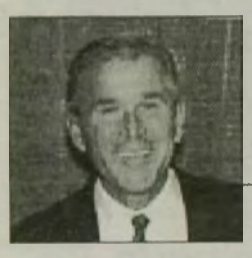

Will he run?

■ Texas governor George Bush has formed a presidential exploratory committee.

News • 7

LOOKING FOR NEW MUSIC?

■ Read The Observer's four album reviews.

Scene • 12-13

Wednesday

MARCH 3, 1999

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOL XXXII NO. 101 WWW. ND.EDU/~OBSERVER

ND unveils program to monitor licensee factories

By TIM LOGAN
Associate News Editor

In an attempt to ensure compliance with anti-sweatshop provisions in Notre Dame's licensing code of conduct, the University announced that it will hire an accounting firm to monitor factories worldwide where Notre Dame clothing is made.

This independent anti-sweatshop initiative will be accompanied by the creation of an on-campus task force to address the issue of sweatshop labor and the University's responsibilities to inform the public about factories and prevent abuse. Administrators say these steps will put more weight behind the existing code of conduct, which was written in 1997.

'ITS OVER-ARCHING GOAL IS TO COME TO TERMS WITH AND EXPLORE THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECTS OF THE SWEATSHOP ISSUE, THINGS LIKE THE LIVING WAGE.'

WILLIAM HOYE
SWEATSHOP TASK FORCE CHAIRMAN

"We were ready to move from having a code to having independent monitoring to ensure the code is being followed on the ground in the factories," said William Hoye, associate vice president and counsel for the University and chair of the sweatshop task force.

Under the new initiative, the accounting firm of Pricewaterhouse Coopers will be contracted to conduct random spot inspections of factories. The firm will also inspect factories where alleged abuses have been reported. If violations of the code are discovered, the University will decide whether to terminate its relationship with the factory or pressure it to improve conditions.

"If there are egregious violations of our code of conduct, we'll ask them to terminate," Hoye said. "We have that in our contract."

This monitoring is believed to be the first such independent site-inspection program undertaken by an American college or university. It will likely be underway in the next few months and will cost Notre Dame $75,000.

This effort to put teeth into what was the nation's first licensing code of conduct is a move in the right direction, said Father Oliver Williams, director of the Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business.

"It's a great first step," he said. "We've had a wonderful code of conduct, but no provisions for monitoring. In this business, you absolutely have to verify."

Williams noted that clothing manufacturers like the ones that produce Notre Dame merchandise are often those with labor code violations.

"The track record of these companies is very poor," he said. "To have a code of conduct without verification is not worth the paper it's printed on."

The task force, which will include faculty, administrators, students and staff members, will work on ensuring that the code is enforced. One of the first steps will be to collect from the 230 licensees a list of all manufacturing sites. In some cases, these licensees have dozens of subcontractors, complicating matters. This list will be used to select sites at random for inspection, and may be released to the public as well.

The task force will also discuss Notre Dame's position on a range of other labor rights issues.

"Its over-arching goal is to come to terms with and explore the most difficult aspects of the sweatshop issue, things like the living wage, public disclosure of licensed factories and the right to organize," Hoye said.

see WORKERS / page 4

The Observer/ Duffy Arnoult

Manufacturers of Notre Dame sweatshirts, t-shirts, caps and other merchandise — similar to that sold in the bookstore — will now face scrutiny under the University's new licensing contract.

Study finds few SMC feminists

By COLLEEN McCARTHY
Saint Mary's News Editor

Saint Mary's students are hesitant to identify themselves as feminists, and often view feminism negatively after spending four years at the College, said Susan Alexander, Saint Mary's assistant professor of sociology in a lecture based on her 1994 research.

Alexander first explained that feminist sociologists assume feminists work to transform social institutions to improve women's social status because social structure, not biology, forces men and women into unequal positions in society.

Feminists also work to link the social and political, Alexander reported.

"Feminists have to make a personal commitment to overcoming inequality," she said. "Creating social change can't happen solely through individual efforts. Feminism is a way of thinking and acting."

Soon after arriving at Saint Mary's, Alexander realized that, "this is not how students at Saint Mary's perceive feminism."

In response, she conducted a survey in 1994 to discern

'WE THOUGHT IF ANYTHING, SAINT MARY'S WOULD BE PROMOTING FEMINISM AND WHAT WE WERE LEFT ASKING WAS IF SAINT MARY'S WAS PROMOTING A NEGATIVE VIEW OF FEMINISM.'

SUSAN ALEXANDER
ASST. PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY

student views on feminism, differences between seniors' and freshmen's perceptions of feminism and how students identify with feminism.

Alexander hypothesized that if a women's college like Saint Mary's promotes women's issues, students should have a viable understanding of feminism.

She found that surveyed students fell into four categories. Some held mixed views of feminism, others had a pointedly positive or negative view, while others, labeled "ambiguous," claimed not to know the meaning of the term "feminism."

Alexander found that 13 percent of students surveyed held a mixed view. One student in this category defined a feminist as someone who stood up for her rights, while another student said she would not define herself as a feminist to men because she was not extreme.

Thirty percent held a positive view of feminism and indicated that a feminist is "confident" in herself.

About 33 percent held a negative view of feminism. Students in this group the behavior of feminists as "always fighting, fighting, fighting." They said a feminist

see FEMINISTS / page 4

■ GRADUATE STUDENT UNION

Council plans forum on BOT decisions

By BRAD UNTIEDT
News Writer

After heavy debate, the Graduate Student Union Council (GSUC) decided against passing a formal resolution denouncing the Board of Trustees' Feb. 5 decision to not include sexual orientation in the University's non-discrimination clause.

The group will instead hold an open forum on the matter, specifically inviting members of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Fellows and making them aware of the council's disapproval of the decision.

"We want to make the administration more accountable and establish a public forum so it could be more of a democracy and more voices and opinions could be heard," said GSUC president Marybeth Graham.

"This will allow us to voice our disapproval of the Board of Trustees for the way that they made the University aware of the final decision," Graham said.

GSUC member Cathleen McMahon expressed similar disapproval.

"We want to tell the Board of Trustees that we are very displeased with their decision and actions," McMahon said. "This is something that is important and something that we have to pursue."

The group decided to forego passing a prepared resolution but plans to make a formal move after the forum. The resolution will sent to members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Fellows.

"We all know that they probably won't respond," said Graham. "This will at least make them aware of what we

see GSU / page 4

■ INSIDE COLUMN

Star gazing

There once was a village where the people celebrated the light of the sun by day and waited for its return by night.

When night came, the people closed their eyes and waited for the emerging fire of day, embraced by the velvet blanket of darkness that fell upon them each evening. They lamented the departure of the sun, praying every night for its return.

Noreen Gillespie
Copy Editor

One day, one of the villagers declared that he was going to make night dissappear.

He climbed up on a ladder, with a hammer in one hand and a nail in the other, andpounded away at the sky, making peepholes with his hammer and nail.

He made a miracle.

To the villager's surprise, the man had created light. With each little peephole punched in the sky, night became a beautiful event. As light peered through each peephole, speckling the ground below with the rays of the hidden sun, the villagers danced and sang and celebrated the return of light.

And they no longer waited for day.

There's something about the comfort of night that is rejuvinating; something about a star-speckled sky that can put everything in perfect order. Perhaps it is the fact that you can look above at the galaxy, so far away, and realize that the stars look smaller than you are.

And you feel important.

I stood beneath the stars a few nights ago, side-by-side with my best friend, and let the wind whip through my jacket and bring icy tears to my eyes. I stood beneath the stars, saw how distant they were and felt important.

I only see my best friend twice a year. By any conventional means of social standards, we shouldn't be friends; she is two years older than I and lives over 600 miles away. We define the saying "opposites attract" to a pinpoint: She's crazy and I'm conservative; she listens to hip-hop when I play my jazz; her life is like a soap opera while mine is about as predictable as the next page in a boring book.

But when you're awed by a galaxy above you, you realize these things aren't important.

What is important is the little things: We both sing in the car, are incurable slobs, and require second jobs to pay for our outlandish phone bills. What is important is that even though the differences that separate us are about as large as the galaxy above us, she'll always understand me better than anyone I'll ever meet.

I laughed as we sat there and talked about the past and about the future. We talked about how our dreams had changed, and that we'd suddenly realized there was no little man on a ladder who pounded holes in the sky to make stars.

Ironically, we were standing in front of the world's largest man made star; the focal point of the city of Roanoke, Va. that is the modern cure to night; an electric star that stands above the city, and illuminates three counties below.

But even though it was so much larger than the natural stars, its vastness couldn't scare me. Standing above the city, looking at matchbox sized cars running around on the highways below, I realized something.

No matter how big the star was, and no matter how tiny we were in its presence, we were still important.

We were important to each other.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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Outside the Dome

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Letter urges university to adopt anti-sweatshop code

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.

In the wake of sit-ins at other colleges and increased anger at the lack of progess in negotiations with the University, members of the Progressive Student Labor Movement (PSLM) sent a letter to university president Neil Rudenstine Thursday demanding that the school adopt an anti-sweatshop code of conduct.

"We've basically given the Ivy presidents an ultimatum with that letter," said PSLM member Daniel Hennefeld.

The letter, which was sent to the presidents of all the Ivy League schools, asks the schools to revise their labor code so that manufacturers are required to disclose the location of their factories and non-governmental organizations inspect work conditions.

The letter also demands that the universities allow students to participate in the implementation of a labor code and calls on the schools to study the issue of paying a living wage to factory workers.

Members said they are taking their demands directly to Rudenstine because other efforts to negotiate with the University have failed.

"We feel betrayed and we feel left out," said PSLM member Benjamin Shuldiner. "After negotiating, after a year of this, we need to go to the president."

Members suggest that if Rudenstine does not respond to their demands by March 8, they may consider more drastic action.

"There's a faculty meeting on [March 9] and we've taken note of that," said PSLM member Benjamin McKean.

Shuldiner said sit-ins have already proven effective at Duke, Georgetown, and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where protesters have won concessions from the schools.

"Those universities were taken over by their students, but within three days of the takeovers, all three of those universities have signed codes of conduct or letters saying they will,"he said.

But Harvard University is making no promises regarding the demands.

"This particular letter raises a number of issues that I think [Rudenstine] will want to respond to or have me respond to," said Allan Ryan, an attorney in the university's Office of the General Counsel.

■ UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Faculty abolishes speech code

MADISON, Wisc.

"It's just a great day for freedom." So said U.Wisconsin-Madison faculty senator Lester Hunt, following a Faculty Senate vote to become the first university in the country to, by its own free will, essentially abolish its speech code. In a historic 71-62 vote, the Faculty Senate approved legislation Monday, which will, according to senators, go into effect immediately and allow "all members of the university to express openly their ideas and opinions." After an ad hoc committee spent 17 months studying speech-code options and a final two-hour meeting of debate and amendment, the senate finally approved the code, which reads in part, "accordingly, all expression germane to the instructional setting — including, but not limited to, information, the presentation or advocacy of ideas, assignment of course materials and teaching techniques — is protected from disciplinary action."

■ UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

Police prevent suicide in dormitory

AMHERST, Mass.

Police, responding to a report of a disturbance in University of Massachusetts Brown Residence Hall Sunday morning, ended up rescuing an individual who attempted to commit suicide after nearly strangling his girlfriend. According to Barbara O'Connor, deputy chief of the University of Massachusetts Police Department, police arrived on the scene at 6:39 a.m. They were met by housing staff and directed to the fifth floor. The officers observed a crying female with scratches on her face enter the elevator. They then heard yelling, and observed two males struggling on the floor of a fifth-floor room. One male, later identified as Francisco Rivera, freed himself and attempted to dive through the window. The window shattered and the police grabbed Rivera's torso as he dangled, more than three quarters out the window. Rivera continued to struggle and attempted to jump.

■ OHIO UNIVERSITY

Sibs weekend results in assault

ATHENS, Ohio

A 14-year-old and a 17-year-old who said they were sexually assaulted while visiting Ohio University during the February 1998 Sibs' Weekend have filed suit against the university for negligence and failing to provide a safe environment. The girls, cousins from Miamisburg and Mason, and their parents asked for at least $75,000 from each OU; Travis McIntyre, the man charged in the incident; and his parents. The suit was filed Feb. 11 in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. According to the complaints, "Ohio University had a duty to provide and ensure an environment for the [girls] free of sexual innuendo, intimidation and [discrimination] and to enforce the regulations, rules and laws necessary to protect the [girls] from acts of sexual abuse." The girls came to visit the 14-year-old's sister, an OU sophomore.

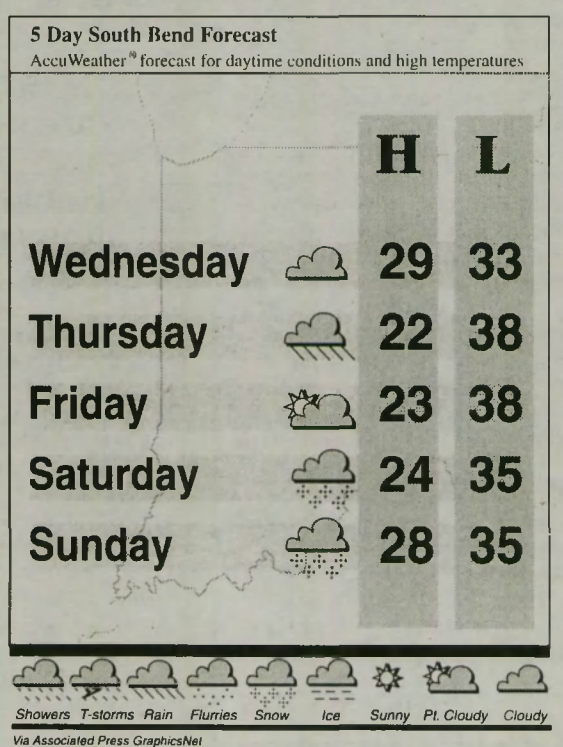
■ DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Initiative may lead to court battle

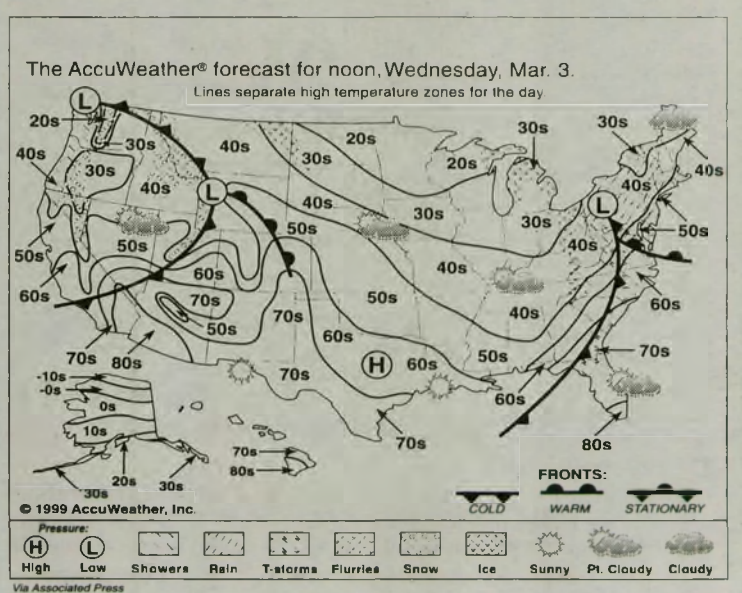
HANOVER, N.H.

If observers are correct and implementation of the Board of Trustees' initiative leads to court battles between the college and Greek organizations refusing to sell their houses, the arguments are likely to focus onlegal issues. While Greek members might argue the college is interfering with their First Amendment rights of assembly and association or that Dartmouth is violating anti-trust laws if it prevents students from registering who reside in certain houses, those arguments are difficult to prove since the College is a private institution. Although there is certainly no guarantee the Trustees' controversial initiative will bring Dartmouth organizations into the courtroom, with no national precedent clearly existing in favor of either side, it is unclear how any case would be decided. Despite discussion amongst the members of most organizations, the majority of houses have decided to wait until the Trustees make a more specific list of intentions.

■ SOUTH BEND WEATHER



■ NATIONAL WEATHER



Atlanta	57	51	Dallas	62	40	Madison	35	22
Baltimore	59	40	Denver	69	27	Miami	81	70
Boston	47	32	Hartford	47	28	Minneapolis	32	19
Chicago	34	29	Indianapolis	33	31	New York	52	39
Cleveland	37	33	Louisville	37	36	Santa Fe	66	29

■ BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Group receives expense update

By COLLEEN McCARTHY
Saint Mary's News Editor

An update of expenditures and a visit from the director of Saint Mary's Security highlighted Tuesday's Board of Governance (BOG) meeting.

Anne Marie Roche, executive treasurer, presented a current budget report detailing the amount spent by the board so far this year and the amount remaining for the rest of the year.

Having spent $102,514.37 of the 1998-1999 budget, BOG is left with $23,652.63 to finish out the year.

"I recommend trying to have at least $5,000 remaining for startup costs for the new board," Roche told the group.

The board had a larger amount of money to work with than usual this year due to increased enrollment, explained Sarah Siefert, student body president.

Because a fee is assessed in tuition costs, this increase helps fund the student government budget.

Dick Chlebek, director of Saint Mary's Security, also addressed the board Tuesday, raising concerns about campus security. He suggested that the board combine recommendations from the Performa consulting group with ideas from students and Saint Mary's Security to present to the administration.

Chlebek submitted a list of security and safety improvements for board members to review and amend. Suggestions included increased lighting on campus as well as sidewalks in the circle outside Holy Cross Hall and along the road that runs between Holy Cross Hall and the security building to Regina Hall.

"Right now, with no foliage on the trees, it looks as though the campus is illuminated just fine," said Chlebek. However, Chlebek asked board members to accompany him on a campus safety walk after spring break to address areas of safety concern on campus.

"As young ladies, you might be more apprehensive to walk in some areas on campus than I would because they are dark," said Chlebek.

If the board works with Security to submit safety recommendations, there is a good chance these recommendations will be addressed and possibly implemented, Chlebek said.

"We have an administration now that is willing to listen to recommendations and that may be interested in implementing some of these recommendations," said Chlebek.

Board members will join Chlebek for a campus safety walk on March 16.

In other BOG news:

• Athletic commissioner Cindy Traub reported that the pep band was a success at the basketball games and that three Saint Mary's students approached her about continuing the band's participation next year.

■ SECURITY BEAT

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

3:00 p.m. A University employee reported vandalism to a photograph on display in the Hesburgh Library.

10:07 p.m. An off-campus student reported the theft of a coin purse from her jacket, which was in an unlocked locker.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

7:50 p.m. Security transported a Saint Mary's College student to St. Joseph Medical Center for treatment of an ankle injury.

11:15 p.m. A South Bend resident was cited for exceeding the posted speed limit on Edison Road.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

1:24 a.m. Security issued a Knott Hall resident a University citation for minor consumption of alcohol.

2:37 a.m. Two Alumni Hall residents were issued University citations for minor consumption of alcohol.

