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'A Catholic University for the 21st century'

Jenkins reflects on progress made during his first term as president and goals left to achieve during his tenure

By JENN METZ
Senior Staff Writer

University President Fr. John Jenkins lives by two important words: faith and reason. Those principles, he said, informed his at-times controversial decisions, and will continue to guide him into his second term.

Reflecting on his first term as University President, Jenkins said it's difficult to be under the media microscope while working to clearly communicate the goals of a Catholic university.

"We live in a time where there are a lot of voices out there and it's hard in the midst of that to speak over all the noise," Jenkins said in an interview with The Observer. "I think that one of my roles is to articulate what we are."

Most recently, last spring's controversy over the invitation to President Barack

Obama to receive an honorary degree at Commencement and the football coaching change this fall have thrust the University, and Jenkins, into the spotlight.

"I think you try always to do the thing that's best according to your deepest principles, whether eyes are on you or not, you still do that," he said. "There's a lot of noise and a lot of attention, but in the end it's really simple: you just try to do what's best, what accords with the mission of Notre Dame."

Adhering to that mission is one of the challenges for Jenkins as University President, a position he did not foresee himself holding.

'A series of steps in life'

"I didn't see myself doing this, and it wasn't a driving ambition of mine," Jenkins said. "It was a series of

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

University President Fr. John Jenkins said he lives by two words, faith and reason, and those have guided him through his first term and into his second as president.

Father Ted's Fun Run to benefit local students

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

Hoping to create opportunities for low-income and underserved prospective students, Notre Dame Upward Bound hopes that many will run this Sunday in order to help local students attend college.

The third annual Father Ted's Fun Run/Walk will take place Sunday at the Jordan Hall of Science at 3:30 p.m. Participants can either take

part in a one-mile walk or a five- or 10-kilometer run.

All proceeds from the event will go to Notre Dame Upward Bound, a program from the University's Department of Education whose mission is to help local students from low-income backgrounds be the first in their family to attend college.

"Upward Bound provides support and resources to students who have the potential to go to college but are often viewed as the least likely to

succeed," Alyssia Coates, director of Notre Dame Upward Bound, said. "We have a 100 percent success rate at graduating our students from high school and getting them into college."

Upward Bound is part of the Federal TRIO Programs that were established under President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society in the 60s. Notre Dame President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh was a member of the committee that created TRIO and Upward

Bound.

"Fr. Ted was instrumental in creating the Upward Bound program and bringing it to campus. That's why the Fun Run is named after him," Coates said. "He has always had a great interest in the program and in making sure these students from low-income families have the opportunity to obtain higher education."

"We wanted to honor Fr. Ted's dedication to the pro-

see FUN RUN/page 3

New bishop reflects on priesthood

By TONY RIVERA
News Writer

Before an audience of priests, seminarians and students, Bishop Kevin Rhoades warned "there is no excuse today for the confusion and errors about priestly identity and mission that were prevalent a few decades ago."

Calling for Catholic priests to fulfill the call of becoming "living images and living instruments of Christ," Rhoades delivered his address at the Moreau Seminary auditorium on Thursday night in honor of the Church's "Year for Priests."

"We should be filled with a spirit of wonder when contemplating the mystery of the priesthood," Rhoades said.

As part of his overnight stay at the Moreau Seminary, Rhoades' address focused on the theme of "Christ the High Priest," telling his audience that it is not possible to talk about this area of Catholicism without returning to "the priesthood of

see RHOADES/page 3

Blue-Gold weekend to bring crowds

By CARLY LONDON
News Writer

Tomorrow the Blue-Gold Game returns for the 81st time, bringing with it a fresh surge of Irish pride.

As in years past, thousands will flock to campus to get a glimpse at how the team will operate this fall.

Unlike many other years, however, a new fascination has latched itself to the weekend.

"Everybody is just so excited to see [Irish coach Brian] Kelly, and this is going to be the public's first glimpse to see him in action and what he's done to the team," Game Day Operations Director Mike Seamon said. "If

the weather cooperates, we are expecting to see huge crowds. Even with crowds, we are expecting 20,000. It could be 20,000 to 50,000. We are prepared for both."

Seamon said the game would be one of the season's most popular events.

"I think next to Commencement, which is just focused on graduating seniors, this is clearly the biggest weekend in the spring here at Notre Dame," he said.

Although this weekend's game is eight decades running, the activities and events featured will be anything but monoto-

see WEEKEND/page 4



Observer file photo

Fans gather Notre Dame Stadium to watch last year's Blue-Gold game. This year's game is Saturday.

INSIDE COLUMN

Happy Birthday

Today is my birthday, and it couldn't have fallen on a better Friday (or weekend, for that matter) of the year: I get to turn PigTostal, the Blue-Gold Game and Muddy Sunday into additional reasons to celebrate my 19th year of being.

However, as years have gone by, the celebrations surrounding birthdays have become less creative and all-inclusive and more impersonal and generic. Gone are the days of pondering for hours what kind of birthday party I wanted to have: no more pottery painting parties, roller skating bash-es or pool parties to look forward to.

Now, on my first birthday as a college student, my celebrations center around going to dinner with a few friends and proceeding to engage in various alcohol-related activities around campus for the rest of the weekend. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy going out with friends, meeting new people and accumulating stories of ridiculous drunken shenanigans, but you know things have changed when a giant pack of random, sweaty, inebriated people in a crowded dorm room raucously sing "Happy Birthday" to the person of honor like it's their own best friend's birthday when, in reality, chances are they have no idea whose birthday it is. If I had my wish, I would gather all my closest friends from both high school and college not only to celebrate my birthday but also to spend quality time with the people who mean the most to me.

With each successive birthday celebration, we eventually begin to cringe at the thought of adding another year to our lives, another number to our ages. Birthdays become Hallmark holidays by the time a person turns 30, reducing the significance of the celebration of one's birth to a few mildly thoughtful words and generic wishes scrawled on a store-bought greeting card.

I object to this devaluation of celebrating the most significant day of our lives: the day we were all introduced to the world for the first time. Without birthdays, none of us would even exist, let alone be able to commemorate our first days of being. Birthdays are essentially the only day a person has an excuse to be completely self-centered without getting called out on it by anyone. In addition, birthdays also provide a green light for being slightly obnoxious in making sure everyone knows it's your birthday and that this simple fact makes it the most important day in recent history.

So after a long countdown to today's festivities, I plan on fully embracing the meaning of my birthday and milking its significance for all it's worth by having a great time celebrating all weekend. And whenever your birthday comes around, don't forget to be at least a little selfish, a bit obnoxious and to remember the real reason for all the boisterous celebration: you.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

Kristen Durbin

News Production Editor

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 IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF ANTOSTAL?

					
Ali Vos <i>sophomore Welsh Family</i>	Sarah Straders <i>sophomore Welsh Family</i>	Greg Cunningham <i>sophomore Dillon</i>	Kevin Doyle <i>junior Dillon</i>	John Karol <i>sophomore Dillon</i>	Adam Doster <i>junior Dillon</i>
<i>"The cotton candy."</i>	<i>"The cherry snow cones."</i>	<i>"Pig Tostal!"</i>	<i>"The fun activities."</i>	<i>"I get the whole library to myself."</i>	<i>"The Krispie Kreme donuts."</i>

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



Students receive free cotton candy and snow cones as part of Antostal festivities in front of South Dining Hall on Thursday.

OFFBEAT

Worker punched after confronting man about odor

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — Police said a Cost Cutter store employee was punched in the mouth after he confronted a customer about his body odor. Police spokesman Mark Young told The Bellingham Herald that police went to the store after a report of a fight and found employees holding down a man.

The newspaper said customers apparently complained while the man was in the store Sunday, and the employee decided to discuss it with him when he returned the next day.

Young said the store employee was not going to ask him to leave the store, but only approached him to share the complaints. Young said the man snapped and threw a bunch of batteries and punched the worker, causing a minor injury.

Fake plastic surgeons provide breast implants

CARACAS — Venezuelan police have arrested a man and woman accused of impersonating plastic surgeons and providing women with silicone breast and buttock implants from an illegal clinic in an apart-

ment.

Cosmetic surgery, especially breast enlargement, is widespread in image-conscious Venezuela, which is known for beauty queens who have won many international pageant titles.

Reinaldo Henriquez was charged with aggravated fraud while sidekick Hersi Rodriguez was accused of aiding and abetting him by recruiting clients and taking them to their surgery in the western city of Maracay, the Attorney General's office said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame Bike Fest 2010 will take place today from noon until 7 p.m. on South Quad in front of the Rockne Memorial.

The College of Arts & Letters is presenting a lecture today entitled "The Legacy of Futurism in the Contemporary Small Press" at 1 p.m. in 107 Pasquerilla Center.







The Inaugural Chair Event and Book Launch for John Nagle will take place today from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Patrick McCartan Courtroom at the Eck Hall of Law. A reception in the Eck Hall atrium will follow the event.

"The Shirt" Unveiling Ceremony will take place tonight at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Festivities begin at 4 p.m. and the ceremony will start at 5:45 p.m. after a speech by head football coach Brian Kelly. Shirts will be for sale immediately following the ceremony.

The Blue-Gold Game will take place Saturday at 1:35 p.m. in Notre Dame Stadium. For tickets call the ND Ticket Office at 574-631-7356.

William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" will be performed Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Philbin Studio Theatre at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for students, \$15 for faculty and \$18 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 65 LOW 58	HIGH 55 LOW 50	HIGH 66 LOW 51	HIGH 57 LOW 42	HIGH 58 LOW 39	HIGH 58 LOW 37
	Atlanta 85 / 60 Boston 64 / 41 Chicago 63 / 52 Denver 48 / 43 Houston 81 / 69 Los Angeles 67 / 52 Minneapolis 68 / 50 New York 68 / 46 Philadelphia 70 / 45 Phoenix 73 / 57 Seattle 63 / 45 St. Louis 78 / 63 Tampa 86 / 68 Washington 73 / 53					

Student crashes College golf cart

Observer Staff Report

At approximately 3 p.m. Wednesday, a student employee at Saint Mary's College lost control of a College-owned golf cart and crashed into Angela Athletic Facility, David Gariepy, director of security at the College said. No one was injured in the accident. According to Gariepy, the stu-

dent was attempting to park the golf cart when her foot slipped off the brake and onto the accelerator, causing her to smash into the glass door on the north side of the building. Gariepy said the College is working to attain an estimate of the damages. No estimate is available at this time. Gariepy said the College is planning to make repairs, though no timeline has been set.

Rhoades

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Christ.” “Only Christ is the true priest, the others being only his ministers,” Rhoades said, quoting St. Thomas Aquinas. Rhoades, who was ordained as a priest in 1983, was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend last November. For Bishop Rhodes, life in the priesthood has been one of reflection. “To understand and appreciate the nature and the meaning of the Catholic priesthood, one needs to reflect deeply on the priestly consecration and mission of Jesus Christ,” Rhoades said.

This reflecting, he continued, finds roots in the New Testament's Letter to the Hebrews. Though describing it as one of the most challenging books of the New Testament, Bishop Rhoades pointed out that Hebrews is significant for its “priestly Christology, a presentation for the identity and mission of Christ in priestly terms.” In return, the Bishop said, Jesus gives comfort to the priest in his Priestly Prayer found in the 17th chapter in the Gospel of John. “He is praying for us,” he said of this passage. “He is praying for the Church.” He likewise stressed the importance for the faithful to pray for protection in the Church's mission as well, especially in light of the resurgence of new sex abuse scandals.

“I wonder if we would be in the mess we're in after the priest and clergy abuse scandals if we were praying for protection from the evil one,” Rhoades said. In the present day, the Bishop also said it was “absolutely essential” when promoting vocations to present the beauty of the priesthood. This responsibility, he said, falls on parishes, schools, religious education programs, campus ministry and other youth ministry groups. “Such authentic catechesis can and does inspire young men to consider a possible vocation to share in the priestly consecration of Jesus,” Rhoades said.

Contact Tony Rivera at rrivera3@nd.edu

Fun Run

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gram by naming this event after him,” Upward Bound administrative assistant Deb Wisler said. The program enrolls students during their freshman year of high school and continues to support them throughout their high school years by “keeping them on track, providing tutoring from Notre Dame students, academic advising and having enrichment programming,” Wisler said. The program is completely free of cost for students and then helps to provide them scholarships once they are enrolled in college. The students, however, struggle to afford books and other items that are not covered by tuition one they're

enrolled in college. The Fun Run was developed three years ago to specifically address this issue. Fifteen students will benefit from its proceeds this year. “This fundraiser is geared solely to our graduating high school seniors,” Wisler said. “The students are very involved in the event. They go to friends and family to get sponsorships and they will walk or run at the event.” The students that are members of the program value the opportunity that has been presented to them courtesy of Upward Bound. “I work with these kids and they are incredibly bright and so motivated — a lot more than a lot of the kids that I went to high school with,” senior Erin Robey, a Fun Run organizer, said. “I think that it's really good that they're really trying to get involved in their futures and it's a pleasure to help them out.” The Fun Run has grown and developed since it began two years ago and organizers are hoping for a larger turnout this year as more and more com-

munity members have become aware of the event. “Last year we had 200 participants and raised almost \$9000 for our students,” Wisler said. “We're hoping to increase by 100 participants this year.” The event aims to facilitate the relationship between Notre Dame and the South Bend community, especially since “there is such a disparity between the Notre Dame community and the community that is two minutes away,” Robey said. Wisler said Upward Bound and the Fun Run help to “serve as a bridge” between Notre Dame and South Bend and Coates believes both communities are trying to achieve the same goal. “We're all looking to find out what resources are available so we can work together and be a collaborative community,” Coates said. “We need to unite and make sure the citizens in our community are developing into the citizens that we all want them to be.”

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For information on classes listed above or if you are interested in a Minor in Irish Language and Literature contact the department at 631-1721 or email dmawhorr@nd.edu

Write News.

E-mail Sarah at smervosh@nd.edu

Jenkins

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said. "It was a series of steps in life that led me here and led me to this."

Graduating from Notre Dame with a degree in philosophy in 1976, Jenkins was drawn to the priesthood and was ordained in 1983.

"I think with that there's always an element of mystery. I've always felt that desire for something of depth, something meaningful in my life."

That search for something more led Jenkins to "think deeply about faith and about God" and about what he was going to do with his life.

"That eventually led me to think about serving people as a priest, someone who strives to bring Christ to people," he said.

After attending graduate school at Oxford and serving on the faculty at Notre Dame, Jenkins moved to the Provost's Office. In 2004, he was elected president to succeed University President Emeritus Fr. Edward "Monk" Malloy.

Jenkins said his studies in philosophy have helped him perform the duties of the Office of the President. He tells his students philosophy is "just thinking hard, thinking clearly" about important issues.

"I always found them to my mind the sort of profound issues of life, of human life ... and I genuinely enjoyed grappling with those issues ... it just resonated with who I was," he said, "and that's what we do every day."

Every day challenges

"My challenge every day is time," Jenkins said. "You have all these pressures and people demand your time, so it's always a struggle."

Serving as president of a university is a balancing act, he said. Daily meetings, traveling and full schedules leave little time for anything else.

Though Jenkins no longer interacts with students in the classroom as professor, an aspect of his life he says he misses, "nothing is more important than keeping in touch with the students."

"It is one of the joys of my job to talk to students and I try to make that a part of what I do," he said.

Jenkins' biggest challenge, however, is a positive one: "to live up to a mission that is distinctive in higher education and to realize the tremendous potential of Notre Dame in the 21st cen-

tury."

Jenkins said there are three important aspects to Notre Dame's goal: to provide unparalleled undergraduate education, to be a preeminent research university and to let the Catholic mission "inform everything we do."

"If we do all three, Notre Dame can make contributions to society and the nation and the Church that is really unique," he said. "And my passion in this job is to make that contribution and to help Notre Dame make that contribution."

These goals will carry into Jenkins' second term as University president, he said. "You always have to keep striving — if you're not

striving, you're falling backwards."

He said he hopes progress toward achieving those goals is part of the legacy he leaves behind on the University, as well as making Notre Dame an important venue for debate on "important issues," even if they're controversial.

"I hope Notre Dame can be a place where we can have those kinds of conversations and can engage people who are the leaders of our nation, the influential people of the world," Jenkins said. "The University particu-

larly should be a place that's open to a diversity of views, even views that challenge us."

Jenkins' decisions in the past, including inviting President Barack Obama to receive an honorary degree from the

University, have drawn criticism from Church representatives, including John D'Arcy, former bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.

While he believes "the bishop has a role in the diocese of teaching the faith" and that it's important that he, as University president, personally remains close to the bishop, Jenkins said some decisions belong to the University.

