

"As every member of the gold and silver medal teams plays for an NHL club, the speed and skill of our outstanding athletes and our game remains on display as the excitement of our season resumes."

The NHL had one game scheduled Monday in its return

from the 14-day Olympic break—Detroit at Colorado—with a 12-game slate on Tuesday. Matching the excitement of the Olympic tournament may be an impossible task, but the league is still headed to a key moment in the season. Teams have anywhere from 19 to 22 games left in the regular season to secure playoff spots, followed by the run to the Stanley Cup.

Miller will get a chance for a bit of redemption and revenge against Crosby. The kicker is that Miller will also be facing U.S. teammate Brooks Orpik, who now goes back to being on the same side as Sid the Kid as a Penguins defenseman.

"I've seen him score many goals for us in Pittsburgh," Orpik said. "It's disappointing, but if we were going to lose, I'm glad he's the guy that won."

Settling for silver stung Orpik, but in the world of Olympic hockey, teammates and opponents switch sides in the matter of 24 hours. The same thing happened in reverse two weeks earlier when NHL teams dispersed and players joined countrymen on the world stage.

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane have been joined at the hip since they came to Chicago and sparked the Blackhawks' return to relevance. The Olympics broke up this dynamic duo, pitting Toews and Canada against Kane and the Americans.

Toews scored the first of Canada's three gold that ended up costing Kane his dream of gold.

"I'll definitely be very respectful of what he did and what his team did at this tournament," Toews said. "I don't see it as a joking matter between the two of us. It was such a hard-fought game that I can imagine the disappointment on their side of it."

"We were this close to coming up on the losing end, too, and it would not have been a good feeling. You've got to give it to him for the way he played. I will leave it at that."

The player movement won't just involve shifting from national teams to NHL clubs. Wednesday is the league's trade deadline, and it is traditionally a busy day for dealing. Big names such as Ilya Kovalchuk, Dion Phaneuf, Jean-Sebastien Giguere and Olli Jokinen were traded in the days leading up to the break, but many more could be changing places in the next day or so.

Red Wings coach Mike Babcock basked in the glow of guiding Canada to gold, but like Miller he couldn't let the celebration last. The defending Western Conference champions returned from the Olympic break just outside a postseason spot. Work needs to be done to extend Hockeytown's run of consecutive playoff appearances to 19 seasons.

Detroit will depend on defenseman Brian Rafalski, a three-time Stanley Cup champion and two-time Olympic silver medalist who tied Zach Parise for the U.S. lead with four goals and eight points in the Olympics. He will get over falling short of the gold, he just doesn't know when.

"I'll tell you as time goes on," he said.

NBA

Shaq sidelined 6-8 weeks

Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — Cleveland Cavaliers center Shaquille O'Neal had surgery on his injured right thumb Monday and seems likely to miss the rest of the regular season.

If he gets back for the playoffs, though, O'Neal is promising to make up for his time out.

O'Neal will miss about eight weeks, the team said. He was examined Sunday by specialist Dr. Thomas Graham at the National Hand Center in Baltimore, who performed the surgery Monday morning.

"He feels like he let us down, but we understand injuries happen in the game," said teammate Jamario Moon, who got a text from the star center along with the other Cavs. "I think he's really down about being out. ... He let us know it's time to continue playing basketball and he's going to be all right."

The recovery timeline means O'Neal, who turns 38 on Saturday, may not be ready for the start of the playoffs April 17. The Cavaliers acquired him last summer with an eye toward the postseason, after Dwight Howard and Orlando eliminated them in the Eastern Conference finals.

Cleveland enters its game Monday against the Knicks leading Orlando by six games for the best record in the East. Should the Cavaliers and Magic retain the top two seeds, they wouldn't meet until the Eastern Conference finals, which begin in mid-May.

"Will be out for a min but when I return it is on," O'Neal posted on his Twitter account Monday morning. "Win da ring



AP

Cavaliers center Shaquille O'Neal had surgery on his right thumb and will likely miss the rest of the regular season.

for da king! Luv my team, Cavs baby!"

O'Neal has played well for the Cavaliers, averaging 12 points and 6.7 rebounds in 53 games. He injured the thumb Thursday at Boston when his shot was blocked by Glen "Big Baby" Davis with just over 7 minutes left in the first half.

Cavs general manager Danny Ferry said O'Neal will wear a splint for the next two weeks, then begin his rehab.

"Our guys have done a very good job of stepping up this season. We are confident they will do the same in this situation," Ferry said. "We are fortunate to have some depth in our front court that can keep us moving forward while Shaq recovers and returns to play for the post-season."

Anderson Varejao will continue to start at center for

Cleveland, which has the NBA's best record at 44-16. J.J. Hickson and Leon Powe, who recently returned from knee surgery, are also options.

Former backup Zydrunas Ilgauskas, traded to Washington for Antawn Jamison, is now a free agent following a buyout by the Wizards. Ilgauskas is free to sign with any team, but will have to wait another couple of weeks under NBA rules should he elect to re-sign with the Cavaliers.

Cleveland has battled injuries and personnel losses all season.

Point guard Mo Williams recently returned after missing 11 games with an injured shoulder and guard Delonte West bounced in and out of the rotation early because of personal reasons. Powe debuted last week after recovering from knee surgery last summer.