7:00 p.m. A Dillon Hall resident reported the theft of a CD player and books from an unlocked and unattended study room in the Hesburgh library.

7:28 p.m. Security transported a Walsh Hall resident to St. Joseph Medical Center for treatment of an illness.

Debate team wins at Eliot invitational

By SHANNON GRADY
News Writer

Entering its 100th year on campus, the Notre Dame debate team has shown no evidence of aging.

The team finished first at the Eliot Invitational hosted by Washington University in St. Louis by winning the parliamentary debate and impromptu speaking titles and the sweepstakes overall. The sophomore duo of Priscilla Clements and Kate Huetteman won the tournament's showcase event — the individual debate competition.

Overall, the team posted a record of 6-2.

"The final round was magical," Clements said. "I'm just tickled pink that we won. At Notre Dame we are about championships in all areas. If debate can add to that reputation — even a little bit — then all of Notre Dame wins."

The Notre Dame debate team scored 90 overall points, 40 points ahead of the second place team at the Feb. 12-14 event. This is the team's second first-place finish this year after capturing the title at the College of DuPage last month.

Chris Huck, a Notre Dame law student and coach of the team, said he is "immensely proud of these kids.

"This victory, coupled with last month's triumph at DuPage, is just a tremendous message to the region. This was an even bigger tournament than last time," Huck said.

Huck added that these tournaments are good practice for the national tournaments that will be held later in the year.

The success represents something of a turnaround for the team. Notre Dame dominated debate in the 1980s, but the activity declined over the years. Thanks to the team's young members, that trend seems to have been reversed.

Ensuring participation is a key to success, organizers said. The debate team advertises during Activities Night, and Huck teaches a debate class. The class is offered second semester and is listed under Film and Television. It is an informal class that counts toward activities credit.

Huck said that anyone can join the debate team to learn how to become a better public speaker. No prior debating experience is needed.

"The girl I consider our best debater did not debate in high school," Huck noted.

He emphasized that debate is a valuable skill and is useful in any profession. The debate team hopes to offer a showcase later in the year to demonstrate the specific events in which it participates.

Things to do before heading out for spring break:
1) Water plants (real well). 2) Stop by Meijers - load up on suntan lotion. 3/ Pick up application for HCA!

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For More information, contact:
Holy Cross Associates
PO Box 668, Notre Dame IN 46556

Phone:631-5521 Fax: 631-6813
E-mail: nd.hcassoc.1@nd.edu
http://www.nd.edu:80/~hcassoc/

GSU

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want to do."

Representative Sean Borman noted that the council aims to increase public knowledge of the issue.

"The [GSUC] needs the student body to see that we are behind the issue," he said. "It has to become louder and louder until it eventually sinks in."

In other discussion, GSUC expressed its displeasure with the Board of Trustee's decision against joining the Big Ten.

"The graduate school is very upset about the Big Ten and very disappointed with the Board of Trustee's decision," council vice president David Fowle said.

"The graduate school would have benefited most from a 'yes' Big Ten vote," representative Robert Rodriguez said.

The next GSUC report to the Board of Trustees will include these issues as well as target concerns about computer access.

Feminists

continued from page 1

has "short hair, stocky build, doesn't act cute or giggle and lifts weights."

Those with an ambiguous view comprised the rest of surveyed students.

Alexander found gap in feminist perceptions between freshmen and seniors intriguing, she said.

Of freshmen surveyed, 45 percent held a positive view, 25 percent a negative view and the rest held and ambiguous or mixed view. Of seniors, only 12 percent said they held a positive view of feminism and 43 percent reported holding a negative view.

"The freshman had a far more positive understanding of feminism," said Alexander. "That really threw us back. We thought if anything, Saint Mary's would be promoting feminism and what we were left asking was if Saint Mary's was promoting a negative view of feminism.

"We can't say that we know Saint Mary's contributes to this negative view though because of other factors," she said.

Of students surveyed, only one student identified herself as a feminist while three identified themselves as non-feminists but did not qualify the classification. Sixty percent of students named themselves as feminists but added qualifying statements to the definition.

These women identified with something in feminism, but were not willing to call themselves feminists, Alexander explained.

Many women did not want to be identified as radicals, partially because they came from traditional backgrounds and liked the "traditional" role women held in society. Others said they would call themselves feminists but not in the company of men.

"These people didn't want the label attached to them and the issue came up a lot about men not wanting to date women who are feminists," said Alexander.

She added that she learned much from her research.

"It made me realize that there are an awful lot of misunderstandings on this campus of what feminism is. We all need to become better educated about the different forms feminism can take," Alexander said. "We have to challenge feminist stereotypes the same way you would challenge a derogatory racial comment you heard someone make."

She also recommended taking a closer and more careful look at how the media perpetuate stereotypes of feminists.

"These kinds of stereotypes that the media perpetuate have a great impact on perceptions of people we do not have much contact with — lesbians, Latinas, African-Americans or feminists," said Alexander. "We have to start teaching media literacy and teaching people how to deconstruct what they see in the media."

To raise awareness of what feminism is, Alexander recommended women "find a voice and take a stand to restructure views on feminism."

Workers

continued from page 1

The group has not yet been assembled, but University president Father Edward Malloy has sent invitations for membership to people at Notre Dame who are knowledgeable about the issue.

The issue of factory disclosure is a provacative one on campuses nationwide. Students at Duke, Harvard, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and other schools have pressured administrators to adopt a more stringent conduct code requiring manufacturer compliance with higher labor standards. Their demands include factory disclosure and guaranteeing a living wage for workers, two issues which Notre Dame student activists hope to see Notre Dame include in its code as well.

"It's definitely a step in the right direction, but — we would like to see public disclosure," said Madolyn Orr, a member of the Progressive Student Alliance, who noted that if the list was released, human rights groups could also conduct factory inspections. "It would help empower consumers."

The PSA will hold a teach-in on March 24 to educate members of the Notre Dame community about sweatshop labor practices, Orr said. She anticipates that this week's developments will be included in the discussion.

Notre Dame's move comes just before a plan by the Fair Labor Association, a non-profit group started by the Apparel Industry Partnership, to create a centralized monitoring system for overseas sweatshop labor. That system is expected to be in place within a year, according to University officials. When it is up and running, Notre Dame plans to participate, and to cooperate with other universities in fair labor initiatives.

"We were among the first to take the sweatshop issue seriously," said Malloy in a written statement. "And we continue to seek ways to strengthen our code by improving accountability structures and by joining other universities seeking ways to more effectively oppose inhumane workplace conditions."

Notre Dame's code of conduct for licensees requires that workers in licensed factories must be "present at work voluntarily, not at risk of physical harm, fairly compensated and not exploited in any way."

It does not mandate any minimum or even a "living" wage. Currently, workers must be paid in compliance with "all applicable laws and [wages] that match or exceed the prevailing local manufacturing industry practices." However, institution of a living wage is one topic the task force plans on studying.

Overall, administrators are pleased with the new policy.

"I think it's terrific," Hoye said.

Temperatures fall, grain prices rise

Baby wheat vulnerable to winter cold

Associated Press

Wheat futures jumped nearly four percent on the Chicago Board of Trade Tuesday, rallying for a second day as forecasts for below-normal temperatures this weekend in major winter-wheat growing regions deepened concerns about crop damage.

Corn and soybeans also advanced strongly. On other markets, cocoa tumbled to its lowest level in nearly three years, while crude gained.

Wheat rallied as market participants noted recent dryness in the Plains has left crops emerging from winter dormancy particularly vulnerable to just such a cold snap that is forecast to arrive in the area by week's end. The National Weather Service and private forecasters are calling for below to sharply-below normal temperatures in areas that account for some 75 percent of the nation's total wheat production.

Warmer weather has helped some of the crop emerge early from the ground, leaving a larger portion vulnerable to late-season frosts because of a lack of insulating ground cover.

The gains were made on the back of a sharp advance on Monday tied to an improved outlook — at least in the near-term — for export business. Egypt over the weekend made a large purchase, while Pakistan was considering buying about 300,000 metric tons from either the United States, Australia or Canada.

Corn and soybeans benefited from heavy fund house buying as investors rushed to cover positions following Monday's unexpectedly strong rally. Soybeans advanced after the government reported export inspections jumped 14 percents last week, although market participants expected gains to be limited today on reports of increased exports from Brazil.

In the meantime, dry weather in South America and parts of South Africa could hinder late production, reducing overall yields, analysts said.

Wheat for May delivery rose nine cents to $2.63 3/4 a bushel; May corn rose 4 1/2 cents to $2.15 3/4 a bushel; May soybeans rose 8 1/2 cents to $4.71 1/2 a bushel.

Cocoa fell to its lowest in nearly three years on the Board of Trade of the City of New York amid few takers for crops arriving from Ivory Coast and Ghana, the world's largest producing countries.

The peak consumption period, in which chocolate makers buy cocoa to make their goods, is winding down as most complete Easter holiday production. The heavy buying season is not expected to increase dramatically until late summer, when manufacturers begin gearing up for Halloween candy-making.

May cocoa fell $48 to $1,241 a ton.

Crude oil futures gained on the New York Mercantile Exchange amid speculation U.S. airstrikes on communications centers in northern Iraq had damaged a key oil pipeline and delayed pumping.

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■ World News Briefs

Two Americans, six other tourists killed by rebels

KAMPALA, Uganda

Rwandan rebels kidnapped and slaughtered eight foreign tourists, including two Americans, turning their gorilla-watching expedition into a forced march of terror and death deep in a rain forest, survivors and witnesses said Tuesday. The dead also included four Britons and two New Zealanders, according to diplomats. At least a half dozen other tourists survived the nightmarish rampage, which began with rebels systematically raiding campgrounds at a national park, killing rangers and rounding up foreigners. "The rebels were looking for Americans and British," said Hussein Kivumbi, manager of one of five tented camps at the Bwindi Impenetrable Forests and a survivor of the attack. "They killed four women and four men with knives, machetes and axes."

State Senate approves school takeover

LANSING, Michigan

Under tight security, the state Senate on Tuesday passed a bill allowing Detroit's mayor to take over the city's troubled schools from the elected school board. Eight of the Senate's 15 Democrats joined all 22 Republicans to pass the bill 30-7. It now goes to the House, where talks are taking place to make the bill more palatable to Detroit residents. State police kept watch at the Capitol's front entrance and used metal detector wands to scan visitors. The handful of critics who got in were quieted when they broke into applause twice as opponents spoke. "It's a clear voter-rights issue. We don't want to oppress people," said Pat West as she waited for a seat in the gallery. Proposed by Gov. John Engler, the bill would authorize Mayor Dennis Archer to replace the elected school board with a seven-member "reform board."

Russian lawmakers seek end to Yeltsin/Duma feud

MOSCOW

A group of Russian lawmakers proposed a political truce Tuesday that seeks to end the constant feuding between President Boris Yeltsin's administration and the parliament. However, the draft document still faces several major obstacles. It must be debated by the full parliament, where Communist lawmakers in the lower house are pushing for Yeltsin's impeachment. Also, Yeltsin has said he won't agree to any deal that infringes on his wide-ranging powers, and his administration said Tuesday that it objected to some of the proposals.

Market Watch: 3/2

Dow Jones **9,297.61** -27.17

AMEX: 699.21 +0.92
Nasdaq: 2,259.03 -36.15
NYSE: 582.93 -2.49
S&P 500: 1225.50 -10.66

Up: 1,225 — Same: 415 — Down: 1,318

Composite Volume: 669,400,000

VOLUME LEADERS

COMPANY	TICKER	% CHANGE	$ GAIN	PRICE
INTEL CORP	INTC	-6.20	-7.2525	109.81
COMPAQ COMPUTER	CPQ	-4.92	-1.6513	31.88
3COM CORP	COMS	-12.02	-3.6875	27.00
XYLAN CORP	XYLN	+32.71	+8.8125	35.75
DELL COMPUTER	DELL	-3.11	-2.5025	78.06
CISCO SYSTEMS	CSCO	-3.77	-3.7475	95.69
AMER ONLINE	AOL	-3.21	-2.8725	86.69
MICROSOFT CORP	MSFT	-2.10	-3.1900	148.56
APPLIED MATERIA	AMAT	+0.43	+0.2475	57.31
TELE-COMM INC-A	TCOMA	+1.01	+0.6200	62.12

■ Iraq

AFP Photo

An Iraqi man searches through rubble after U.S. warplanes bombed communications centers that control an oil pipeline Monday and Tuesday. The pipeline extends to Turkey and carries about half of Iraq's oil exports. Hussein al-Fattal, head of operations for Iraq's Nothern Oil Company, estimated damages at $2.5 million.

Airstrikes jeopardize Iraq's oil exports

Associated Press

AIN ZALA, Iraq

About half of Iraq's oil exports are in jeopardy after U.S. warplanes hit two communications centers that controlled the flow of oil through a key pipeline, an Iraqi official said Tuesday.

The damage from the strikes Sunday and Monday is so extensive that it will take a "long time" to resume pumping oil through the pipeline to Turkey, Hussein al-Fattal, head of operations for Iraq's Northern Oil Company, said.

Officials tried to pump oil on Monday but failed, al-Fattal said. "We tried ... but we lost communications and control," he said.

The U.S. military has said American planes may have hit several sites in northern Iraq, but it was not sure if the targets had anything to do with the pipeline.

British and U.S. planes have been striking Iraqi targets almost daily since late December. The allies say they are responding to Iraqi threats to its planes in "no-fly" zones over northern and southern Iraq.

Iraq does not recognize the "no-fly" zones, which were set up to ensure that Iraqi forces do not target Kurdish rebels in the north and Shiite opposition in the south.

In Washington on Tuesday, White House spokesman David Leavy said, "Our pilots are going to enforce the no-fly zone; they are going to take the necessary precautions to do that ... What they're targeting is what they deem threatens their ability to carry out the mission."

Al-Fattal and other Iraqi officials have denied the two centers hit ever were used for military purposes. Al-Fattal said the centers functioned as an oil relay station, carrying signals between Iraq and Turkey, and was used to maintain contact between branches of the company in the area.

The pipeline carried about half of Iraq's oil exports. Al-Fattal estimated the damage has cost Iraq at least $2.5 million.

Crude oil futures gained on the New York Mercantile Exchange amid speculation U.S. airstrikes on communications centers in northern Iraq had damaged a key oil pipeline and delayed pumping indefinitely.

U.S. and British planes, which patrol no-fly zones over northern and southern Iraq, have been striking Iraqi targets almost daily since late December. The allies have said they are attacking military targets in response to Iraq firing at the planes or locking its radar systems on to them.

April light sweet crude rose 27 cents to $12.51 a barrel; April heating oil rose .54 cent 32.48 cents a gallon; April unleaded gasoline rose .66 cent to 38.44 cents a gallon.

■ Election 2000

Buchanan declares presidential bid

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H.

Pat Buchanan, the pugnacious conservative whose insurgent campaigns hobbled Republican front-runners in 1992 and 1996, launched a third White House bid Tuesday with a pledge to fight "a moral deficit that has become America's great enemy within."

Suggesting that the Clinton administration has contributed to "a polluted and poisoned" culture, Buchanan delivered a full-throated attack on the Democratic White House.

"This temple of our civilization has been desecrated, used to shake down corporate executives, to lie with abandon to the American people, a place to exploit women," he said.

He promised to stand against unfettered imports, freewheeling immigration, abortion, euthanasia, expanded judicial powers, a shrinking American sovereignty and, at times, his own party — all familiar themes of a Buchanan candidacy.

Though he has a history of exceeding their predictions, many GOP strategists and conservative activists believe Buchanan's third race won't be charmed. Working against him this time: a swelling field of like-minded candidates, a greater demand for money and a relatively late start.

"I love Pat and agree with much of what he stands for, but I can't construct a scenario where he has a chance to win," said Paul Weyrich, a leading conservative intellectual from Washington.

"It's, like, ho-hum," said the Rev. Lou Sheldon, a conservative leader from California. "He's failed twice and will a third time."

Buchanan was hearing none of it.

"We need a new patriotism in America that puts country first, a new conservatism of the heart that puts people first, and a new set of priorities where our party stands for something higher and greater than the bottom line on a balance sheet," he said.

A crowd of at least 300 yelled, "Go Pat, Go!"

"It is our calling to recapture the independence and lost sovereignty of our republic, to clean up all that pollutes our culture and to heal the soul of America. And, to that end, I declare my candidacy for president of the United States."

Closing with his traditional battle cry, Buchanan grabbed the hand of his wife, Shelley, and shouted: "As we say, mount up and ride to the sound of the guns!"

"Pat can win if Washington doesn't demonize him," said Tom Hamill of Braintree, N.H.

Buchanan's third campaign began where his others peaked, in this first-in-the-nation primary state.

■ JAPAN

Jobless rate hits record high

Associated Press

TOKYO

Japan's unemployment stood at an all-time high of 4.4 percent in January for the third straight month, as a record number of people lost jobs due to corporate restructuring and bankruptcies, the government announced Tuesday.

The number of people seeking work after being forced out of their jobs rose by 340,000 in January from a year earlier to 1 million.

That was the highest number since the government began compiling the data in the current form in 1984, the statistics bureau of the Management and Coordination Agency said.

The total number of jobless in January was 2.98 million, up by a record 600,000 from the year-earlier month, the agency said.

Also, the number of people out of work after voluntarily departing from their previous jobs rose by 180,000 to 1.07 million.

The agency had originally reported December's jobless rate at 4.3 percent.

■ BRAZIL

IMF expects new loan agreement

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

A new loan agreement with Brazil is imminent, the head of the International Monetary Fund, Michel Camdessus, said Monday.

Camdessus

Camdessus told the Institute of International Bankers that economic revisions and structural reforms to underpin the revised accord have largely been completed. He said negotiators from the two sides are working out final details this week.

But it could be several more weeks before the IMF and other lenders release the second $9 billion installment of the $41.5 billion rescue package assembled in November for Brazil.

"We are now at a final stage of putting together necessary amendments to our arrangement of last November with Brazil, to introduce the changes required by the floating of the real," Camdessus said.

Last January Brazilian authorities let Brazil's real float freely against other currencies, stanching a flow of reserves which were leaving the country at a rate of about a billion dollars a day.

"We have advanced a lot. We are now dealing with the nitty gritty of the arrangement. The agreement will be a solid one," Camdessus said.

He reassured his audience of private-sector bankers they will not be required to play any formal role under the new agreement between the IMF and Brazil but said they may be asked to help in the future.

■ RUSSIA

Companies criticize U.S. steel agreement

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

American companies that rely on Russian-made steel, a labor union that blames imports for widespread layoffs and a Russian exporter all told the Clinton administration Tuesday that they don't like import limits negotiated by the two countries.

The U.S. and Russia have agreed to varying import limits on 16 different types of steel.

The agreement, which has not yet been finalized, would essentially roll back exports of those products to around 1997's levels.

Andrew Dillon, president of DSC Limited of Trenton, Mich., implored the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration to make an exception for the kind of steel on which his business depends.

He said DSC buys from Russia because it's difficult to get a reliable source of U.S.-produced slab steel. Integrated mills use all they produce and other manufacturers buy as much as minimills are able to turn out, he said.