"It's appropriate the University should make those decisions, as best we can on the principles that guide the institution," he said. "I'm committed to working with the bishop to help Notre Dame, to help Notre Dame serve the Church and serve the diocese."

'A Catholic University for the 21st century'

Jenkins said establishing these relationships — with the Church and with national leaders — and working toward achieving the University's central goals, puts Notre Dame in a unique position.

"The thing about Notre Dame, we're sort of inventing a Catholic university for the 21st century," he said. "There have been great Catholic universities, but history has changed, society has changed, universities have changed."

Undertaking the challenge to create the new Catholic university depends on Jenkins' guiding principles, drawn from his studies in philosophy and his calling to the priesthood.

"I think a Catholic university is the institutional expression of a confidence in the harmony of faith and reason — that's why we exist. If we didn't believe that, let's just shut the doors and go home."

The two are not in conflict with each other, but rather inform every aspect of Notre Dame, he said.

"There's nothing more central to us. That means, the inquiring mind in the search for truth and all the challenges that involves along the way is not in conflict with a faith in God," Jenkins said. "It is precisely that confidence in that harmony and the strength of the Catholic faith — that's the reason why Notre Dame exists."

The coming weeks will bring the most rewarding part of Jenkins' presidency: conferring degrees on graduating students.

"Every graduation is my proudest moment, just to send people off to see how they've grown," he said. "That's why we're here. They're going to do great things in the world after being at Notre Dame, and that's a great accomplishment."

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Weekend

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nous.

"Given the tremendous interests in Coach Kelly, I think it's safe to say there will be unprecedented activities and events this weekend," Seamon said. "It's going to be bigger than anything we've done in the past."

Notre Dame students are especially eager to gauge from the scrimmage how the team has already shifted under their new coach's direction.

"Last year's game was really exciting. Just to be in the stadium in the spring really pumped me up for the fall season," sophomore Alexandra Unger said. "I think this Blue and Gold game will be even better because the football team is feeling really enthusiastic and Brian Kelly is causing a lot of excitement."

The University will kick off the weekend Friday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. with a fan festival, open to the public, on the Irish Green, featuring games, food and activities.

That afternoon the University will reveal the new The Shirt.

"It's going to start off with The Shirt unveiling at four at the bookstore. The new cheerleaders and the leprechaun and a number of other student groups will be there," Seamon said. "Coach Kelly himself will unveil The Shirt itself at 5:45."

Besides football, other Irish sports teams are also hosting home games this weekend which the University has incorporated into the events of the weekend.

"We are also dedicating the new Alumni Soccer Stadium," Seamon said. "The men's and women's soccer teams are playing there Friday night."

The baseball, softball teams will play on campus, and the women's Big East tennis championships will be on campus as well, Seamon said.

Blue-Gold weekend ends Sunday with the South Bend Symphony playing at the Purcell Pavilion.

The event will feature over 700 musicians, Seamon said.

Contact Carly Landon at clandon@nd.edu

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Alleged top drug dealer caught

MEXICO CITY — Troops battled a suspected drug gang in a wealthy neighborhood on the outskirts of Mexico City and captured an alleged major trafficker with a \$2 million U.S. bounty on his head, officials announced on Thursday.

Jose Gerardo Alvarez Vazquez — known as “El Indio” or “El Chayan” — is suspected of being responsible for a spike in violence in states near the capital as part of a struggle for control of the Beltran Leyva drug cartel, the military and the federal Attorney General’s Office said.

Authorities said Alvarez Vazquez, 45, was arrested along with 14 other suspected drug traffickers during a Wednesday night shootout in Huixquilucan, just west of the capital.

Clegg vows in Britain’s debates

LONDON — Nick Clegg has proven he wasn’t a one-hit wonder in Britain’s second election debate, holding his own against Labour’s Prime Minister Gordon Brown and the Conservatives’ David Cameron over thorny issues such as Afghanistan, the Catholic sex abuse scandal and the special relationship with the United States.

Clegg shook up the race last week, emerging as a clear winner in Britain’s first U.S.-styled election debate and boosting the profile of the Liberal Democrats, the country’s third-largest party. Thursday’s debate, however, was razor-sharp. One polls gave Clegg a paperthin edge while others put Clegg neck-and-neck with Cameron. Still, Clegg managed to keep some of his political stardust — respondents in one of the polls said the 43-year-old seemed to be the most honest of the three.

NATIONAL NEWS

White supremacist found dead

PEARL, Miss. — A white supremacist lawyer with a knack for publicity was found stabbed to death in a burning house on Thursday and Mississippi authorities later said a neighbor had been charged with murder.

Rankin County Sheriff Ronnie Pennington said Richard Barrett’s body was found just after 8 a.m. after residents reported smoke coming from his house in a rural area outside a Jackson, Miss., suburb.

Pennington told The Associated Press that Vincent McGee, 22, has been charged with murder in the case. Additional charges could be forthcoming, Pennington said, including arson.

The sheriff said McGee had not yet hired a lawyer and the suspect’s mother had no comment when she went to the jail where her son was being held.

Prison official found guilty of abuse

ODESSA, Texas — A former Texas youth prison administrator was found guilty Thursday of sexually abusing a teenage inmate more than five years ago in a case that ignited a statewide scandal over the treatment of young offenders.

Ray Edward Brookins was convicted of two counts each of having an improper sexual activity with a person in custody and having an improper relationship between an educator and student.

Brookins, a former assistant superintendent of the Texas Youth Commission’s West Texas State School in Pyote, was immediately taken into custody.

Brookins could face up to 20 years in state prison.

LOCAL NEWS

Two boys charged with man’s death

WARSAW, Ind. — A 15-year-old northern Indiana boy and a 12-year-old friend have been charged in the shooting death of the older boy’s stepfather.

The two boys were charged as juveniles with murder Thursday in Kosciusko (Koss-ee-OSS’-koh) County Superior Court in Warsaw. Another 12-year-old was charged with aiding or causing murder. A hearing will be held April 29 to determine if the three boys will be tried as adults.

During a fact-finding hearing, one of the younger boys said he helped the 15-year-old shoot his 49-year-old stepfather as he walked into the kitchen of their home.

Burning oil rig sinks after explosion

Loss of oil platform sets stage for big spill, slims the chances of survival for 11 missing

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A deepwater oil platform that burned for more than a day after a massive explosion sank into the Gulf of Mexico on Thursday, creating the potential for a major spill as it underscored the slim chances that the 11 workers still missing survived.

The sinking of the Deepwater Horizon, which burned violently until the gulf itself extinguished the fire, could unleash more than 300,000 of gallons of crude a day into the water. The environmental hazards would be greatest if the spill were to reach the Louisiana coast, some 50 miles away.

Crews searched by air and water for the missing workers, hoping they had managed to reach a lifeboat, but one relative said family members have been told it’s unlikely any of the missing survived Tuesday night’s blast. The Coast Guard found two lifeboats but no one was inside. More than 100 workers escaped the explosion and fire; four were critically injured.

Carolyn Kemp of Monterey, La., said her grandson, Roy Wyatt Kemp, 27, was among the missing. She said he would have been on the drilling platform when it exploded.

“They’re assuming all those men who were on the platform are dead,” Kemp said. “That’s the last we’ve heard.”

Jed Kersey, of Leesville, La., said his 33-year-old son, John, had finished his shift on the rig floor and was sleeping when the explosion occurred. He said his son told him that all 11 missing workers were on the rig floor at the time of the explosion.

“He said it was like a war zone,” said Jed Kersey, a former offshore oil worker.

An alarm sounded and the electricity went out, sending John Kersey and



AP

David Rainey, BP’s vice president for Gulf of Mexico production, speaks Thursday in New Orleans about the Deepwater Horizon mobile offshore drilling unit explosion and investigation.

other workers scurrying to a lifeboat that took them to a nearby service boat, his father said.

“They waited for as many people as they could,” Jed Kersey said. He added that his son wasn’t ready to talk publicly about his experience.

As the rig burned, supply vessels shot water into it to try to keep it afloat and avoid an oil spill, but there were additional explosions Thursday. Officials had previously said the environmental damage appeared minimal, but new challenges have arisen now that the platform has sunk.

The well could be spilling up to 336,000 gallons of crude oil a day, Coast Guard Petty Officer Katherine McNamara said.

She said she didn’t know whether the crude oil was spilling into the gulf. The rig also carried 700,000 gallons of diesel fuel, but that would likely evaporate if the fire didn’t consume it.

Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry said crews saw a 1-mile-by-5-mile rainbow sheen with a dark center of what appeared to be a crude oil mix on the surface of the water. She said there wasn’t any evidence crude oil was coming out after the rig sank, but officials also aren’t sure what’s going on underwater. They have dispatched a vessel to check.

The oil will do much less damage at sea than it would if it hits the shore, said Cynthia Sarthou, executive director of the Gulf

Restoration Network.

“If it gets landward, it could be a disaster in the making,” Sarthou said.

Doug Helton, incident operations coordinator for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration’s office of response and restoration, said the spill is not expected to come onshore in the next three to four days. “But if the winds were to change, it could come ashore more rapidly,” he said.

At the worst-case figure of 336,000 gallons a day, it would take more than a month for the amount of crude oil spilled to equal the 11 million gallons spilled from the Exxon Valdez in Alaska’s Prince William Sound.

Take-your-kid-to-work day loses steam

Associated Press

CHICAGO — More than a decade after it began, take-your-kid-to-work day appears to be losing steam. Now it’s keep-your-kid-in-school.

Thursday marked the 17th year for Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day. But some school districts sent strongly worded letters or e-mails to parents explaining that taking a child to work would put the youngster’s education at risk.

Many teachers found their Thursday classes largely unaffected.

“We had only six out today — that’s actually less than usual,” said Darrell Propst, principal of Taylor Road Elementary School in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, who asked parents not to pull

their kids out of school. “Our attendance was very, very good today.”

Though many kids still accompany a parent to work, some employers say the event increasingly conflicts with high-stakes standardized testing in schools. And this year, it was overshadowed by Earth Day, which celebrated its 40th anniversary on Thursday.

In Texas — at Dell Inc. in Austin and Southern Methodist University in Dallas — most of the focus was on Earth Day, not Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.

“I haven’t heard about that in a while,” SMU spokesman Kent Best said. “It was a big deal maybe a decade ago. ... So today is the day?”

Travis Carter, a public relations

executive in Dallas who has two children, ages 5 and 6, said his kids reminded him it was Earth Day and took their recyclables to school.

“I am surprised to now hear that it’s also take-your-kids-to-work day,” he said.

The event was launched in 1993 and has always fallen on the fourth Thursday in April. But that date has drawn complaints from school administrators for well over a decade, especially because many standardized tests fall on or near the same day.

Some school officials have contacted the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation to ask that the event be held on a school holiday or during the summer, but the organization won’t budge.

Ariz. wants proof of citizenship in 2012

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona lawmakers expressing doubt over whether President Barack Obama was born in the United States are pushing a bill through the Legislature that would require the president to show his birth certificate to get on the state's 2012 ballot.

The House passed the measure Wednesday on a 31-29 vote, ignoring protests from opponents who said it's casting Arizona in an ugly light and could give the elected secretary of state broad powers to kick a presidential candidate off the ballot.

"We're becoming a national joke," Rep. Chad Campbell, who opposes the measure, said Thursday.

The measure's sponsor, Rep. Judy Burges, said she isn't sure Obama could prove his eligibility for the ballot in Arizona and wants to erase all doubts.

"You have half the population who thinks everything is fine, and you have the other half of the population who has had doubts built up in their mind," Burges said.

So-called "birthers" have contended since the 2008 presidential campaign that Obama is ineligible to be president because, they argue, he was actually born in Kenya, his father's homeland. The Constitution says that a person must be a "natural-born citizen" to be eligible for the presidency.

Hawaii officials have repeatedly confirmed Obama's citizenship, and his Hawaiian birth certificate has been made public, along with birth notices from two Honolulu newspapers published within days of his birth in August 1961.

Courts have rebuffed lawsuits challenging Obama's eligibility, but the issue hasn't gone away. Lawmakers have introduced similar bills in a handful of other states. They include Oklahoma, where a measure passed the House but failed in the Senate, and Missouri, where a bill was withdrawn before any action was taken.

Eleven U.S. House Republicans have signed on

to a federal bill, but it hasn't received a hearing in the Democrat-controlled House.

Arizona's measure would require U.S. presidential candidates to submit documents to the secretary of state proving they meet the constitutional requirements to be president. The secretary of state could then decide to keep a candidate off the Arizona ballot if he or she had reasonable cause to believe the candidate was ineligible.

Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett opposes the bill, arguing it gives his office too much power, according to his spokesman Matthew Benson. Benson said Bennett, a Republican, has no doubts about Obama's citizenship.

The bill now goes to the Senate, where supporters are trying to pull together enough votes to pass the measure. If they do, it's unclear if Republican Gov. Jan Brewer will give it her support. Her spokesman, Paul Senseman, said the governor won't comment on pending legislation, but he added she doesn't have doubts about Obama's citizenship.

The measure comes amid a string of controversial proposals in Arizona that have garnered national attention, including a sweeping illegal immigration crackdown awaiting action by the governor and a measure allowing people to carry concealed weapons without permits. The governor signed the gun bill last week.

Rep. Tom Chabin pleaded with his colleagues to oppose the birth certificate measure Wednesday.

"When you undermine the sitting president of the United States, you undermine our nation, and it makes us look very ugly," Chabin said Thursday.

But some supporters insist the bill isn't aimed at Obama, it's just common sense.

"It's our ballot," said state Sen. Jack Harper, who believes Obama has proven his citizenship. "The parties need to prove that their nominee is eligible to hold the office of president to be on our ballot."

IRS investigating Fla. Senate hopeful

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Senate hopeful Marco Rubio, the new darling of the tea-party movement, finds himself caught up in a federal investigation into alleged credit-card abuses by top Florida Republicans.

Nonetheless, he's racking up endorsements and holding a double-digit lead in polls over Republican Gov. Charlie Crist.

Rubio won the backing Thursday of former Vice President Dick Cheney, a day after Rubio repaid Florida's Republican Party \$2,417 for double-billed flights. It came the same week it was disclosed that the IRS was investigating Rubio's use of Republican Party credit cards for personal use.

Rubio blamed the expense on an accounting error he discovered after the first of several stories on the investigation appeared a few weeks ago in The Miami Herald and the St. Petersburg Times.

Rubio, 39, acknowledged that he made personal purchases on his party-issued credit card but said he paid those bills out of his own pocket. Among the expenditures that have been called into question: a \$134 charge at a men's salon in Miami; hotel rooms for a family get-together; and purchases at a wine store.

In all, 27 people had party credit cards.

Trailing in the polls, Crist is considering abandoning the Republican Party and running as an independent. It was Crist who asked federal prosecutors recently to investigate spending at the state GOP.

Crist, 54, has tried to make an issue of Rubio's use of his party credit card, running negative television ads and putting out press releases. The ads, however, did nothing to boost Crist's poll num-

bers and have since been taken down.

The issue doesn't seem to make any difference to key Republicans. Cheney's endorsement came just a few days after one from Mitt Romney, a possible 2012 presidential candidate.

"I just don't think the financial stuff has penetrated yet. Whether it does or not will depend on whether any actual charges come out of it," said Peter Brown, assistant polling director for Quinnipiac University.

Many Republicans have abandoned Crist as too moderate. They were upset that he hugged President Barack Obama and embraced his \$787 billion federal stimulus package, too. More recently, party leaders got angry when he vetoed a bill that would have tied teacher raises to students' test scores.

It is a startling reversal of fortune for the two rivals. Just last year, Rubio, the former Florida House speaker, was 46 percentage points behind Crist in a Quinnipiac

poll — the same survey that last week showed Rubio with a commanding 23-point lead. Rubio took in \$3.6 million in the last quarter, compared with \$1.1 million for Crist.

Most voters haven't had time to sort out all the details of the party spending and who should be blamed, said Republican political scientist Darryl Paulson, a retired University of South Florida professor. Still, the issue has the potential to hurt Rubio, he said.

"That's probably fine at this point in time, but he still has questions to answer and the first one for me is why in the world would he put personal expenses on his party credit card to begin with?" Paulson said.

Crist has until April 30 to decide whether to run as an independent; the primary is in August.

In endorsing Rubio, Cheney called him someone who could be trusted "to stand up to the Obama agenda that threatens our freedom, and promote clear conservative alternatives."