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NFL DRAFT

Declaring early not easy

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Taylor Mays has no regrets about finishing his senior season at Southern Cal.

Eric Berry saw no sense in risking everything one more time at Tennessee.

The top two safeties in this year's NFL draft exemplify the high-stakes choice dozens of college underclassmen debate each winter: Should they stay in school or should they jump to the NFL?

"He told me I'd be a fool to come back," Berry said with a laugh explaining the advice his defensive coordinator, Monte Kiffin, provided.

Kiffin's NFL pedigree helped Berry make an informative choice, one that could bring in millions of dollars by August. The junior is projected to be a top-five pick in April and could become the first safety to go No. 1 overall since 1956.

Mays made the other choice, going back to school to win a national championship, become a more complete player and improve his draft position. Things didn't work out that way.

The Trojans went 9-4. Mays was criticized for not living up to the hype and now Berry has surpassed him as the top-rated safety. While Mays could have gone in the top half of the first round last year, as the No. 1 safety, he's now ranked No. 2

and could slide into the bottom of the first round—costing him millions.

But Mays isn't second-guessing the decision.

"I was close (to leaving) and then at the end, I just got my eyes put onto the prize of trying to be the best, one more time," he said at this weekend's annual scouting combine in Indianapolis. "Trying to learn the game a little bit more. It wasn't about coming out for the money or for the fame. It was more about coming out

to really just be a finished product, and take all the chances I had to be the best safety I could be."

Berry and Mays are the lucky ones. Both are still likely to go in

the first-round draft picks despite any perceived flaws.

Others aren't so fortunate.

NFL defensive end Adewale Ogunleye likely would have been a first- or second-round choice after his junior season at Indiana. But he went back to school, injured his knee and wound making the Miami Dolphins in 2000 as an undrafted free agent.

It happens, and making the right choice can be as risky as a poker. There are no assurances, no set standards, and little historical evidence to help with the choice.

This year 53 underclassmen have declared for the draft. Some of the names are

familiar—Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford, Notre Dame quarterback Jimmy Clausen, Oklahoma defensive tackle Gerald McCoy, Oklahoma State receiver Dez Bryant and Berry. Others, such as Nevada defensive end Kevin Basped and Marshall running back Darius Marshall, are still trying to prove themselves.

Why stay in school?

"I came back to become a better football player, and I feel like I did that, came back to help some of the young guys on my team learn like older guys before helped me," Mays said. "That was important to me. I feel like regardless of what our record is, or how I played the season, that's what I accomplished."

The reasons for leaving can be very personal.

Clausen, for instance, thought he did as much as he could in 2010. Bradford didn't want to risk another shoulder injury that would make scouts question his durability.

McCoy thought it was time to help out his family, and Berry, well, he wanted to give his dad a break.

"I had to put my family pretty much before my school," Berry said. "Ever since I can remember, my mom and dad were always working. My dad worked two jobs. My dad just recently had heart surgery and I really just wanted him to be able to sit down and just enjoy life for a little bit. I felt I could do that by entering the draft and making that situation better."

NBA

Cavaliers use 74-point half to blow by Knicks

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James had 22 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, and the Cleveland Cavaliers used a 74-point first half to hammer the New York Knicks 124-93 on Monday night in their first game since learning Shaquille O'Neal will miss the rest of the regular season.

The Cavaliers didn't miss the 15-time All-Star, who had surgery on his injured right thumb Monday morning and is expected to miss two months. The team is hopeful he will return for at least part of the playoffs.

The 31-point margin of victory is the largest this season for Cleveland, which equaled a season high with its 74-point first half — set three weeks ago against the Knicks. The Cavaliers outrebounded New York 60-31 and led by as much as 49. They have won eight straight in the series.

J.J. Hickson started at center in place of O'Neal in a game that looked more like a pickup contest in the park.

James, who entered averaging 35.4 points, 7.9 assists and 7.1 rebounds in his last seven games against New York, sat the entire fourth quarter. He didn't have one of his trademark New York performances, but he didn't need it.

Antawn Jamison had 17 points and 12 rebounds, while Anderson Varejao had 14 points and 10 boards. Hickson had 17 points and nine rebounds, and Delonte West scored 15 points as the Knicks flopped in their final chance to impress James before he can become a free agent this summer.

Reserve Bill Walker scored 21 points for New York, Al Harrington had 18 and Danilo Gallinari 17. David Lee added 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The Cavaliers raced through New York's porous defense, turning the game into a dunk contest.

West threw up an alley-oop pass to James in the second quarter while getting fouled. James caught the pass with his back to the basket, lowered the ball between his knees and slammed it down behind his back. The basket didn't count because of the foul, but that mattered little to James, who giggled in amazement while watching the replay on the scoreboard.

The foul on West gave Cleveland two free throws and possession. He inbounded to Varejao, got the ball back immediately and dunked over the 6-foot-8 Tracy McGrady to put Cleveland ahead 61-41 with 4:26 to play in the half. West, who is five inches shorter, flexed and growled upon landing, drawing a smirk from McGrady.

During one loose ball in the second half, James and West were so eager to get down the floor and start a fast break, both failed to grab the ball while racing past it.

Cleveland scored 18 of its 38 points in the first quarter on dunks and layups. The Cavaliers scored 66 points in the paint against a New York defense that allows an average of 46.1 per game.