"No steel mill wants to sell slabs — it's the low link on the food chain," he testified. "There is no domestic supply of slabs and our business depends on this."

Dillon said his company is in the process of bringing modern facilities on-line that will mean expanding its work force, but if the Russian agreement is finalized as it's proposed, "We will not be able to open our mill and employ new workers," he said.

A lawyer for Bethlehem Steel Co., representing larger steel companies, opposed the deal in its entirety.

"Russian steel cannot be sold fairly in the U.S. market," said attorney Alan Wolff. "It can only be dumped."

From the large domestic steel makers' point of view, every import level in the agreement was set too high.

The largest Russian steel producer, JSC Severstal, said it intends to ask Russia's trade officials to negotiate modifications to the deal, described by its representative, Peter Suchman, as vague and "totally unbalanced."

And Carl Frankel of the United Steelworkers of America panned the Clinton administration's entire approach to recent surges in low-priced steel arriving on U.S. docks.

> **'NO STEEL MILL WANTS TO SELL SLABS — IT'S THE LOW LINK ON THE FOOD CHAIN.'**
>
> *ANDREW DILLON*
> *PRESIDENT, DSC LIMITED*

"The union cannot support the proposed agreement unless it is part of a global solution," he said, complaining that when one nation's steel imports are cut back some other country steps up its imports, forcing new trade cases that take some 13 months to resolve.

"It doesn't matter to a steel worker whether he's laid off because the steel came from Russia, the steel came from Japan or the steel came from Korea. Shifting from one country to another is not compelling to a steel worker," he said.

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Lewinsky will talk on tonight's 20/20 interview

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Monica Lewinsky is finally getting her say: about President Clinton ("a very sensual man"), Linda Tripp ("I pity her") and her regret for hurting Hillary and Chelsea Clinton ("I am very sorry").

Walters

In a two-hour interview to be televised Wednesday night, the woman whose trysts with the president led to the Senate impeachment trial offers the nation her apology "for my part in this past year's ordeal."

"I wouldn't dream of asking Chelsea and Mrs. Clinton to forgive me," she says. "But I would ask them to know that I am very sorry for what happened and for what they've been through."

The first lady's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, had no comment.

Barbara Walters of ABC News won the first interview with Lewinsky since the former White House intern burst into the headlines on Jan. 21, 1998. Lewinsky, who received immunity from prosecution for cooperating with investigators, was prohibited from speaking publicly until independent counsel Kenneth Starr's office gave the go-ahead.

The interview was timed to help promote her book — "Monica's Story," written with Princess Diana biographer Andrew Morton — which goes on sale Thursday.

White House spokesman Barry Toiv refused to comment. Asked if Lewinsky's words would finally bring an end to the story, Toiv said: "I think I can safely say 'No' to that."

ABC released brief excerpts from the interview on Tuesday.

"Is Bill Clinton a sensuous, passionate man?" Walters asked the 25-year-old woman.

"Gosh, I'll probably get in trouble for saying this," Lewinsky began before describing the president as "a very sensual man" who feels conflicted because of his "strong religious upbringing."

"I think he struggles with his sensuality because I don't think he thinks it's OK," she said. "I think he tries to hold himself back. And then can't anymore."

Lewinsky had stinging words for her former friend, Linda Tripp, who secretly tape-recorded their telephone conversations about the president and turned them over to Starr's investigators.

"I pity her," Lewinsky said. "I would hate to be her."

Lewinsky said she was drawn to Tripp at the Pentagon because both of them had worked at the White House, where Lewinsky longed to return. She said she confided the affair to Tripp after her co-worker kept saying things such as "You're just the type of girl the president would like" and "I bet you could have an affair with him."

The Daily News in New York also published excerpts from the interview on Tuesday. The newspaper said it had obtained a partial, unedited audio tape. ABC confirmed its authenticity but objected strongly to its being leaked.

The Daily News said Lewinsky called Clinton her "sexual soul mate" and insisted their relationship was about a "man and a woman, and not a president and an intern."

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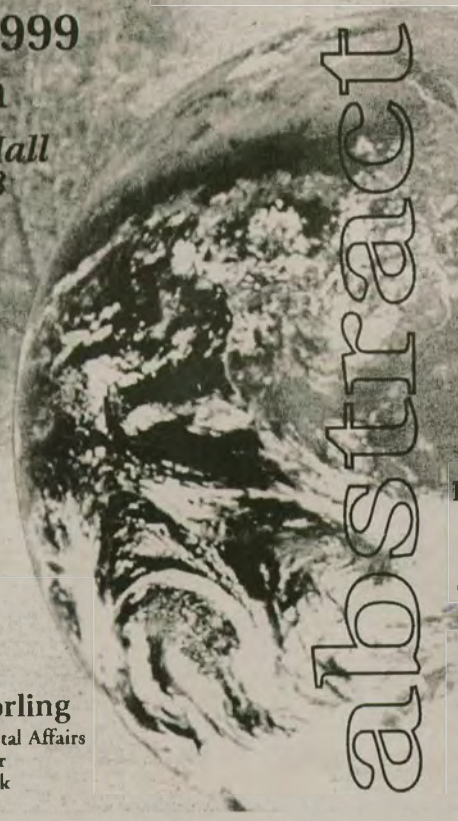

From early years in federal service including congressional staff in 1970, through a career that has included environmental education on the faculty of Williams College, service as an Assistant Administrator of the USEPA, as Commissioner of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and now responsible for International Paper Company's environmental program, Mr. Jorling will review lessons learned and how they might bear on policy into the future.

Mr. Thomas C. Jorling
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
International Paper
Purchase, New York

Environmental Science & Technology

■ ELECTION 2000

Bush may run for presidency in 2000

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas

Moving another step closer to a White House bid in 2000, Gov. George Bush announced Tuesday that he is forming a presidential exploratory committee.

"I do have a compelling reason to consider running for president. For my family and for every family in America, I want the 21st century to be prosperous," Bush said.

Bush, 52, said the first job of the committee will be to raise money while he remains in Texas until the state Legislature's session ends on Memorial Day.

This summer, Bush said, he will travel around the country to personally gauge support.

"I don't have a formal date in mind yet," Bush said of his timetable for deciding whether to run for the office his father once held.

The governor often has cited his worries about the impact of a national campaign on his family — wife Laura and their twin 17-year-old daughters.

'I DON'T FEAR FAILURE. I REALLY DON'T.'

GEORGE BUSH
GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

Bush said he has been buoyed by the parade of elected officials who have trekked to Austin to urge him to run.

Tuesday's announcement came as no surprise. Advisers had been putting out the word for more than a week, but it is the first formal, public step Bush has taken toward a White House race.

"Exploratory committees aren't much, but they are signals," said Larry Sabato, political science professor at the University of Virginia. "It does have some significance, because for the first time in a concrete way, he's showing some leg."

Bush picked the same day that Pat Buchanan, the conservative commentator whose low-budget campaigns shocked the Republican establishment in 1992 and 1996, opened his third presidential race in New Hampshire.

Bush said he's not worried about losing.

"I don't fear failure. I really don't," he said. "Should I decide to run, if things don't work out, that's just the way it goes. And if things do work out, I don't fear success, either."

Formation of the exploratory committee allows Bush to raise funds, something he's been prolific at in Texas.

Campaign finance records show that he raised about $16 million in his 1994 challenge of Democratic Gov. Ann Richards, and $17.7 million for last year's re-election campaign.

Bush got about 53.5 percent of the vote against Richards in 1994 and a whopping 69 percent against Democrat Garry Mauro in 1998 — the most by any Texas gubernatorial candidate since John Connally 32 years before.

During that first term as governor, Bush forged what he now calls "compassionate conservatism."

His education proposals included making sure all Texas children read by the third grade; helping students who fail with in-school, after-school or summer programs; and ending automatic social promotion of students.

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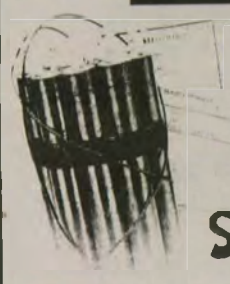

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Study: Light trucks pose greater danger

Associated Press

DETROIT

Officials at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration say more research is needed to determine what can be done to make so-called light trucks less dangerous in collisions with cars after releasing their latest crash test report.

Sport utility vehicles, pickups and minivans pose a greater risk of injury and death to drivers and passengers in cars, according to the report, released Monday.

The government agency conducted four tests involving offset front-end crashes between a 1998 Honda Accord and four other vehicles: a 1998 Chevrolet S-10 compact pickup; a 1997 Dodge Caravan minivan; a 1997 Ford Explorer SUV; and a 1997 Chevrolet Lumina sedan.

In nearly every injury measurement, the driver dummy in the Accord sustained greater injuries in 35-mph crashes with the pickup, minivan and SUV than it did in a crash with the other sedan.

The results were similar to those of last year's side-impact crash tests involving the same models.

The Accord dummy in the front passenger seat sustained greater injuries when the car was struck by the minivan and SUV. But injury measurements were higher when the Accord was struck by the Lumina than they were when the car was struck by the pickup. The midsize Lumina is heavier than the S-10.

Light trucks generally are heavier, ride higher and have stiffer frames than cars, which means more energy in a crash is transferred to the car in an accident. Regulators have been increasingly worried about this mismatch between light trucks and cars as trucks have become more common on the road.

Light trucks now account for nearly half of all new vehicles sold in the United States.

Robert Lange, engineering director of vehicle development for General Motors Corp., noted that with one exception, the dummies in all the vehicles sustained survivable injuries despite the severity of the crashes — including the Honda's occupants.

LIGHT TRUCKS GENERALLY ARE HEAVIER, RIDE HIGHER AND HAVE STIFFER FRAMES THAN CARS, WHICH MEANS MORE ENERGY IN A CRASH IS TRANSFERRED TO THE CAR IN AN ACCIDENT.

"This series of crash tests does not appear to show there's a huge crash-compatibility problem between cars and light trucks," Lange said. "It seems to prove, once again, that physics work: The occupants of the heavier vehicles are going to fare better than the occupants of a lighter vehicle in a collision."

In a related study released Monday at the Society of Automotive Engineers' annual convention, the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute found that being struck by a light truck is worse than being struck by a car of the same weight. That's true whether it's a front-end or side-impact crash, the study said.

That study, based on actual crash data, determined that about twice as many car drivers are killed in car-light truck collisions than in similar collisions between cars, in which the other car was of the same weight as the light truck.

In 1996, the study estimates, at least 2,000 car occupants would not have died had their cars collided with other cars instead of light trucks.

Automakers set sales records

Strength of SUV demand buoys totals

Associated Press

DETROIT

Ford, Honda and Toyota set February U.S. sales records on booming demand for pickups, sport utility vehicles and minivans.

Every major automaker that reported sales figures Tuesday posted improved results compared with February 1998. In nearly each case, the biggest gains were in light trucks.

Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler AG each had an eight percent improvement; Honda Motor Co. said its sales rose 14 percent on surging demand for its Odyssey minivan and SUVs; Toyota Motor Corp. was up 19 percent; even struggling Nissan Motor Corp. managed a four percent gain.

At Ford, car sales fell six percent, a reflection of consumers' increasing attraction to larger, more versatile and safer trucks. But Ford's robust truck numbers were better than some analysts expected and helped it break the company's February sales mark set in 1996.

"The market's been roaring and nothing surprises me," said analyst Maryann Keller of ING Baring Furman Selz. "The truck market this year is much stronger than I thought it would be."

Ford set February records for sales of its F-series pickup — the top-selling vehicle nationwide for 17 years — and the compact Ranger pickup. F-series sales were up 27 percent over last year, while Ranger sales increased a surprising 46 percent.

"A strong economy, confident consumers and product innovation have proven to be a winning trifecta," said Bob Rewey, vice president of marketing and sales. "We're heading into spring supported by strong employment, growing income, low interest rates and affordable products."

Ranger sales were helped by $1,000 rebates, while buyers of F-series trucks received discount financing incentives. Combined SUV sales also set a record for the month, led by the Explorer, up 16 percent, and Expedition, up 14 percent, without significant incentives.

"The shift away from cars is continuing, and it's occurring in all classes," Keller said. "There's not much to say about their car performance — it's dismal."

The Mustang and Escort were the only Ford cars that posted gains last month, thanks in part to rebates; among Mercurys, only Grand Marquis, Mystique and Tracer posted modest gains. Sales of Ford's highest-volume car, the Taurus, were down 23 percent, despite $500 rebates.

DaimlerChrysler said its car sales were up nearly nine percent, while truck sales rose seven percent. Combined SUV sales at the German-American automaker were up 19 percent. The Jeep division set a February record.

Jamie Jameson, vice president of sales and marketing, said SUV demand remains strong despite increased competition. DaimlerChrysler's SUV sales were up 19 percent, led by the redesigned Jeep Grand Cherokee and the Dodge Durango.

"We're selling every one of those puppies we can build," Jameson said.

Honda's February sales total outpaced the record set in 1998 and was led by the automaker's best truck sales ever — up 75 percent and beating its previous truck record set last August. The redesigned Odyssey minivan, made in Canada, had the biggest gain.

"Usually we see things cool off in the first quarter, but there wasn't even a pause this year," said Dick Colliver, vice president of American Honda Motor Co.

Toyota posted double-digit gains in cars and trucks to break last year's February record. Strong sales of the Camry and Corolla helped boost car sales 16 percent, while big increases in demand for the Sienna minivan and Land Cruiser luxury SUV led to a 24 percent gain in trucks.

Strong sales at Nissan's luxury division, Infiniti, helped drive Nissan's total up. Nissan's truck sales improved nearly 5 percent.

General Motors Corp. was scheduled to release its figures Wednesday.

Thank you for using The Observer to catch up on news.

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Senate examines Y2K threat to business, medicine

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

The Senate dedicated Tuesday to the Year 2000 computer problem, looking at threats ranging from small-business bankruptcies to Russian missile malfunctions.

"Forecasting Y2K is a lot like predicting weather," Sen. Christopher Dodd said. "You can only track the storm and watch the effects."

Dodd, D-Conn., and Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, who head a special Senate panel on the "Y2K" problem, issued a 160-page report outlining serious potential problems in health care, energy supply and government services if action isn't taken to change computers by the end of the year.

They also emphasized that, for most Americans, disruptions in vital services will be minimal. People can expect, Bennett said, "a bump in the road, but it will not be crippling, and it will not last for an undue length of time."

Seeking to allay fears of widespread social and economic chaos, Dodd said people should have canned goods and water on hand Dec. 31 as a normal procedure, but there is no need to stockpile food.

The Senate, by 99-0, passed a bill establishing a Small Business Administration program to provide loan guarantees to small companies trying to repair computers or affected by interruptions in supplies.

The National Federation of Independent Business said more than half the nation's small firms that use computers have yet to act to make their systems immune to the Y2K bug. "The majority of small businesses are not ready, and they are not even preparing," Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said. "It may come down to a choice between debt or dissolution or rolling the dice."

The bill, S.314, still needs House consideration.

The Bennett-Dodd report concurred that small businesses and local governments that lack the money or expertise to repair their systems faced the biggest risks.

It said 64 percent of hospitals, mostly smaller units, haven't tested their Y2K repairs, and more than 80 percent of doctors' offices aren't prepared. The effects could be temporary loss of medical records, or, more serious, breakdowns in computerized equipment.

Biomedical devices, the report said, are the "Trojan horses in the health-care industry's compliance." Malfunctions in blood gas analyzers, for example, could shut down operating rooms.

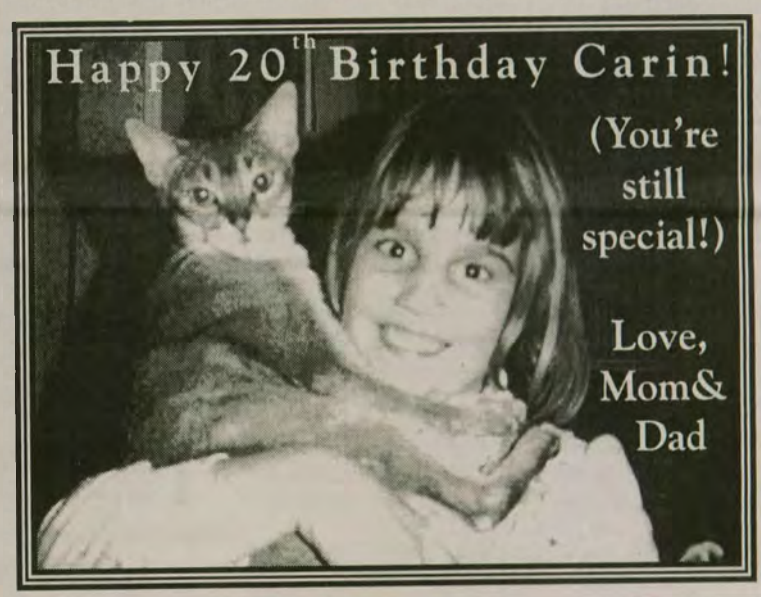
While the pharmaceutical industry is generally well prepared, 80 percent of ingredients used in drugs comes from abroad, many from countries that could face serious Y2K disruptions, the report said.

Bennett said telecommunications and power systems are in relatively good shape, but there's real reason to worry about oil imports from such major suppliers as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Nigeria. All are 12 to 18 months behind the United States in addressing Y2K problems.

Bennett and Dodd also held a secret session for senators to discuss national security and international issues rising from disruptions that could occur when computers misread the year 2000 as 1900.

'FORECASTING Y2K IS A LOT LIKE PREDICTING THE WEATHER. YOU CAN ONLY TRACK THE STORM AND WEATHER THE EFFECTS.'

CHRISTOPHER DODD
SENATOR, D-CONN



VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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■ SAY IT AIN'T SO, ISSAC

The Trouble with Republicans Today

Issac Ruiz

I'm stepping out of the closet. Most of you will never look at me the same way again, and if my parents ever find out, they will disown me. For years I've denied it, but I think it's time that I acknowledge who I am and carry on with my life.

I'm a Republican.

Okay, I'm not *really* a Republican, but I did vote in two Republican primaries. They meant nothing to me. I didn't want to do it, but as they say, "When in Texas ... " — well, you know.

For years, I've tried to mask my Republican tendencies by overcompensating with sensitive and correct positions on issues like civil rights, welfare and international affairs. I've never been able to hide my views regarding — this is hard to say — that dirty three-letter word.

T-A-X.

"Why me?" I've often asked myself. How can I repress my urges — my desire for lower rates, my craving for a simpler code? Could there be a "cure" for my latent Republicanism?

Everyone says there's nothing wrong with *being* Republican. I think that's true. Republicans' conduct is what's so offensive.

Consider, for example, the issue so near and dear to us at Notre Dame — guaranteeing each individual equality under the law, regardless of his sexual orientation.

Earlier this year, presidential hopeful George W. Bush (the son) raised a few eyebrows in the Lone Star state when he supported inclusion of a gay group, the Log Cabin Republicans, at Texas' Republican Convention. Successfully branding himself a "compassionate conservative," he easily won reelection to the Texas governorship.