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Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
2,107	144	1,678	2,032,725,946

AMEX	1,963.57	+12.11
NASDAQ	2,519.07	+14.46
NYSE	7,642.83	-1.84
S&P 500	1,208.67	-0.69
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,949.09	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,665.33	-58.10

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC. (C)	-1.22	-0.06	4.87
QWEST COMM (Q)	+2.48	+0.13	5.37
BANK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+1.42	+0.26	18.54
NOKIA CORP (NOK)	-13.11	-1.96	12.99

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+9.10	-0.67	3.77
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	0.1450
30-YEAR BOND	+5.86	+0.27	4.64
5-YEAR NOTE	+18.04	+0.45	2.54

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.02		83.70
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.90		1,142.3
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.275		96.45

Exchange Rates			
YEN			93.3950
EURO			1.3231
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0025
BRITISH POUND			1.5347

IN BRIEF

Renewable energy bill dies on Earth day

MADISON, Wis. — As outdoor lovers celebrated Earth Day's 40th anniversary, state lawmakers pulled the plug on a bill that would have set aggressive new renewable energy standards.

The state Senate finished its two-year session Thursday without voting on the bill after Democratic leaders balked at reports that the measure would drive up utility rates. Senate Majority Leader Russ Decker, D-Weston, has signaled for days the measure had little support.

"We just don't have the votes," Decker said. "The businesses back home are really concerned (about the cost)."

Democrats worked for more than two years on the bill, which would have enacted recommendations from Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle's climate change task force. After Democrats took control of both the Senate and Assembly in the 2008 election, the time looked perfect to push the legislation out.

A version introduced in January called for a quarter of Wisconsin's energy to come from renewable sources by 2025. The bill also eased restrictions on nuclear energy, tightened building codes to increase energy efficiency, imposed idling restrictions and mandated car emission standards similar to California's, the toughest in the country then.

Home sales increase in Midwest

OMAHA, Neb. — Home sales in the Midwest jumped nearly 20 percent over last year as buyers continued to go after expiring federal tax credits.

The National Association of Realtors said Thursday that 97,000 existing homes sold in March across the 11-state region. And the median sales price was flat at \$139,300.

The Midwest trends were reflected nationally. Compared with March last year, U.S. home sales rose 20 percent, without adjusting for seasonal factors. The median price was also flat, but higher, at \$170,700.

Realtors say the looming April 30 tax-credit deadline is motivating first-time buyers and keeping the market moving.

"The tax credit really has a lot to do with it," said Peggy Isakson, president of the Fargo Moorhead Area Association of Realtors.

Home sales increased in all but one of the 12 major Midwestern cities tracked in the Associated Press-Re/Max Monthly Housing Report.

Airlines end talk of alliance

US Airways breaks off talk with United Airlines; United pursues other partners

Associated Press

ATLANTA — US Airways has broken off talks with United Airlines, leaving United to pursue a deal with Continental Airlines that would reshuffle the lineup in the airline industry.

US Airways, the nation's sixth-largest carrier, didn't specifically say Thursday why it ended talks with United, although Continental's involvement appears to have played a role.

Renewed discussions about airline consolidation come as fuel prices are on the rise. While demand for air travel has improved from recession lows, major carriers are still struggling to turn profits. Several major carriers, including Continental, reported first-quarter losses this week.

Analysts have long maintained that, despite deep capacity cuts that occurred when demand was weak, the airline industry needs to further shrink to become consistently profitable.

United and Continental considered combining in 2008 — the same year Delta Air Lines completed its acquisition of Northwest Airlines — until Continental broke off talks.

The industry landscape has changed dramatically since then.

Continental has a new management lineup since its earlier talks with United, although Continental CEO Jeff Smisek was president and chief operating officer under the previous CEO.

United has also tried to burnish its finances and image in the two years since.

"They've been able to improve revenue and cut costs," said Helane Becker, an analyst with Jesup & Lamont.

US Airways, meanwhile, is the product of one combination and long been the seeker of another.



A US Airways plane takes off from Miami International Airport in October. While US Airways has ended talks with United, it believes that it remains viable as a standalone airline.

"US Airways was ready to sign a deal with United when they found out United was more interested in signing a deal with Continental," said a person who was briefed on the discussions.

The person was not authorized to speak publicly, and spoke on condition of anonymity.

"There are some very hurt feelings in Phoenix," the person said. US Airways Group Inc. is based in Tempe, Ariz., a suburb of Phoenix.

A US Airways official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person wasn't authorized to publicly discuss private conversations said the airline's decision to break off

talks was a business one, not an emotional one. "No one is licking any wounds here," the person said.

US Airways said that while its board decided to end talks with United, it believes it remains viable as a standalone airline.

"As I have said many times, it is not necessary for us to be direct participants in a merger because the entire industry benefits when consolidation occurs," US Airways CEO Doug Parker said in a memo to employees.

United, a unit of UAL Corp., based in Chicago, did not directly address US Airways' comments in a statement, saying only that it continues to believe the industry would benefit

from consolidation.

Smisek declined to comment on the US Airways decision and gave only the barest description of his company's actions on consolidation.

"As you would expect of a responsible management team, we are examining Continental's options and will take whatever action we believe to be in the best interests of our co-workers, stockholders, customers and the communities we serve," he said.

US Airways' announcement came after word that United and Continental had exchanged financial information as a prelude to a possible combination between those two carriers.

Wyoming decides to spray grasshoppers

Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — If Wyoming experiences a grasshopper outbreak this summer, pest control officials will treat U.S. Bureau of Land Management property in the state by spraying swaths of land with insecticide.

The BLM conducted an environmental study of methods to suppress the bugs and recently selected the "Reduced Area and Agent Treatment" method, known as RAATs. The plan, a common method of treating grasshopper infestations, involves spraying alternating strips of land with the insecticide diflufen-zuron, which stops grasshoppers from growing.

Treating intermittent strips is

more efficient than blanket spraying and is still effective because grasshoppers are exposed to the poison as they move in and out of the treated strips, pest control officials say.

The BLM decided against a similar alternative that would have required more restrictive buffers around certain bird and big game habitat.

The agency is taking feedback on its environmental study through Monday, but has already found that its preferred treatment would have no significant environmental effects, said Ken Henke, Wyoming BLM's weed and pest coordinator.

The 10 local BLM field offices in Wyoming will have a chance to place tighter restrictions on spray-

ing if they wish, he said.

"If public comments come in, if there's something really significant we missed or some issue we just overlooked, that also could be addressed in the final (environmental assessment)," Henke said.

A federal survey of adult grasshoppers last fall indicated that northeast and north-central Wyoming could become infested with grasshoppers this summer. The insects are native to Wyoming, but outbreaks of certain pest species can be problematic because of their voracious appetites for grass.

Pest control officials consider outbreak levels to be about 15 grasshoppers per square yard — enough to cause economic problems.

Vatican received letter from abuse victim

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — A neatly typed letter dated March 5, 1995, is addressed to the No. 2 man at the Vatican and recounts the story of a priest who preyed on deaf boys trapped in dormitories with no chance of escape.

The letter to Cardinal Angelo Sodano from one of the Rev. Lawrence Murphy's alleged victims is more evidence for those trying to learn what Vatican officials knew about abuse claims at St. John's School for the Deaf outside Milwaukee and when.

The document was revealed Thursday in yet another lawsuit aimed at the highest reaches of the Roman Catholic Church. It's also significant because it involves Sodano, a strong defender of Pope Benedict XVI's handling of the global clergy sexual abuse crisis and a man whose own record on a separate high-profile case has come under scrutiny.

The Vatican's U.S.-based attorney, Jeffrey Lena, said in a statement Thursday that the lawsuit was a publicity stunt with no merit and it rehashes theories already rejected by U.S. courts.

Murphy, who died in 1998, is accused of sexually abusing some 200 boys at the deaf school from 1950 to 1974. He was put on a leave of absence when the allegations were revealed in the early 1970s. The lawsuit claims Murphy was still allowed to serve in ministry and work with children in another Wisconsin diocese into the early 1990s.

The Vatican has previously said that diocese officials and civil authorities knew about the allegations some 20 years before the Vatican was ever notified. Because of that, Lena said, it

cannot be held liable for Murphy's abuse.

Murphy's case drew renewed attention after the recent release of documents called into question the actions of a Vatican office led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

Before the disclosure of the 1995 letter to Sodano, it was believed the Vatican first learned of allegations against Murphy in a July 1996 letter from Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert Weakland. That letter was sent to the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, the powerful Vatican office Ratzinger led from 1981 to his election as pope in 2005.

That office told the archbishop to move forward with a canonical trial against Murphy in March 1997. But then the office later urged a different course after receiving a letter from Murphy.

The Rev. Federico Lombardi, a Vatican spokesman, has said they suggested restricting Murphy from ministry rather than holding a full-blown canonical trial, citing Murphy's age, failing health, and a lack of further allegations.

The Wisconsin bishops ordered the proceedings halted, but in the end, Murphy died while still a defendant in a canonical trial, which could have led to Murphy being laicized, or stripped of the priesthood.

The defendants in the lawsuit are Ratzinger, Sodano, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone and the Holy See, identified as the state of the Vatican City. Bertone was Ratzinger's deputy at the time and is now the Vatican's secretary of state.

The lawsuit claims all three men knew about the allegations

against Murphy and conspired to keep them secret. The lawsuit says the claims are based on "information and belief" but doesn't offer proof.

Sodano has long been accused in news reports in U.S. Catholic publications and other outlets of stalling a Vatican probe of the Rev. Marcial Maciel, the discredited founder of the Legionaries of Christ. The order has admitted that the late Maciel fathered at least one child and molested young seminarians.

Anderson, the plaintiff's lawyer, provided a copy of a receipt showing the registered letter to Sodano had reached the Vatican. The man wrote Sodano — then the Vatican's Secretary of State — again and got no response, according to Anderson.

Lena said that at the time, it was a local matter regarding a local priest and the victim had already communicated with the local bishop. Under those circumstances, Lena said it is "entirely appropriate" under canon law for the local diocese — not the Holy See — to respond.

Thursday's lawsuit is not the first to aim directly at the Vatican, even from Anderson. Another lawsuit of his remains open in Oregon and was recently allowed to move forward by a federal appeals court. In a separate Kentucky lawsuit, Vatican attorneys are mounting a defense they hope will shield the pope from having to answer attorneys' questions under oath.

Some legal experts questioned the Wisconsin lawsuit's prospects.

Nicholas Cafardi, a canon lawyer and former dean at the Duquesne University School of



Attorney Jeff Anderson speaks about the federal filing of a lawsuit against Pope Benedict XVI in St. Paul, Minn., Thursday.

Law, said he doesn't believe Anderson can overcome sovereign immunity hurdles. He said the lawsuit describes the Roman Catholic Church as if it were an international commercial business and it's not.

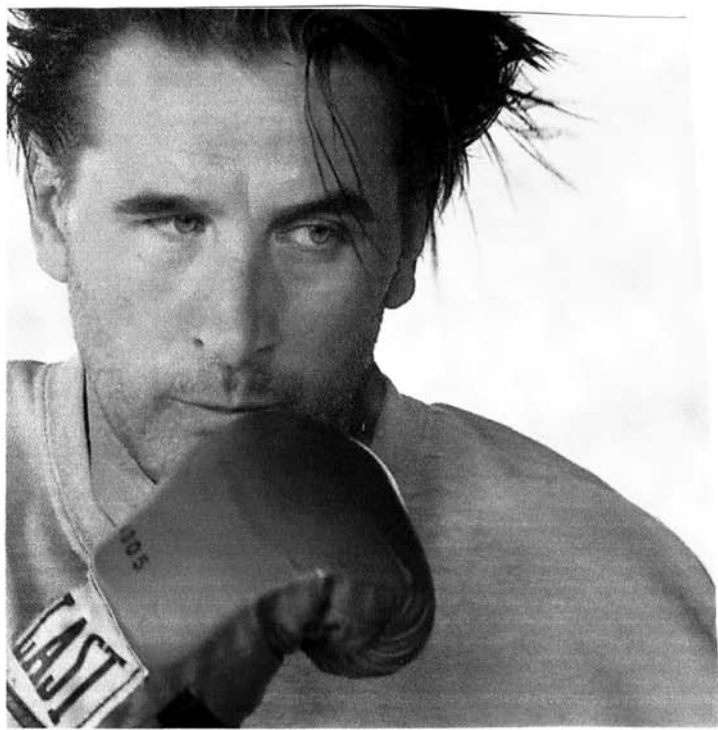
"He's alleging an employment relationship between individual priests and the Holy See," Cafardi said. "I'm sorry, but diocesan priests in the United States are not employees of the Holy See ... If a court were to accept that, they would be creat-

ing a new Catholic Church, not the one that exists now."

But Washington, D.C., attorney Jonathan Levy, a specialist in international law who has tried suing the Vatican Bank over Holocaust claims, said Anderson could succeed in taking advantage of exceptions to sovereign immunity.

"I'd say he's got some new and exciting theories in there why the Vatican should be held responsible for its bad acts," Levy said.

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Harris, Nuremberg prosecutor, dies

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Whitney Harris, who was a member of the U.S. legal team that prosecuted Nazis at Nuremberg after World War II, has died. He was 97.

Harris was the last surviving of the three Nuremberg prosecutors, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch said. He died Wednesday at his home in the suburban St. Louis town of Frontenac, according to his stepdaughter, Theresa Galakatos of Richmond Heights. She said he had been battling cancer for three years and had been in and out of the hospital since suffering a fall in his home about six months ago.

Harris was lead prosecutor in the first of the Nuremberg war-crime trials in 1945 and tried Ernst Kaltenbrunner, the senior surviving leader of the Nazi Security Police. He also helped cross-examine Hermann Goering, Hitler's second-in-command, and helped get the confession of Rudolf Franz Ferdinand Hoess, head of the Auschwitz concentration camp.

In his later years, Harris was an author and gave speeches on human rights. In 1980, he established the Whitney R. Harris Collection on the Third Reich of Germany at Washington University in St. Louis. He also is the namesake of the university's Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute.

"He basically dedicated his life to trying to develop an international justice system to deal with war crimes against

humanity and genocide," said his son, Eugene Harris, 45, of Olivette in suburban St. Louis.

This year is the 65th anniversary of the Nuremberg trials, Eugene Harris noted, "and people are forgetting. As each of these important participants die, there's a big amount of knowledge that's being lost in the process."

Harris was born in Seattle on Aug. 12, 1912. He graduated in 1933 from the University of Washington and received his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1936. He joined the Navy after the start of World War II, and following the war was put in charge of investigating war crimes.

In August 1945, he became one of the first members of the European staff for the trial of major German war criminals. The court tried 22 high-ranking Nazis, convicted 19 and sentenced 12 to death. Harris was the only prosecutor who attended the executions.

After the war he became a professor of law at Southern Methodist University, and served as chairman of the International Law Section of the American Bar Association in 1953-54.

Harris is credited with writing the first comprehensive book on the Nuremberg trials, "Tyranny on Trial, the Evidence at Nuremberg," which was described by the New York Times as "the first complete historical and legal analysis of the Nuremberg trial."

Man executed for killing teen

Texas inmate was convicted of murder and rape; denied charges

Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — A Texas inmate convicted of fatally shooting an El Paso high school senior after robbing and sexually assaulting her was executed Thursday evening in the nation's busiest death penalty state.

William Josef Berkley was condemned to death for the March 2000 slaying of 18-year-old Sophia Martinez, whose body was found in the desert outside El Paso after being robbed at a drive-through ATM. She had been shot in the head five times and there was evidence she'd been raped.

Berkley was the sixth Texas inmate to receive lethal injection this year. Ten other prisoners are set to die over the next three months.

During his final statement, Berkley did not mention Martinez nor look at or speak to the mother and two sisters of the victim. In an interview with The Associated Press before his execution, Berkley denied killing Martinez.

In his brief statement, Berkley thanked his girlfriend, a friend and his spiritual adviser, who were at the execution, for their love and support.

"Warden, let her rip," Berkley said, just before the lethal injection was administered.

As the drugs took effect, he gasped at least twice. Nine minutes later, at 6:18 p.m. CDT, he was pronounced dead.

In a statement, MaryAnn Martinez, the victim's sister, said she and her family attended the execution so that their loved one wasn't forgotten.

"Today is not about revenge. That's not in our hands," MaryAnn Martinez told reporters afterward.



In this March 31 photo, William Josef Berkley is seen from the visiting cage outside death row in Livingston, Tex.

"Today is not about closure. Making peace with her death and absence only comes from God."

The U.S. Supreme Court turned down Berkley's appeal late Thursday. The high court last year refused to review his case. On Wednesday, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected his appeal.

Martinez was robbed after pulling up to a drive-through ATM to withdraw \$20 for spending on a Friday night.

A surveillance camera caught the robbery on tape and showed a man prosecutors said was Berkley forcing his way into Martinez's car. After being forced to withdraw \$200 from the ATM, Martinez drove off with Berkley.

Two days later, Martinez's body was found in the desert about 10 miles away.

Jaime Esparza, the El Paso district attorney who prosecuted Berkley, said there was plenty of evidence the condemned inmate killed Martinez, including a signed confession where he admitted

shooting her.