Mavericks 89, Bobcats 84

Dirk Nowitzki scored 27

points, Jason Terry had several key buckets down the stretch, and the surging Dallas Mavericks beat Charlotte on Monday night to spoil the Bobcats' first game since Michael Jordan agreed to buy the team.

Jordan's presence courtside and a difficult travel schedule couldn't stop the NBA's hottest team from their eighth straight win. Caron Butler added 22 points and Terry scored 13 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter for Dallas, which rallied from a 12-point third-quarter deficit.

Stephen Jackson scored 20 points, but also had six of Charlotte's 20 turnovers. Tyrus Thomas added 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Bobcats, who dropped to 0-12 against the Mavericks, the only team they've never beaten.

It was a sour end to an eventful day for Jordan, who late Friday reached a deal to buy the club from owner Bob Johnson.

The former NBA superstar, who has rarely attended practices or games in the past, showed up at the morning shootaround and played two games of H-O-R-S-E with rookie Gerald Henderson — losing both.

Jordan, wearing a red jacket, sat in his courtside seat next to the Bobcats' bench, and seemed to be already be doing some of the handshaking necessary when he's expected to be approved as majority owner by the end of the month.

While Jordan declined to speak to reporters, he chatted up the head of Charlotte's chamber of commerce and the city's former mayor during a second-quarter timeout. He joked with some season-ticket holders on the floor at halftime, frequently checked his phone and shouted at the officials over calls.

He watched his Bobcats build an early 20-9 lead over the sluggish Mavericks, who were given no favors by the NBA schedule.

Their home game Sunday night against New Orleans started late because of television purposes, and they didn't arrive in Charlotte until after 4 a.m. Monday.

"Thx to NBA sched maker for giving us about 3 hours sleep before tomorrow's game," Dallas owner Mark Cuban posted on Twitter on Sunday night.

But after falling behind 55-43 in the first minute of the third quarter, Nowitzki got hot. Hours after being named Western Conference player of the week, Nowitzki scored 10 points in the third quarter on a variety of fadeaway and turnaround jumpers, getting Dallas within 68-66.

Terry then took over in the fourth.

He hit a mid-range jumper, bank shot and 3-pointer in a 13-1 run to put Dallas ahead 83-75 with 4:43 left.

Charlotte got within 85-81 on Jackson's 3-pointer, but Terry scored on a runner with 1:15 left, and Nowitzki hit two free throws with 8.8 seconds left to put it away.

The Bobcats, who played their fourth straight game without Nazr Mohammed (back) and their sixth straight without Tyson Chandler (foot, ankle), lost for the fourth time in five games.



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MLB

Youkilis comfortable at either corner base

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — When the Red Sox were trying to sign free-agent first baseman Mark Teixeira before last season, it seemed Kevin Youkilis would be moved from first to third.

Teixeira wound up with the New York Yankees, and Youkilis kept his spot. But when Boston attempted to trade third baseman Mike Lowell to Texas this winter, Youkilis was mentioned as a potential replacement again.

Not exactly the sort of stability most two-time All-Stars would expect. But while many big leaguers prefer to hold down one position, the uncertainty doesn't bother Youkilis. He's comfortable at both corners of the diamond, a luxury that gives general manager Theo Epstein added flexibility.

"I just tell Theo I need a raise every year. I just tell him I should get a bonus in there for how many times I move over," Youkilis said, tongue in cheek. "But it's not a big deal. It's fun, and it's all about winning. Whatever you can do to help your team win, that's the key. You can't really worry about all that other stuff."

Although he won a Gold Glove at first base in 2007, Youkilis is adept across the infield as well. Last year, he had a .998 fielding percentage in 78 games at first base and a .974 mark in 61 games at third.

In his six-season career, he's played second base, left field, center and right in addition to first and third.

"A lot of times you have to move because there is an injury," Youkilis said. "It's not like they're just trying to get guys in the lineup and flop guys around."

Youkilis, an eighth-round draft pick by Boston in 2001, turns 31 on March 15. He approached Epstein this offseason to talk about moves—not only Youkilis' moves on the field but other moves affecting the team.

"He wants me to be comfortable," Youkilis said. "I love to be comfortable wherever. I love third, I love first — put me out there. Somebody always says, 'What would you choose?' I say it'd be the hardest choice. But I would choose whatever would make the team better."

And that's exactly what Youkilis told Epstein this winter.

"If there's a player that's coming in, either way I'd tell Theo, 'Make a move on what you think our team can be better. Don't make a move just because I want to play

third this year or I want to play first this year.' And Theo knows, and that's what Theo tells me, too," Youkilis said.

"It's a good line of communication that wasn't there before and now it is there. And it's a good thing that we have a good understanding, (manager Terry Francona), Theo and I, which makes it a lot more fun to play here."

Youkilis' versatility makes him a valuable component.

"He is a kid that is an organizational player that works his way through the system, makes the big league club, is a good player, works hard, and makes himself into a great player," Francona said. "Good baserunner. Gold Glove-caliber defense with some home runs, drives in 100, a guy you want to hit right in the middle of your

order. He's turned himself into that type of a player. I don't know if scouts saw that when he was drafted. He's developed into a mainstay on our club."