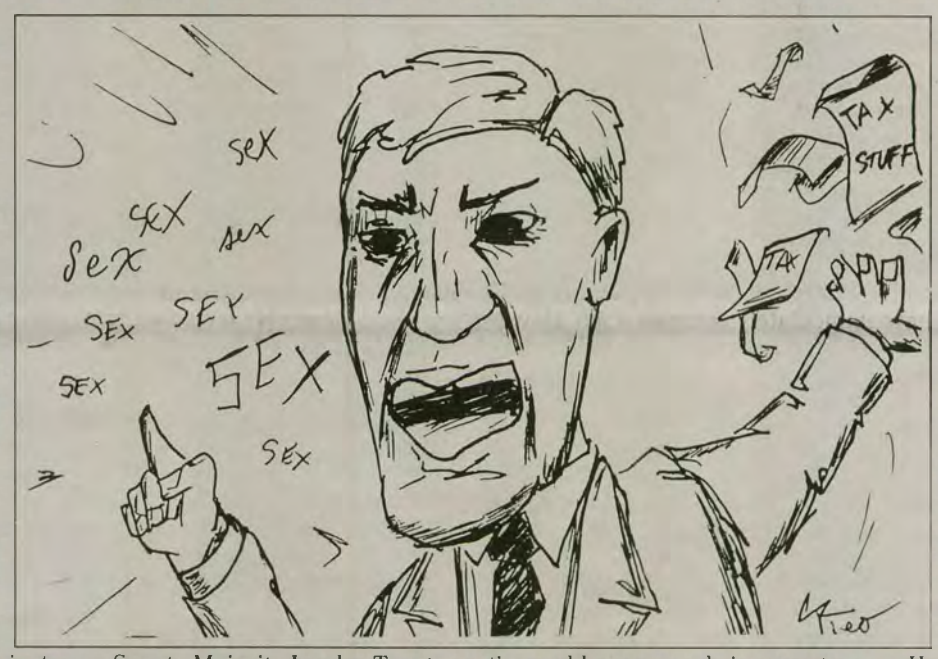
Unfortunately for Bush, national politics proved nastier than Texas politics (and that's quite an indictment). Apparently questioning Bush's conservative credentials, Lamar Alexander, who *admits* that he's the only Reagan Republican running for President, says "compassionate conservativism" are "weasel words."

By January, a top aide said Bush would support a proposal to prohibit same-sex couples from adopting a child or from becoming foster parents. The governor, arguably a latent liberal, fell deep into denial.

'THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. FOR TOO LONG THEY'VE WORRIED TOO MUCH ABOUT DIRTY WORDS LIKE S-E-X INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON OTHER WORDS LIKE T-A-X.'

At least 10 million children in the United States are raised in gay or lesbian households. More than a decade has passed since collection of data supporting that number, and it's safe to assume that today's figure is much larger. Furthermore, powerful evidence demonstrates that homosexuals are perfectly capable of good parenting.

Homophobia is fashionable in Republican subculture; take, for



instance, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and conservative guru Pat Robertson (please). Curiously, during the last year, each of these men has concerned himself with the sex life of another man (the president's) more than any gay man I know.

That's the problem with the Republican party. For too long, they've worried too much about dirty words like S-E-X instead of focusing on other words like T-A-X. Way too many good candidates sell out because they think it'll win them an election. This time the strategy won't work.

New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman admitted before the Republican Leadership Conference last month that, "[M]any Americans right now have an impression of the Republican Party that's mean-spirited, vindictive and ... not attending to the public's business."

At the same conference, Gov. John Rowland of Connecticut lamented that his party had alienated women, minorities and homosexuals in recent years. He summed up the party's problems: "I will report to you that the good news is that the rich people and the business people still like us, but that's about it."

Like Rowland said, unless each of these people votes five or six times, the Republican party is in trouble.

I am no longer a practicing Republican. My views on most issues mean that I usually support less conservative policies and, therefore, less conservative politicians. Still, I hope that after Gov. Bush reads his copy of today's Observer, he'll reconsider his strategy for becoming president. Otherwise, I'm afraid the Republican party and I have had our final fling.

Isaac Ruiz is a second-year law student. He can be e-mailed him at isaac.ruiz.13@nd.edu.

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

■ DOONESBURY — GARRY TRUDEAU

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

'There is no fun in doing nothing. The fun is in having lots to do and not doing it.'

— Mary Little

VIEWPOINT

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

End Affirmative Action

In a recent issue, The Observer ran several articles regarding the topic of affirmative action. With our privileged and rather sheltered lives here at Notre Dame, it is easy to praise affirmative action for its role in bringing different backgrounds together (and the articles certainly had no shortage of positive things to say in this vein). Admittedly, life would be boring if we were all the same.

However, the articles — and, it seems, a large portion of upper-class society — neglect to recognize how harmful affirmative action is. It denies opportunities to those in the "majority"— opportunities they need just as much as minorities do. At the same time, it wrongfully suggests that minorities are unable to succeed without outside assistance.

Perhaps the most striking claim made by one of the articles was that affirmative action does not entail "preferential treatment and unfair advantages for minorities and women." Far from fiction, preferential treatment is at the heart of every affirmative action plan. Let me share a few stories that I hope will convince you of this fact.

In the middle 1970s, my father took the civil service exam to become a firefighter in the City of Buffalo. At the heart of civil service is the concept of merit-based hiring; by utilizing an objective hiring system, it hopes to give the "best" job to the "best" individual regardless of extraneous factors (interestingly enough, it originated in China centuries ago in order to eliminate nepotism). What is supposed to happen is that every person who wants a given job takes an examination — which, in the case of firefighting, includes both written and physical components — and, based on objective scores, applicants are ranked from highest to lowest.

Hiring then proceeds in the order of the ranking list. Simply, "the best person gets the job." When my father took the exam, he placed 36th out of several thousand applicants; so he should have immediately received a job. However, because of minority hiring (read preference), he had to wait several years for a job — until only two weeks before that list expired.

Minority applicants who were ranked over 300th received job assignments before he did.

Only several years ago, one of my uncles took the civil service exam (remember, the goal of civil service is objective hiring) to become a police officer in the City of Buffalo. Recently, hiring practices in the police department have been so preferential toward minorities that, for every white male hired, three minorities or women must be hired. That is, despite the fact that white males constitute the majority of applicants, they receive only about a quarter of the jobs available. My uncle, as a white male, has little chance of getting hired.

One of the articles in The Observer also praises the fact that more women are being offered "opportunities" in the police and fire departments. That's great — if they deserve the jobs they are given. Many people do not know that physical standards are lower (read, preferential) for women than they are for men seeking the same jobs in the police department. For example, women have to be able to do fewer pushups in a minute and complete the mile-and-a-half run in a slower time than do their male counterparts.

How's that? If I am ever being mugged I want the most physically capable officer available to assist me — and if that means denying positions to physically inferior women, so be it. If I am stuck on the eighth floor of a burning building, I want a firefighter who can carry me safely down the ladder. If a five-foot tall, one hundred pound woman can do such tasks with comparable ability to her male counterparts — by all means, assign her to the force and let her rescue me. Bur if she can't — and, as standards have been lowered for women, this seems likely — it seems better for everyone that she be denied the job.

As a female and an engineering student, I have yet another perspective regarding affirmative action. Well-intentioned people do not stop telling me how easy it will be to obtain a job when I graduate, being a female engineer and all. But I don't want to be hired simply because I am female!

I want to be hired because I am the best candidate and I will do the best job. And the catch is this: regardless of whether I am hired as a token female or as an outstanding engineer, my male colleagues will wonder which is the case — and who could blame them? They will think — regardless of what is true — that I was hired simply to complete the trend of "diversifying" the engineering workplace. I'd rather that thought never cross their mind; I'd rather they know that their company simply hires the best applicants. However, with current hiring practices that heavily utilize affirmative action, there is little chance that I will ever know if I could have "made it" on my merits alone.

In short, affirmative action is strongly demoralizing to both the whites it discriminates against and the minorities it suggests are unqualified to compete on their merits alone. We, as a society, need to stop hiding behind arguments that deny the simple facts that affirmative action does discriminate against whites and does offer preferential treatment to minorities. We need to stop claiming that race is simply "considered" when awarding jobs and scholarships and the like, when, in fact, race is the primary criterion upon which they awarded (in cases of affirmative action, obviously).

Number 36 on the firefighter rankings is not remotely close to number 300 on those same rankings; doing 30 pushups in a minute (as for the police officer physical exam) is not comparable to doing 50 of them.

Affirmative action has everything to do with setting different — that is, unequal — standards for whites and minorities; when did this become right? We need to stop trying to find equality of opportunity in a system that is inherently unequal. We need to end affirmative action.

Leah Ashe
Sophomore
McGlinn Hall
February 27, 1999

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■ UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The Pig's Gotta Be Penned Up

COLLEGE PARK, Md

Did you ever wonder what it was like to live in Communist Russia or Hitler's Germany? Well, you already know part of it. Despite the popular misconception that we live in a democratic country, this country has become a police state. Martial law has been declared and all conceptions about the "fair" trial have been thrown out the window.

OK, so maybe it's not that drastic, but let me explain where I'm coming from. When you see a police officer following behind you on the road, how do you feel? Do you feel safer because you know they're there looking out for the safety and security of the population? Or, do you get paranoid and worried about what you might be pulled over for?

I'm willing to bet that for the most of us, it's the latter.

It shouldn't be this way. Cops shouldn't have this all-powerful reign of terror over drivers, especially over younger drivers and minorities. Yeah, I said it. Cops are as biased as a member of the Ku Klux Klan when it comes to pulling over minorities.

I have a black friend who gets pulled over at least once a month just because he drives a nice car. The story is always the same.

"Can I see your license, etc.?"

"Sure, officer."

"Where are you going?"

"Home, officer."

"You got anything in the car I should know about?"

Don't tell me you haven't heard that before. Like because he has a nice car and he's black he's a drug dealer? But the cops will tell you it gives them cause to be suspicious. Why don't we fight to stop this?

I used to get the same thing all the time just because I have a bunch of stickers on my car and I had long hair. I once got pulled over at 8 in the morning over a winter break, on my way to visit my high school, and a cop asked what I had been smoking that morning. I wanted to say, "It's 8 o'clock in the morning, I would like to have started smoking pot this early!"

The worst is when you fight a ticket. What happened to innocent until proven guilty? Unless you bring in extensive charts, witnesses and experts, you're probably going to lose. Your best option is to plea-bargain for a lesser fine. Any cop can give anyone a ticket, even if it is unwarranted, and nine times out of 10, they're gonna pay some kind of fine. Some justice.

A majority of cops are on some absurd power trip. They don't understand that the people they pull over are humans. One time, coming back from the District, my friend and I were both pulled over and all seven passengers in our cars we're thrown to the ground at gunpoint.

Turns out someone had called in and said we had a gun. OK, I understand why we were treated like that. However, once they realized that we didn't have a gun, they didn't change their tone. You'd think, after they had thrown everyone on the ground and almost beat up one of my friends, that they would apologize. That they'd at least say, "Sorry for the inconvenience."

Nope. All they did was give us unreasonable speeding tickets, which basically means, "We think you were speeding, but we can't prove it." I guess they had to get something out of the stop.

On a side note, why do cops continue to stuff their faces with coffee and doughnuts? I swear, you can't be at a donut shop for more than a couple of hours without seeing a cop pick up a dozen or two intended for his buddies back at the pigpen. I can just hear their squeals of joy. I'm just saying, if I were a cop, I'd stay as far away from doughnut, just because of the stereotype.

But back to what I've been trying to say. We should think of the police as protectors of our safety. But instead they harass us. I'm just curious as to why there has not been major uproar about it.

The police need to answer to a higher authority. There needs to be a citizen's control board or something that reviews complaints about officers. Moreover, we need to complain about the police.

If an officer unfairly harasses you, don't just let it happen. Write a letter to his or her superior, to the mayor, the governor and to the local paper. Make sure you include his or her name. We need to fight to keep our freedom. If injustices are going on, the only way to stop them is to fight them. Or it will get worse.

Josh Kross is a senior English and government and politics major at the University of Maryland. He can be reached at jmkross@wam.umd.edu This column has been reprinted by courtesy of the U-Wire.

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

album reviews

Photo courtesy of MCA Records

Jimi Hendrix

Live at the Fillmore East

MCA Records

★★★★ (out of five)

There was a great deal of intrigue surrounding the need for Jimi Hendrix to produce an album for Capitol records to be released in 1970. Most of this stems from the all too common practice of musicians to sign any contract that comes across the table. Such was the case with Jimi Hendrix and the lawsuit by PPX Industries that was settled with the demand for an album of new material.

To fulfill this commitment to Capitol Records, Hendrix assembled a band which became known as the Band of Gypsys. He called on his old army buddy, Billie Cox, and drummer Buddy Miles to help him. Just prior to the formation of the Band of Gypsys, Hendrix's relationship with his Experience bassist, Noel Redding, disintegrated after countless disagreements about touring and studio work as well as music.

In addition, Experience drummer Mitch Mitchell decided to take a break and go back to England. The result of the new band's efforts was four of the most legendary rock 'n' roll performances — two on Dec. 31, 1969, and two in Jan. 1, 1970 — all four at Bill Graham's Fillmore East.

That is about all I am going to say regarding the background of these performances because what often happens is that these events shadow the pure greatness of the music.

Live at the Fillmore East represents Experience Hendrix's latest release of previously unreleased material. This double CD set contains tracks that are not included on the 1970 Band of Gypsys, which contained performances from the last two shows and was the last album that Hendrix authorized for release. Live at the Fillmore East contains releases from all four of the Fillmore East shows.

If you are a fan of Hendrix, you have no doubt heard recorded versions of many of the songs on these CDs. But at the time that they were performed, they were completely new to the crowd and somewhat new to the band. It was this point in Hendrix's career where he had only begun to experiment and let his creativity flow.

Live at the Fillmore East gives you a glimpse of an inspired artist who strived to be completely free with his music and push it to new levels. Hendrix incorporated elements of rock, R&B, soul and funk to create a very complex and new sound. You need not be a fan of Hendrix to sit in awe as you hear the music unfold.

Of note on this release are two alternate versions of "Machine Gun," a song that is heralded as one of Hendrix's greatest single achievements, as performed by the Band of Gypsys. Also included is a cover of Howard Tate's R&B song, "Stop," which the band elevated to a new level — a very funky song.

This is a great set of CDs, containing some of the best music ever performed, in my humble opinion. With that said, I would have liked to see even more of the performances released, possibly in the form of a boxed set of the concert performances. However, this would entail a large number of CDs and would inevitably be very expensive.

It is also important to note that Live at the Fillmore East is more of an addition to the 1970 release of Band of Gypsys. Band of Gypsys represents the hand-picked songs for release and contains some of the better versions of the songs on Live at the Fillmore East. Such is the case with "Who Knows," which is one of the best songs performed at the concerts. The two albums together represent an important collection in music history.

James Schuyler

Photo courtesy of Sub-Pop Records

Sebadoh

The Sebadoh

Sub-Pop Records

★★★ (out of five)

The title The Sebadoh seems to imply the defining era of a band. This is the sound that the band Sebadoh has been striving to achieve with their past six albums. Lou Barlow (guitar, vocals) claims "it felt like we were making solo albums under a band name." But now, after a little over 10 years, the definitive Sebadoh has arrived.

But is the definitive Sebadoh any good?

Sebadoh has been known as the king of the lo-fi indie music scene since the conception of such albums as III (1991) and Bubble and Scrape (1993). These albums formed around a strong contrast in music — the acoustic folk melody and lulling voice of Lou Barlow versus the punkish screamings of Eric Gaffney (drums, vocals) versus the punk and folk mix of Jason Lowenstein (bass, vocals). Sebadoh was three singers/song writers pulling in opposite directions.

After Bubble and Scrape, Gaffney left, only to be replaced by drummer Bob Fay for the albums Bakesale (1994) and Harmacy (1996). With a new drummer, Sebadoh took a turn towards more mainstream alternative — or maybe mainstream alternative took a turn towards Sebadoh.

Lowenstein wrote more songs and tried to take the place of Gaffney and his rants. Barlow soon became known as that guy who wrote the smash hit "Natural One" as part of his side project called Folk Implosion. Sebadoh gained even more notoriety with "Ocean," the first single off of an amazing Harmacy record.

Now it's 1999, and Sebadoh has risen again with another new drummer, Russ Pollard. With a new drummer comes another new style for the band.

Gone are the days of screaming lyrics. Gone is the band which moved in every direction at once. Gone is the old spirit of Sebadoh. Like every alternative band today, Sebadoh has adopted the sound of the '90s. Songs like "It's All You" and "Flame" ring less true with the addition of electronics and samples. In addition, "Flame" seems stolen in its spoken-word refrain, a patented Soul Coughing style. Sebadoh stands on the border of selling out to the sound best described as MTV, and only Jason Lowenstein stands in the way.

The Sebadoh, while a decline in style, is the coming-of-age of Lowenstein. No longer does he sit loudly in the shadow of Lou Barlow. For the second straight album, Lowenstein and Barlow share the stage, scripting seven tracks apiece, but this time it's different — Lowenstein now casts the shadow. In tracks like "Nick of Time" and "Decide," Jason keeps the angry Sebadoh alive and with his scratchy voice, holds onto a style not definitive of alternative culture.

Lou Barlow isn't without his successes either. The songs "Colorblind," "Sorry," and "Love is Stronger" are reminiscent of the Lou of old. Unfortunately, Lou cranked out some lackluster, radio-friendly tracks in order to fill his seven-song quota —"Tree," "Flame," and "Thrive." True Sebadoh fans are left crossing their fingers and praying — don't sell out, Sebadoh. There's still time.

Tim Donohue

UPCOMING SHOWS IN CHICAGO

Afghan Whigs	Mar. 5	Metro	Lauryn Hill	April 4	Chicago Theatre
The Samples	Mar. 5	House of Blues	Elliott Smith	April 8	Metro
Alanis Morissette	Mar. 9	Rosemont	Sparklehorse	April 9	Double Door
Rolling Stones	Mar. 26	United Center	Better Than Ezra	April 15	House of Blues
Sleater-Kinney	Mar. 27	Metro	Marilyn Manson	April 20	Rosemont Horizon

album reviews

Photo courtesy of Kill Rock Stars Records

Sleater-Kinney
The Hot Rock
Kill Rock Stars Records
★★★★ (out of five)

Let's say you have an episode of MTV's "Celebrity Deathmatch" featuring women in rock. Here's what would happen — Gwen Stefani over Jewel, no doubt; Alanis over Gwen; Courtney Love over Alanis and in the championship round ... Sleater-Kinney's Corin Tucker over Courtney.

Never heard of Sleater-Kinney?

You will.

Last year, the femme pop-punk trio, consisting of vocalist Tucker, guitarist Carrie Brownstein and drummer Janet Weiss, was included in SPIN Magazine's feature "The Most Important Musicians in the World Today." Their third album, 1997's Dig Me Out, was at the top of countless "best of" lists. Time Magazine even dedicated a lengthy article to the band.