The jury was shown a photo from the surveillance camera that prosecutors said was Berkley.

Frank Macias, Berkley's lawyer at his 2002 trial, said the photo was "a bad picture" but was "difficult to refute."

Prosecutors also had DNA evidence showing Berkley had sex with Martinez.

Berkley insisted the sex was consensual because he and Martinez had been friends for several months. Esparza said there was no evidence indicating Martinez knew him.

Berkley, a self-described marijuana-smoking, baggy-jeans-wearing, "sarcastic smart ass," was born in Germany, where his father was posted with the U.S. Army. His family moved to El Paso when he was in the fourth grade. He dropped out of high school in 10th grade.

Berkley said he had dual citizenship with Germany. The German government didn't step in to intervene in the case.

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Calif. emissions ruling delayed

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — California air regulators took steps Thursday to delay the nation's toughest rules to slash emissions from diesel-powered construction equipment, saying the poor economy has left many of the vehicles sitting idle.

Members of the California Air Resources Board said they want to give companies more time to comply because construction activity in the state is down about 50 percent since the regulations were adopted three years ago, and that has significantly reduced harmful emissions.

"Unfavorable economic times make it more difficult for industry to comply with our regulations and function," board chairwoman Mary Nichols said.

The regulations, referred to as off-highway diesel rules, were scheduled to take effect this year, and some companies have already spent millions of dollars on new equipment to comply.

No formal vote was taken Thursday, but the board directed its staff to determine ways the construction industry can more

easily reach the state's goal of cutting diesel emissions by 2014, the date required to meet federal clean air standards.

Thursday's debate comes four months after the board decided to explore loosening similar diesel rules for trucks and buses.

Any new guidelines for trucks and construction equipment were expected to be put to a vote in September.

While the economy was the driving reason for reviewing both rules, board staff reported Thursday they had overestimated how much pollution construction equipment, buses and trucks emit into the air.

For example, there are about 200,000 fewer construction vehicles in California than the board had initially thought, and the industry didn't use as much diesel as expected. So, the regulation assumed there were 50 to 80 percent more emissions that needed to be cut, according to board staff.

The revelation drew criticism from a few of the board members and industry groups who called for better numbers before impos-

ing costly regulations.

"Until they are right, you're asking us to spend billions of dollars to reduce phantom emissions, and we're not going to do that," said Michael Lewis of the Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition, which is based in Southern California.

Industry representatives urged the board to delay the regulations by five years, citing the much lower emissions footprint of construction.

The off-highway diesel rules passed in 2007 require tractors, forklifts, bulldozers and other types of diesel-powered equipment to be replaced or retrofitted over the next 15 years. Large fleets have until 2020, while fleets with fewer than 20 vehicles have until 2025.

Firms with large fleets were supposed to start replacing and retrofitting vehicles beginning March 1, but California is waiting for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to grant the state a waiver from federal regulations under the federal Clean Air Act. The California rules can't be enforced without the waiver.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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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.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber.

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Pep rally focus should be students

Notre Dame football weekends are rich in rituals, from midnight drummers' circle to tailgating to cheering in the stands. But the festivities start with the Friday night pep rally.

In recent years, however, growing numbers of students have chosen other events — a movie, a party, dinner in the dining hall — over a pep rally. Student government, led by former student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber, made some progress in revamping the rallies to attract more students, although bureaucracy hindered any drastic change.

Building on the efforts of their predecessors, current student body president Catherine Soler and vice president Andrew Bell have already helped set up a partial schedule for next fall's pep rallies before the end of spring football practice. While alumni and other fans are still welcome, Soler said, students and the football team should be the heart of the rallies.

Soler and Bell's proactive planning shows a commendable first step for their administration. And with the help of Irish coach Brian Kelly, perhaps the University could succeed in making students the priority again. So far, it looks promising.

Old yearbooks show sweaty, shouting students packing into the Joyce Center, Stepan Center and even the now-demolished Fieldhouse for football rallies. They are waving signs, sitting on shoulders and throwing toilet paper. The students look excited, even ecstatic, to be supporting their football team. This is the atmosphere next year's pep rallies should strive to recreate.

With the Purcell Pavilion under construction, last fall's pep rallies moved to the newly-landscaped Irish Green. This large outdoor space was perfect for merchandise tents, food stands and children's entertainments, but few students attended.

The reasons were numerous: There was no special section for students, which all but eliminated the residence-hall pride so integral for other rallies. This free-for-all, standing-room-only setup had students doing the jig into grandparents' shins. Only a couple football players attended each rally, usually just to deliver a short speech. Without walls or a ceiling, the cheers of the crowd floated

away.

Last fall's USC pep rally was the exception. In honor of the rivalry game, the students had a roped-off section at the front of the crowd, the entire football team attended and former Irish player Raghib "Rocket" Ismail topped it all off with a rousing sermon of a pep talk. If Irish Green pep rallies are a must, then they should be modeled after last year's USC pep rally.

The student dissatisfaction stretches back to the JACC pep rallies in 2008, when Sorin College even organized a boycott. Students would have to wait through an hour of videos, speeches and dance performances before the team arrived. Players and guest speakers would then try to rile up the crowd, but with the team wearing suits and seated in formal rows of chairs, there was little feeling of community.

The "us" and "them" separation was evident at the JACC and Irish Green, but Kelly is clearly making an effort to mend this gap by working with student government on the pep rallies.

So far, only four have been planned: the traditional Dillon Pep Rally before the Purdue game, Irish Green before Michigan, Purcell Pavilion before Stanford and a send-off rally at Stepan for the Boston College away game.

This leaves open the possibility of adapting the format and venue based on what works and what doesn't, while a different setting each week should also keep the rallies fresh.

But the No. 1 priority should be creating an authentic, electric atmosphere. Schmidt and Weber's administration were able to provide that for at least one Thursday night last fall. The student-only rally in Stepan Center before the Michigan away game was a raucous send-off. Toilet paper flew through the air, not-so-family-friendly chants shook the walls and members of the football team crowd-surfed. The rally was passionate because it was unscripted, unsupervised and brought everyone together.

But the Notre Dame tradition and spirit extends beyond the current student body, and as such most pep rallies should still be open to the public. However, last season's events at Irish Green tried too hard to be family-friendly moneymakers. In trying to welcome everyone, those rallies lost an important member of the Notre Dame family: the students.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it."

George A. Moore
Irish writer

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Just to be is a blessing.
Just to live is holy."*

Rabbi Abraham Heschel
American rabbi

That Little Black Dress

As our tuk-tuk turned down the dirt road into the center of Vang Vieng (Laos) and I saw the restaurants where televisions were playing old episodes of "Friends," my face lit up like the top of the Chrysler Building. I was so happy for our arrival at this legendary Southeast Asian mecca of day drinking that one of the Slovenians I was travelling with pointed out the look on my face. I was brimming with excitement.



Bob Kessler

The 17th Grade

When I think happiness, I think of moments like this. Moments like the Sunday before Thanksgiving of my senior year when I was lying on the floor of my friends' apartment, painfully hungover, as they listened to Taylor Swift songs while cooking a Thanksgiving dinner. Moments like my first football game in the student section when (after a decade of sitting with my dad and watching enviously from across the stadium) I was finally thrown in the air in joy following an Irish touchdown.

True happiness is like a Mike Brey fist pump when one of his players knocks down a 3. It's Desmond seeing Penny for the first time and fainting back to another life when they touch. It's the taste of malt liquor on your lips at 4:00 on a Friday afternoon; and it's "a billboard on the side of the road that screams reassurance that

whatever you are doing is ok."

But are Notre Dame Students really happy?

A couple weeks ago The Daily Beast released its rankings of the "100 Happiest Colleges in America." Much to my shock and dismay, Notre Dame appeared in these supposedly comprehensive rankings at No. 58. If the happiest colleges in America were put into an NCAA tourney style bracket, we would be a No. 15 seed. To put this in perspective, the overall happiness of Notre Dame Students is comparable to the academic rigors of Purdue University or the gridiron prowess of the Division 1-AA Richmond Spiders.

If we treated the happiness of our students in the same way that we treat success on the football field or in the classroom, I imagine school administrators would have joined Bob Davie in the broadcast booth a long time ago. With Fr. Jenkins calling play-by-play and Mr. Kirk looking over the student section with his binoculars, ESPN would have its best team since Olbermann left to make special comments.

If we're to believe The Daily Beast, however, then we have to ask ourselves: Why aren't Notre Dame students happy?

Of course we can start with the obvious reasons. We can talk about single-sex dorms and sweatpants, football losses and cold weather. We can think about the lack of bidets in the residence halls, the proliferation of students taking the Eucharist with their mouths or the unfortunate loss of my beloved radio tower tailgating lot. We can

mention Gody jacking 3s, Lane Kiffin recruiting unborn fetuses and grad students whining about whatever's supposed to go behind Touchdown Jesus, but none of these things will get us closer to a Doc Jensen style unified theory of why Notre Dame students aren't as happy as McNulty is when he stops drinking.

I believe that the lack of happiness amongst Notre Dame students shouldn't be blamed on all of these external factors, but on the students themselves. More specifically, the lower happiness rankings could be an outcome of our quest to pad stats and improve the perception of academic prestige by recruiting students who would rather spend a Friday night studying Orgo in the library than singing "Love Story" at The Backer.

This numbers game creates institutional dysfunction by favoring students for whom Notre Dame is not a dream. Of course we need our fair share of Ivy and Stanford rejects, but the obsession with academic rankings and aspirational peers creates the risk that each increasingly smarter freshmen class will have higher numbers of students that aren't attending their dream school; students that aren't as happy as they could be. While some of these students will turn out to be great members of the Notre Dame community, we can't afford to roll the dice on classes full of them.

I'm concerned because Notre Dame needs students that truly understand and appreciate what makes this place special. We need students that know how much Rudy struggled to get here, and students

that go out of their way to show off their student ID to their grandparents. We need students that understand how "work hard, party hard" doesn't mean doing homework a couple hours before kickoff; and yes, we need students that have long been waiting for the day when they too can be thrown in the air with joy after a Notre Dame touchdown.

We need students whose admission to Notre Dame is one of those exceptional moments that make them truly happy.

Or maybe not. Maybe I'm just overthinking a bogus set of rankings from a website whose headlines this week have included "Rise of the Fembots" and "The Queering of Ryan Seacrest." Maybe you can't put a ranking on happiness, and maybe it is just an A on an Orgo test after five straight weekend nights of studying. Maybe I am wrong — but at least I've had fun writing about it.

Bob Kessler is a 2009 graduate currently teaching English in China. He feels lucky to have had such an awesome experience writing for this paper over the past five semesters, and would like to thank everybody that has been reading. You can continue to read his work at www.thingsnotredamestudentslike.com and www.the17thgrade.com, and can always contact him at bob020787@gmail.com

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clarifications

After reading the article in The Observer regarding the Family Friendly Petition presented to the University in which I was quoted ("Graduate students to file petition," April 16), I said to myself, there are numerous ways in which my comments could be misconstrued. I thought, someone is bound to respond to this, and with no small degree of vitriol. Sure enough, in The Observer's April 21 edition, Emily Stetler obliged. Ms. Stetler's letter, "Not So Friendly," demonstrated that some clarification is required on my part lest my comments be too narrowly and uncharitably interpreted, and the cause of the organizers of the Family Friendly Petition be undermined.

I did not intend by my comments to imply that those living a married life with children are the only group able to live out the values espoused by the Catholic Church. This would clearly exclude both clergy, and married couples who cannot have children, among others, which would be ridiculous. My use of the image of the child running into the arms of her parent was just that, an image or a symbol. But a symbol of what? The life of a parent, to a significant extent, is one of self-sacrifice and giving of oneself for others. Parents sacrifice much for the well being of their children and the graduate student parents of Notre Dame, no matter what their religious beliefs, are no exception. These same principles, self-sacrifice and self-giving, are cornerstones of the teaching of the Catholic faith. Wherever the young students at Notre Dame encounter lives that are witnesses to these principles, whether in graduate student and faculty parents, or the clergy serving them, their lives are enriched.

I would also like to take this opportunity to make a further point regarding the University's policies on families. As the University Village representative at the Graduate Student Union (GSU), I have been privy to a number of discussions on the topic of the Family Friendly Petition. There is much talk about what power the graduate students have to get the University to adopt a policy more friendly to the graduate students who choose to take on family life while completing their degrees. It dawned on me only later that we really have no power, but that this is really the point: we are powerless. Now I am not a student of theology or Catholic doctrine, but I am pretty sure that the Church teaches that one ought to have a certain reaction when it comes to the needs of the powerless. I do not in any way want to detract from what the University has done thus far for graduate student families, but more can be done. Moreover, it is clear from the conclusion of Ms. Stetler's letter that she agrees.

Sincerely Yours,

Peter Campbell
graduate student
off campus
April 21

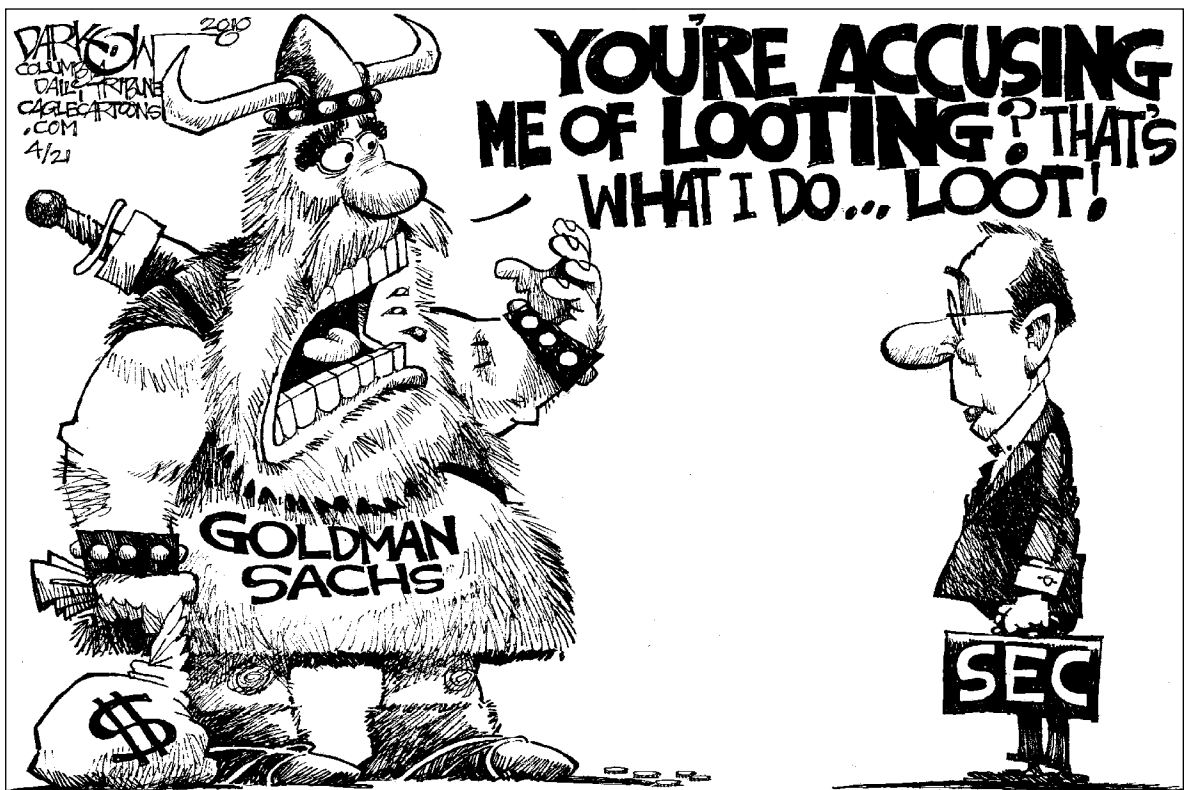
Take it easy on Golic

As the son of a die-hard football fan and alumnus, a title which hopefully will extend to myself in about three weeks, I know the importance of this university and the desire to represent it with honor. On Friday, the new Shirt will be unveiled for the football season, and, like past years, Mike Golic will be in attendance. As a graduate who made a name for himself here and in the NFL, as well as a proud parent of a current football star, he always enjoys coming to campus. Unfortunately, this time will be bittersweet. For those you who do not know, Mike recently lost a bet to his ESPN Radio co-host Mike Greenberg. The unpleasant task facing Mike Golic, while cheering his school and promoting his new book, is to don USC Trojan red and gold during his time on campus. Anyone

who sees him should understand his hardship and refrain from any insults, but rather sympathize with this ambassador to our school and keep in mind the tremendous burden placed on him this weekend. Mike Golic is a man of his word; he endured a live waxing on his show last year due to a failed wager. He truly bleeds blue and gold, so during this weekend look at him with respect and empathy while restraining yourself from yelling any obscenities that become associated with just about everyone who wears those appalling colors. Go Irish!