Although Youkilis takes pride in his defense, fielding is just a means to an end.

"I always joke around, but I'm kind of serious in the fact that we play the field so we can hit," he said. "That's one of the things I always joke about, but it's a little bit true. But you also have pride in a sense. You don't want to make errors and stuff like that. You have to work hard at playing a position."

Last season, Youkilis hit .305 with 27 home runs and 94 RBIs. His average fell below his career-best .312 in 2008, but above his career mark of .292. He hit .259 batting third in the lineup and .338 batting fourth. As a third baseman, he hit .286.

While playing first, .325.

Like his position on the field, Youkilis' spot in the batting order matters little to him.

"I think you just stick to your strengths," he said. "You can't

change who you are just because of where you're hitting in the lineup. You have to go out there and stick to your strengths and learn from your weaknesses. You don't really go up there like, I'm hitting fourth today, I better hit a home run or I've got to hit a grand slam. You've got to go up there and get a hit in a situation or move a runner over."

He's also heard talk that the 2010 Red Sox will be light on offense while emphasizing pitching and defense more.

"It doesn't matter how many runs you score," he said. "It's about holding the opposition down. And at the end of the game if you win 1-0, it's the same as winning 13-10."

"Whatever you can do to help your team win, that's the key."

Kevin Youkilis
Red Sox first baseman

"I love third, I love first — put me out there."

Kevin Youkilis
Rex Sox first baseman

MLB

Use of maple bats curtailed

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Many maple bats will be banned in the minor leagues this season, part of Major League Baseball's push to stop shattered shards of wood from flying dangerously through the air.

New regulations will prohibit bats made from ultra-light maple. The low-density wood often is found in bats with big barrels and thin handles, creating a whip-like action when swung.

Softer red maple and silver maple—not commonly used—will be completely eliminated by the 30-plus companies approved to make bats.

The bans apply to players who are not on 40-man rosters and have no major league experience. Baseball often tests new rules on minor leaguers, be it drug tests or pace-of-game ideas, because most of them are not in the MLB players' union and such moves do not require union approval.

MLB and the union have been extensively studying the issue of broken maple bats since 2008, as splintered barrels wildly helicoptered all over the field and into the stands.

"I think all bats are dangerous," said Los Angeles Dodgers first baseman John Lindsey, who has spent 15 years in the minors without a major league call-up. "It's not like maple was the first bat to break. At times, they just look crazy, but when bats break they fly all the time, no matter what kind of wood."

As part of the safety initiative, any big leaguer whose bat broke at least 10 times last year must consult with a panel of MLB and union bat experts to determine if there is some extenuating problem.

Baseball also is changing the specifications for all bats, slimming the maximum diameter of the barrel from 2.75 inches—which had been the standard for more than 100 years—to 2.61 inches. Trying to change the geometry of bats, the minimum size of bat handles is being increasing by about 1-50th of an inch.

Those changes aren't expected to have any impact on the bats that players currently use.

"We're not taking the bat out of anyone's hands," union lawyer Bob Lenaghan said Monday night.

Commissioner Bud Selig said in May 2008 that shattered maple bats were "a source of concern for me." A safety panel of MLB and union officials began studying the issue with the USDA Forest Service's Forest Products Laboratory and other experts.

More than 2,200 bats broken in the majors during the final 2 1/2 months of the 2008 season were studied and catalogued, as was every cracked bat in the big leagues last year, said Dan Halem, MLB senior vice president and general counsel for labor.

Guidelines were put into effect last year to govern the quality of wood grain. Halem said maple bats cracked about one-third

less often last year, particularly in the second half of the season as bat makers complied.

Bats made of maple and ash cracked at about the same rate, he said, but maple was more likely to break into pieces.

"We want to keep doing more for safety," Halem said.

Oakland outfielder Ryan Sweeney felt for the minor leaguers who might need to find new bats in 2010.

"That's brutal. I know they did stuff with the two-tone bats last year and I saw more bats break in spring training than ever before," he said. "I use both and it depends on what I feel like. Some guys say the maple bats are better but it doesn't matter to me."

Cleveland utilityman Chris Gimenez made his major league debut last year and will be exempt from the maple bat rules.

"I think they'll have a tough time with that," Gimenez said. "I don't see how that's going to work. To me, it would be like they're telling you that you can't use a third base glove anymore because it's 12 inches and not eight inches. I don't know how that will go over with a lot of guys."

"Say I break a bat and I've never been in the big leagues and the guy on deck has been in the big leagues," Gimenez said. "He hands me his. I hit a home run with it. Are they going to take that away from me? I'm probably getting tossed out of that game if they try to do that."

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

West Virginia downs Georgetown

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Da'Sean Butler scored 22 points in his final home game and No. 10 West Virginia beat No. 19 Georgetown 81-68 on Monday night.

The Mountaineers (23-6, 12-5) clinched a double bye into the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament.

Devin Ebanks added 15 points, Kevin Jones scored 14 and Darryl Bryant had 11 for West Virginia.

The free fall continues for Georgetown (19-9, 9-8), which was ranked No. 7 three weeks ago and has lost four of five.

The Mountaineers led by as many as 27 points early in the second half and Georgetown, playing without ill leading scorer Austin Freeman, couldn't catch up.