Sleater-Kinney is pop music, though edgier, harder and more danceable. Named after a street in their hometown of Olympia, Wash., the women rejected countless major label offers to stay close to home with the independent Kill Rock Stars label.

No one plays with more raw passion and vulnerability than Sleater-Kinney. They could be the illegitimate daughters of Patti Smith, playing as loud as boys but doing it their own way. They have a full, rich sound for a trio: Alternating between soft, wispy vocals and nervy, ear-shattering wails, Sleater-Kinney refuses to be one-dimensional. Tucker and Brownstein put a female spin on their lyrics — without alienating male listeners. This record is about grace in relationships and navigating temptations, not Mars versus Venus.

The Hot Rock — titled after a 1970s diamond heist film starring Robert Redford — exudes ferocity and frailty. The album features surf-rock drumming, new wave influences and crunchy guitars. Songs that appear simplistic and hook-laden contain powerful lyrics. The title track reveals the identity of the coveted "Hot Rock." This song could have easily turned into a rock cliché, but Tucker spins it cleverly.

A trademark of Sleater-Kinney is the layering of two sets of lyrics expressing different viewpoints. "Burn, Don't Freeze!" and "Get Up" are classic formulas. Another standout is "Living in Exile," about a woman who keeps a brave face through heartbreak. Tucker's vocal delivery is confident in its vulnerability; you'd be hard pressed to find a more cathartic voice in rock. Tucker soars from a trembly vibrato to a quiet whisper in a second. One moment she socks you in the gut; the next, she's soothing you.

Yeah, Sleater-Kinney could beat Courtney Love in a Celebrity Deathmatch. It would be brutal, but the tag-team of Tucker and Brownstein rocks louder, harder and catchier than just about any other women in rock.

Except maybe Celine Dion — she's really scary!

Georgette Leonard

Photo courtesy of A&M Records

Patty Griffin
Flaming Red
A&M Records
★★ (out of five)

If the songs that make up Patty Griffin's first album, Living With Ghosts, are apples, then those on her follow up, Flaming Red, are oranges. Or maybe kiwis, or honeydew, or anything just as bland. While her poppier second effort cannot be directly compared with her purely acoustic debut, it is nonetheless evident that the stellar songwriting and vocal prowess that characterized her first album have waned, only to be replaced with an overproduced backing band.

The album lacks continuity — it skips without caution from blues-rock to country to pop. The electric rockers are contrived, and the ballads, especially at the end of the album, are tedious at best.

There are a few shining moments on the album, like "One Big Love," which you may have heard on the radio, and "Tony." Patty summoned up all of her songwriting talent to pen these two very impressive tunes. "Go Now," Griffin's surprisingly effective attempt at jazz, comes complete with a prominent bass and brushes instead of drumsticks. Its success relies on Patty's amazing ability to control her voice, which she transforms into pure '40s-radio velvet for this novel piece.

The two minutes of distorted guitar and wailing harmonica noise that comprise the first and title track are a warning to any listeners who might expect this album to sound anything like Living With Ghosts, an album that featured only Griffin and her acoustic guitar. But the loud and fast attempt at blues-rock is not only transparently deliberate, but it is also literally monotonous. Griffin comes closer to the mark with the more interesting "Wiggley Fingers," a gritty song with a Hendrix-style guitar riff that addresses sexuality and the shame that Catholicism associates with it.

While these songs are certainly charged, most of the album actually consists of slower numbers. "Carry Me" is a mournful yet poppy dirge, similar in many ways to Sarah Mclachlan's "Sweet Surrender." "Christina" is a pretty ballad, despite being compromised by synthesized drums at the beginning and end. "Big Daddy" is a dreamy memory in the form of a song with a soothing — if slightly eerie — effect. There is not much to say about "Mary" or "Peter Pan," the two slow ballads that conclude the album — they are simply tough to sit through.

With decent melodies and obvious, perhaps excessive, attention to detail, the remaining songs on the album are the most radio-friendly. They are straightforward pop songs that would fit right between Paula Cole and Shawn Colvin. "One Big Love" is a well crafted, steady rocker with carefully-placed harmonies and a nice balance between acoustic and electric guitars.

The overproduction of most of the instruments in "Tony" — including spacey sound effects and voice delays — is overcome by Griffin's superb song and lyric writing abilities and a raucous chorus to make this the album's best song.

I liked Patty Griffin's first album so much that I felt compelled to buy her second effort. But I started to worry when I noticed the critics praising her "expanded" sound.

My worries were confirmed.

I'm not sure where Griffin was trying to go with the sporadic Flaming Red, but I think she might have had the radio dial in mind. Nonetheless, her latest effort can't destroy her past — I will always hold a special place for the phenomenal Living With Ghosts.

Jim Kelly

UPCOMING SHOWS IN INDIANAPOLIS

Mighty Blue Kings	Mar. 4	Patio Lounge	Lyle Lovett	Mar. 25	Embassy Theatre
Lenny Kravitz	Mar. 9	Murat Theatre	Celine Dion	Mar. 31	Market Sq. Arena
The Samples	Mar. 9	Vogue Theatre	Jonny Lang	April 2	Murat Theatre
Salt 'N Pepa	Mar. 9	World Mardi Gras	dc Talk	April 3	Market Sq. Arena
Alanis Morissette	Mar.11	Market Sq. Arena	The Temptations	April 30	Convention Center

■ COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Big East coaches want to change tourney format

Associated Press

NEW YORK

Big East coaches all agree that since the league expanded to 13 teams in 1995, the postseason tournament just hasn't been fair.

The addition of Rutgers, West Virginia and Notre Dame forced the change in the tournamentformat to include a fourth day of competition for all but the top three seeds. To a man, the coaches agree the champion will always be one of the teams that only plays three games.

"To win four games on four straight days, even for a terrific basketball team, is one heck ofan accomplishment. I just don't know if many teams have ever done that," said Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun, whose Huskies (25-2) are the top seed in the tournament for the fifth time in the last six years. "The extra day of rest for us will be good. From trying to win the Big East and then playing the following week, it's a huge advantage."

The other teams with a bye into Thursday's quarterfinals are Miami (21-5) and St. John's (23-7).

It's a new area for Miami coach Leonard Hamilton. "I haven't gotten to that day, but I'm sure it's going to be nice," he said. "Each year there are different goals and this year we're going in thinking we have a legitimate chance of winning the title because of the extra day. Maybe not a day of rest, but one of preparation will benefit the team. You won't expend as much energy in a practice as in a game, but that extra day of preparation will make you look better going into that first game."

In today's games, fourth-seeded Syracuse (19-10) faced No. 13 Boston College (6-20); while No. 5 Villanova (20-9) played No. 12 West Virginia (10-18); No. 6 Rutgers (17-11) met No. 11 Pittsburgh (14-15); No. 7 Providence (16-12) faced No. 10 Georgetown (14-14); and No. 8 Notre Dame (14-15) met No. 9 Seton Hall (14-13).

Last year's tournament saw the 11th, 12th and 13th seeds win opening-round games and that would be devastating this year for the likes of Syracuse, Providence and Rutgers as they try to secure spots in the NCAA's field of 64.

'TO WIN FOUR GAMES ON FOUR STRAIGHT DAYS, EVEN FOR A TERRIFIC BASKETBALL TEAM, IS ONE HECK OF AN ACCOMPLISHMENT. I JUST DON'T KNOW IF MANY TEAMS HAVE EVER DONE THAT. THE EXTRA DAY OF REST FOR US WILL BE GOOD. FROM TRYING TO WIN THE BIG EAST AND PLAYING THE FOLLOWING WEEK, ITS A HUGE ADVANTAGE.'

JIM CALHOUN
CONNECTICUT BASKETBALL COACH

Rutgers, which came into the tournament on a four-game losing streak, may even need a second win like it got last year when it reached the semifinals as a No. 12 seed.

"The only thing we're concerned with now is getting back to playing good basketball and getting a much-needed win over Pitt," coach Kevin Bannon said. "The upperclassmen will remind the others of last year and we may watch a little tape of it, but I want them to have a different attitude. Go in with a little chip on our shoulder.

"I told them they have to win a game to get in the tournament and they're fine with that. We want to go there and win a couple of games."

Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim could feel confident his Orangemen would get an at-large bid, barring a shocking loss to Boston College. Still, there was so campaigning to do for the rest of the conference.

"With so many back and forths in the league it comes down to where did you finish," he said. "Our conference has three top 10 teams (No. 3 Connecticut, No. 9 Miami and No. 10 St. John's) and a lot of other good teams. The conference deserves as many bids as possible. Providence and Rutgers can play their way in."

Georgetown, which won its opener over Miami last year as a 13th seed, needed a first-round win to keep its 25-year postseason streak alive because a team cannot be invited to the NIT with a sub-.500 record.

"The NIT would mean a lot to me personally and a lot to team," said Hoyas coach Craig Esherick, who replaced John Thompson following his sudden resignation during his 27th season at Georgetown. "Back in January, we were fighting for our lives to play consistently. We had a good month of February, winning some games. Give an awful lot of credit, if we do end up in a tournament, to the players for what they went through with the change."

■ COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Defending champions finally face adversity

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky.

Kentucky has been the monster of the Southeastern Conference tournament in the 1990s, running up a 20-1 record while winning it six of the last seven years.

Now, after only their second losing February since Adolph Rupp came to Kentucky 69 years ago, the 14th-ranked Wildcats look vulnerable.

Auburn, Tennessee, Arkansas and Florida all head for this week's tournament in Atlanta with more momentum than the Wildcats (22-8, 11-5 SEC), whose hopes of a third national title in four years have flickered with losses in four of their last seven games.

Seeded No. 2 out of the SEC East, Kentucky has a first-round bye and on Friday faces the winner of Thursday's South Carolina-Mississippi game.

On Tuesday, coach Tubby Smith and his players put a brave face on the team's slump.

"Obviously we've lost some tough games on the road and at home," Smith said. "But when I look at the stats from last year and this year, there's not much difference in the teams. The ball bounces certain ways certain years, and obviously it wasn't our year to get the proper bounces."

"I have the utmost confidence in this team," center Jamaal Magloire said. "We feel like we can win the (SEC) tournament," said point guard Wayne Turner, who said he and the team's other seniors held a players-only meeting after Sunday's regular season-ending loss to Tennessee.

"We were making the younger guys realize our season isn't over," Turner said. "We just want them to understand the season is not over yet, it's not coasting time, it's time to put it in overdrive."

Unlike last year, when the Wildcats closed with a rush, this year's team stumbles into the postseason.

Kentucky started strong, with successive December wins over UCLA, Kansas, Miami, Indiana, Maryland and Georgia Tech, then opened league play with a 35-point victory over Florida. Later in January, the Wildcats bounced back from a home loss to Tennessee to hand Auburn its first loss of the season, and by the end of the month they were 8-1 in the conference and 19-4 overall.

Then came back-to-back road losses at Florida and Alabama, followed later in February by a loss at Arkansas and a season-ending defeat Sunday at Tennessee.

The result has been widespread pessimism in the bluegrass about the chances of this year's team following in the footsteps of its predecessors and playing in Kentucky's fourth straight national title game.

On Tuesday, Smith reminded reporters of the relative youth of his team, which has just four upperclassmen on its 13-man roster. In addition, Smith said, the Wildcats have struggled to counter the adjustments other teams have made as the season has progressed.

Tennessee, for one, swept Kentucky by packing it in under the basket and playing tough, physical defense that forced Kentucky to take outside shots. Lacking a consistent outside

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■ MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Country's Garth strikes out

Associated Press

PEORIA, Ariz.

First things first for Garth Brooks.

"You might want to get a helmet," San Diego Padres manager Bruce Bochy told the country singer as he headed out for his only at-bat in the club's intrasquad game on Tuesday.

Five pitches later, Brooks was back in the dugout, apologizing to his teammates for striking out on a neck-high fastball from non-roster right-hander Salvador Rodriguez.

He didn't deliver a hit, but he at least knew what was going on out there. He even managed a couple of foul balls.

"It was cool," Brooks said a few hours later, when most of his teammates were long gone for the day, but he was still in uniform.

"I guess four out of the five pitches I was proud of. The last one I wasn't. That's the one I'll remember. I was there. That's why I was apologizing to my teammates. The guy on first has to be moved over and it was my job to do it."

After whiffing, Brooks tapped the front of his helmet with his bat and motioned toward Rodriguez, 24, who played in the Mexican Leagues last year, as if to say, "Nice job."

When Brooks got back to the dugout "he said he was sorry," said scout Jeff Gardner, who was managing Brooks' team. "He's such a good guy. He honestly feels like he let us down by striking out."

Heck, Brooks even apologized to reporters later on.

"I knew what I was doing. He just brought it a little harder than he did the first one," said

Brooks, who's in camp on a non-roster basis to live out his fantasy and help kick-start his baseball-related charitable foundation. "He bettered me. He shook it off twice, so I knew he was coming with something I hadn't seen. I'm sorry guys, I apologize to you, too. I don't know what the hell I was thinking. It was clearly a ball."

When he makes a mistake in batting practice, Brooks usually tells pitchers, "Pretty pitch," "I'm sorry" or "My fault."

This was his first real game situation. Brooks tried to take Rodriguez's second pitch to right field, but fouled it into the screen covering the first-base dugout. He hit a weak foul ball down the third-base line, then took ball one.

"I'm not proud of the statistic, but I am proud of the at-bat," said Brooks, who admitted he'd be thinking about it for a while.

"This is going to be my hardest part of the game right here. Because if every at-bat I remember as well as this one, I'm never going to get to the next one. I got to let it go. It's hard for me."

Said Bochy: "I didn't expect any more. Actually there was a pretty good slider, and he made contact to stay alive there. He probably wish he would have taken a swing at the first pitch (a called strike). But he had a couple swings in. A lot of hitters were overmatched today."

Brooks did better with his glove, cleanly handling his only chance in left field — a single by Gary Matthews Jr. Brooks even hit the cutoff man.

■ MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Helton gives Rockies power, leadership

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz.

He has talent, wealth and every reason to brag, but Todd Helton cannot bring himself to utter words of self-promotion.

Instead, Helton rests his chin on the top of his bat and speaks in the humble tone of a man who has something to prove rather than one who represents the future of the Colorado Rockies.

"I'm definitely not what you'd call a star by any means," Helton said before signing a four-year, $12 million contract Tuesday. "I don't like to talk about it. It's kind of awkward for me. I don't want to be put into the spotlight."

Helton, 25, emerged from the shadows last season by hitting .315 with 25 homers and 97RBIs. He led all rookies in the triple crown categories and finished second to Chicago Cubs pitcher Kerry Wood in the NL rookie of the year voting.

Wood finished nine points ahead of Helton in the closest vote in 16 years. While the residents in Helton's hometown of Knoxville, Tenn., absorbed another perceived snub — Tennessee quarterback Peyton Manning finished second in the 1997 Heisman Trophy voting — Helton moved on quickly.

"Was I disappointed? Yeah. For about 15 seconds," he said. "Did I think about it again? No. I just got sick of hearing people talk about it."

"If I was going to win it, I didn't want to win it for myself. I wanted to win it for the Rockies because they've never had anybody win it. It would have been a good honor."

Recognizing the talent in front of them, the Rockies approached Helton before spring training and asked if he would be willing to think about signing a long-term contract.

"It sort of blew me away," he said. While genuinely flattered by Colorado's interest, Helton was clearly uncomfortable talking about becoming a millionaire as the negotiations played out during the first two weeks of spring training.

Helton and the Rockies eventually agreed on a four-year deal that will pay him $750,000 in 1999, $1.3 million in 2000, $4.95 million in 2001 and $5 million in 2002.

"I hope I outplay my contract," Helton said when asked if he feared the contract wouldbecome paltry in the age of exorbitant salaries. "That will mean the Rockies saved moneyand I'm playing well."

The road to a six-figure contract unfolded slowly for Helton, a former first-round draft pick who was a two-sport star at Tennessee.

Playing with the pressure of replacing two-time All-Star Andres Galarraga, Helton in his first month in the majors, hitting .259 with no homers and 12 RBIs.

"There's no normal reason a kid with his talent should go six weeks without falling into a home run," Rockies hitting coach Clint Hurdle said. "It was just classic overtrying and not staying with his strengths and doing what he's capable of doing. Once he did that, he took off."

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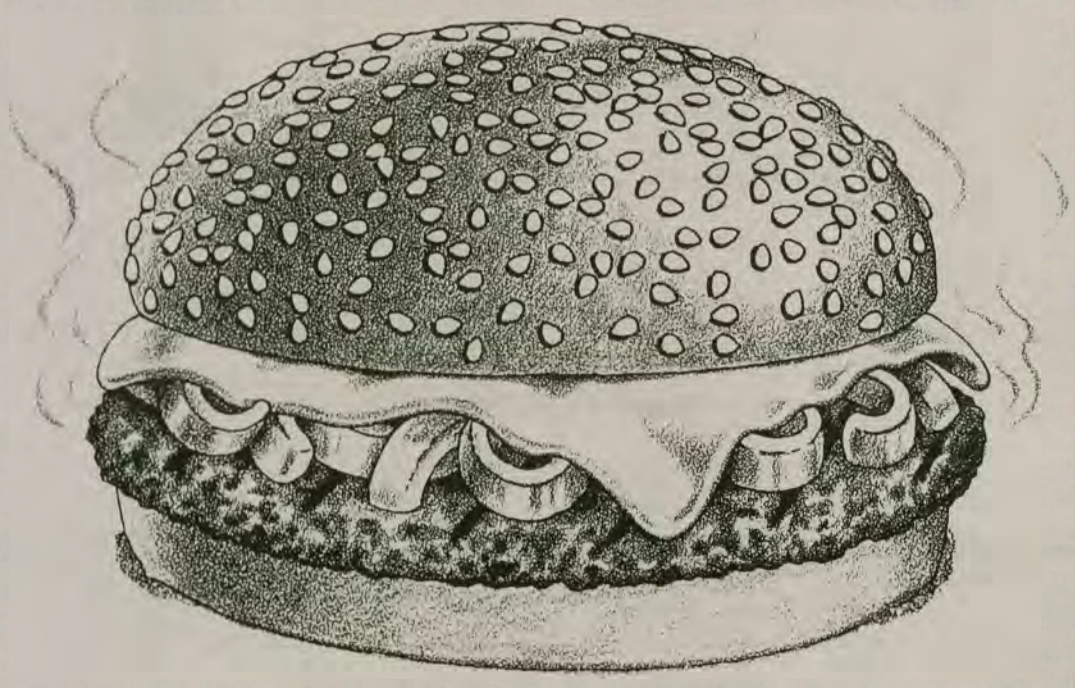

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■ NBA

Clippers still winless as Finley leads Dallas, 112-99

Associated Press

DALLAS

Michael Finley scored 20 points and A.C. Green had 19 points and 12 rebounds, both eason highs, as the Dallas Mavericks kept the Los Angeles Clippers winless with a 112-99 victory on Tuesday night.