Christopher Lushis
senior
St. Ed's Hall
April 22

EDITORIAL CARTOON





Scene Staff Report

The 2010 Battle of the Bands will take center stage Friday at 8 p.m. Head to Legends to see Notre Dame's very own rock out with and against the best our University has to offer and enjoy a night of singing, dancing and straight-up jamming.

Identity Crisis

Specializing in a mix of original songs, remakes and covers, Identity Crisis is composed of senior Nick Morrissey, juniors Steve Atkinson and Matt Stolze and sophomores Danny McGiffin and Drew Davis. The band formed after the Stanford Benefit Bash last year, but has played at Legends several times and hope to eventually play at Finny's and Fever. Identity Crisis is influenced by an amalgam of artists, just a taste of which are Led Zeppelin, Scorpions, Green Day, Jimmy Buffett and Red Hot Chili Peppers. Intrigued? They have even done a Lady Gaga remake in the past and Atkinson, the lead guitarist, also specializes in performing back flips and other tricks during Identity Crisis' performances.

The Carolyn Sullivan Quintet

This jazz blues quintet plays "music that's a throwback to another era, the uniquely American art form of jazz," said sophomore Matt Nagy, the band's saxophone player. With senior Carolyn Sullivan on vocals, James Jones on drums, Mike Rodio on piano and junior Sam Novario on bass, the band plays a variety of jazz, blues, swing, Latin and funk music. Their influences are music legends such as John Coltrane, Ella Fitzgerald, Vince Guaraldi and Stevie Wonder.

Cookies N Cream

This band draws its influences from British economist John Maynard Keynes and the Dalai Lama and likes to claim that they play "a little bit of everything. A little funk, little rock, little soul. We like to take songs and play them in the style of a different and contrasting genre," said junior Packy Griffin, who plays guitar and sings. Prepare to see Cookies N Cream this weekend with Holy Cross's Adam Onderdonk on bass, sophomores Eugene Staples on keyboard and vocals and James Jones on drums and IUSB's Larry Redding on vocals.

Citizen Kane II

This fairly new band, which includes senior Brian Prendergast on guitar, sophomore Mike Rodio on vocals and keyboard, freshman Luke Westby on bass and senior Shea Bettwy on drums and percussion, plays a mix of rock, funk, reggae and jazz. The group draws from a wide range of influences, including the Red Hot Chili Peppers, the Police, Matisyahu, Phoenix, the Beatles, Dispatch and Incubus. The group "formed last week just in time to make the demo for the Battle of the Bands. Shea and I have been making music together for the past four years and our styles fit really nicely together with Luke's and Mike's," said Prendergast.

Samurai Jim

This five-piece rock band started in 2008 and made its debut at last year's Battle of the Bands. It consists of two South Bend residents — Jim Miller on drums and Shaun Pluta with vocals — and three Notre Dame students: seniors Terrence Egan on lead guitar and Pete Bruckbauer on bass, as well as its newest member, MSA student Tom Florez on rhythm guitar. Bruckbauer told the Observer that "Samurai Jim" comes from founding member Miller's nickname, bestowed upon him after "an incident with a samurai sword." Their original music has an alternative or progressive rock sound, although their playlists include Lynyrd Skynyrd, Jimi Hendrix and the Flaming Lips. Besides last year's Battle of the Bands, Samurai Jim has played at bars like Club 23 and O'Sullivan's Crossing, the B1 Block Party and other Legends concerts. "There's also been some memorable house parties," Bruckbauer said. "Especially when we played in costume on Halloween."

Woodward

Woodward is the first full-band ensemble that the (colloquially-deemed) "Brothers Gunty" have organized to perform their original music. Consisting of the Gunty brothers, senior Joshua and sophomore Nick, seniors Dave Lucas, Joe McLean and Tom Nania, the band draws from an eclectic field of artistic influences, producing an "organic yet ethereal sound by combining new folk with experimental post-rock," said Joshua. Woodward promises to be a tough contender in Friday's battle. They played an awesome set Saturday night at Legends, opening for matt pond PA with excellent original songs like "Asleep Awake" and "May," and will also play a late afternoon South Quad set Saturday.

A Face for Radio

Comprised of sophomores Will Thwaites, Adam Cowden, Kyle Collins and Mike George, A Face for Radio will make its debut Friday. Thwaites, lyricist and singer, characterizes their music as a "hybrid between hip-hop and alternative rock" and about 75 percent of their material is original. That's impressive, due to the fact that they've only been together for a week now. A Face for Radio played at the Stanford Benefit Bash and also headlined the kickoff of the Bald and the Beautiful. Check out this band with radio-only aspirations on Friday, and look for next year's back-up leprechaun, Mike George, on drums.

Toes on the Nose

Playing the first show in their young career, Toes on the Nose promise something different: the smooth sound of reggae. Freshmen Billy Kearns and Cory Bernard and juniors McKenna Nakamura and Sam Novario have got skill, enthusiasm and sweet, sweet bass lines to spare and they're looking to spread them around. Everyone should be ready to have their faces melted by TOTN's cool island groove. Their unique sound has been described by some to be the bastard love child of Fergie and Bob Marley chilling with the spirit of the islands. The handsome quartet is looking forward to sending out some good vibrations for Friday night's wonderful crowd.



D. Montayne works on his 'Extracurricular' Activity

By NICK ANDERSON
Assistant Scene Editor

It's been more than 30 years since Kurtis Blow signed a record deal with a major label. Since then, hip-hop has rapidly evolved from a niche scene in New York City to one of the dominant forces in modern culture. A generation is currently coming of age that has never dealt with the "Does rap count as music?" debate. These kids grew up with OutKast, Eminem and Nas being not only present on the Billboard Charts, but topping them. It is inevitable, then, that hip-hop will start coming from nontraditional places in nontraditional ways. A generation of rappers who found music on the radio, not the street, are coming up now and they're coming up fast.

D. Montayne is Notre Dame's own member of that generation. Outside of music, D. Montayne is Dylan Walter, a typical Notre Dame student. He's a freshman working his way toward a business degree and dealing with the same uniquely Notre Dame social life as the rest of us. Stuck

with a dreary winter on campus, he spent his time in February and March recording his mixtape.

Mixtapes have become the pre-dominant feature of the do-it-yourself musical ethos. Superstars such as 50 Cent and Lil' Wayne have made an art of the mixtape itself, often overshadowing work on their albums. For D. Montayne, a mixtape offered the perfect route to express his passion. By recording in his dorm room, the cost was next to nothing. Because of this, it can be distributed free of charge, getting his name and music out to the largest possible audience.

While "Extracurricular" is the product of his first attempt at recording, he's no stranger to the music. Since his brother introduced

him to hip hop back in seventh grade, he has been quietly writing rhymes and freestyling for friends. Since his arrival at Notre Dame, he has branched out, recording his first rhyme, "Take a Breath," in September. Seven months later, he's ready to go public.

"Extracurricular" proves a strong outing, especially for a first timer. D. Montayne shows off a rock steady flow with only the slightest quiver of inexperience, and his rolling deep tone gives a quality presence on the mike. The choice of beats is a beautiful collection of ear catching but lesser known piece, presenting a welcome familiarity without sounding canned.

But D. Montayne's strength lies in his lyrics. He's a capable rhymers who punctuates his songs with

striking imagery, potent social commentary and witty boasts. His point of view is strong and consistent without overpowering a playful swag. His words come naturally and, powered by his sturdy flow, arrive with their intended impact.

Several tracks stand out not only against the other tracks on the mixtape, but also from the current state of popular hip hop. "So

Official," a freestyle, pounds with the confidence of a veteran. However, the most intriguing track is "Hear No Evil." It's the heaviest piece of social commentary but manages to do so without preaching down to its audience and deserves a place as proof that music can be a positive force.

D. Montayne's not looking too far ahead. He wants to keep writing and performing, but is waiting to hear the reception to "Extracurricular" before rushing into more recording. If the public's reaction corresponds to the mixtape's quality, we should be expecting to hear from him again soon.

Contact Nick Anderson at
nanders5@nd.edu



Hoping for a winning Shirt

By MARY CLAIRE O'DONNELL
Assistant Scene Editor

The idea is there. A student section united in one color, an intimidating symbol of the Fighting Irish. Not only does it bond together the students, but it also brings together Domers around the world who love to don The Shirt to support Our Lady's University and the cause it supports.

However, the idea falls apart when the student section is united to form a flesh-colored blob in the back left corner of the stadium. A flesh-colored blob is not intimidating. It is especially not intimidating when it accompanies an obvious sexual innuendo.

Last football season's "Rise and Strike" shirt (yeah, how many people didn't just giggle while reading that?) was the 20th anniversary Shirt. It was the perfect opportunity to hearken back to older shirts, to bring back the color green, like the kelly green that united the student section in 1990, the first year of The Shirt.

That was the real problem with last season's Shirt: the color. The Notre Dame student body is already united in the fact that many of us are Irish Americans. We didn't need a shirt to match our pasty skin.

I took a stroll through LaFortune to take a gander at what The Shirt looked like in past years, as I have really only seen the past three or four, and found a few that I liked. I'm hoping that the people in charge of The Shirt project did too, because they could receive some wonderful inspiration.

The Shirt from 1992 especially struck me because I hope it is one that can be brought back soon. Plain across the front, with a simple "Notre Dame Football" below a small golden dome, it is the back

that, as is typical of The Shirt, draws the most attention. Mount Rushmore has been redone to display the faces of legendary Notre Dame coaches Frank Leahy, Dan Devine, Ara Parseghian and Knute Rockne. In color, set against the mountain, is Lou Holtz, fresh off his National Championship winning season, with "the tradition continues..." scrawled below him.

I sincerely hope that, one day soon, this shirt can be brought back with new coach Brian Kelly adorning the bottom of Notre Dame's Mount Rushmore, after he leads us to another National Championship season with his new coaching style.

Another one I liked was from 2003. The front was once again simple: "Here come the Irish" written over a shamrock. Across the back, surrounding a full color picture of football players exiting the tunnel, read the iconic words from the song by Jim Tullio and John Scully, "There's a magic in the sound of their name. Here come the Irish of Notre Dame."

I really liked this shirt because of its incorporation of the song, "Here Come the Irish." On Gameday, that song can be heard all over campus, from tailgates to concession stands, so I found the lyrics very appropriate and inspiring to grace the famous shirt worn by almost the entire campus.

No matter my opinion on last season's Shirt, though, I am excited for the unveiling of this year's. I am hoping that the committee has learned its lesson — that gold does not translate well into the color of a T-shirt — and has developed a fresh new design to welcome in a new era at our fine University.

Contact Mary Claire O'Donnell at
modonne5@nd.edu



MLB

Brewers hand Pirates most-lopsided loss ever

Jimenez continues success on mound in Rockies' win over Nationals; Twins deal with injuries, lose to Indians

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Ryan Braun, Jim Edmonds and the Milwaukee Brewers went totally batty.

The Brew Crew piled up 25 hits Thursday and trounced Pittsburgh 20-0, handing the Pirates the most-lopsided loss in their 124-year history.

"It was fun and it was special," said Braun, who homered, doubled, singled and drove in five runs. "This game is really so much about failure, particularly as a hitter, that you rarely get a day where everyone is enjoying so much success at the same time."

"I've never been involved in a game like this and I likely never will be again. So, I enjoyed it and I'll savor it. It's one to remember," he said.

Milwaukee matched a club mark for margin of victory and set a record for its biggest shutout win.

Prince Fielder hit his first home run of the season while Edmonds and George Kottaras also connected — they were among 10 Brewers with an RBI. Milwaukee finished with 12 extra-base hits.

Milwaukee led 10-0 after five innings then scored six runs in the seventh and four more in the ninth. The rout came a day after the Brewers beat up Pittsburgh 8-0.

Edmonds doubled twice and singled. Rickie Weeks doubled

twice, singled and scored four times.

"Now that was something else," Milwaukee manager Ken Macha said.

Randy Wolf (2-1) pitched six scoreless innings and three relievers finished up. The Brewers won their fourth in a row and gave Pittsburgh its third straight loss.

Daniel McCutchen (0-2) was tagged for six runs and eight hits in 3 2-3 innings. Remarkably, his ERA stayed the same as it was entering the game, 14.73.

"Lots of times, it felt like I was throwing batting practice to them," McCutchen said.

The Brewers also won by 20 in 1992 when they beat Toronto 22-2. The Pirates' previous one-sided loss was by 18 runs, done twice.

Milwaukee swept the three-game series and outscored the Pirates 36-1. Pittsburgh has lost eight times this season, by at least six runs each time and 85-13 overall.

According to STATS LLC, it was the fifth most-lopsided shutout in modern major league history, which began in 1900. The Indians beat the Yankees 22-0 in 2004 and the Pirates beat the Cubs by the same score in 1975. The 35-run differential in a three-game series tied for the third largest; the largest was 40 runs (50-10) by the Superbas, now the Dodgers, over the Reds in 1901.

"They came in and kicked our

butt," Pittsburgh manager John Russell said. "Whoever comes in is going to do that if we don't pitch well. We need to learn from this game. We don't want to do this anymore."

Braun hit a three-run homer to end a nine-pitch at-bat in the third inning to push Milwaukee's lead to 4-0 and added a two-run double. Fielder took a while to hit a home run — he tied for second in the NL last year with 46.

Wolf allowed six hits and improved his career record against Pittsburgh to 8-1. Claudio Vargas, Manny Parra and Trevor Hoffman each pitched one inning.

Fielder started the scoring with his solo home run to center field in the second inning and Braun's drive in the third made it 4-0.

Fielder hit a two-run single in the fourth off D.J. Carrasco. An inning later, Kottaras homered and Braun doubled for a 10-0 cushion.

Edmonds' homer highlighted a six-run seventh off Joel Hanrahan and closer Octavio Dotel gave up four runs in the ninth.

"Games like these are awkward," Edmonds said. "You don't want to keep piling on the runs but you also have to respect the game and keep playing. It was just a day where everything went right for us and everything went wrong for them."

Rockies 2, Nationals 0

Colorado's Ubaldo Jimenez followed up his no-hitter by tossing 7 1-3 shutout innings, Miguel Olivo and Ian Stewart hit solo homers for the first runs allowed this season by Washington's Livan Hernandez, and the Rockies beat the Nationals on Thursday.

Overpowering at times, Jimenez allowed five hits, struck out five, and got 15 of his 22 outs via grounders en route to improving to 4-0 with a 0.95 ERA — meaning he is responsible for half of Colorado's eight victories in 2010. In his previous start, the right-hander threw the first no-hitter in Rockies history, Saturday against Atlanta.

Hernandez (2-1) gave up only four hits across eight innings, but he made two mistakes: to Olivo in the second inning and to Stewart in the seventh.

Indians 8, Twins 1

Mitch Talbot turned in another strong start for Cleveland, and the Indians finally got some hits in an vic-



The Minnesota Twins Denard Span slides under Indians shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera in Cleveland's 8-1 win Thursday.

tory over the Minnesota Twins on Thursday.

Talbot (2-1) followed his first major league win, a complete game last weekend against the Chicago White Sox, with six impressive innings. He held the Twins to two hits and no earned runs to keep them from sweeping the three-game series.

The Indians, who were last in the league in batting average and slugging percentage entering this game, matched their season high with eight runs.

The right-handed Talbot walked three, struck out three and watched Andy Marte give him a healthy lead with a two-run homer in the fourth inning. Marte also hit a sinking RBI single to center in the sixth.

This was the worst of four starts this season for Scott Baker (2-2), who surrendered back-to-back ground-rule doubles — one down each line — to Asdrubal Cabrera and Grady Sizemore to start the game. Baker was tagged with six runs before his day was done.

Cleveland led 3-1 in the sixth, when Baker gave up five straight one-out hits and was taken out of the game. He threw 92 pitches, 69 of them strikes — some of them big, fat strikes the Indians used to jump-start their lagging offense.

Russell Branyan doubled and drove in two runs, and Luis Valbuena also hit an RBI double. The last time Baker gave up 10 hits was exactly a

year ago, in a game at Boston against the Red Sox.

Twins manager Ron Gardenhire rested catcher Joe Mauer for only the second time in 16 games this season, his body a bit sore as typical for a day game following a night game. Rookie Drew Butera started instead and got his first major league hit, a groundball single to left field in the third inning.

Butera, the son of former Twins catcher Sal Butera, is here strictly for his defense — and he helped save Baker from another run in the sixth by throwing out Marte trying to steal second right before Valbuena's double.