Greg Monroe had 22 points and nine rebounds and Chris Wright scored 21 points for the Hoyas.

Butler was introduced last among West Virginia's three seniors before the game and received the loudest ovation. He has 1,936 points and will end up in third place on the school's career scoring list behind Jerry West (2,309) and Hot Rod Hundley (2,180).

Butler has the school record with 100 games scoring in double figures.



West Virginia's Darryl Bryant, right, attempts a layup in front of Hoya Greg Monroe during West Virginia's 81-68 win Monday.

West Virginia outscored Georgetown 27-14 from the free-throw line, forced 20 turnovers and picked apart the Hoyas with an up-tempo transition offense.

Freeman, who is averaging 17 points per game and is Georgetown's top 3-point shooter, is still recovering from stomach flu that limited him to five points in only 23 minutes in a loss to Notre Dame on Saturday. Hollis Thompson started in Freeman's place for the second straight game but was held to three points.

Jones scored six points during West Virginia's 10-0 run to start the second half that pushed the lead to 53-26 with 16:51 remaining.

Wright, Georgetown's third-leading scorer at 13.9 points, helped soften the loss of Freeman, scoring 10 points in a 3:30 span and the Hoyas used runs of 9-0 and 8-0 in the second half to whittle the deficit to 62-53 with 5:55 left.

West Virginia went without a field goal for more than 5 minutes and the sellout crowd grew restless, well aware of the Mountaineers' propensity to allow opponents to come back from big deficits several times this season.

Butler grabbed a deflected pass and made a layin with 3:37 left and West Virginia's lead never fell below double digits again.

Big East

continued from page 20

“[The GWLL] was a great conference for us. It really helped us in a period of growth for our program,” Corrigan said. “We leave with nothing but fond memories of the GWLL.”

But the time has come for change, Corrigan said.

“At the same time, it’s a great time for us to join a league like the Big East,” he said. “I think the league itself is a tremendous thing for the sport of lacrosse.”

Joining the Irish in the newly-formed Big East men’s lacrosse league will be defending national champion and No. 1 Syracuse, No. 14 Georgetown, Villanova, Rutgers, St. John’s and Providence. Of the seven teams, Syracuse was unanimously picked to win the conference in the preseason by the seven coaches, and Notre Dame was picked to

finish second.

Now in a conference with two other top-15 teams, the Irish will face a more difficult schedule throughout the regular season, a fact that should benefit Notre Dame come season’s end. Last season Notre Dame’s weak schedule was criticized as the Irish entered the NCAA Tournament undefeated, only to lose in the first round to Maryland 7-3.

“The tougher schedule does prepare you better,” Corrigan said. “Overall you learn more about yourself the harder schedule you play, and the more you know about yourself, the better prepared you are at the end of the year.”

That strength of schedule should compensate for the conference’s lack of an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament for the next two years, Corrigan said.

“Whoever wins the league is going to the NCAA Tournament, there is no doubt about that,” he said.

“Our job is to win enough games to get us into the NCAA Tournament, and if we win the Big East regular season, we’ll be okay.”

In order to win the Big East regular season, the Irish need to continue playing the way they have been playing — so far registering an 11-7 win over No. 2 Duke and a 12-8 win over Penn State Sunday — with one major improvement.

“The biggest thing we haven’t done consistently well in the first couple games is we haven’t cleared the ball well, and that can really hurt you,” Corrigan said. “When you get defensive stops, you need to turn those into offensive possessions and even offensive opportunities.”

The Irish have five more matches to fine-tune their game before opening their first Big East conference season on March 27 when they host Rutgers.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

MEN’S SWIMMING

Top freshman making a splash for the Irish

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

As first-time performers on the intercollegiate stage, freshmen in all sports are often expected to undergo an adjustment period as they learn the college stage. The Irish freshmen, however, have quickly adjusted and contributed in a number of key ways over the course of the team’s regular season and postseason.

“The learning curve is similar to that which you see in basketball and football,” Irish coach Tim Welsh said. “As a senior in high school you race against 14-year-olds and here you race against 23-year-old men. Also, racers in college focus on technique and turns, which aren’t really emphasized in high school.”

Any discussion of the Notre Dame freshman class begins and ends with Bill Bass, who broke a number of records in a virtuoso debut season for the Irish. Bass, who came onto campus as a decorated all-stroke swimmer in high school, did not miss a beat in the pool. Bass’ highlights this season include a Notre Dame school record in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:46.44 at the Big East championships in Pittsburgh. His performance came on top of a previous season-best time of 1:50.70 in the same event that scored a victory for the Irish in their Shamrock Invitational. Bass’s contributions have not gone unno-

ticed by his coach.

“We’ve seen great things from Bill Bass right away,” Welsh said. “Especially at the Big East championships. It’s evident that he’s gotten bigger and stronger over the year.”

A number of other Irish freshman have contributed for Notre Dame this year, among them breaststroke specialist Christopher Johnson. An Indiana state champion in the 100-yard breaststroke in high school, Johnson carried his breaststroke success with him to the Irish pool. He took first in the Big East consolation round of his signature event with a time of 55.63 seconds and will look to move into the championship round in the coming years.

“Chris Johnson has great initial speed, and you can’t coach speed,” Welsh said. “He has learned how to carry that through the whole race.”

Welsh said several of his freshmen would see increased roles come next year’s swim season.