Hubert Davis added 18 points and Steve Nash and Gary Trent had 16 each to help the Mavericks to their fifth victory in the last seven games.

Maurice Taylor's 18 points and 13 rebounds paced the Clippers, who fell to 0-13 and remainthe only NBA team without a victory. The 1988-89 Miami Heat hold the league record for the worst start, opening 0-17.

Darrick Martin scored 14 points, Rodney Rogers and Tyrone Nesby added 13 each and James Robinson scored 12 for the Clippers.

Shawn Bradley had 10 points to give Dallas six double-figure scorers for the first time this season.

After trailing by as many as 17 points early in the final quarter, the Clippers got as close as 97-87 on Rogers' layup. But Finley hit a 3-pointer with 4:40 left.

The Mavericks, who never trailed, opened the game with their highest-scoring quarter of theseason. Finley scored 10 points to lead Dallas to a 38-24 advantage after the first quarter.

Dallas was in front by as many as 20 points in the opening quarter, but the Clippers rallied in the second to reduce the Mavericks' halftime edge to 53-48.

Robert Pack's steal and three-point play just before the third-quarter buzzer gave Dallas an 82-69 lead entering the final period.

Heat 85, Knicks 84

Alonzo Mourning scored 28 points, Patrick Ewing missed a 14-footer as time ran out and the Miami Heat edged the New York Knicks 85-84 in overtime Tuesday.

Ewing had a season-high 31 points and 16 rebounds. But he also missed two shots and committed a turnover in the final two minutes in regulation, then missed a potential game-winning jumper over P.J. Brown.

The Knicks fell 1 1/2 games behind second-place Miami in the Atlantic Division. The Heat have won nine of their last 10 games.

There were 17 lead changes, including five in overtime. Terry Porter scored Miami's last four points, including two free throws with 55 seconds left for the game's final points.

Dan Majerle helped limit New York's Allan Houston to six points, 12 below his average, on 3-for-15 shooting.

Tim Hardaway, who returned after missing one game because of a hyperextended knee, had17 points for the Heat. Larry Johnson scored 19 for New York.

The Knicks, playing their third game in as many days, struggled offensively after a fast start. They shot 50 percent in the first half and 26 percent the rest of the game.

Porter's basket putting Miami ahead 83-82 with 2:12 left. Charlie Ward hit a runner for NewYork, but Porter's free throws put the Heat ahead for good.

Mourning blocked a shot by Ewing, but the Knicks got the ball back with 12 seconds left.

Ewing got the ball on the wing and moved into the lane, but his jumper bounced off the rim and Mourning rebounded at the buzzer.

Hardaway's 3-pointer gave Miami a 78-76 lead with 1:57 left in regulation, but Houston's jumper tied the game with 34 seconds to go. In the final seconds of regulation, Ewing missed a 12-foot and the Heat missed four shots, including three by Mourning.

Trail Blazers 102, Jazz 100

Rasheed Wallace scored 22 points and sank two free throws with 17 seconds left in the second overtime Tuesday night as the Portland Trail Blazers fought off the Utah Jazz 102-100.

Portland prevailed in the matchup of the teams with the two best records in the NBA, improving to 6-0 at home and 10-3 overall. The Jazz dropped to 11-3, their only losses coming on the road.

After Wallace's free throws, Utah's Greg Foster got the ball near the basket, but couldn't get out of traffic. He was called for traveling with 3.2 seconds left. The Blazers' Damon Stoudamire was fouled and made one of two free throws, giving Utah a chance to win with a 3-pointer.

After a timeout, Isaiah Rider tipped away the inbounds pass as time ran out, touching off a ticker-tape celebration on the court.

Rider scored five straight points during a key stretch of the second extra period. He hit an open jumper to tie the game at 96 with 3:42 to go. He then hit a 3-pointer with 3:12 left.

Rider finished with 18 points as seven Blazers scored in double figures.

A jumper by Foster and a layup by Bryon Russell pulled Utah to 100-99 with 35.3 seconds left, but Wallace got fouled at the other end on a move to the basket. He was 10-of-12 from the line.

Jeff Hornacek scored 23 points on 10-for-13 shooting to lead the Jazz, and Karl Malone added 20. John Stockton had 15 points and eight steals.

The Blazers had a chance to win it at the end of regulation, but Walt Williams missed an open 3-pointer. Russell grabbed the rebound, but couldn't get off a shot to leave it tied at 90.

In the first overtime, one of Malone's patented turnaround jumpers went long, and Rider grabbed the rebound to force a second extra period at 94-94.

Stoudamire, who played a game-high 55 minutes, had 13 points and eight assists on 5-of-16 shooting. Brian Grant had 13 points and 12 rebounds.

The game was a physical one worthy of two first-place teams, but the intensity led to scores of mistakes. Utah had 25 turnovers, while the Blazers had 23. Portland shot just 39 percent, but outrebounded the Jazz 45-37.

The Jazz jumped to a 94-90 lead in the first overtime on two free throws by Malone and a quick jumper by Hornacek with 1:58 to go. Wallace's drive past Thurl Bailey cut it to 94-92.

A jumper by Stoudamire tied it at 94 with 20 seconds to go. Portland came back from a four-point deficit in the last 1:45 to tie it at 90 heading into overtime.

The Jazz led 86-80 with 3:07 left, but Portland rallied with an emotional burst. Rider hit a 3-pointer, and Grant had a dunk and a free throw to make it 88-86 with 2:01 left. A turnaround by Wallace later cut the lead to two, and the Jazz turned it over on their next possession.

Wallace picked it up and got the ball to Rider, who drove for a layup that tied it 90-90 with 46.5 seconds left.

The teams stayed close in the first half, and Utah used its trademark crisp passing and shot 50 percent. But the Blazers outrebounded the Jazz 20-12 and Walt Williams hit 3-of-3 from 3-point range as the Blazers trailed by only 46-45 at halftime.

Spurrs 99, Rockets 82

Tim Duncan had 23 points and 14 rebounds and two former Houston players helped the San Antonio Spurs beat the Rockets 99-82 Tuesday night.

The Spurs permitted the Rockets only two brief early leads and sped to a 53-37 halftime edge, led by former Rockets guard Mario Elie, who hit 15 first-half points, but sat out the second half with a strained left hamstring.

The Rockets' last lead was 28-27 with 8:54 to go in the second quarter. From that point the Spurs outscored Houston 26-9 the rest of the period for their 16-point halftime lead.

The Rockets rallied briefly in the third quarter, cutting San Antonio's lead to 60-51 with 4:54left, but the Spurs took a 71-58 edge into the fourth quarter.

Avery Johnson, who played with the Rockets during the 1991-1992 season, hit eight of his 18 points in the first five minutes of the final period, keeping the Rockets from gaining ground. He added a season-high 13 assists.

All five Spurs starters scored in double figures. David Robinson joined Elie with 15 points and Sean Elliott added 12.

Scottie Pippen led Houston with 21 points and Hakeem Olajuwon had 12 points and 11 rebounds. Charles Barkley, playing his second game since coming off the injury list, had 16points and six rebounds.

Wizards 97, Hawks 77

Washington ended a four-game losing streak Tuesday night as Mitch Richmond scored 28 points to lead the hot-shooting Wizards to a 97-77 victory over the Atlanta Hawks.

Juwan Howard added 20 points and Rod Strickland had 18 as the Wizards shot 42-for-71 (59 percent) for the game. Grant Long led Atlanta with 17 points and Anthony Johnson added 14.

Richmond scored 13 when Washington outscored Atlanta 35-11 during a 13:32 stretch spanning the second and third periods. The Wizards took their biggest lead at 69-45 after the teams were tied at 32.

The Wizards ended the half on an 18-5 run for a 50-37 lead at intermission. The Wizards shot 68 percent in the opening half (23-for-34) with Richmond leading the way with 14.

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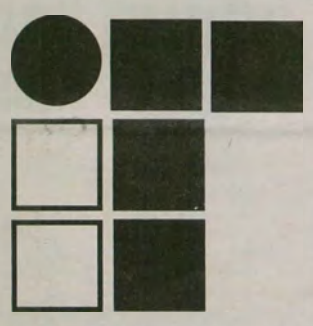

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■ NBA

Pistons run over deflated Bulls

Associated Press

CHICAGO

This is bad, even for the Chicago Bulls.

The Detroit Pistons handed the Bulls their worst loss ever at the United Center on Tuesday night, beating them 108-78. The previous low was an 18-point loss to Philadelphia last week.

Before this season, the Bulls (4-11) hadn't lost by more than 14 at home. And that 77-63 loss to Cleveland came in 1994-95, when Michael Jordan was retired.

It was Detroit's first victory in Chicago since March 1990, back when the Bad Boys ruled the NBA and the Bulls were just another one of their victims. Joe Dumars is the only Piston still left from the 1990 squad, which won a second straight NBA title.

Detroit (9-6) had six players in double figures, led by Grant Hill's 17 points. Dumars kept up his hot streak since coming off the injury list (hamstring), scoring 16 points on 4-of-8 from 3-point range. The Pistons are 5-0 since Dumars' return.

Rookie Corey Benjamin led three Bulls in double figures with 15 points. But the Bulls were hurt — again — by dismal shooting. They were just 31-of-82 (38 percent) from the floor, and they had more dry spots than the Dead Sea.

They were scoreless to start the second half as Detroit ripped off a 10-0 run. They didn't score their first field goal of the fourth quarter until there was just 5:28 left to play. Their offensive woes were summed up in one play: Randy Brown fed Brent Barry for what should have been an easy runner with 1:06 left in the first half, but the ball rolled around the rim and fell off.

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■ MAJOR LEAGUE BASEHALL

Cepeda, four others make Hall of Fame

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla.

Orlando Cepeda broke down and cried.

"Some times, when things come easy for you," he said, savoring his election to baseball's Hall of Fame, "you tend to take them for granted."

The Baby Bull's selection Tuesday by Veterans Committee was especially emotional because it was anything but an easy journey from the ghettos of Puerto Rico to Cooperstown.

Overshadowed much of his career by a trio of teammates — Willie Mays, Willie McCovey and Juan Marichal — also destined for enthronement, Cepeda overcame the stigma of a drug conviction that cast suspicion about his character.

"It's hard to explain the feeling ... I've been ready for this for 17 years," Cepeda said at San Francisco's 3Com Park, called Candlestick when he was the Giants first baseman. "When they told me I was selected, I lost my mind."

Former umpire Nestor Chylak, turn-of-the-century manager Frank Selee and Negro Leagues pitcher Smokey Joe Williams also were selected by the 12-member Veterans panel that included Marichal, Ted Williams and Stan Musial.

Among the former players, managers and executives receiving support, but not the necessary nine votes for election, were Bill Mazeroski, Dom DiMaggio, Joe Gordon, Bowie Kuhn, Dick Williams and Whitey Herzog.

Cepeda, 61, was a .297 career hitter with 379 homers and 1,365 RBIs. Now a community relations representative for the Giants, his team had a present for him — they announced the retirement of his No. 30 jersey.

"I played ball for 17 years," Cepeda said. "I've been through good things, bad things, but I was very blessed to be born with the talent to play baseball, to leave the ghettos of Puerto Rico and come to San Francisco, the city I love so much."

Marichal, who played with Cepeda on some of the great Giants teams in the 1960s, said it was special for him to be part of the push to get his friend over the top.

Cepeda missed by just seven votes in the BBWAA election five years ago, his final try with the writers. He came close last year in voting by the Veterans.

"Orlando is a good human being," Marichal said. "I felt so bad when he missed by seven-votes ... because I know what this means to him."

Family and friends gathered at Cepeda's California home to await the news. "It sounded like New Year's Eve on Broadway," committee chairman Joe Brown said. "The room apparently erupted."

Cepeda was the NL's rookie of the year in 1958 with San Francisco and the league's first unanimous MVP in 1967 with St. Louis. The first baseman hit over .300 nine times and played in nine All-Star games.

He was arrested at an airport in 1975 on charges of trying to pick up 160 pounds of marijuana. He was sentenced to five years and served 10 months, punishment widely believed to have worked against him in previous bids for the Hall.

"I think that probably did prevent him from being voted in by the writers," said Allen Lewis, a retired sportswriter and committee member. "Sure, he made a mistake and served time. But since he got out, he's spent most of his time helping people."

One-time National League president Bill White, another former teammate on the Veterans Committee, concurred that Cepeda has lived an exemplary life since the brush with the law.

"He's a good man. He's worked extremely hard for the Giants in the community. He lectures kids on what to do and what not to do," White said. "I'm glad for him."

Cepeda's father, Pedro, was called "The Bull" and also the "Babe Ruth of Puerto Rico."

Cepeda joins Roberto Clemente as the only Hall of Famers born in Puerto Rico.

Chylak, the eighth umpire elected to the Hall, worked in the American League from 1954-78 and called five World Series and six All-Star games. He died in 1982.

Selee managed from 1890 to 1905 in the National League with Boston and Chicago, and had a winning percentage of .598. He died in 1909. Selee, who won 1,284 games in 16 seasons, became the 15th manager elected to the Hall.

Williams, also nicknamed "Cyclone," pitched from 1910-32 with several teams, including the Homestead Grays and New York Lincoln Giants. He was credited with a winningpercentage of .624. He died in 1946.

Williams was the 16th player elected for his accomplishments in the Negro Leagues. A towering right-hander with a reputation for a lively fastball and impeccable control, he compiled a record of 22-7 with 12 shutouts against white teams from 1912-32.

"He had a great fastball and he was mean, too. He'd move you off the plate," said committee member Buck O'Neil, a former Negro Leagues star who saw the 6-foot-4, 200-pound Williams pitch but never faced him as a batter.

The Veterans panel was down to 12 from its usual 15 because of the retirement of longtime executive Buzzie Bavasi and the health of writer Leonard Koppett and Hall of Fame

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Tourney

continued from page 24

man defense that prevented the Irish from taking the outside shots. For a team that averages 16 three-point attempts per game, Notre Dame displayed Ivey's absence with only seven tires.

Even with its Big East championship game-record 96 points, Connecticut's defense won the game.

"It's our defense that wins games for us," said Auriemma. "It's hard to play us and beat us at full strength, especially when [Notre Dame] doesn't have Ivey."

The Huskies capitalized on Ivey's absence from the opening tip-off. With freshman Sherisha Hills starting in her place, Auriemma's defense targeted outside shooter Sheila McMillen, keeping her to just 2-of-7 shooting from the field.

"They put a lot of pressure early on," said McMillen. "And I think early on we just didn't adjust right away."

By the time they worked to spread the defense, Connecticut had already handed the Irish a double-digit deficit — one they could not overcome.

Unable to pose much of a threat outside, the Irish relied heavily on their post players — Ruth Riley, Kelley Siemon and Julie Henderson — to generate 43 of the team's points.

Other than Henderson's nine points, the usually hot Irish bench went cold Tuesday. It contributed only four points to Notre Dame's effort.

McMillen never rested Tuesday night, playing all 40 minutes. Riley was also on the court for most of the game, only coming out late in the second *half because of foul trouble.*

The Observer/Liz Lang

Despite playing almost the entire game, Ruth Riley was unable to lead the Irish to victory last night versus UConn.

Despite the extended playing time of McMillen and Riley, the offense was unable to keep up with the Huskies, and Notre Dame's defense could not keep the "run and gun" Huskie attack in check.

The deep bench on Connecticut's side of the court kept the team fresh at both ends of the game and able to avoid Notre Dame's quest for a victory. While the Irish came off the season's biggest loss and Ivey's injury, UConn hit the game at its season's peak, sticking the Irish with two huge losses in as many days.

Women

continued from page 24

all-tournament team honors, but their effort wasn't enough to lift the Irish to an upset victory.

"Our defense was pretty good, but Notre Dame made it look bad at times when they attacked the basket," said Auriemma. "We were able to keep the pressure on the whole game though and we took advantage of the opportunities we got."

UConn's Ralph finished with 19 points and 10 assists while Jones added a career-high 21 points as the Huskies claimed their sixth-straight Big East title. Abrosimova had team highs in points (25) and rebounds (7) on her way to all-tournament team honors.

Notre Dame now awaits the NCAA Tournament Committee's decision on what seed and region they land in for the Big Dance which begins Friday, March 12 at campus sights.

Head coach Muffet McGraw and her squad hope that their 25-4 record and Big East tournament run will earn them first- and second-round games at the Joyce Center.

■ MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Roses are blooming in Dodgertown

Associated Press

VERO BEACH, Fla.

Pete Rose kept a low profile, sitting quietly in the stands at Dodgertown watching his son play in an intrasquad game. He hopes to be watching Pete Jr. laying in Los Angeles one of these days.

And Pete Jr. says it's going to happen, later if not sooner.

"I think I've got what it takes," Pete Jr. said Tuesday. "I plan on making the team. I don't plan on playing in [Triple-A] Albuquerque."

And if manager Davey Johnson sends him down?

"I'll bust my tail," Pete Jr. said. "I'm going to be in LA at some time. I'm a guy who's got some pop. Left-handed pop looks to be a little scarce around here. I think Davey Johnson likes tough guys. I come to play."

The elder Rose, the career hits leader who agreed to lifetime ban for gambling, called Dodgers general manager Kevin Malone during the winter to request a favor.

"Pete asked me to give his son a chance," Malone recalled. "I've known both of them for years. They both have huge hearts. I figured it was a win-win situation. I told Pete it would be tough for [Junior] to make the team. He said, 'No special treatment, all we ask is a chance.'

"And that's the deal. The younger Rose, a 29-year-old whose only major league experience was a brief spell with Cincinnati Reds 18 months ago, signed a minor league contract with an invitation to spring training.

And here he is, giving it his best shot.

"Nobody can tell me to stop chasing my dream," he said.

"He knows how to play, he's not going to give up," the elder Rose said. "He's just now figuring out his m.o."

Rose referred to the change his son went through between the 1996 and 1997 seasons.

Essentially, Pete Jr., went from a clone of his father to a power hitter, bulking up in the gym from 200 pounds to around 230.

"I'm bigger than he is," the younger Rose said. "It took me longer to figure things out. I had to make a change, and I did. Basically, I've been at this for only a few years."

He recently spent a week with his father, and it helped as he entered spring training.

"It's a plus when you have the hit-king on your side," he said. "He's just unbelievable, a great person, a great dad, a great coach."

And, obviously, a big fan of his son.

The younger Rose had his best season by far in 1997, hitting .308 with 25 homers and 98 RBIs in 112 games for Double-A Chattanooga. He was called up by the Reds and made his only big-league start on Labor Day, going 1-for-3.

Coming soon... Women's NCAA coverage

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■ WAY OUT IN LEFT FIELD

Behind Bryant, Rodman Lakers lack needed maturity

By JOHN COPPOLELLA
Sports Columnist

Sports Illustrated picked them to go the NBA finals; Charles Barkley ripped them; they just fired their head coach.

Michael Jordan sat courtside at their last game, and Dennis Rodman is joining them.

The Los Angeles Lakers have been in the news a lot lately, but it's not necessarily a good thing.

