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Caffeine fix

Scene ventures to the local coffee shops in search of a decent cup of joe.
Scene ♦ page 10-11

Friday

**FEBRUARY 8,
2002**

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOL. XXXV NO. 83

HTTP://OBSERVER.ND.EDU

College programs address campus violence

◆ Group examines student feelings on campus safety

By MYRA McGRUFF
Saint Mary's Editor

The Anti-Violence Task Force, appointed by College President Marilou Eldred, is currently working to process data on students' attitudes and knowledge about violence, sexual assault and safety on campus.

The task force, which began meeting this fall, is in its first year of operation. Composed of faculty, staff, administration and a diverse group of students, the task force defined goals early in the year to expand programming, events and methods of handling campus safety.

"We wanted to be a little more intentional about addressing the issues of violence on campus," said Eldred.

To do this, the task force wanted to get a representative sample of students' attitudes and knowledge about violence, sexual assault and safety.

With the help of Astrid Henry, women's studies and English professor, the committee formed a survey to draw out of students main concerns and how best to address the problem. The 10-question survey aimed to get



CHRISTINA REITANO/The Observer

A Saint Mary's student learns techniques to guard against attacks in a new self defense class which aims to give students more confidence in their ability to handle violent situations.

a sense of the student need on campus in relation to their awareness of safety and violence.

The survey was sent by e-mail to students in December. The task force got responses from 254 students.

Fifty percent of the respon-

dents said they were somewhat to very concerned about safety on campus. In contrast, 73 percent of the respondents were somewhat to very concerned about their safety outside of campus.

The 23 percent difference may be due to the situation

Saint Mary's and Notre Dame community setup, according to Henry. She said she believes that because of the Saint Mary's/Notre Dame dynamic students share a concern about safety at levels

see DEFENSE/page 7

◆ Saint Mary's offers first class on self defense

By KATIE VINCER
News Writer

The doors are shut. The drapes are pulled closed. The word "NO!" echoes off the walls by the shouts of female voices.

These women are preparing themselves not to be victims, but survivors by participating in a self-defense class.

For the first time in its history, Saint Mary's is offering its women a self-defense class. Faculty, staff and students of Saint Mary's suggested these classes during a forum held last year by Linda Timm, vice president of Student Affairs.

"The forums was my way of trying to solicit student feedback on programming topics they would like to see around the topic of violence against women," said Timm.

These self-defense classes are provided by the organization Rape Aggression Defense (RAD). RAD was founded in 1989 and presently has more than 2,000 instructors throughout the United States and Canada. Sue Tollos and Tracy Hahn, both employees of the Notre Dame security, are RAD certified instructors and teach the self-defense

see CLASS/page 4

NDToday doesn't endorse ticket

By HELENA PAYNE
Assistant News Editor

NDToday.com, the online media source for Notre Dame students, will have to cover this year's student government elections differently, according to the site's president Scott Palko.

The reason for the change is Palko himself. He's running for student body president along with fellow junior P.J. Mercanti.

"We are going to alter our coverage," said Palko. "NDToday will not be serving an endorsement this year."

Palko said he and the site's owner Frank Helgesen have discussed the consequences of endorsing a candidate and decided to "equal the playing field" by not endorsing anybody. Palko added that

Helgesen, a 2001 Notre Dame graduate, could offer his own endorsement or student government election coverage if he chose to do so.

"The ultimate decision is [up to] Frank," said Palko. "He still has considered offering something."

The two NDToday.com executives have been in conversation since Palko decided to run, but they have focused on different aspects of the possible conflict of interest.

"[Helgesen's] concern is more content. He wants to offer students content that is pertinent to them," said Palko. "My concern is that I don't want to abuse the situation and just take advantage of

NDToday."

Originally, Palko said the Web site was going to have an endorsement as it did for last year's election, but he decided it could be unfair.

"We are going to alter our coverage."

Scott Palko
NDToday.com president

Palko's position on NDToday.com does not violate any Judicial Council rules although it originally raised some concerns among candidates, said John McCarthy, vice president of elections.

"I've looked over NDToday and there's really nothing specific for or against [Palko],"

see WEB SITE/page 6

Students share free tax advice

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Accounting students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are providing free tax assistance for low-income taxpayers in the Michiana area again this spring.

Beginning this Saturday, more than 70 juniors and seniors will prepare thousands of federal and state income tax returns as part of the 31st annual Vivian Harrington Gray Tax Assistance Program.

Michiana residents who earn less than \$35,000 annually or are unemployed are eligible for free assistance, said senior Melissa Rauch, the program's publicity director.

"We try to get them back some money they wouldn't normally get if they weren't familiar with the process," she said.

The students spent about 10 hours in the classroom intensely preparing for their volunteer work. They learned to fill out items on the federal income tax returns and studied certain credits and deductions for which their clients could be eligible, said Ken Milani, professor of accountancy and program coordinator.

For example, the earned income credit allows taxpayers to draw more out of the system than they actually contribute. The child credit also provides a

see TAX/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

In the spirit of black history

In days of past my people lived in lands — divided chains around their necks, shackles around their wrists, and still in my eyes you can see their pain, their cries, despair. But given to them was something greater and through the beatings and exploitation it remained. I can remember the first time I heard "Wade in the Water." It was like honey mixed in lemon waiting to heal. It was the power of words that held sanity inside black folks heads when hands of oppression stomp in hate.