“This is a very good freshman class,” Welsh said. “We’re very confident that they’re going to do great things in the coming years. There’s plenty where that came from too, because next year’s class is just as good.”

Bass, Johnson and the rest of the Irish swimmers will be back in action this weekend at the Boiler-Make-It Invitational at Purdue on March 7.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

Watt

continued from page 20

but it wasn’t working. He began countering differently and keeping the ball high on Baumann. He was able to get some short balls and create opportunities for himself.”

The Irish again will face a tough team today against No. 12 Illinois.

“We haven’t beaten them in Champaign in eight years,” Bayliss said. “Eight years ago we went to Champaign when they were the No. 1 team in the nation and [we] were able to beat them. They [have] a strong program, and we know it will be a tight match. They always draw a big crowd and advertise their events

well.”

Another struggle the Irish have been fighting to overcome is making sure that all their players are healthy and able to make it through multiple sets on the court.

“We have some injuries that are healing nicely,” Bayliss said. “Watt showed that he is close to being all the way back having played two matches on Sunday.”

In two out of three of this weekend’s matches, Notre Dame was able to not only dominate the doubles portion, but also sweep the competition.

“We changed our lineup around to try and create some

different looks,” Bayliss said. “We moved Casey [Watt] from playing with Tyler Davis, to playing with Stephen [Havens]. It was good to see them pull out a win over Wisconsin. We may switch things around against Illinois, but we are still looking for the proper chemistry.”

The Irish will look to their doubles pairs to get the team off to another strong start today against the Illini in order to keep up their winning ways. Notre Dame will face Illinois at 5 p.m. in Champaign.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba2@saintmarys.edu

“We haven’t beaten them in Champaign in eight years.”

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

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PPE INFORMATION MEETING
Wednesday March 3
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5:30

Schultz

continued from page 20

She won the 400 at the Big East Indoors this year with a time of 53.16 seconds, setting a new conference record. In her final season, Schultz said she knows it is her last chance to shine, and that is exactly what she intends to do — even as she looks back on three years with the team.

“Track has made me realize I’m a little tougher than I once thought I was, has helped me avoid the freshman 15, and has given me some of the best friends anyone could ever ask for,”

Schultz said.

The indoor season will conclude with the NCAA Championships March 12-13, where Schultz hopes to end her indoor career on a high note before continuing into her final outdoor season.

For the time being, she plans to continue making contributions to the team she has grown to love.

“I will miss the team aspect of Notre Dame track,” Schultz said. “I run, lift and travel with these people every single day and I will miss all of them very much.”

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.

UConn

continued from page 20

For the second time this season, the Irish fell hard to Connecticut, a team that in the end was simply too athletic, too talented and too good. A team with players, Connecticut guard Kalana Greene said, "weren't planning on losing."

Notre Dame was the only Big East team to play Connecticut twice this season, and the results — Monday's loss and a 70-46 loss on Jan. 16 — weren't pretty.

But was it really a disadvantage to play Connecticut twice in one season?

Absolutely not. Let's play them more.

Notre Dame's loss, coupled with St. John's 77-65 win over Pittsburgh Monday, bumped the Irish to the No. 5 seed in the Big East tournament.

Instead of having a double-bye, Notre Dame will begin the tournament Saturday against the winner of Friday's first-round game between the No. 12 seed Pittsburgh and the No. 13 seed Louisville.

Each team in the 16-team Big East repeats against one other team over the course of the 16-game conference

schedule. Notre Dame played Connecticut twice. St. John's, which won the No. 4 seed and a double-bye into the conference championship, repeated against last-place Seton Hall.

While the question of fairness could have been avoided altogether if the Irish had been able to defeat the Red Storm on the road last Tuesday, it should still be mentioned that Notre Dame had a significantly harder road to its 12-4 conference record than St. John's did.

But the Irish also got two chances to play the undisputed, far-and-away best team in the country. This can only help going forward, as they might see the Huskies again

as the Big East tournament draws to a close, and maybe again after that in the NCAA Tournament.

In January, Connecticut's press defense stifled Notre Dame, and the Huskies led 28-6 a little more than 10 minutes into the game.

Monday, the score was 16-15 in favor of the Huskies after 10 minutes.

Connecticut changed up their defense Monday, playing a zone that all but took the Irish guards out of the game but allowed junior forwards Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux Peters to score 15 points apiece once the Irish

had adjusted to the different style.

How many more new strategies could Connecticut possibly throw into a third or fourth game against the same opponent? Notre Dame figured it out a little bit more Monday and, if called to play the Huskies again, will have that much more information with which to prepare.

The Irish actually led Monday in several defensive categories, including blocks, steals and forced turnovers. If they can put that together with their solid post play and find a way to improve Monday's dismal 31.1-percent shooting performance, the next match between the two teams could be a game worth watching until the end.

Even if Notre Dame does not play Connecticut again this season, it can only improve by playing the best competition. After two games against the Huskies, possible NCAA Tournament matchups against No. 2 Stanford or No. 3 Tennessee — both of which lost to Connecticut in the regular season — may seem a little less daunting.

If nothing else, playing Connecticut and other top teams could help Notre Dame get a little bit closer to a day when an opposing coach declares the team to be just "that good."

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

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.