Sporting a record of 9-6, the Lakers could easily be mistaken for a decent Western Conference team. They aren't playing as well as the aging Utah Jazz or the depleted Seattle Supersonics, but those two teams are leading their respective divisions and pulling away from the Lakers as the shortened NBA season completes the first third of its course.

Growing pains are causing the Lakers' collapse. The squad's most vocal leader, Nick Van Exel, was too vocal and was shipped to the Denver Nuggets. His departure vacated a leadership spot on a team lacking leaders, which has hurt the team on and off the court.

Shaquille O'Neal has been a brilliant leader. He leads the league in scoring, has been a rebounding and shot-blocking machine and has even improved his free-throw shooting. Along with the Supersonics' Gary Payton, he is a candidate for the league's MVP. Off the court, he has backed up trash-talking to the San Antonio Spurs' David Robinson and Tim Duncan, and has become the most feared player in the league.

The rest of the Lakers, however, have not stepped up in similar fashion. Kobe Bryant has attempted to take Van Exel's leadership role by taking all of Van Exel's shots — in addition to the shots Bryant would normally take. Although talented, Bryant's immaturity and selfishness has plagued the Lakers all year and reminds fans of a young Jordan who didn't use his teammates to his advantage.

Bryant's conceit could hurt his development. In a two-point loss to the Indiana Pacers two weeks ago, Bryant shot an off-balance three-pointer with five seconds remaining. However, his obvious immaturity is not hampered by fans that chant his name each time he gets the ball. With his new, enormous contract extension, he will fight to get his hands on the ball and not look to his teammates for support.

The problem is, outside of O'Neal, no one has asked for the ball from Bryant. Eddie Jones has been shooting less since Van Exel left. Derek Fisher has been more of a pass-first, shoot-last point guard, and this reticence has not kept defenders honest. Rick Fox usually gets lost in the shuffle.

Robert Horry can hit the three-pointer. Elden Campbell is Elden Campbell. And Rodman is arguably the worst shooter in the league.

But Rodman's signing is the critical juncture of the Lakers' season. Rodman, with all his antics, is one of the best defenders in the history of the NBA. A tireless worker, he has led the league in rebounding for the past seven seasons.

He is a walking contradiction: On the court, he shirks away from the glamour of scoring instead favoring unheralded jobs like the aforementioned defense and rebounding; Off the court, he will do anything that will bring him fame.

This is not what the Lakers need right now.

In San Antonio, Rodman divided the team by exploiting Robinson's timid locker-room persona. After being expelled to Chicago for Will Perdue, Rodman ran into Jordan and head coach Phil Jackson, two individuals who embody leadership. Only through those two individuals were Rodman and his side show kept at bay on the court as his life became more extravagant off the court.

Rodman comes to a Lakers team that just fired its head coach, Del Harris, and does not have a leader of Jordan's or Jackson's magnitude. Even with his successful NBA history, O'Neal cannot command Rodman's respect. Bryant is only 20-years-old. The rest of the Lakers are either too passive, too old or too scared to try to control Rodman.

In the words of Van Exel: "If he [Rodman] comes in with his great rebounding, the intensity he always brings to the game, he's going to be great for that team. If he comes in with all his antics and just thinking about Dennis Rodman the show, he's going to kill that team."

Barkley ripped the Lakers for being on NBC "every week" and for having more entertainment value than efficiency. Houston Rockets lost to the Lakers, but sitting courtside was none other than Jordan, sitting next to Jack Nicholson, snickering at the game he left behind.

Maybe he was laughing at Barkley and his comments; maybe it was at Bryant trying to take his place; or maybe it was at the fate the Lakers face with Rodman.

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

■ NFL

Payton feels better

Associated Press

CHICAGO

The condition of ailing Chicago Bears great Walter Payton has stabilized and he is sleeping better, an aide said Tuesday.

The Hall of Fame running back, the NFL's all-time leading rusher, had been experiencing increased fatigue and nausea at mealtime until last week when his condition "leveled off," said Ginny Quirk, vice president of Walter Payton Enterprises Inc.

"It has stabilized, the doctors gave us official word of that Thursday," she said. Payton continues to live in his South Barrington home and has had less trouble sleeping lately.

Payton is suffering from a rare liver disease and needs a transplant. A number of friends have offered their planes to fly him to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., on an emergency basis when a liver is available.

■ MEN'S TENNIS

Irish to take on No. 54 Spartans

By NATHANIEL DeNICOLA
Sports Writer

Today the Notre Dame men's tennis team looks to continue its blaze of success as they travel to Michigan State to take on the 54th-ranked Spartans.

For the past week the Irish have been on fire. They blanked Iowa 7-0 last Tuesday, convincingly defeated Boise State 6-1 on Wednesday, smoked Ohio State 7-0 for their second shutout of the week and, for good measure, triumphed over Indiana 4-2 on Monday.

The Spartans stand in the way of a five-game winning streak, which would be a season high for the 24th-ranked Irish. Michigan State currently holds a 2-3 record after suffering 6-1 defeat to Florida last match. In 1988 Michigan State edged Notre Dame 5-4, but the Irish have controlled every meeting since, compiling a 35-31 advantage in overall match play.

The greatest challenge facing the Irish this match is the 13th-ranked doubles team of Ken Kigongo and Fransisco Trinidad, especially considering the importance of the doubles teams' scoring in close matches this season.

However, since the shutout over Iowa, the Irish have blown out every opponent — even the somewhat competitive 4-2 victory over Indiana witnessed the cancellation of the No. 6 singles match between senior captain Andy Warford and Rahman Smiley because Notre Dame had already clinched the match. Against Michigan State, the Irish will attack with the lineup which was first initiated at the beginning of the four-game winning streak.

While the bulk of the lineup has remained constant, the promotion of freshman Andrew Laflin to No. 3 singles, the emergence of Warford at No.2 doubles and the addition of freshman Aaron Talarico to No. 3 doubles have provided the right mix for the recent tear.

Junior All-American Ryan Sachire continues to excel at No. 1 singles where his 13-1 record has helped the Irish maintain their top 25 ranking. Additionally, the superb play has been recognized by the ITA as he improved from No. 3 to No. 2 nationally.

Locking down the No. 2 singles spot is senior captain Brain Patterson, whose 76-39 career doubles record is matched by an equally impressive 77-38 singles record. Matt Daly — like Sachire and Patterson — has gone undefeated in the last four matches and will fill either the third of fourth singles slot.

The other position will be assumed by Laflin who boasts a 10-0 dual-match record in 1999. In fact, the lefty had yet to lose even a set before he defeated Cory Dalos 5-7, 7-6 (2), 6-4 at Boise State.

At No. 5 singles is Casey Smith, who is coming off a 7-6 (4), 6-1 victory against Indiana's Milan Rakvica. Andy Warford caps the lineup at No. 6 singles, where in the last four matches he is 3-0, deprived of a fourth victory only because the match against Indiana's Smiley was canceled.

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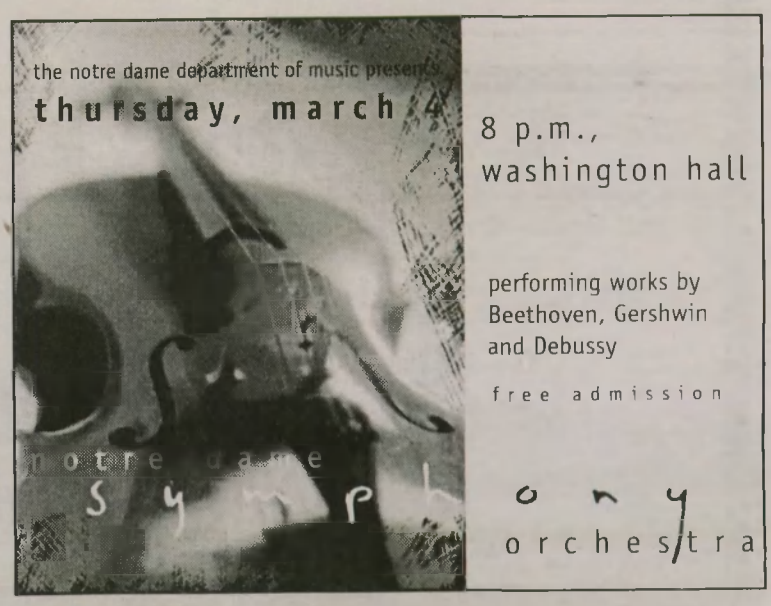

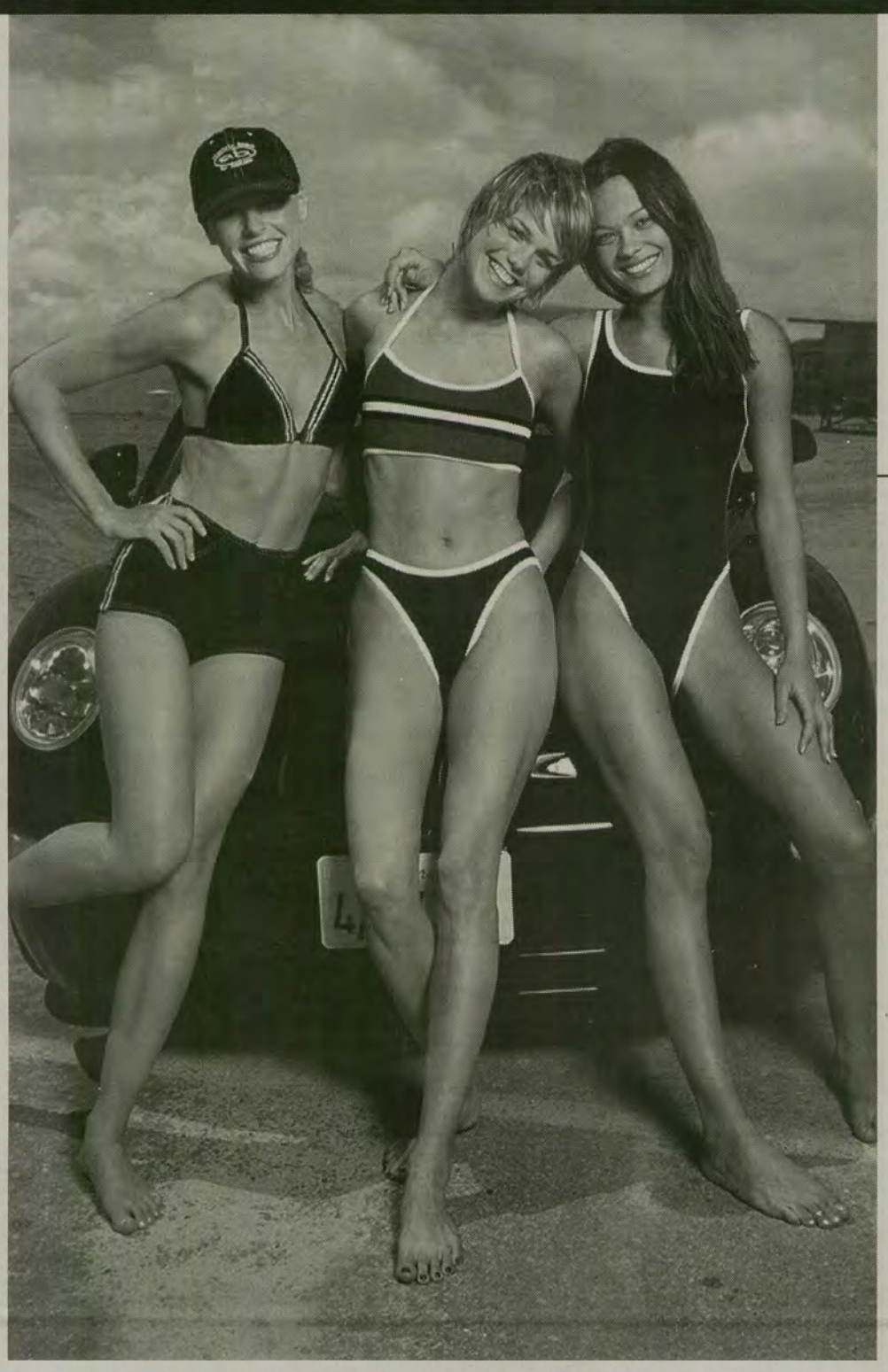

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■ BASEBALL

McKeown, Stanley lead sluggers past Southern Illinois

The Observer/Jeff Hsu

Behind strong relief pitching and a powerful offense, the Irish baseball team defeated Southern Illinois 15-5 Saturday. The Irish take on Penn State this Saturday.

Special to the Observer

NEW ORLEANS, LA

The Notre Dame baseball team exploded for seven runs in the third and fourth innings on its way to a 15-5 win Sunday afternoon over Southern Illinois, in final-day action of the University of New Orleans Invitational at Privateer Park.

Notre Dame (3-4) scored a pair of runs in the third inning to force a 2-2 tie before taking the lead for good with a five-run fourth. Senior lefthander Chris McKeown (1-0) pitched three scoreless innings in relief of junior righthander Scott Cavey to record the win.

McKeown scattered three hits over the three innings while recording three strikeouts and no walks. Junior rightfielder Jeff Perconte paced the Irish offense with a 4-for-4 day at the plate, four runs scored and two RBI.

"Chris was really the key to that game," said head coach Paul Mainieri, "He pitched so magnificently out of the bullpen."

'I REALLY FEEL GOOD ABOUT OUR TEAM.'

PAUL MAINIERI
HEAD BASEBALL COACH

Southern Illinois (3-3) used three hits to score twice in the bottom of the first inning, but Cavey kept the Irish within two runs in the second inning, when he stranded runners at second and third.

SIU righthander Dave Piazza took the loss after yielding seven runs (four of them earned) on eight hits and two walks over the first four innings.

Notre Dame tied the game in the third inning, thanks to a double down the leftfield line by freshman catcher Paul O'Toole, Perconte's RBI single to left and a run-scoring double to right by surging freshman centerfielder Steve Stanley, who racked up four RBI before the day was done.

"I think special recognition should be given to Stanley, who had such a rough start," said Mainieri. "Through the first five games of his career he hadn't had a base hit. Then on Saturday he had a couple of hits before getting three hits and a sacrifice fly on Sunday. It was really good to see him getting it going."

SIU briefly regained the lead with a run in the bottom of the third, after a triple and RBI groundout, but Cavey then worked out of another jam by stranding two more Saluki runners.

Junior leftfielder Jeff Felker drove in Notre Dame's first of five runs in the fourth inning, with a bases-loaded single through the left side of the infield that plated senior first baseman Jeff Wagner, who had walked, went to second on a fielding error and took third on an infield single by junior DH Matt Nussbaum.

O'Toole then drove home freshman third baseman Andrew Bushey with a sacrifice fly for a 4-3 lead, followed by RBI singles from Perconte, Stanley and Wagner.

Perconte doubled with one out in the seventh and stole third on a ball-four pitch to sophomore second baseman Alec Porzel. Stanley then plated Perconte with a single and Porzel later scored on a wild pitch before Wagner singled home Stanley for a 10-3 Irish lead.

Notre Dame tacked on four more runs in the seventh, highlighted a Porzel triple that plated O'Toole and Perconte. Stanley followed with a sacrifice fly before junior shortstop Brant Ust sent an opposite-field shot over the rightfield fence for his third home run of the season.

A single run in the eighth upped the Irish advantage to 15-3, after Felker reached on an error, went to second on a single by freshman catcher J.P. Drevline and scored on a throwing error. Facing a potential end of the game by the 12-run rule, SIU came up with two runs in the bottom of the eighth versus freshman righthander Matt Buchmeier, cutting the lead to 15-5.

Irish sophomore All-America righthander Aaron Heilman threw just four pitches while shutting down the Salukis in order to close out the ninth.

The Irish sluggers travel to San Antonio, Texas, this weekend. They will take on highly-ranked Penn State on Saturday and Sunday.

"I feel really good about our team. I feel like on Saturday and Sunday we really showed our potential," said Mainieri, "The key for us is going to be whether or not we get consistent pitching. If we do that we're about ready to put it all together."

■ MEN'S BASKETBALL

Seniors Wyche and Hickey lead by example

By JOEY CAVATO
Associate Sports Editor

It wasn't suppose to happen like this.

Two of their classmates weren't suppose to leave after one season.

Younger players were supposed to fill the void and contribute to the rebuilding process, but that didn't happen either.

The only constants throughout Notre Dame's first four years in the Big East conference have been senior captains Phil Hickey and Antoni Wyche.

Neither has been spectacular, but both solidly played their supporting roles.

Pat Garrity and Troy Murphy filled their biographies in the media guide with awards and honors, but Hickey and Wyche contributed the foundation of Notre Dame's rebuilding.

"When I came to Notre Dame I wanted to be a part of a rebuilding," Wyche said. "I thought our class would be a big part of helping the program get back to where it used to be. Unfortunately, due to transfers and injuries and all kinds of things, it didn't work out quite the way I planned."

"There's been a lot of adversity," Hickey said. "It would have been easy to just quit or transfer but that's not Tone and my character. We stuck through it we wanted to be part of this foundation that was the beginning of the Big East."

Stuck through it they have, and they have also given more to this team than what one usually looks for in the statistics.

"I bet you that together they haven't missed over five practices in four years and that says a whole lot," MacLeod said. "Dinged up and banged up they continue to battle. They have really been great representatives for the team and the University."

'WE HAD A LOT OF UPS AND DOWNS IN MY FOUR YEARS HERE.'

ANTONI WYCHE
SENIOR BASKETBALL CAPTAIN

"They've been leaders in the locker room," Troy Murphy said. "Phil has really helped me out as far as talking to me about players coming up and referees and how to deal with different things in the league. He's been so valuable to me personally just helping me out and Tone is probably the funniest guy I've ever met in my life and he's a great guy. They've both made me feel at home when I first got here and they've really helped me out in adjusting to college."

Things definitely would have been easier for Hickey and Wyche had the Gary Bells, Doug Gottliebs and Keith Friels stuck around, but Hickey and Wyche don't shy from hard work.

They also will accept roles outside of the spotlight. They were also willing to allow freshman Murphy and David Graves to carry the scoring load.

"I think we have to be leaders and lead by example," Hickey said. "If leading by example means doing the hard work that's fine. I think we had to give up some scoring opportunities so we could show the freshman how to run the offense. We had to do those types of things that don't necessarily show up on the box score, but I think that led to a better team."

"They want the team to win, I guess that's what sets Antoni and Phil apart," MacLeod said. "Do they want to score? Sure. But if David and Troy and Harold can score and help us win and Phil and Tone are on the floor they'll take that. It's about the team , not so much about who scores the points. Tone and Phil both would say they're glad these freshman came here."

Hickey and Wyche have not lead the team to great accomplishments such as 20-win seasons or NCAA Tournament bids, but their four years have not been unproductive.

"These two kids have done a lot of things that people don't talk about," MacLeod said. "They've helped youth groups. They spent a lot of time with young kids. They're not full of themselves. They're well-respected. How can you not respect two kids who work as hard as they do?"

After being a part of all the Big East "firsts" for the Irish, Hickey and Wyche would like nothing better than to lead the Irish to their first Big East Tournament win today against Seton Hall.