Myra McGriff

Saint Mary's
Editor

Some ask how did black folks get the legs to run past it all, all the looks, all the ways it hurt to breathe and say life was worth the wait? We survived in the way we learned to scream, "Praise God," on Mondays and dance on Sundays. We survived by lyrics of freedom songs and rumors of open opportunity past the Mason Dixon line. We hung on in the dust of dreams that mama's whispered in newborn babies' ears. We hung on through losing mothers to fathers to daughters trying to claim stability with no space to call our own. Man, we hung on. And Langston Hughes validated our struggle, while Lorraine Hansbury made us wave our hands in what we've all been through.

We even reached a point that we could shake our heads at the blues Billy sang in "Strange Fruit," talking of how black folks hung from Southern trees. We did better than hold on, we dared to surpass what people thought that we could not do.

And now, now I ask what keeps me moving through the battle of today facing my black skin in the backdrop of society. I say it is this, these same people coming back to mind and lines of Coltrane's sax jumping off my hands as I type, type my life into reality. But I only have these people because someone said to me, read, listen, and care. Care that my family came from trial and died in the fight to walk with heads high. Care that my family watched with tears in their eyes King speak and the riots of the 60's. Care that my people lost jobs and home on picket lines so I can sit here in classes next to you.

They told me to care because without the struggle and the pain there is no me. I am the fields of cotton picked until fingers bled, and backs that cleaned floors (the only job my grandmother could get). I am the black power fist calling for equality and the voices saying "by any means necessary." I am the child walking miles to "separate but equal" schools and the sharecroppers homes that seeped in the color of want. I am because they gave, gave until they could see and then they gave some more.

And because they gave, and because they cared we all should care. We should care enough to come and listen to one Black History Month event. Otherwise they cried in vain and worked in vain. Otherwise they died in vain and all is lost in the dust of crops picked in sun that blacked backs of men deserving more, more than what life offered them.

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

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

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THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME / SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

ND alumnus killed in plane crash

Friday, February 3, 1989

Captain Joseph Nellis, a 1983 alumnus, was killed in an Air Force transport plane crash South of DYESS Air Force base. He was the son of George Nellis, a former Computing Center administrator.

Regents increase Saint Mary's tuition

Monday, February 5, 1973

The Saint Mary's Board of Regents raised tuition by \$50 per semester at its February meeting. The increase was the first since 1971 when the tuition was increased by a \$100 per semester. Saint Mary's president Edward Henry said the increase reflected a higher cost of living.

BEYOND CAMPUS

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Duke committee addresses sexual harassment

DURHAM, N.C.

Although Duke University established a standing committee designed to address sexual harassment in the physics department, many professors and students say a climate of discomfort still exists for women.

The Bryant Committee was created by Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences William Chafe in the summer of 2000 in response to several complaints of sexual harassment, both verbal and physical.

Since then, the Office of Institutional Equity has conducted a workshop with members of the department, distributed a brochure on gender discrimination and tried to foster a better atmosphere. But some professors and students say not enough has changed.



"We certainly did find there were problems," said Professor of Mathematics Robert Bryant, former chair of the Bryant Committee. "Some of those problems [might have been] simply because people weren't aware of what had been done or how things had been dealt with."

Bryant declined to specify the problems the committee found ini-

tially but said the group filed a confidential report with Chafe. In a Nov. 28, 2000, letter to the department, Chafe specified that the committee heard accounts from several people who suggested past instances of sexual harassment.

"These included inappropriate contact between staff or instructors and graduate students, use of language or display of pictures in public environments that were offensive to women and inappropriate requests that women perform tasks that seemed based upon their gender alone, such as cleaning up coffee spills," Chafe's letter read. "The committee found some basis for the assertion that the culture or climate of the department is sometimes perceived as unfriendly to women."

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

School resolves antisemitic remark

WASHINGTON

George Washington University professors with radical ideas who have been following the pending firing of a University of South Florida professor can breathe a sigh of relief. University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg said he disagrees with the way the USF is treating a tenured professor who has brought international attention to campus for saying "death to Israel" publicly. Computer engineering professor Sami Al-Arian made the remark in a speech more than a decade ago. But when Bill O'Reilly repeated the statement in a recent interview with him on his Fox news show, it threw the South Florida campus into a frenzy of security concerns and backlash. Al-Arian received at least one death threat, causing a floor in the engineering school to shut down one day. The board of trustees voted 11-1 to revoke his tenure because the university is unable to function normally, according to comments in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