"Really, they're that good."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

McGraw

continued from page 20

Bruszewski finished with 15 points and Devereaux Peters added seven rebounds and a career-high 15 points to lead No. 6 Notre Dame (25-4, 12-4). Despite the unexpected contributions in the post against a much larger Connecticut frontcourt, the perimeter offense was nonexistent against the Huskies (30-0, 16-0). The Irish shot 31 percent from the field and only made 4-of-14 attempts from behind the arc.

"[Peters] played well last time we played them," McGraw said. "She was able to score on them, and she got some nice baskets off assists and a couple of rebounds. Becca created a lot of her own, especially in the first half, really kind of kept us in the game. Both of them really did well. I thought overall we were pressing a little bit, trying a little too hard to score."

Huskies senior forward Tina Charles, who entered Monday's contest needing 13 points and 5 rebounds to become the all-time leading scorer and rebounder in school history, delivered the game's top performance. Charles accomplished both goals, finishing with 18 points and 8 rebounds, as the Irish had no answer for the first-team All-American.

"I thought Tina Charles was an amazing player," McGraw said. "Congratulations to her for getting the record. I thought we guarded her fairly well in the first half. In the second half, we forgot to go down and

double her. We let her get better position, and I think she attacked a little bit more."

Charles may have been the unanimous player of the game, but the highlight of the night came in the second half in the form of a no-look, behind-the-back pass from Irish freshman guard Skylar Diggins to Peters, who finished with a reverse layup. Diggins finished with eight points, but the Connecticut defense frustrated the Irish guards all night.

In addition to breaking Notre Dame's 14-game home winning streak, the loss drops the Irish into a fourth-place tie with No. 16 St. John's in the conference standings. The Irish will be the fifth seed in the Big East Championship after falling to the Red Storm earlier in the year, but McGraw said she is confident the team can regroup for the postseason.

"I think they have to learn that your attitude is so important in how you approach things and how you go into the game," McGraw said. "We've done it twice now, and we didn't learn the lesson the first time, which I thought we learned. So now we got to figure out how we're going to approach the rest of the season."

Benefitting from a first-round bye, the Irish will take the rest of the week off before heading to Storrs, Conn., for a second-round conference tournament tilt Saturday against the winner of Friday's first-round game between No. 12 seed Pittsburgh and No. 13 seed Louisville.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 This plus that

5 Breath freshener

9 In the style of: Suffix

14 First razor with a pivoting head

15 Child of invention?

16 Boast of

17 *Mark the transition from an old year to the new, maybe

19 Restaurant owner in an Arlo Guthrie song

20 Mercenary in the American Revolution

21 ____ Hawkins Day

23 "Enough already!"

24 Like a post-fender-bender fender

27 Common paper size: Abbr.

28 Concept in Confucianism

30 ____ extra cost
- 31 Burping in public, e.g.

34 Place for a hot pie to cool

35 Billboard

36 Roth ____

37 *Measure with strides

40 Fellows

41 Backgammon pair

43 Pub projectile

44 An Astaire

46 Questions

47 Stat for Babe Ruth: Abbr.

48 Uno + due

49 "Come on!"

51 Neighbor of Macedonia and Montenegro

54 Get in touch with

56 Slob's opposite

58 Factory

60 *New neighbors event

62 Italian bowling game

63 "____ and the Real Girl" (2007 film)
- Down**

1 "Brandenburg Concertos" composer

2 Oklahoma Indians

3 Object of Teddy Roosevelt's "busting"

4 Millennium Falcon pilot in "Star Wars"

5 Where trapeze artists meet

6 Runaway bride's response?

7 Partner of improved

8 What bronzers simulate

9 Circumvent

10 California's ____ Valley, known as "America's salad bowl"

11 *Period of contemplation

12 Dad's bro

13 Summer in Montréal

18 First-rate

22 Name widely avoided in Germany

25 Georgia of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"

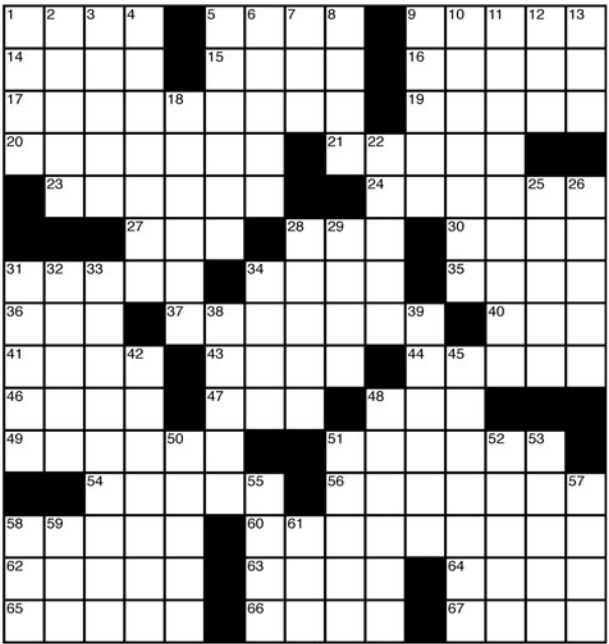
26 "Death Be Not Proud" poet

28 Wedding cake layers

29 Oodles and oodles

31 ____ basin

32 Pop up



Puzzle by Paula Gamache

- 33 *Reverse a position

34 Permanent reminder

38 Like single-purpose committees

39 Jill's portrayer on "Charlie's Angels"

42 Heart and soul

45 Ones who owe
- 48 Itty-bitty

50 Entrances to exclusive communities

51 "Hägar the Horrible" dog

52 Arctic native

53 Airplane seating request

55 "Hi, José!"
- 57 Hang on to ... or a word that can precede either half of the answer to each starred clue

58 Common sandwich for a brown-bagger

59 W.C. 61 3, 4 or 5, usually, for a golf hole

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



T.I.N.D.