Shortstop J.J. Hardy also sat out for the Twins for the first time, his knee a little sore. Alexi Casilla filled in admirably in the field, shifting to the right side for pure-pull-hitter Travis Hafner. Casilla charged a slow grounder in the fourth and shoveled it forward in one motion as he sprawled toward first base to get the out.

Cabrera made an even better play for the Indians, diving to stop a sharp grounder by Michael Cuddyer and starting a double play to end the seventh inning.

Marte cost Talbot his only run, dropping a foul popup near third base hit by Orlando Hudson. Hudson walked, moved up on a balk on Talbot's pickoff throw, took third on a fly out and scored in the fourth on Justin Morneau's double.



The Milwaukee Brewers' Casey McGehee and Prince Fielder celebrate after Fielder's home run in Thursday's game against the Pirates.

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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, April 23, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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Men's Division I Lacrosse Nike/Inside Lacrosse Poll

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1	Syracuse	2
2	Virginia	1
3	North Carolina	3
4	Maryland	4
5	Duke	6
6	Princeton	5
7	Loyola (Md.)	10
8	Cornell	9
9	Villanova	13
10	Drexel	7
11	Yale	15
12	Stony Brook	14
13	Georgetown	8
14	Hofstra	11
15	Towson	NR
16	Massachusetts	12
17	Fairfield	19
18	Denver	NR
19	Johns Hopkins	16
20	Army	NR

Women's Division I Lacrosse Inside Lacrosse Poll

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2	Northwestern	1
3	Maryland	3
4	Virginia	4
5	Penn	7
6	Duke	5
7	Dartmouth	6
8	Vanderbilt	8
9	Towson	9
10	Syracuse	10
11	James Madison	12
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14	Loyola (Md.)	13
15	Stanford	15
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17	Penn State	19
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19	Hofstra	18
20	Denver	NR

Men's Division I-II Volleyball AVCA Rankings

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4	Hawaii	5
5	Pepperdine	3
6	Southern California	6
7	UC Irvine	8
8	UCLA	7
9	UC Santa Barbara	9
10	Ohio State	11

around the dial

NBA Basketball
Celtics at Heat
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NHL Hockey
Red Wings at Coyotes
10:00 p.m., Versus

NFL DRAFT



Former Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford smiles as he poses for photographs with family and friends after he was selected as the No. 1 overall pick by the St. Louis Rams in the first round of the NFL Draft Thursday.

Rams pick Bradford first in NFL draft

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Starting with quarterback Sam Bradford going to the St. Louis Rams, the first NFL draft in prime time was a showcase for the Big 12. The Oklahoma junior became the eighth quarterback since 2001 taken atop the draft. He was immediately followed Thursday night by defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh of Nebraska, the AP Player of the Year, and DT Gerald McCoy, Bradford's teammate with the Sooners.

Bradford, the 2008 winner of the Heisman Trophy, joins a Rams team that was 1-15 last season and scored a league-low 175

points. The Rams cut incumbent Marc Bulger in the offseason.

Bradford appeared in only three games in 2009, his junior year, before undergoing right shoulder surgery. His recovery has been so complete that the Rams didn't hesitate to make him the future face of the franchise.

An hour before the draft, Bradford, looking dapper in a gray suit, admitted he was nervous.

"The butterflies are flying around right now," he said.

A little while later, he could relax — at least until he gets on the field behind the Rams' weak offensive line.

"The phone call was that moment, but I had a feeling I would get that phone call tonight," Bradford said of hearing from the Rams just before his name was announced.

His selection opened the first NFL draft to begin in prime time, and was greeted with a mixture of cheers and jeers by the audience at Radio City Music Hall.

Detroit then chose Suh, considered the best defensive tackle prospect in more than a decade. He won the Lombardi, Bednarik and Nagurski trophies in 2009 and comes off a dominant Big 12 title game in which he had 12 tackles with 4½ sacks.

He was greeted by "SUH, SUH," as he walked onto the stage holding a Lions jersey.

McCoy should boost a Tampa defense that once was feared but flopped last season when it yielded 400 points. He displayed his Buccaneers jersey to the crowd and pumped his fist high in the air as "Pirates of the Caribbean" played on the loudspeakers.

The Big 12 draft party kept rolling when Washington took Oklahoma All-America Trent Williams to fill a huge hole at tackle left by the retirement of Chris Samuels. Williams engulfed commissioner Roger Goodell in a hefty bear hug onstage.

IN BRIEF

Marquis Teague verbally commits to Kentucky

INDIANAPOLIS — Kentucky coach John Calipari has landed another high-profile point guard to his collection.

Indiana high school star Marquis Teague verbally committed to the Wildcats on Thursday, opting to join the Wildcats over Louisville and Indiana among schools.

Teague is ranked the No. 2 player in the Class of 2011 by Rivals.com. He can't sign a letter of intent until the fall at the earliest, but if he signs with the Wildcats he will join a steadily growing list of elite point guards who have agreed to play for Calipari, a list that includes Derrick Rose and John Wall.

The 6-foot-2 Teague averaged 15.7 points and 4.6 assists for Pike High in Indianapolis, and his combination of size and athleticism have made him a coveted recruit.

Rockets' Brooks named NBA's most improved player

HOUSTON — Aaron Brooks likes proving doubters wrong, and he did it this season, even though the Houston Rockets could not.

The speedy, 6-foot point guard was named the NBA's Most Improved Player on Thursday, after setting career highs in points (19.6 per game), assists (5.3) and rebounds (2.6). His scoring average went up 8.4 points from 2008-09, the highest increase of any qualifying player.

The Rockets finished 42-40 and missed the playoffs, an expected outcome after Yao Ming missed the season with a foot injury. Brooks ably picked up the offensive slack in Yao's absence, starting all 82 games while the roster seemed to be in flux all season.

"I didn't go into the season to win a big award like this," Brooks said. "I would love to be in the playoffs with this award, but due to the circumstances, we didn't get there. But this is a great award."

NCAA to expand March Madness from 65 to 68 teams

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA has decided not to mess around too much with March Madness.

College sports' largest governing body announced a 14-year, \$10.8 billion deal with CBS and Turner Broadcasting on Thursday that will begin with an expanded men's basketball tournament next March. But instead of jumping to a 96-team field, a possibility that drew criticism from bracket-obsessed fans to coaches, the NCAA plans to expand by only three teams, from 65 to 68.

Every game will be broadcast live nationally for the first time in the tournament's 73-year history.

"It was a goal from the very, very beginning and I believe it's what our membership wanted and it's what our fans wanted across the country," NCAA interim president Jim Isch said. "I think without question, it was one of the driving factors in our position and why CBS and Turner make such great partners."

MLB

Yankee triple play stirs controversy over rules

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Alex Rodriguez started an around-the-horn gem for the New York Yankees' first triple play in 42 years. But it was his casual jog directly across the diamond that started all the trouble.

On a day of history and histrionics, Oakland pitcher Dallas Braden screamed at Rodriguez after accusing him of breaching one of baseball's unwritten rules, setting off a shouting match Thursday in the Athletics' 4-2 win over the Yankees.

The problems began in the top of the sixth inning after a single by Rodriguez. Robinson Cano fouled off a pitch and Rodriguez, who in between second base and third, cut across the pitcher's mound to return to first.

After Cano grounded into an inning-ending double play, Braden and Rodriguez got into it.

"The long and short of it is it's pretty much baseball etiquette. He should probably take a note from his captain over there," Braden said, referring to Yankees leader Derek Jeter, "because you don't run across the pitcher's mound in between an inning or during the game. I was just dumbfounded that he would let that slip his mind."

"I was just trying to convey to him that I was still out there, that ball's in my hand and that's my pitcher's mound. If he wants to run across the pitcher's mound. Tell him to go do laps in the bullpen," he said.

Braden yelled over his right shoulder as he stepped across the third-base line and Rodriguez hollered back. The two kept screaming at each other until A's manager Bob Geren came out and walked Braden off the field.

Braden threw his glove against a wall in the Oakland dugout and kicked a stack of cups.

"He just told me to get off his mound," Rodriguez said. "I was a little surprised. I've never quite heard that, especially from a guy that has a handful of wins in his career. I've never even heard of that in my career and I still don't know. I thought it was pretty funny, actually."

The 26-year-old Braden (3-0), with a 17-21 lifetime record, was hardly laughing after helping end the Yankees' six-game winning streak.

"I'm not really a speck on that guy's radar but he'll know after today that it might not be a good idea to run across the mound when I'm out there," Braden said. "It's not like I throw 95 (mph) and I'm going to hurt him. He'll know I was there, though."

Asked if Rodriguez said he was sorry, Braden said no.

"The guy was tasting himself too long to apologize," he said. "No, he didn't apologize. And it's a shame. I have a lot of respect for that guy, everything he's done in the game. It's just disappointing when you see the other side of things."

This was not the first time someone said Rodriguez had broken an unwritten rule on the diamond.

In 2007, he shouted at Toronto third baseman Howie Clark while rounding the bag on a popup. Clark backed away, and the ball dropped. The play started a baseball debate about A-Rod's actions.

Moments after the temper tantrum with Braden, Rodriguez turned a triple play.

The A's quickly put runners on first and second in the bottom of the sixth and Kurt Suzuki — who earlier hit a three-run homer — sent a sharp grounder to Rodriguez at third base.

Rodriguez stepped on the bag and threw to Cano at second. Cano's relay to first baseman Nick Johnson barely beat Suzuki.

The Yankees had gone 6,632 consecutive regular-season games without a triple play. Their last one came on June 3, 1968, with first baseman Mickey Mantle catching the final out on a ball hit by Minnesota's John Roseboro.

"The ball was hit to my right, I took a couple of steps, stepped on the bag and then threw a little Hail Mary at Robby," Rodriguez said. "And Robby did a great job of turning it."

MLB

Scientists investigate HGH

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Baseball commissioner Bud Selig says his science adviser is examining the human growth hormone blood test available through the World Anti-Doping Agency but isn't sure when the study will be completed.

At his annual session Thursday with the Associated Press Sports Editors, Selig said UCLA professor Dr. Gary Green hasn't made a determination. The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency insists the test is valid.

"As soon as Dr. Green has finished his study on things, believe me, I'm most anxious to move forward," Selig said. "One can debate what HGH does or doesn't do. It needs to be banned."

While HGH is banned by baseball, the sport doesn't test for it.

Unionized major leaguers currently have only urine testing. The players' union has said it would consider a blood test if it

is validated.

Selig said that if baseball adopts the test, it would start using it for players with minor league contracts. He has repeatedly spoken with club athletic trainers about how prevalent the use of HGH is in the majors.

"The answer is we really don't know," Selig said. "Most think it's relatively low, but they really don't know."

Cincinnati pitcher Edinson Volquez was suspended 50 games this week for testing positive for a banned fertility drug. It was the first suspension of a major leaguer under the drug program since Los Angeles Dodgers slugger Manny Ramirez was penalized last May.

"The only thing that it proves is our program is working," Selig said. "We do a lot of education. We'll do more."

On another topic, Selig said that while attendance is down between 1 and 2 percent this season, advance ticket sales for the rest of season were up 7

percent as of April 15, according to Major League Baseball Advanced Media, which handles online sales.

"We've had a little weather problem, a little here and there, but I feel pretty good about it," he said.

Selig has noticed the low crowds in Toronto, Citi Field and other places.

"It doesn't overly bother me," he said. "Some clubs it depends on winning and losing. But it's April, schools are still in, week-day games. When you are within 1 or 2 percent, it's just not anything to get concerned about."

Selig also said he is against expanding the first round of the playoffs to seven games, a proposal the players' association says it might make during bargaining for a labor contract that would start in December 2011. Expanding the playoffs was brought up by Selig's new committee examining on-field matters.

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NFL DRAFT

Minnesota trades first-round pick to Detroit

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — The Minnesota Vikings are willing to wait all offseason to hear if Brett Favre will return next season. So waiting an extra day to make their first pick in the 2010 NFL draft should be a snap.

Four hours into the draft on Thursday night, the Vikings traded the 30th overall pick in the first round to division rival Detroit, meaning their first pick of this draft will not come until Friday night.

The Vikings moved back four spots to the 34th overall selection, the second pick in the second round, swapped

fourth-rounders with the Lions to move from 128th overall to No. 100 and also picked up the Lions' seventh rounder, No. 214.

"To make a trade and improve your draft status in each round was a huge success for us," Vikings vice president of player personnel Rick Spielman said.

If the Vikings wanted to pick an heir apparent to Favre, they could have done it with the 30th pick because Notre Dame's Jimmy Clausen was available and so was Colt McCoy from Texas. Minnesota chose to drop down instead, stockpiling picks and allowing the Lions to take California

running back Jahvid Best.

Clausen was not chosen in the first round and could be available Friday, but it appears unlikely that the Vikings will take him. Spielman said the team has four players targeted for that pick and could even trade down again if the right deal presents itself.

"If there was a player at 30 that we were definitely sold on, that we said, 'There's no way we're going to trade out of this pick to have that player,' then we wouldn't have done it," Spielman said. "But I think with us having the options to look at tomorrow, we were able to potentially get

a player we may have taken at 30 and help ourselves with our slots."

Southern Cal safety Taylor Mays and Texas linebacker Sergio Kindle are among the players the Vikings could consider Friday. But with no starting jobs open on a team that went to the NFC title game last season, the Vikings could afford to move down and pick up more selections and add the depth that they need at several positions.

Among the priorities the team had going into the draft was to add depth in the secondary, where cornerback Cedric Griffin is recovering from a torn ACL suffered in January and Antoine Winfield will turn 33 before the season starts. They signed Lito Sheppard on Wednesday to help there, but also could use upgrades at safety, depth at linebacker and on the defensive line.

The Vikings also lost backup running back Chester Taylor to Chicago and versatile backup offensive lineman Artis Hicks to Washington in free agency.

Then there is the quarterback issue.

Favre will turn 41 in October and took quite a beating from the Saints in the NFC championship. But the team has said all along it will not rush Favre's decision and would be comfortable letting him sit out the first few weeks of training

camp like he did last year.

Favre threw 33 touchdowns and seven interceptions in a memorable season, but the Vikings aren't exactly set with a quarterback for the future. Tarvaris Jackson and Sage Rosenfels also are on the roster, and coach Brad Childress has always preferred that Jackson one day take the reins of the offense.

Jackson struggled early in his career to assert himself as a leader capable of handling this complex offense with consistency and Rosenfels quickly fell to No. 3 on the depth chart in the preseason.

With all that uncertainty, there was plenty of speculation that the Vikings would take Florida's Tim Tebow or Clausen with their first-round pick to develop, hopefully, behind Favre for a year or two until the old man is ready to walk away.

But Tebow went 25th to Denver and the Vikings didn't deem Clausen important enough to grab right away, so they traded down. They now have nine picks in the final six rounds, which gives them plenty of freedom to make moves over the next two days.

"It just gives you a lot more flexibility as you finish out this draft of being able to move up or back, which is something that we really haven't had since I've been here," Spielman said.

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BASEBALL

Irish welcome Bearcats for three-game series

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Back in the Big East conversation after a three-game sweep of Seton Hall last weekend, the Irish are looking to continue their climb up the conference standings, hosting Cincinnati this weekend.

Notre Dame (15-21, 5-7 Big East) finally put the pieces together in New Jersey, winning their first conference series in sweeping the Pirates and moving up to seventh in the Big East. Despite losing two games to rival Michigan this week, the Irish are focused on conference competition heading into the three-game set.

“We have been focusing on the conference race to be honest with you,” Irish coach Dave Schrage said following a 13-1 loss to the Wolverines on Wednesday. “Last weekend we were totally focused on getting back in the race.”

The Bearcats (18-17, 4-8) should give Notre Dame another opportunity to climb back into the Big East race after a 2-7 start. Cincinnati comes to South Bend on a three-game losing streak, and is giving up over six runs per game on the season.

The Bearcat rotation has struggled throughout the year, with all three main starters

posting ERAs over 7.05.

The Cincinnati offense has fared much better, with senior Mike Spina leading the way. Spina is batting .342 this year with 23 home runs and 69 RBIs. The Bearcats as a team have hit 72 homers, compared to just 22 for Notre Dame.

One focus for the Irish staff will be finishing innings, as all 13 runs in Wednesday’s loss to Michigan came with two outs. The offense failed to plate a run until the ninth inning, and grounded into inning-ending double plays in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

A significant streak was also broken in the loss, as senior outfielder Ryan Connolly went 0-for-3 on the night and snapped 47-game streak of reaching base. The run was the second-longest streak in the NCAA before Wednesday.

Despite the losses to Michigan this week, the Irish are regrouping quickly and preparing for the Big East tournament.

“That is all we have to play for right now,” Schrage said. “It definitely can happen.”