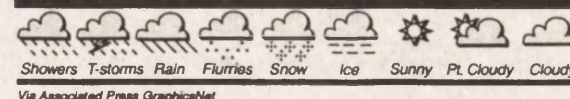
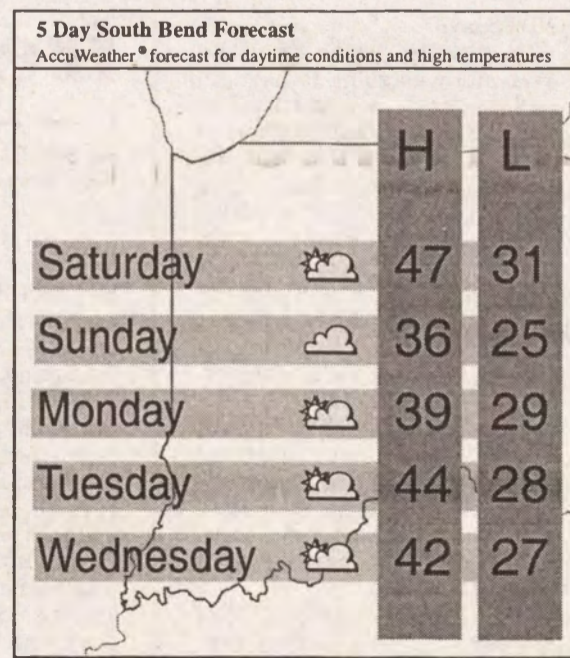
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

System's endowment plummets

BERKELEY, Calif.

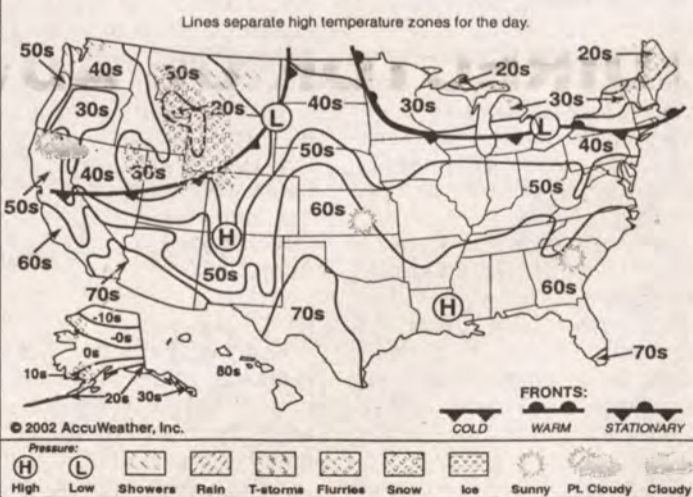
College endowments nationwide dropped for the first time since 1984, with the University of California suffering more decline than the national average, according to recent reports. The university's endowments dropped 5.5 percent, despite drawing more than \$1 billion in private support for the second consecutive year. The shrinking endowments, combined with the state's \$12.8 billion budget deficit has administrators tightening their belts. Currently valued at \$6.2 billion, UC's total endowment fund consists of money derived from an investment portfolio organized by the UC Office of the Treasurer, as well as contributions from corporations and individuals. Endowments across the country lost on average 3.6 percent of their value in the last fiscal year, said the National Association of College and University Business Officers. The commission conducted a survey of 610 institutions of higher education. Its full report will be released in March.

LOCAL WEATHER



NATIONAL WEATHER

The AccuWeather.com forecast for noon, Friday, Feb. 8.



Atlanta	59	39	Cincinnati	56	32	New York	46	32
Baltimore	53	32	Dallas	64	48	Orlando	64	50
Boston	41	27	Denver	50	21	Pittsburgh	49	33
Buffalo	38	29	Detroit	45	53	Salt Lake City	32	20
Chicago	46	33	Los Angeles	66	48	Tampa	80	61

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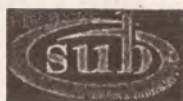
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RUSSIA

Officials claim CIA report unfair

Associated Press

MOSCOW

Russia angrily denounced a CIA report that questions the Kremlin's willingness and ability to prevent the spread of dangerous technology, a sign of renewed tension following a sharp improvement in relations in the wake of the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The Foreign Ministry, in a harshly worded statement, on Thursday demanded an official explanation from Washington. The unclassified CIA report on weapons of mass destruction has caused "not only extreme surprise but also serious concern" in Russia, it said.

"This is the first time in recent years that an official American document makes an attempt to question the devotion, willingness and ability of the Russian government to prevent the leakage of sensitive products and technology abroad," the Foreign Ministry said. "Russia strictly meets its international obligations to control the export of sensitive trade and technology."

CIA Director George Tenet told Congress on Wednesday that Russia is one of the leading suppliers of nuclear technology and missiles to countries hostile to the United States and remains "the first choice of nations seeking nuclear technology and training."

The CIA report to Congress, which covers the first half of

2001 but was released last week, said the Russian government's "commitment, willingness, and ability to curb proliferation-related transfers remain uncertain."

"Despite improvements in Russia's economy, the state-run defense, biotechnology, and nuclear industries remain strapped for funds, even as Moscow looks to them for badly needed foreign exchange through exports," it said. "We remain very concerned about the proliferation implications of such sales in several areas."

President Vladimir Putin has lent strong support for the U.S.-led campaign in Afghanistan, saying Russia long ago recognized the worldwide threat of terrorism. But President Bush's denunciation of Iraq, Iran and North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" that must stop pursuing weapons of mass destruction or face consequences presented a challenge to Russia, which has friendly ties with all three.