"We had a lot of ups and downs in my four years here," Wyche said. "But I think we made great strides in being competitive in the Big East and think we got better each year in the conference."

"This is a must-win game for us," he continued. "We have a chip on our shoulder knowing that we haven't won a game yet. It is something that we're getting real geared up for."

After the Joyce Center crowd gave Hickey and Wyche a standing ovation on senior day last Sunday, Murphy put an exclamation mark on the victory. He hustled down a pass from Graves and brought the crowd to its feet with a tremendous dunk.

Graves and Murphy had big smiles on their faces, and when they were taken out of the game they were greeted by Hickey and Wyche.

"This freshman class is what I envisioned our freshman class doing," Wyche said. "They have a solid foundation for the future and I definitely think we're heading in the right direction. We're right there and I think we need to make that next step to get over the top."

"Hopefully we created a good foundation that will be successful for the other guys," Hickey said. "It's great and that's what I wanted. I wouldn't trade my four years for anything. It's been a great experience."

"Hopefully it just carries over," he continued. "It would be a good transition. That's all I every wanted to see was to see Notre Dame be successful and I think it's definitely headed in the right direction."

MacLeod knows that Hickey and Wyche are also going in the right direction.

"They're going to make a contribution when they leave Notre Dame outside of basketball, and they already have," MacLeod said. "They've gained a great deal of respect they've grown. You can't help but really respect what they've done."

The Observer/Jeff Hsu
Irish senior Phil Hickey looks to the basket in a recent game against Georgetown. While playing much of his career in the shadow of superstars Pat Garrity and Troy Murphy, Hickey has been a dependable presence on the inside. Hickey and the Irish take on Seton Hall tonight in the Big East Conference Tournament.

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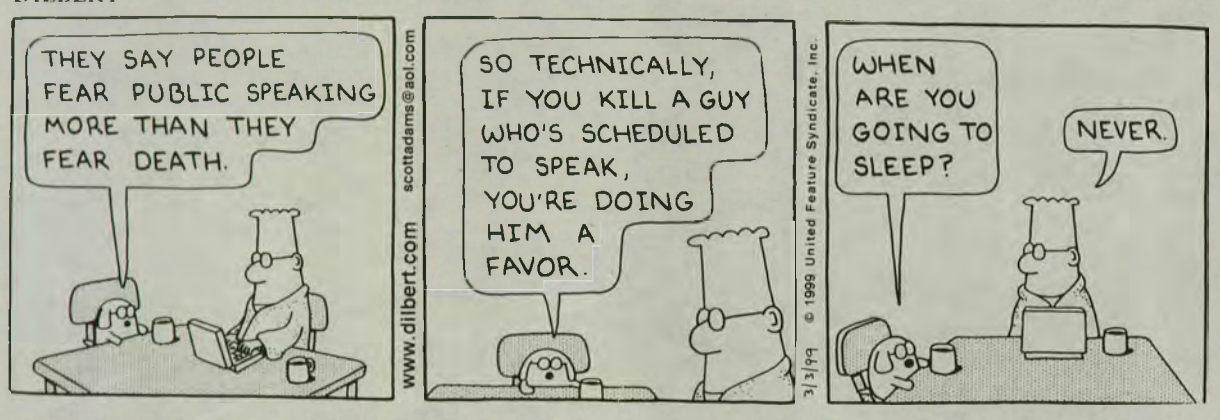


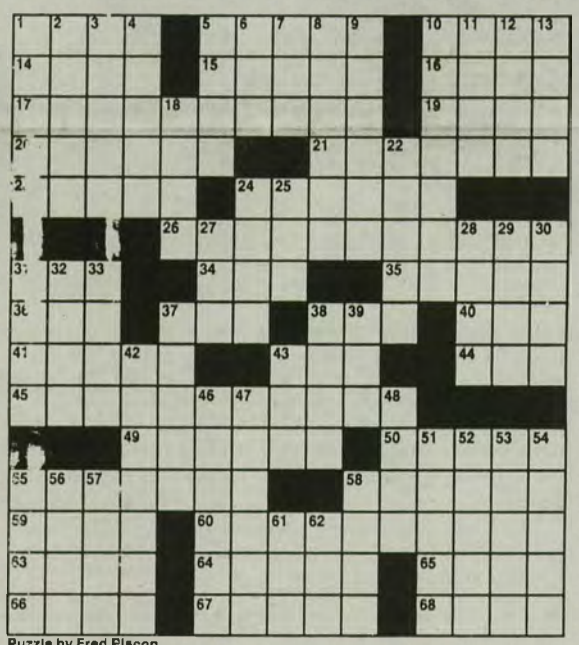
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 "Lydia" poet
5 Beethoven dedicatee
10 Dugout, for one
14 "Jake's Thing" author
15 "O come, —— ..."
16 Prefix with skeleton
17 Fairy who loved Peter
19 "Show Girl" tune
20 At home, but available
21 Popped in on
23 —— Dame
24 Individually
26 Noted name in civil rights
31 Modern ink source
34 It's served in spots
35 Not o'er
36 Galoot
37 One of the Brady Bunch
38 Deposit
40 Galilee, e.g.
41 Horse of the Year, 1960-64
43 —— Percé
44 Abbr. for F. Lee Bailey
45 Risk-taker's declaration
49 Like some tennis courts
50 Footnote abbr.
55 Goes postal
58 What "I love" in a 1915 Irving Berlin song
59 Stratford's stream
60 Hint to this puzzle's theme
63 Like some plating
64 Photographer Adams
65 60's talk show host Joe
66 Beat by a nose
67 Broken-down
68 Pink-slipped

DOWN

1 "—— a Hot Tin Roof"
2 Acid type
3 Color slightly
4 Schindler of "Schindler's List"
5 Suffolk, for one, in Shakespeare
6 Legal deg.
7 —— Royale, N.S.
8 Popular Nicole Hollander comic
9 More slippery
10 Trust in
11 "Don't bet ——!"
12 Wood trimmer
13 Sticky-tongued critter
18 Kind of sch.
22 Hound's trail
24 Mideast port
25 Links letters
27 LAX guesstimate
28 The life of Riley
29 A.A.A. suggestions
30 Hoops nickname
31 Literary pseudonym
32 European car
33 "Gimme a Cl" etc.
37 Long ——
38 Use a keynole, perhaps
39 Dangerous gun
42 Knowledge
43 Certain G.I.
46 Gymwear name
47 Zero
48 Hit the bottle
51 "—— Passes" (Browning poem)
52 Flower part
53 Lacking substance
54 Fiddled
55 Loaf
56 "Tristia" poet
57 Dance's partner
58 Compatriot
61 Bring into play
62 Convertible, after conversion



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

HOROSCOPE — EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jean Harlow, Jackie Joyner-Kersee, Mary Page Keller, John McLaughlin, David Faustino, Nicolas Freeling

Happy Birthday: You can have the best of both worlds if you are prepared to work hard this year. You have the stamina coupled with brilliant ideas; now all you have to do is believe in yourself and forge ahead. You're the only one holding you back. You must get motivated and take a confident approach to all that you want to accomplish this year. Your numbers: 8, 14, 28, 35, 37, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may have a problem with your lover if you forgot to do something you promised to do. Channel your energy into making things better not worse. Don't get angry without due cause. ○○○

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will need to pick up some additional knowledge. Go to the source in order to get the most current information. You will be able to ask for a raise or put your name up for a promotion. ○○○○○

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Too much too fast. Take your time. You don't have to make decisions now. Don't let others push you into doing things you would rather not do. Blow-ups in your domestic scene are apparent. ○○

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You should take some time out and re-evaluate your emotional situation. You may want to confide in someone you respect and trust who will give you a better understanding. ○○○○

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Money-making opportunities are present. Make your decision quickly if you don't want to miss out. Problems with equipment may set you back if you have neglected regular maintenance. ○○○

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Someone around you may not want to do you a favor. Empty promises will lead only to frustration. It is best to do things yourself rather than depend on someone else to pick up the slack. ○○○

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Disharmony in your personal life will make it difficult for you to get things accomplished. It is best to pamper yourself and not worry about the things you are supposed to be working on. ○○○

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Legal problems may surface if you forgot to tend to some small but important details. You will have to backtrack if you wish to clear these matters up once and for all. ○○○○

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let someone take advantage of your good nature. You must not allow others to railroad you into spending money or making promises that you'd rather not get involved in. ○○

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may get your dander up due to a misunderstanding. Find out more information before you decide to disown the party involved. Chances are you will be wrong and owe an apology. ○○○○○

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your deep need to learn all you can about something you have recently become interested in will lead you into a relentless search for truth. You may even question your own direction in life. ○○○

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look into all the financial ventures presented to you today. One of them will be a real money-maker. You should confine yourself to those deals where you don't have to rely on someone else. ○○○

■ OF INTEREST

Resume Writing Workshop — Design an attention-getting resume for your job search. This workshop will cover the use of "power" phrases, common resume errors and mistakes, career objectives, how to write an effective cover letter, and the use of the Resume Expert disk. This workshop will be presented by Olivia Williams, Assistant Director of Career and Placement Services, today in room 116 DeBartolo Hall from 3:30-5 p.m.

The Spelman College Jazz Ensemble will perform this evening at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Works by John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie and Hogey Carmichael will be performed. A reception will follow in the LaFortune Ballroom. The concert is free and open to the public. This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Music, the African-American Studies Program, the office of Multicultural Student Affairs, Campus Ministry and the Student Activities Office.

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SPORTS

■ Irish sluggers overpower Southern Illinous.

p. 21

■ Seniors Antoni Wyche and Phil Hickey provide leadership to the men's basketball team.

p. 22

■ WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Huskies' defense outperforms Ivey-less Irish

By BRIAN KESSLER
Assistant Sports Editor

PISCATAWAY, N.J The eighth-ranked Notre Dame women's basketball team ran into a buzz saw last night.

Big East Player of the Year Svetlana Abrosimova lit up the Irish for 7 points in the first half to help top-seeded and NCAA sixth-ranked Connecticut to a 96-75 victory in Tuesday night's Big East tournament final at the Louis Brown Athletic Center.

With junior point guard Niele Ivey out with a sprained knee, the third-seeded Irish didn't stand much of a chance.

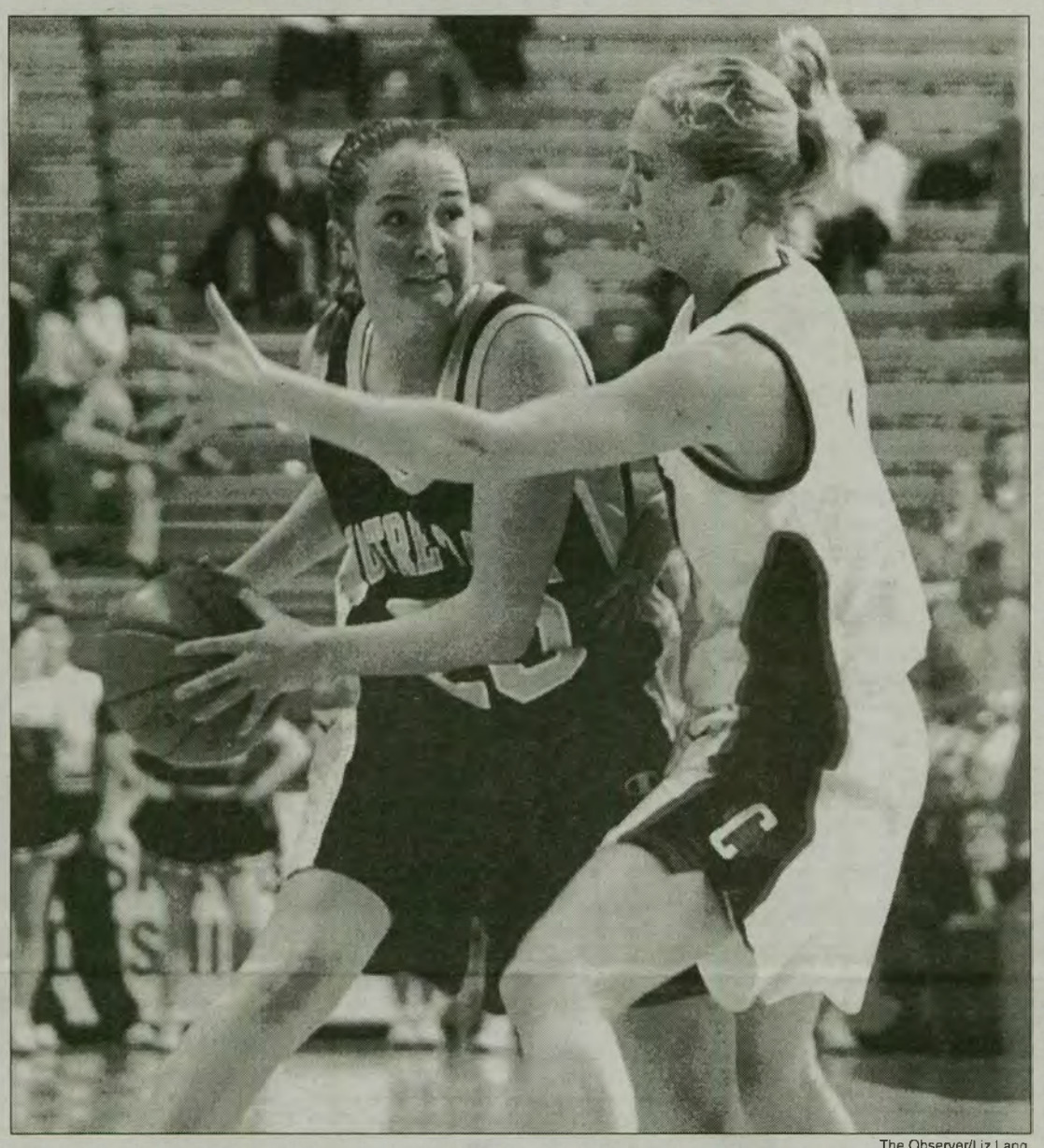
"It's hard to play us at full strength, much less when down a man," said Connecticut head coach Geno Auriemma. "Give credit to those Notre Dame kids though for how hard they battled. They're a good team."

Notre Dame kept the deficit under 10 for much of the first half, but Tournament MVP Shea Ralph's lay-up with 7:51 remaining in the first period pushed the Huskies' lead to 13.

UConn lead by as many as 18 in the half, but a late Irish run led by captain Sheila McMillen and junior Julie Henderson closed the gap to nine just before halftime.

Asjha Jones and Ralph, however, proved to be too much for the Irish defense to handle. All-tournament team selection Jones scored 13 second-half points, while Ralph added 10 and UConn broke out to a 29-point lead with 6:32 to play.

"I think we just wore them down," said Auriemma. "Obviously they were missing a key player and we knew they were going to be a little bit weak at the guard spot. We had to attack that and we put a lot of pressure on Sheila McMillen, and I think the poor kid just wore out."



The Observer/Liz Lang

Irish guard Sheila McMillen attempts to move past a defender in last night's game versus Connecticut. McMillen and company couldn't make up for the loss of injured Neile Ivey and fell 96-75.

The Huskies pressure caused 24 Irish turnovers and kept McMillen at bay. The senior three-point specialist got off just four attempts from downtown but connected on two and finished with 13 points.

Big East Defensive Player of the Year Ruth Riley played a strong game inside for Notre Dame. The 6-foot-5 center scored a game-high 26 points and had three blocks to break the school's single-season record for blocked shots.

McMillen and Riley earned

see WOMEN/ page 18

UConn uses depth to win

By ANTHONY BIANCO
Assistant Sports Editor

PISCATAWAY, N.J. Connecticut won the Big East championship with depth.

While the Huskies faced a number of key injuries which lead to losses to Louisiana Tech., Boston College and Old Dominion this season, their sixth-straight championship proved they cannot be forced out of national contention.

"This team has a lot of superstars," said senior Amy Duran, who missed eight games this season with a hand injury. "In the past, we always depended on others to carry the load, but this year was different. Everyone has contributed all season."

While they played the game like any average contest, four Huskie players — Svetlana Abrosimova, Asjha Jones, Shea Ralph and Tamika Williams scored in double digits. And unlike UConn's average regular season game this year, most of coach Geno Auriemma's players were healthy and in uniform.

It was a different story for the Irish, as Notre Dame dropped its 10th-straight loss to the Huskies because of a short bench.

Losing point guard and the leading Notre Dame scorer Niele Ivey for the tournament Monday night with a knee injury, the Irish certainly were not playing their usual game.

Notre Dame faced a man-to-

see TOURNEY/ page 18

■ MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish to take on Pirates at Big East Tourney

By JOEY CAVATO
Associate Sports Editor

John MacLeod is hoping that the fourth time will be the charm.

Today at 11 a.m. the Notre Dame men's basketball team will make its fourth attempt at a win in the Big East Tournament.

"We didn't want to play in that 11 o'clock game," senior guard Antoni Wyche said. "It seems like every year we've played in that game and we haven't had any luck yet."

On the other side of the court, Seton Hall looks to change the luck of the Irish. Notre Dame has won the previous two games this year versus the Pirates.

The 14-15 Irish are eager to prove themselves after finishing eighth in the conference standings.

"We still feel we have something to prove going into the tournament," Wyche said. "I think we have that chip on our shoulder knowing that we haven't won a game in the tournament."

The Irish were predicted to finish 12th in the conference at the beginning of the year and they used that for motivation all year long.

"We didn't feel like we were a 12th-place team," MacLeod said. "The good thing is we didn't listen to it. We heard it and we used it but we didn't believe it. We've accomplished quite a bit. They've grown and continue to grow and they've meshed as a unit."

MacLeod hopes that growth will carry over into the tournament as the Irish are looking to enjoy New York more than they have in the past.

"We'd like to win one; we'd like to win more than one," MacLeod said. "You want to stay in New York. The last three years, three hours after the showers are taken we're on the bus back to LaGuardia. That's not the ideal way to participate in a tournament. We want to stay and do something. It would be significant."

If the Irish are going make it there, they'll have to do something else significant — beat a team three times in one season.

Knowing that you've beaten a team twice is always bittersweet. You know you can beat them. You also know that they're hungry and they feel that they're due.

"We played well against them the last two times," Troy Murphy said. "We're confident going in. We're coming off a good win and we want it to carry over Wednesday. I think we could make a run it would be great to get into the NIT."

"We just have to refocus and get ready for that game Wednesday," Wyche said. "It's going to be tough to beat a team three times in a row but its something we're going to have to do. We have to come out focused and we can't afford to have a lot of turnovers."

MacLeod thinks that his team has the grit and the determination to come out and make some noise.

"We're still getting better and we haven't topped out yet," MacLeod said. "They like each other, they like to play, they're not afraid. We've gotten popped a couple of times but we've learned from it."

The winner of today's game will play top-seeded Connecticut tomorrow.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

M	at Michigan State Today, 3 p.m.		NCAA Track and Field Championships Friday-Saturday
W	at Northwestern Today, 3 p.m.		at Miami Friday, 7 p.m.
M	Big East Tournament New York, NY vs. Seton Hall Today, 11 a.m.		