First pitch today from Frank Eck Stadium will be at 6:05 p.m., with the final two games of the series at 6:05 p.m. Saturday and 1:05 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

SMC GOLF

Belles host MIAA tourney

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

Looking for yet another trip to the national championships, No. 5 Saint Mary’s hosts the second and third rounds of the MIAA NCAA qualifying tournament this weekend in South Bend sitting in prime position to take the crown once again.

The Belles trail No. 9 Olivet by just five strokes heading into this weekend and look to make up that ground and more based on their home-course advantage.

“We play these courses all the time, and that helps,” Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. “We know the greens really well, and last time we beat the next closest team by 15 strokes, so we’re hoping to replicate that.”

Saint Mary’s scoring five will consist of senior captain Perri Hamma, juniors Mary Kate Boyce and Rosie O’Connor and sophomores Christine Brown and Natalie Matuszak. Matuszak

was the low Belle during the first qualifying round, firing a 77 that was good enough for the second-best individual score. Boyce and Brown also placed in the top ten individual golfers and will be looking to repeat that performance this weekend.

The Belles will be using the momentum from their fourth-place finish at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling, but hope to improve on some aspects of their game before then.

“We struck the ball well [last week], but we struggled around the greens,” Hamilton said. “We’ve been working hard on our short game and so hopefully that pays off.”

Saturday’s round will be held at Blackthorn Golf Club in South Bend, a challenging yet fair course that will test the MIAA competitors. It is a hilly layout, featuring big

greens that are easy to access but provide tough putts if the approach is not an accurate one. The fairways are wide, but an errant drive could spell trouble, so accuracy will be paramount on Saturday.

The final round will be contested at Notre Dame’s Warren Golf Course just north of campus. Again, accuracy off the tee will be paramount, as the fairways are lined with trees. Putting will also be challenging, as the greens can be extremely challenging.

The weather may play a large role in the results of the weekend, as thunderstorms are expected both days, as well as cool temperatures on Sunday. The rain could lengthen the course and slow the greens, adding another challenge to the Belles’ task. The end goal, however, is simple.

“We need to go out and protect our home turf,” Hamilton said.

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Defending champs move up in tournament

Alexander's Grill edges by Hannah's Storm; He Went to Jared defeats Bob Loblaw's Law Blog Lobs Long Bombs

By CHRIS ALLEN and MEGAN FINNERAN

Sports Writers

The four sophomores and one freshman who make up Hallelujah Hollaback moved one step closer to a repeat of last year's Bookstore championship — albeit without three players from last year's team — after grinding out a hard-earned victory over Delivery Boys.

Hollaback, made up of sophomores Andrew Gleason, Griffin Naylor, Tim Van Harmelen and Pat Kelly and freshman Nate Carr, started to make a run after falling behind 5-4. The teams had a hard time coming by baskets early in the game, as the defensive effort from both teams made every basket a contested effort.

"We had to really fight for baskets early," Van Harmelen said. "Their point guard, Alex Klupchak, won it all two years ago. He's a great player and they are a great team. We really had to work hard for every basket for the whole game."

The Delivery Boys, made up of juniors David Rudy, Andrew Nelligan and Dennis Sobolewski and seniors

Klupchak and Kevin Kelly, drew many fouls early on in the game and were able to get into the foul bonus early on. Free throws helped them make up an 11-6 halftime deficit and close the deficit to 14-11. The foul situation greatly influenced the way both teams played when Delivery Boys had the ball.

"We had to shift because of all the early fouls that were called," Van Harmelen said. "Luckily they missed a couple of free throws so it didn't matter that much."

Toward the end of the game, Hollaback was able to ride the shooting of Gleason and Van Harmelen to the victory, which was sealed by two late contested layups from Naylor.

The game lasted nearly an hour as both teams slowed down in the intense heat, but ultimately the shooting of Hallelujah Hollaback prevailed.

"I like this weather, and so does this team," Van Harmelen said. "This team is a bunch of shooters, so we days like this with no wind and we got most of our points on jump shots."

Alexander's Grill 21, Hannah's Storm 17

Youth was served as the top-seeded Alexander's Grill took care of Hannah's Storm, a team made up of faculty members, on the strength of outside shooting and rebounding.

Grill led for the entire contest but was unable to pull

away at any point. Nearly the entire Notre Dame men's basketball team was on hand to cheer on former teammate senior Tim Andree and his fellow players, seniors Joe DeMott and Nick Fessler and juniors Dan Crisman and Sean Reed.

The style of play and pace of the game was dictated by Hannah's Storm, made up of coaches and faculty members Matt Tallman, Martin Ingelsby, Kevin Anderson, Gerry Byrne and Robert Sedlack. What Storm lacked in youth and speed, it made up for in a bruising half-court style. Ingelsby, who was a standout point guard for the Irish from 1997-2001 and is an assistant coach under Mike Brey, controlled the half court offense from the point and made a number of highlight reel layups. Alexander's Grill struggled to adjust to the slow pace, but ultimately outside shooting carried them.

"They slowed it down a lot, which is something they definitely wanted," Crisman said. "Those guys may be older but they really know what they're doing. Coach Inglesby played here and he's really great. This game was a tough challenge."

Early on in the contest, Grill was carried by the outside shooting of Fessler, who made a number of long jump shots, especially on second-chance opportunities off Andree rebounds. The size and strength of Anderson and Byrne, who are both lacrosse

coaches, made it tough for Andree to dominate in the post, though he was able to step away and hit a number of midrange jumpers.

"Those guys were bruisers down low, so we couldn't really get it going in the post," Crisman said. "Basically we rode Nick because he was on with his jump shot."

Late in the game, deep jumpers from Anderson pulled Storm to within two baskets at 17-15. DeMott and Crisman took control with back-to-back floaters in the lane to widen the gap, and a whirling layup from Reed ended the game. Crisman said the members of Grill learned a lot from their matchup against the veteran team Hannah's Storm.

"The thing about this game is we actually shot really well whereas we didn't shoot well yesterday," Crisman said. "For us, it's good just to get another game playing together and improve our teamwork as we move into the later rounds of the tournament."

He Went to Jared 21, Bob Loblaw's Law Blog Lobs Long Bombs 10

It only took a few minutes for He Went to Jared to take over the game and pull ahead with a strong lead and an eventual win. The team's height advantage and compatibility aided to its success against Bob Loblaw's Law Blog Lobs Long Bombs From 3, as did multiple breakaways and converted layups.

The game began with possession switching back and forth between the two teams until He Went to Jared picked up the pace, ending the first half with six unanswered points. The combination of good defense and communication kept Bob Loblaw's out of shooting range and enabled them to grab many of the rebounds, which made for quick movement down the court.

The second half began with a fiery start from Bob Loblaw's, when they scored on their first possession, breaking through the defense and getting a shot under the basket for one of the first times all game. A bad pass by He Went to Jared led to a steal and breakaway by Bob Loblaw's, giving them the momentum.

But before they could get too much of a gain, the men of He Went to Jared rallied together and increased their pressure and rebounding. After a missed dunk by law student Chuck Flynn, the fate of the game seemed unknown.

After a few possessions, He Went to Jared finally scored, but Bob Loblaw's senior Tim Lang immediately answered the basket. Two baskets by Flynn followed, first a tip from a rebound and then a lay up off a fast break, which were again answered by Lang. But after that, He Went to Jared picked up the pace further and crossed the court quickly with crisp passes and constant movement. A blocked shot against Bob Loblaw's shot marked the clearest switch of momentum, securing it in favor of He

Went to Jared.

The team ended with three baskets in a row, hitting outside shots and sealing the game in only 30 minutes.

"We didn't hit the offensive boards hard enough and were lousy defending their transition game. They played real well even though we were just a little overmatched today," Loblaw's senior Tim Lang said.

He Went to Jared plays Friday at 7 pm.

Book It and Lock It 21, Steel City Ballers 14

The professional-style jerseys for the Steel City Ballers may have looked intimidating, but they did not stop Book It and Lock It from pulling out a victory.

Book It and Lock It started with a point on its first possession, and continued to sink shots with seven points before the Steel City Ballers finally came through with a basket. Even with Notre Dame basketball player senior Jonathan Peoples, the Ballers struggled to knock down shots or come away with offensive rebounds. They gave numerous turnovers to Book It, which often converted to a breakaway and point.

"We needed to get off to a better start. They were a fundamentally sound team and they played well," Ballers senior Sean Dillon said.

Once the Ballers got their first basket, their game began to fall into place, hitting a series of shots from far out. However, Book It refused to back down, moving quickly and sinking deep jumpers to avoid the physical Ballers defense. The first half ended with a turnover and easy shot from under the basket by Book It.

Book It came out in the second half with just as much fire as they left the first with, scoring on their first possession after a missed shot by the Ballers. The energy brought by Book It was conveyed during a full court press play to gain possession, and after that moment, the Ballers struggled to return.

"Pressure, pressure, pressure," Ballers sophomore EJ Jones said in the second half.

This became the name of the game for the Ballers, and pressure they did. While its physical presence was well known, Book It never hesitated, simply making shots from farther out instead of venturing into the heavily guarded paint.

As the second half continued with heavy fouls, free throws became a key factor for Book IT, which made a sequence of them to rack up easy points and end the game.

"We played great defense and rebounded the ball well," Book It senior Mike Bramante said. "That's how you have to win in Bookstore. We have a big challenge next game; we just have to keep doing more of the same."

Book It and Lock It will continue its journey Friday at 6 p.m.

Contact Chris Allen and Megan Finneran at callen10@nd.edu and mfinnera@nd.edu



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WOMEN'S ROWING

Irish go for seven in a row in Big East tourney

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's rowing team has quietly been building a tradition of its own in the Big East championships for the past few years. In each of the past six years, the Irish have hoisted the Big East trophy and this weekend, they go for their seventh in a row at the Big East championship in Worcester, Mass. To coach Martin Stone, however, success in each individual year is more important than the year-to-year streak.

"Is it our seventh? I don't know. We don't keep so much track of that," Stone said. "We try to approach each year as a new year, we're not trying to defend anything, we're just trying to go as fast as we can in each event."

This year's team has had its share of challenges, not least of which was a change in the team's training philosophy. The squad's regimen has traditionally been based on a philosophy of constant, full effort, but this year the coaches decided to switch to a heart-rate-based training program. Though it has not been easy, assistant coach Joe Schlosberg said he has been impressed by the team's response.

"It's something we had to trust that the team would buy into, and we've had to show a lot of patience this year," Stone said. "This has been a little different year, the coaches included. We kind of had to change our mindset."

The coaching staff credits much of this team's success to the culture created by the seniors on the squad, who have fostered a positive atmosphere despite the challenges posed by the change. The burden of leadership has fallen on the upperclassmen as a whole, as the team did not name captains this season in hopes of a team-wide effort.

"I think our seniors have done a wonderful job," Stone said. "I like the team dynamic, I like the culture of our team."

"I think the seniors really have set a great tone for the team," Schlosberg said. "They've led by example and it's really their leadership."

The Irish expect that their new training, based on the methods of international teams, will allow them to perform at their absolute best on Lake Quinsigamond on Sunday despite minor injury and crew composition issues.

"I think they're going to start to really see some speed come out of their hard work. Hopefully it pays off," Schlosberg said. "I think we've gained some speed across the team since we last raced, and we'll keep our fingers crossed that we can carry this out and carry that speed through this weekend and beyond."

Various schools are expected to challenge Notre Dame in the various boat classes, most notably Connecticut and Louisville. The Cardinals will be hungry for a championship, having finished second to the Irish multiple times over the past six years, and the Huskies are part of a program on

the rise. Stone says that his team cannot be worried about the other schools, however, and must instead focus on putting forth its best effort. The key to success on Sunday, he said, is simple.

"We're planning on having our best races of the year," he said. "We have to row really hard and make our boats go really fast. I mean, it's not rocket science."

Notre Dame looks to claim its seventh consecutive Big East title Sunday in Worcester, Mass.

Contact Allan Joseph at
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"We try to approach each year as a new year. We're not trying to defend anything."

Martin Stone
Irish coach

Big East

continued from page 24

We're trying to get as many outdoor matches in while we can before NCAAAs."

If Notre Dame pulls off the win over West Virginia, their next opponent would be either 4th seeded Syracuse (19-2) or 5th seeded Marquette (13-13) in the semifinals on Saturday, with the winner playing in the finals on Sunday.

The Irish are looking to build upon unprecedented success in the conference tournament since they joined the Big East in 1995. In 15 seasons, the Irish have made the final

match 14 times, and won nine. These titles include wins in the first two seasons the Irish played in the Big East. Historically, the Irish are 53-2 against the other 11 teams in the Big East tournament field, including a perfect 4-0 this season. Regardless of this historically dominant résumé, Louderback knows the Irish will need to be at their best against tough competition.

"I think, for where we are right now, we really feel like

this is one of the best Big East tournaments we're going to have because the teams are the strongest overall I can remember," Louderback said.

"I think it is especially good for us, early in the tournament, to play a team with good doubles."

Jay Louderback
Irish coach

Saturday and the finals to be played at 9 a.m. Sunday, all at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Contact Chris Allen at
callen10@nd.edu

DePaul

continued from page 24

year. Freshman Brittany O'Donnell was credited with the second loss after giving up seven hits in two innings, moving her record to 7-3.

On the offensive side of things, the story of the day for

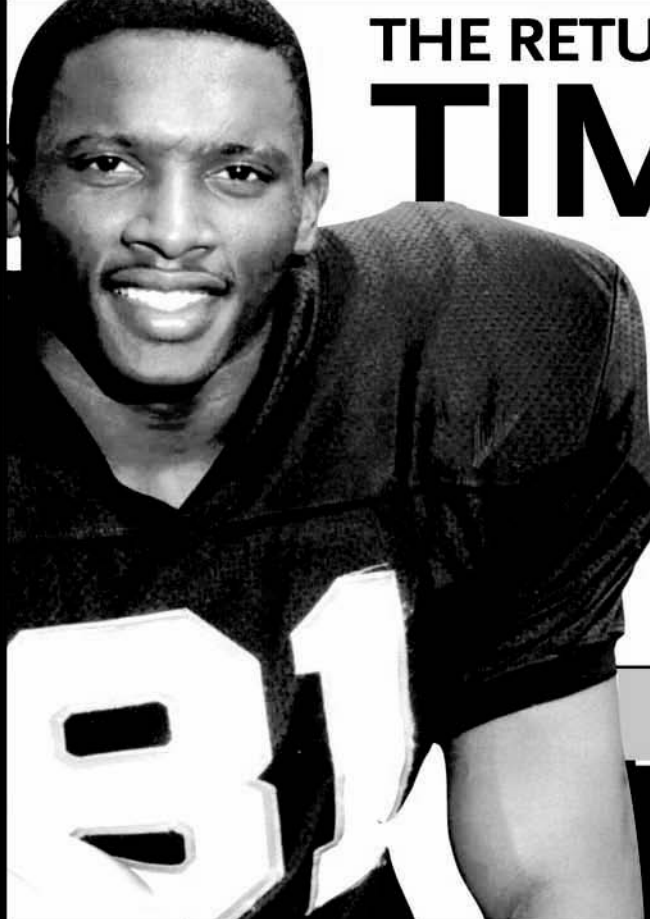
the Irish was all the missed opportunities. The Irish put up a 2-0 lead in the first, but ended the inning with three runners left on base.

They ended the second inning with the bases loaded as well, and with the game on the line in the eighth, the Irish batters were surrendered in order. Notre Dame only registered four hits in the second

game on their way to two runs.

The Irish (35-9, 12-3) are looking to rebound with strong efforts on both sides of the ball as they prepare for a three game series against Big East for Villanova this Saturday.

Contact Bobby Graham at
rgraham@nd.edu



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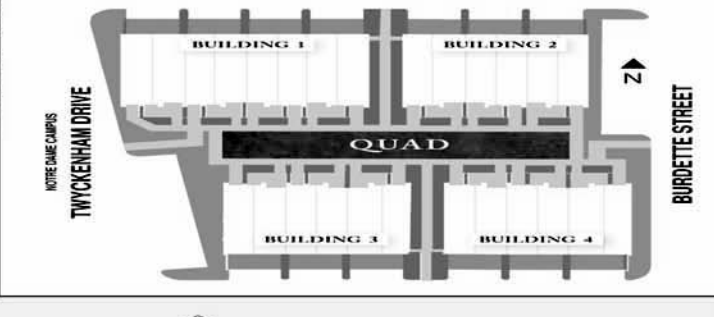
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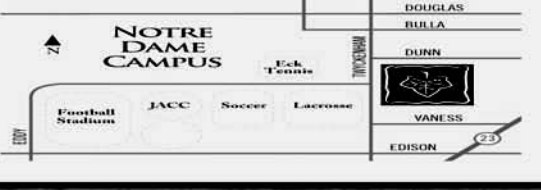


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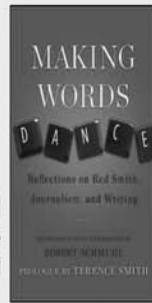
FOOD AND FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 4:00 PM
UNVEILING CEREMONY STARTS AT 5:45 PM

SPECIAL GUESTS:
MIKE COLLINS, MIKE GOLIC AND BRIAN KELLY

SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2010
BOOK SIGNINGS



Sean Callahan
**The Leprechaun Who
Lost His Rainbow**
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM



Bob Schmulh
Making Words Dance
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM



Mike Golic
**Mike and Mike's
Rules for Sports
and Life**
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM



SATURDAY + SUNDAY
APRIL 24TH + 25TH, 2010

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Worlds

continued from page 24

Meanwhile, Hurley lost in the round of 32 to Sweden's Emma Vaggo by a score of 15-12, but her performances in the team competition allowed her to earn a silver medal with Team USA in the women's epee competition.