In Moscow, Iran's ambassador warned of unpredictable consequences if the United States uses force against Iran, saying "we will react as any country would," but Gholam Reza Shafei expressed hope that U.S. leaders "will come to their senses and will not allow this to happen." He did not elaborate on Iran's possible response.

Shafei dismissed as "baseless" allegations by top U.S. officials linking Iran to terrorist organizations and that it

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Tax

continued from page 1

refund for families with children under age 17, said Milani.

Senior Matt Dixon said he felt his involvement in the program benefitted the community.

"We're helping people save money on their taxes without paying for a tax preparer," he said. "They can get tax savings they wouldn't have known about otherwise. The earned income credit can save families up to \$4,000."

The Vivian Harrington Gray Tax Assistance Program began in 1972 with the vision of a law student and an MBA candidate who were looking to help taxpayers get special refunds offered by the state of Indiana. They contacted Milani, who helped direct their efforts and instituted the preparatory courses in federal taxation and tax assistance.

The program has grown since then, filing over 2,500 tax returns last year and helping 1,430 local taxpayers.

"We try to get students at Notre Dame to be compassionate, concerned and committed. Here we add a fourth 'C' — competent. We have the best trained volunteers in the country," Milani said.

The program is not unique to Notre Dame, according to Milani, but three factors do distinguish this program from those of other universities.

"First of all, we go into the neighborhoods where the taxpayers live," he said. This year, the program boasts two on-campus sites, one at Notre Dame and one at Saint Mary's, and nine off-campus locations. Most other schools limited their services to on-campus centers.

Secondly, local CPAs volunteer at five of the sites to help with

more complicated refunds, another difference from most schools with similar programs.

The third unique factor is the Students Working at Taxes (SWAT) team, which will make appointments to go to homes and hospitals, according to Rauch.

"We make house calls, for people who cannot get to our locations due to age, disability or hospitalization," said Milani.

The tax assistance program benefits not only the recipients, but also the students, said Milani.

Contact Lauren Beck at
lbeck@nd.edu.

Web site

continued from page 1

McCarthy said.

He added that Judicial Council views NDToday.com as a "completely separate entity" similar to other campus publications. Palko and Mercanti have an official campaign Web site different from NDToday.com just as the other candidates do.

McCarthy said the message boards on NDToday.com criticize all the tickets — even Palko and Mercanti.

"They get made fun of just as much as anybody else

does," said McCarthy.

Senior Scott Sutton, who regularly visits NDToday.com, said he doesn't think Palko's position with the site gives Palko/Mercanti an unfair advantage.

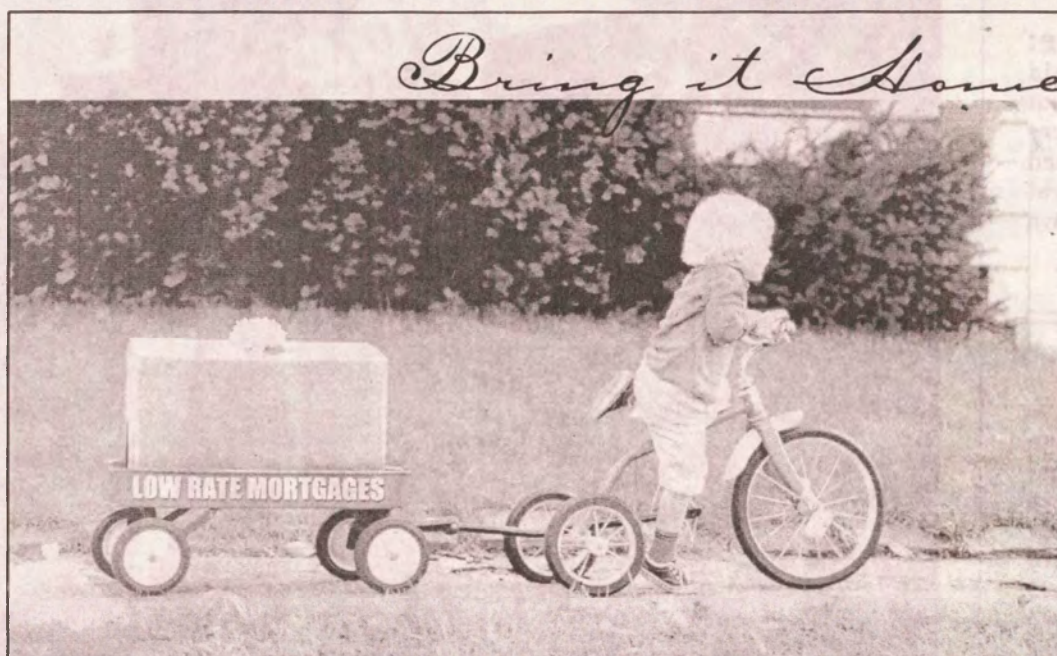
"I don't think there's really any conflict," said Sutton.

He said he noticed that most of the messages that talk about the candidates are more fault-finding than laudatory.

"I don't think that he's been trumpeting the fact that he's the president to get votes from users," said Sutton. "I'd say he's doing it the fair and ethical way."

The site will still continue covering the elections as usual in a way that avoids bias "out of personal fairness to everyone else," according to Palko. Currently, the site collaborates with The Observer's Viewpoint section, which polls students on campus issues, including the student government election. In addition, NDToday has links to the Web sites of both student publications, The Observer and The Scholastic, which have their own endorsements.