DAN POHLMAN



JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

LUSKK

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KAWTE

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NEW Jumble iPhone App go to: <http://tr.im/jumbleapp>

WARBOR

Ans:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



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

THE

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PLUSH CROUP ROBBER EQUATE
Answer: How long did it take the commuter to get to work? — ABOUT AN HOUR

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

'They're that good'

Unbeaten Huskies hand team first home loss

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Notre Dame failed to defend its home floor for the first time this season, falling to Connecticut 76-51 in a rematch with major Big East tournament seeding implications. The Irish pulled to within 14 points with 11 minutes to go in the second half, but the nation's No. 1 team broke off a 13-0 run to push its winning streak to 69 games.

"Last game we weren't in it at all, so if we're in it for 10 minutes tonight, that's improvement," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think there's definitely more highlights for us in this game. They're just really, they're that good. They have to play poorly and we have to play well. And we didn't play well, and they didn't play poorly. That was a tough combination."

Junior forward Becca

see MCGRAW/page 18



Senior guard Lindsay Schrader tries to shoot around Connecticut senior guard Kalana Greene during Notre Dame's 76-51 home loss Monday. The loss was Notre Dame's first at home this season.

Playing No. 1 UConn twice should help ND

There were a lot of reasons for Notre Dame's 76-51 loss to No. 1 Connecticut Monday. But Irish coach Muffet McGraw summed them up in three words.

"They're a great team," she said. "Really, they're that good."

They're that good.

The

Huskies have now won 69 straight

games, one shy of their own record

set from 2001-03. This is their second straight undefeated regular season, something they also accomplished in the 2001-02 and 2002-03 seasons.



Laura Myers

Sports Writer

see UCONN/page 18

TRACK & FIELD

Schultz looking to shine on the track in final season

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

A stereotypical college life is one of partying, enjoying life and doing nothing productive as often as possible. Those Saturday or Sunday morning jogs around campus you vowed to run become few and far between, and exercising sometimes gets pushed to the back burner.

For Irish senior sprinter

Joanna Schultz, this lifestyle was never an option.

Schultz began running in seventh grade, and thanks to relentless encouragement from her mom, she never stopped.

"I started running because I wasn't athletic enough to play softball, and everyone in middle school did all three seasons of sports, so I had to do something," Schultz said.

Schultz graduated high

school with an impressive resume that included winning outdoor state titles in the 200- and 400-meter races all four years. After winning championships and breaking records across the board in Wisconsin, she decided Notre Dame was the next step.

"Notre Dame was a big name with a small and comfortable feeling," Schultz said. "It was close enough, yet far enough away from

home, and the girls on the team made me feel welcome."

In her junior year she took eighth in the 400 at the 2009 NCAA Indoor Nationals, earning the title of All-American, which she called the best memory of her career thus far. From there, Schultz's success continued into the outdoor season where she won the 400 hurdles at the Big East 2009 outdoor championships with

a time of 53.12 seconds. She advanced to the NCAA Midwest Regionals, where she placed fifth and barely missed out on the chance to compete in the national championships. Now Schultz is more determined than ever.

After having surgery on her stomach last September, Schultz has recovered and become stronger than ever.

see SCHULTZ/page 17

MEN'S LACROSSE

Big East poses new threats

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame won the last three GWLL championships, but this year has no chance to defend that title. Rather, the Irish will go after the first-ever Big East men's lacrosse title in the first year the conference has sponsored the sport.

In its 16 years in the GWLL, Notre Dame became a nationally-recognized program, finishing in first place 12 of those 16 years. Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said despite the promise the Big East holds for the Irish, the GWLL helped make the No. 3 Irish (2-0) what they are today.

see BIG EAST/page 17



Senior midfielder Grant Krebs fights off a Maryland player on May 10, 2009. The Irish are now part of the new Big East conference.

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish prepared to take on Illini on the road

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After breaking their three-match losing streak with wins over Michigan State, No. 36 Wisconsin, and Toledo over the weekend, the No. 31 Irish are set to take on the Illini in Champaign, Ill., today.

"It was a great weekend for us," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "I'm really proud of how our team competed against Wisconsin, who is a very good team. They're a legitimate top-20 team. They beat Florida State a couple weeks ago outdoors

without having practiced outdoors."

One of Notre Dame's (6-5) bright spots this past weekend came from No. 28 sophomore Casey Watt's performance at No. 1 singles.

Watt was able to defeat the nation's No. 7 player, Wisconsin's Moritz Baumann, in three sets, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.

"Casey Watt had a fantastic weekend," Bayliss said. "He changed up some of his tactics after the first set and they really paid off for him. He was trying to play aggressively

see WATT/page 17