Almeida and Osier both competed in women's sabre. Osier went 3-3 in pool play competition, while Osier went 5-1 and lost in the elimination round of

64.

Team USA finished third overall in the World Championships, losing to Russia and Hungary.

The youth represented in the tournament give the Irish a lot of hope that they'll be able to improve upon last year's disappointing third place finish in the NCAA Tournament. All four players provide a lot of promise and their experience at high-level tournaments such as these will only help the Notre Dame fencing team moving forward.

Contact Luke Mansour at
lmansour@nd.edu

St. John's

continued from page 24

their NCAA aspirations. The squad knows this and will not be caught looking ahead to the regular-season finale next week against No. 1 Syracuse, according to Corrigan.

"I think our team has a great sense of urgency," he said.

The Red Storm are led offensively by senior midfielder Tom Manes, who leads his team in points, as well as sophomore attack Harry Kutner, the leading scorer on the team. St. John's does not run a particularly complicated scheme, and in Corrigan's eyes, the game will come down not to tactics but to execution.

"They're a team that knows themselves very well and makes subtle adjustments to expose you," Corrigan said. "It's a different challenge than we had with Providence, but they are a very

scrappy team that works very hard and relies on their execution to be successful."

Notre Dame hopes that it has finally found its personality as a team and thus will be able to overcome the Red Storm and put themselves firmly on the NCAA bubble.

"I think we're playing with a better sense of tempo at the offensive end, more comfortably," Corrigan said. "Defensively, we're starting to get our aggressiveness back without overextending ourselves." An Irish win would set up a monumental clash with conference leader Syracuse that could hold the key to a Notre Dame trip to the NCAA Championships, while a loss could spell the end of any postseason hopes in a season that held so much promise.

The Irish put their season on the line against St. John's at 1 p.m. in Queens, N.Y., Saturday.

Contact Allan Joseph at
ajoseph2@nd.edu

THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

**BASEBALL
VS. CINCINNATI
FRIDAY @ 6PM**

SATURDAY @ 3:30PM

SUNDAY @ 1PM



**SOFTBALL
VS. VILLANOVA
SATURDAY @ NOON (DH)
SUNDAY @ 11AM**

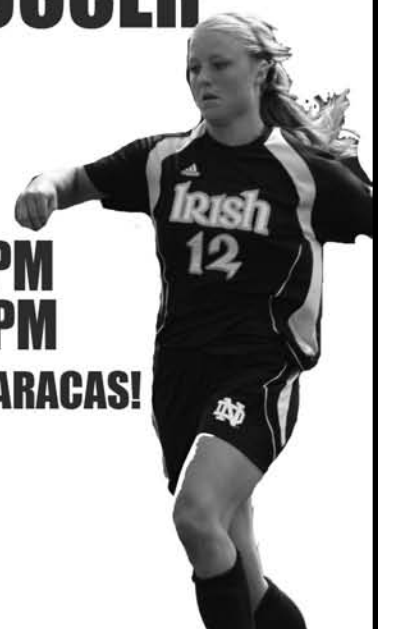


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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

When this puzzle is done, the answers will include a familiar series of 38-Across (minus the middle square). Connect the squares of this series in order with a line, starting with the circled square. The resulting image will be a pair of 38-Across (with the middle square). In addition, the clues all share a feature that provides an additional hint to the puzzle's theme.

- Across**

1 Tijuana dishes

8 Relegated to a state of oblivion

15 Middle name of Sen. Joe Lieberman

16 Resting place for the deceased

17 False start's result, in football

19 Red ____ (sushi order)

20 "Do me ____ and ..."

21 Reference abbr.

22 Ming's 7'6" and Bryant's 6'6", e.g.: Abbr.

24 "Resolved: that ...," for debaters

26 D.O.E. part: Abbr.

28 "Tis a pity"

30 Tiberius' "to be"
- 32 Last test before starting some advanced deg. programs

33 Request of a frog in a fairy tale

36 Missions, for short

37 Laptop key

38 [Refer to blurb]

40 Last name in ice cream

42 Laborer's suffix

43 Lance

44 Reversible preposition

45 Double-bladed ____ II razor

47 Fated for ruin

51 Doily material

53 Rent down the center

56 Milk: Prefix

57 Time-share unit

59 Latin motto "Ars ____ artis"
- 61 Tilly of Tinseltown

62 Doughbags

65 Renaissance cradle city

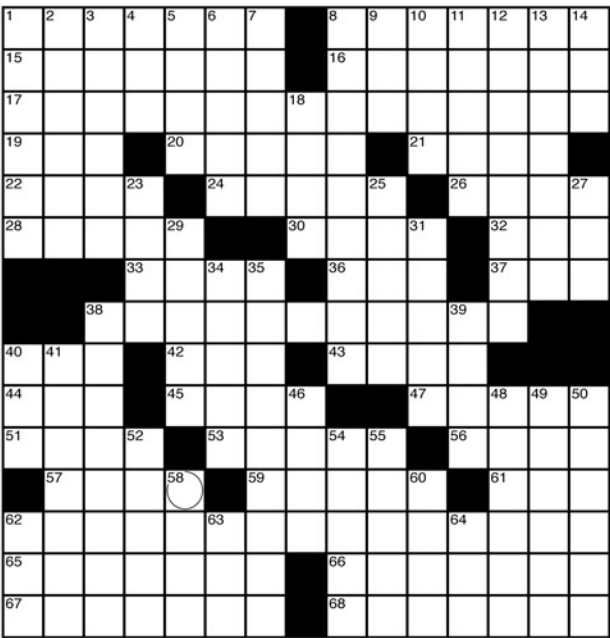
66 Resident of the Winter Palace before 1917

67 Last-column element on the periodic table

68 Relatively piquant

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A	B	S	C	A	M	E	P	E	E	P	C	S
T	A	C	O	M	A	R	O	X	Y	O	O	P
S	T	R	I	N	G	K	N	I	F	E	E	R
T	H	E	L	I	N	E	B	O	S	T	O	N
U	M	A	O	I	L	S	T	I	N	T	I	N
D	A	M	S	P	E	I	I	C	A	L		
T	S	A	R	S	T	E	S	T	C	A	S	E
	S	T	P	A	T	R	I	C	K			
H	O	U	S	E	F	L	Y	S	M	U	T	S
A	N	N	I	U	P	I	P	R	I	M		
T	A	K	E	H	O	M	E	S	T	Y	I	L
C	L	E	R	I	C	L	I	E	O	V	E	R
H	E	M	S	T	I	R	S	K	A	T	I	N
E	A	P	T	E	N	T	E	S	T	A	T	E
D	D	T	O	T	T	S	S	T	O	L	E	S



- Puzzle by Daniel A. Finan
- 31 Michigan, e.g., to a Spaniard

34 Fashionista ____ Moon

35 Does in with a rope

38 Factual info on a dating service questionnaire

39 Fatal virus

40 Sole alternative?
- 41 Fanged villain

46 Laptop key

48 "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" was published in this year

49 Timeless, old-style

50 Reader's place marker

52 Restaurant order
- 54 Repeat New York City Marathon winner Grete ____

55 Lazy

58 Solving, as a puzzle

60 Miscellanies

62 Dow Chemical, e.g.: Abbr.

63 Mineral in sheets

64 Michelangelo's field
- For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andie Macdowell, 52; Tony Danza, 59; Iggy Pop, 63; Charles Grodin, 75

Happy Birthday: You can make changes to your surroundings or make a move to a place better suited to your lifestyle and more convenient for achieving your goals. Learning will be a big part of your year. Don't let someone who questions or opposes you dictate what you can and cannot do. Be strong and steadfast. Your numbers are 5, 13, 16, 21, 28, 30, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look for competitive activities that will allow you to blow off steam. You don't want to leave yourself open for an argument with someone who has a different idea on how you should live your life. The less interaction you have with others, the better. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Expect to face some trouble at home if you decide to argue a moot point. Let everyone be and do as they please and you will all get far more accomplished. A love relationship can take on new meaning if you change your attitude. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make sure what you say is what you mean because you will be held accountable. You may want change but be careful what you wish for, especially if your plans involve other people. You are far better off working on your own. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put your efforts into work, finding work or discovering ways to put your talents, skills and craftsmanship to work for you. Making money must be your concern and, doing so in a unique way, will satisfy you emotionally as well. Don't wait for things to come to you; seize the moment. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let your heart rule your head. Concentrate on personal gains and being the best you can be. Anger will lead to setbacks, not gains. Keep a close watch on the competition but don't retaliate. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take matters into your own hands and make decisions and choices that will spark new vitality in the things you want to pursue. Partnerships will develop that will allow you to make some interesting financial moves. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Humanitarian pursuits will help you professionally as well as personally but don't let them cost you financially. The more money you put into home, family and your future, the better. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep things to yourself for the time being. Not everyone around you is trustworthy. Believe in yourself for a change and good things will come to you. A change of scenery will do you good. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take on a challenge, knowing that you can come out on top and make a little extra cash on the side. You will attract attention with your finesse but if you oversell, you will pay the price when you are asked to deliver. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be excited about changes heading your way but remember that it's your effort that will lead to victory. Partnering with someone you feel comfortable with will enable you to get twice as much done. Spend more time with the person you love. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep a watchful eye on what the people around you are doing. You can get into trouble if you meddle in someone's affairs. Confidence is required to get ahead. Listen to someone with experience. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If someone else wants to do a poor job, take the opportunity to do more and to look good. Your efforts won't go unnoticed and will turn into something quite surprising. Don't waffle or you may miss out. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You have charm, grace and dignity. You are creative with a good eye for quality and value. You are strong-willed and stubborn.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

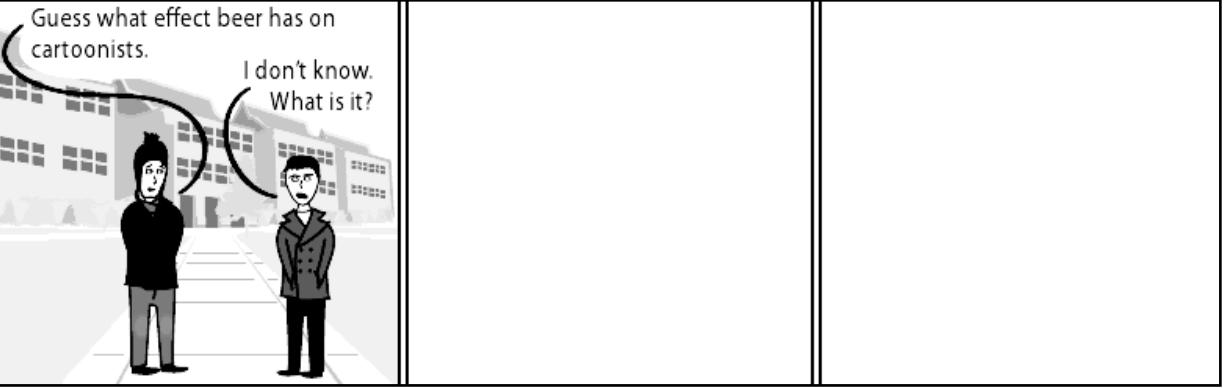
SCHAD & FREUDE

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.

WEELJ

CIHRB

HERNID

NIEFED

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

Ans: [Circled letters from the words above]

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JUMBO FLOUR GIMLET PEOPLE
Answer: How the trail walkers described the sky on a clear day — "BLUE-TIFUL"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Home cooking

ND hosts Big East, will face W. Virginia

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The Big East championships will serve as another home match for the No. 5 Irish as they move to the Courtney Tennis Center to seek their third straight Big East title and their 10th overall.

As the top seed in the tournament, the Irish (19-3) will begin their title defense Friday morning as they take on the eighth-seeded West Virginia squad. West Virginia (16-6) defeated Cincinnati (11-12) 4-2 in a play-in game Thursday, sweeping the doubles matches in the process. The Irish did not face the Mountaineers this season, but head coach Jay Louderback said he expects a tough match in the opening round.

"West Virginia had a long close match today with Cincinnati," Louderback said. "It was good because we hadn't had a chance to watch them play before. I was very impressed with their doubles. They won the doubles match very quickly against Cincinnati. That was pretty impressive"

First singles player and sophomore Kristy Frilling will face off against West Virginia's Stephanie LaFortune, who will look to bounce back after suffering a 6-0, 6-0 loss in the



Senior Kali Krisik, left, volleys the ball while playing doubles with sophomore Kristy Frilling in the Irish's 6-1 win over Marquette on April 18. Notre Dame opens the Big East championships today.

opening round match. The group of seniors, headlined by Cosmina Ciobanu, who has not lost a match in singles this season, will look to reach their fourth conference title game in as many years and win their third title. In order to do so,

they would have to play three matches in three days, something that the Irish have been preparing for but something that will still pose challenges, especially to the Irish doubles teams.

"I think it's especially good

for us, early in the tournament, to play a team with good doubles," Louderback said. "It's good for us to get a good test immediately at the beginning of the tournament in the doubles.

see BIG EAST/page 20

FENCING

Four players lead Irish at Worlds

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

Notre Dame once again had the chance to show off its world-class talent last week at the 2010 Junior World Championships. Notre Dame was well-represented, sending four fencers: sophomores Gerek Meinhardt, Courtney Hurley and Beatriz Almeida, and freshman Lian Osier. Meinhardt and Hurley turned in impressive performances as both medaled at the championships.

Meinhardt recorded a silver medal in the men's foil competition, and was also an integral part to the United States claiming first in the team tournament. Meinhardt was tested in both the fourth round in the quarterfinal round. To claim his spot in the quarterfinals, Meinhardt edged Russia's Roman Kuts 15-13, then narrowly defeated Italy's Edwardo Luperi 15-12 to reach the semifinal round.

Despite taking a 9-6 lead in the semifinal round, Meinhardt was ultimately defeated by a score of 15-12.

Team USA allowed Meinhardt to gain his revenge as he helped them defeated Italy in the team competition by a score of 45-35.

see WORLDS/page 21

MEN'S LACROSSE

Team faces must-win in Queens

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

The Irish have not performed as well as they would have liked thus far, but with two must-win conference games looming, coach Kevin Corrigan believes his team is peaking at the right time.

"We've been working hard and our guys have been practicing for the better part of the last three weeks," Corrigan said. "I'm convinced that it's going to start translating more and more into the games."

The Irish (6-5, 1-3 Big East) have little time left to make the transition from practice to game play, however, and thus their trip to Queens, N.Y., this week to face conference foe St. John's (5-6, 2-2) will be an important one for

see ST. JOHN'S/page 21



Freshman attacker Ryan Foley, right, runs around defenders in Notre Dame's 11-3 win over Providence on April 17.

ND SOFTBALL

Notre Dame drops two in Chicago games

By BOBBY GRAHAM
Sports Writer

The Irish could not keep up with DePaul during Thursday's trip to the Windy City in which Notre Dame dropped both ends of a doubleheader against the Blue Demons.

The team came in with high hopes after a quality win against Valparaiso, 7-6, but left the series empty handed after dropping the two games 7-6 and 15-2. The losses were the Irish's second and third in Big East play, coming only two days after their first conference loss of the season against Louisville on April 17.

Notre Dame's pitching staff,

which is normally one of the stronger parts of the squad, just could not find a break on Thursday. In the first game of the series, DePaul registered 14 hits on its way to seven runs.

The second game was even tougher; the Irish gave up 16 hits as the Blue Demons put up an impressive 15 runs. Nine of the runs were registered in the second inning and the remaining six were tacked on in the third.

Junior Jody Valdivia, who has pitched well for the Irish this season, lost her first Big East game in the first matchup of the day moving her record to 27-4 on the

see DEPAUL/page 20

For a live blog — during the **BLUE-GOLD GAME,** podcasts, and all of The Observer's spring football coverage —

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