Contact Helena Payne at
payne.30@nd.edu.



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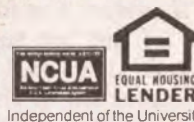
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5:30-6:30

125 Hayes-Healy

Defense

continued from page 1

that she had not experienced at other colleges.

"The relationship between Saint Mary's and Notre Dame creates a host of issues that are unique to this situation," Henry said.

Compiling results from a question about what a student would do in a case of sexual assault, the committee can decide how to design new campus programming and rethink old policies.

Although 82 percent of respondents said they knew what to do in cases of sexual assault, only 28 percent knew what the College's post-sexual assault procedures were. Henry said that part of the committee's position will be to make students aware of existing programs.

"I think there is a concern that when there are programs that student take advantage of them," Henry said.

Additionally, 28 percent of respondents said they were somewhat to very knowledgeable of homophobia and violence against lesbian and

bisexual students. Also, 20 percent of respondents said they were aware of racism or violence against students of color. This data may be used in the future to develop strategies for education, according to the task force.

"In the long-term, I think the committee should have a broad vision of what we see as violence, including violence against lesbians, racism and emotional abuse," Henry said.

In terms of education, the committee has already been putting survey results into action. Even before the committee knew only 32 percent of their respondents were knowledgeable about self-defense, the committee proposed a solution: offer self-defense classes on campus.

"The self-defense classes are a direct result of the task force meetings," said Susan Dampeer, assistant to the president.

But the committee knows the classes are just a step in education. Once all the data is tallied by Mary Lelik, director of institutional research, and digested, the task force will meet again to brainstorm more ideas for programming and education.

Faced with the job of education, Henry stresses that the task force can educate Saint Mary's women on how to protect themselves, but hopes that the Notre Dame community can do the same.

"What I have seen [in the past] is men's anti-violence task force, men leading the movement teaching men right and wrong," said Henry.

Susan Almeda, student task force member, hopes the task force establishes more inclusive orientation programming as well as programming throughout the year that involves all parts of the student body. However, to make the task force fully effective, Almeda also sees a need to increase student safety awareness beyond Saint Mary's.

"My hope is that committee's mission will expand the to Notre Dame, Holy Cross and greater South Bend college community," Almeda said.

Contact Myra McGriff at mcgr0181@saintmarys.edu.

Saint Mary's Self-Defense Survey

86%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues related to sexual assault
64%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about date-rape drugs
83%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about how to prevent sexual assault and rape
67%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about dating violence
72%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about emotional and sexual abuse
86%	Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues of sexual harassment
20%	Somewhat to very much believe college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
40%	Believe a little college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
50%	Somewhat to very much believe college programming addresses issues of sexual violence

*Survey based on 254 respondents

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VIEWPOINT

page 8

Friday, February 8, 2002

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Mike Connolly.

Lack of debate cheats election

The Judicial Council cheated Wednesday.

The body cheated the students who turned out for the election debate among the four tickets for Notre Dame student body president and vice president. But mostly it cheated the spirit of the political process on campus.

The debate wasn't a debate at all. Election officials organized a watered-down "meet the candidates" event where tickets merely plugged their platforms and answered Judicial Council-approved questions from campus media.

There was no discourse between rival tickets. There were no questions solicited from audience members. There were only scripted, non-confrontational sound bites from eight people who were essentially issued a gag order by the Judicial Council, barring them from speaking openly about important issues.

John McCarthy, the council's vice president of elections, claims that's the way the debate has functioned in the past.

But that excuse only sacrifices the chance for meaningful campaigning in the name of a bad tradition.

It's a tradition that cheats Scott Palko and P.J. Mercanti out of questioning opponents Libby Bishop/Trip Foley, Nikki McCord/Nick Williams and Brian Moscona/Keri Oxley, about these student government insiders' failures and successes. And it's a tradition that cheats those tickets out of inquiring about the feasibility of outsiders Palko and Mercanti's platform.

By restricting candidates from as much as raising an eyebrow at opponents' ideas or strategies, the Judicial Council tramples on the values of competition and open discussion that should be part of any election.

The council showed its willingness to inhibit these values last week when it sanctioned the Moscona-Oxley campaign for questioning the feasibility of another ticket's goals. With the so-called debate this week, the council again kicked the air out of the Notre Dame election process.

The Judicial Council should be willing to open the floor to serious debate among candidates before students head to the polls each year. It only cheats student politicians — and the people who need to be informed to vote for them — if the council doesn't.

The
Observer
Editorial

The Relationship Expo

On Wednesday, I took my friend to the mall to find a Valentine's day present for her new boyfriend. As she browsed the aisles of heart-bedecked cards, sprinkled with the words "love" and "special someone," I sulked behind her, somewhat disappointed. I have no particular guy for whom to buy a box of message hearts.

Yet, after two and a half years at this school, I am not bitter. I do not take my "unattached" status as an insult to my womanhood or proof of my social ineptness. I simply realize that here, sincere male-female relationships are a rare treasure and actual dating is practically non-existent.

Hardly a dining hall conversation passes without a lament from one of my friends, all female of course, about the terrible state of gender relations on campus. Most often, students blame the single sex dorms and parietals for the pitiful state of affairs. They say the administration continues these traditions in a backwards attempt to preserve the virtue of the students, to keep us — shall we say — from going over to the dark side.

I disagree. The problems of gender relations stem from a basic structural flaw in the campus community. On a fundamental level, the dating scene does not cater to the mentality of the typical Notre Dame student.

The typical student of this University operates according to definitive goals. He or she writes the to-do list each morning, details the precise steps to achieve an 'A' and factors in each club activity according to its impact on his or her résumé.

He or she appreciates order and stability. For him or her, relationships tend to be far too ambiguous.

If only, I thought as I stared at a mountain of Victoria's Secret Hot Mint Lips, there was some way to remove that ambiguity, to take the guesswork out of dating. If only there was some way to guarantee that an innocent encounter by a male and a female student would end in a relationship favorable to both, like a great résumé and a killer cover letter guarantee the attainment of the job of your dreams. I thought of the internship fair, a model of efficiency and order. For example, each booth at the career fair displayed colored balloons, denoting the type of position that they had available.

Furthermore, it brings the employers directly to the eager students. Students find out on the spot whether the company has something to offer them. If only dating could be this straightforward.

I have a proposal. (I hope that all student government candidates take notice.) I call it "The Relationship Expo."

First, I would like to list the things that "The Relationship Expo" is not:
1. A meat market. (This is after all one of the most prestigious universities in the United States.)

2. A wet T-shirt contest or beauty pageant. (Business casual attire will be required.)

3. A party. (No drinking prior to the event or excessive flirting will be tolerated. "The Relationship Expo" is a professional event. Violators will be asked to leave the premises.)

Now, I would like to unveil the mechanics of this event to be held at the JACC. First, women will run the booths. In keeping with tradition, men will approach prospective significant others. For their convenience, women will prominently display various colored balloons, which will specify the length and nature of the relationship desired. For

example, red will denote seekers of high commitment relationships, who require contracts of one year or more. Pink will signify seekers of moderate commitment relationships with necessary contracts of three to twelve months. And finally, yellow will denote seekers of brief flings and sporadic hook-ups.

Secondly, men will be required to submit a résumé with the following information: an objectives statement that details relationship intentions and goals, a prior experience statement that outlines dating history (if applicable), three references and any additional interests or skills.

Finally I propose the establishment of a "relationship center" on the 18th floor of Flanner Hall to oversee the production of this event. To ensure the readiness of candidates, it will provide various workshops prior to the event including "How to Approach a Member of the Opposite Sex," "What to Wear: Style and Presentation" and "Writing the Résumé: Skills to Advertise and Skills to Omit."

Although I do not expect my plan to come to fruition during my tenure at this University, I have hope that one day, "The Relationship Expo," will favorably affect the status of gender relations on campus for future generations. But until then, I would like all potential candidates to know that I am currently accepting resumes, and I wish you all the best of luck.

*Joanna Mikulski is a junior English and German major. She would like to thank the girls without who this column would not have been possible. Her column appears every other Friday. Contact Joanna Mikulski at mikulski.1@nd.edu.**The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*Joanna
MikulskiTuesday Voice
on Friday

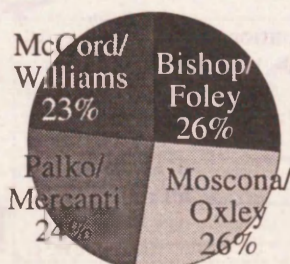
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NDTODAY/OBSERVER POLL RESULTS

For which ticket to you plan to vote in the upcoming student government elections?

*Poll courtesy of NDToday.com and based on 517 votes



Andy Devoto/The OBSERVER

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Relations between the sexes are so complicated that the only way you can tell if two members of the set are 'going together' is if they are married. Then, almost certainly, they are not."*Cleveland Amory
writer

VIEWPOINT

Friday, February 8, 2002

page 9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Defending the parents of Walker-Lindh

Ed Fitzpatrick's response to Scott Flipse's letter, which appeared in the Feb. 5 issue of The Observer, was both immature and illogical. Although Mr. Fitzpatrick begins his letter by criticizing Mr. Flipse's opinion, by calling it "liberal garbage," Mr. Fitzpatrick does nothing but discredit himself. Such tactless attacks are not convincing, nor are they productive in engaging in a debate over such a decisive issue as that of Mr. Walker-Lindh. Mr. Flipse makes many excellent points, none of which Mr. Fitzpatrick even attempts to refute or answer.

But because Mr. Fitzpatrick's letter was so ridiculously off base, I feel that it deserves a response to prevent even one person from thinking what was written in that letter makes sense. Mr. Fitzpatrick begins by writing that Mr. Lindh, John Walker Lindh's father, should also be tried for treason and cites the case of "Haupt v. United States," 1947, as supporting evidence of his assertion. The problems with this argument are many.

Firstly, no parent can be tried for their child's actions, especially parents of child who are not minors — i.e. John Walker-Lindh, who is 20 — unless they knowingly

and willingly were accomplices, thus violating the laws that punish accomplices.

The Haupt case in no way resembles the Walker-Lindh case. Mr. Lindh did not even know where his son was, let alone assist

him in any actions against the United States. Court records have shown, as well as statements by Walker-Lindh's parents, that they had not spoken to their son for many months prior to his capture in Afghanistan.

Additionally, a father fighting within the legal means for his son by hiring a lawyer and talking to the press is not only legal, but what almost any parent would do for his or her child.

Finally, Mr. Flipse's arguments continue to hold weight and are strong in their assertion that Mr. Walker-Lindh's right to disagree with the United States must be respected while his illegal actions punished — despite the hysteria of the few in society such as Mr.

Fitzpatrick and their call for ridiculous measures.

Maureen Gottlieb

junior

Cavanaugh Hall

February 6, 2002



Suggesting changes for Bouts

"Strong Bodies fight that weak ones may be nourished," is the famous saying Dominic J. "Nappy" Napolitano used to describe the spirit of the Notre Dame Bengal Bouts. The Bengal Bouts is a tournament unlike any other in the nation. In fact, Bengal Bouts is more than just a boxing tournament because it helps to improve the lives of people stricken by poverty. Every year the program sends thousands of dollars to Bangladesh to help those in need.

Students all across campus unite in many different forms to help make this tournament possible. Bengal Bouters have already begun training and are just a few weeks away from the tournament. These participants sacrifice their time and bodies to help people halfway across the world. It is the duty of Bengal Bouts officials to provide these participants with the safest and fairest tournament possible. I cannot ignore the safety and fairness issues that I and many others, feel need to be addressed.

So, I offer these suggestions to the coaches, captains and RecSports officials as a way of improving both the safety and fairness of the tournament. I hope that my suggestions will be taken seriously because they are not only the suggestions of an ex-Bengal Bouter but also the suggestions of many current participants.

Weigh-ins: The most pressing safety problem facing the boxing world today is the dramatic weight difference between opponents come fight time. Weigh-ins for Bengal Bouts occur almost a week and a half before the night of finals. It has been apparent that several fighters who sweat down to make a weight lower than their natural body weight are bigger than their opponents when they step into the ring. A weight difference of 10 to 15 pounds is not an exaggeration. This dilemma can be easily resolved by requiring Bouters to make weight before every fight. Yes, it is more time consuming process, but what is an extra hour to the increased safety it provides for Bengal Bouters?

Seeding: Seeding does not ensure better fights on finals night nor does it ensure fairer and safer match ups. Seeding only benefits the "favorites" in each weight class. Since Bengal Bouts is not a tournament about winning or losing, why not treat all the Bengal Bouters as champions and give them all an equal chance to reach the finals by matching them through a random draw? By not labeling the Bengal Bouters with seeds their confidence can be helped. Whoever makes it to the finals will be there because they fought their way there and have earned it, not because they were the "favorites."

Judging: A reevaluation is needed in the area of judging. Personally, I will not participate as a judge this year in hope that better judges can be found. Having 16 years of boxing experience with only 10 losses out of more than 100 fights, having judged in various amateur tournaments and being a Level II USA Boxing certified coach, I feel very qualified to judge. However, fighters should never be judged by their peers, companions or family friends. An official within RecSports told me that he believed politics came into play when certain fighters fought. His insight cannot be overlooked because he has been intricately involved with the program for many years. Also, a Bengal Bouter that expressed his discontent with the tournament last year received vehement letters from Bengal Bouts judges. One judge even went on to state, "...next year when I judge your fight. Be prepared. You pissed a lot of people off with this one." This obviously proves that bias does exist within the judging community. Now, I know that there will always be unfavorable decisions, but more steps can be taken to promote fairness.

Good luck, Bengal Bouters! I encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to this years Bengal Bouts tournament even if you cannot attend. The money that you contribute will go to help people far less fortunate than you and I.

Edward "El Papoose" Hernandez III

senior

Morrissey Manor

February 6, 2002

Accepting Notre Dame gender relations

Though I'm only halfway through my career as a Notre Dame student, I'd like to go out on a limb and say that I'm as aware of the gender relations issues on campus as any other Domer.

But what is the problem exactly? Why must we endure the erroneous yet constant comments about the "lack of quality" in the females at Notre Dame? Why can't guys and gals mix at a social gathering, without having to bring up last week's chemistry test or adding another bullet to our list of embarrassing moments?

Some may quickly blame the causes as deriving from antiquated Catholic values, a one-dimensional focus in life due to our zeal for academics or even just plain hard chemistry professors.

But take a second to ponder this: perhaps the problem lies in ourselves, and not totally our duLac-regulated environment. I wouldn't be surprised if the duLac hasn't changed in decades and still remains on a stone tablet somewhere.

I agree that the environment makes it harder to casually date but I refuse to

believe that it's impossible. So get used to it. Many of our Notre Dame legacies can testify that relationships can in fact be formed courting around the lakes or before goodbyes under the arch. Their sons and daughters wouldn't be here if it wasn't possible.

I'm not saying that I haven't spent countless hours droning on about my own "gender relations issues" to my friends and roommates, not at all.

I'm just presenting a new perspective on the matter. After all, with a defeatist attitude and negative approach towards your gender of interest, would you really be getting any more lovin' at your local state school?

So let's make a deal. Instead of sitting around our rooms and complaining, let's both introduce ourselves to someone new today and see what happens.

Mimi Matkowski

sophomore

Lyons Hall

February 6, 2002

SCENE
off campus

page 10

Friday, February 8, 2002

COFFEE BEA

The Observer looks at South Bend

Scene Staff Report

Escaping from the bubble of college life can be as thoroughly challenging as an Orgo exam or getting a date to an SYR. Luckily, South Bend offers a number of bastions of sanity for Notre Dame and Saint Mary's overworked and overtired student bodies. An escape from the snow and 900-page Bible readings is as near as South Bend's off-campus coffee shops.

Lulu's Café

Students that want to take a quick break from the daily grind will find that Lulu's Café is as economical as it is enjoyable.

Lulu's features a wide array of international coffees offered on a rotating daily basis. The New Orleans Community house blend is offered daily and is a superior cup of joe for coffee drinkers who like their coffee with a strong earthy flavor.

Even better, Lulu's coffee is priced well for the penniless college student; a small coffee is \$.75 (with one free refill), comparable to Dalloway's but much less expensive than a \$1.29 cup of Starbucks-standard swill at Recker's.

Lulu's most enticing aspect is its charming atmosphere. The café is adorned with comfortable couches and love seats for extended study sessions and the walls are covered in local artwork and quasi-hippie paintings. The leisurely ambiance is a refreshing break from the daily mental grind of class work.

Students in need of corporeal nourishment are in luck at Lulu's as well. Although the prices are higher than the "deli" or "recycled dining hall" food offered on campus, Lulu's has a surprisingly gourmet selection of munchables. The grill-toasted Brie and veggie

sandwiches are worth the five spot for hungry studiers. The humus with toasted pita bread is perfect for a light or late snack.

For those students who can only scrounge up meager change from their futons, a peanut butter and jelly bagel is available for just \$1. Patrons should also be on the look out for daily specials such as chicken-avocado wraps and New England clam chowder, which tend to be especially tasty.

Lulu's Café is owned and operated by '93 Notre Dame alumnus Steve Egan. Egan opened the coffee shop to better caffeinate the Notre Dame and Saint

Mary's community in 1995. Named after a mythical world adventurer who crossed paths with Amelia Earhart, Frank Lloyd Wright and Ernest Hemingway, Lulu's lives up to its rhetoric and attracts a diverse range of

"Our staff will bring new things to the table. We try to keep things fresh and new."

Steve Egan
Lulu's Café owner

patrons, from students and professional business people to bohemian artists.

Egan manages Lulu's along with his faithful "coffee experts," the self-proclaimed "Lulu's Pals," who not only serve customers, but are actively involved in preparing new menu items. Egan thinks that his employees are one of the reasons behind Lulu's success.

"Our staff will bring new things to the table. We try

to keep things fresh and new," Egan said.

Lulu's also offers opportunities to local musicians and artists whose work can be seen and heard at the coffee shop each week. Egan is always looking for artists to feature.

Lulu's is located at 1631 Edison Rd. (on the corner of Angela Boulevard and Edison Road, across from the Linebacker Inn) in the Edison Plaza. Lulu's is close enough to the Notre Dame campus to take a five-minute bike ride or a 15-minute walk to. The café is open from 7 a.m. to midnight from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to midnight on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

C. Spencer Beggs

Molly McGuire's Coffee House

This is the stuff of legends: all those cherished stories from older brother's and freshman-year resident assistants, telling of Molly's predecessor and older sister, the bar known as Bridget McGuire's Filling Station.

Alumni still remember well the tale of Bridget's infamous downfall: on a cold January night in 1998, a police raid busted and ultimately shut down the popular underage watering hole.

Today, the familiar building still stands on the corner of South Bend Avenue and Eddy Street, but now its once-traditional cups of beer have been replaced with mugs of steaming coffee.

Molly McGuire's Coffee House entered the South Bend scene in 1998 and has since established a solid reputation for its eats, drinks and comfortable atmosphere. Yet this slice of Notre Dame history may have passed its heyday of appeal for the undergraduate population.

For starters, entering the bar-turned-coffee house feels a little like walking into grandma's place or that sweet old neighbor's living room. Rocking chairs, lace doilies on the armchairs, old family portraits mingled with antique toys on the walls makes Molly's a far cry from the Filling Station of yore. The atmosphere is quiet, no music and few customers on a weekday afternoon.

But before writing Molly's off as simply a safe place to sedate the relatives on Junior Parent's Weekend, a mosey up to the bar-turned-lunch counter reveals a variety of interesting fare.

Molly's drink and food menus offer a solid selection. Italian sodas and iced coffees are a cool choice, while every Starbucks-schemed concoction of caffe-mocha-latte-americano to warm up these chilly February days. Chai, hot chocolate and freshly brewed pots of tea round out the list for those who



C. SPENCER BEGGS/The Observer

Lulu's Café owner Steve Egan '93 (left) in his coffee shop with "Lulu's Pals." From left to right they are: Nicole Kenney, Laura Flate and Josh Hermes.

SCENE
off campus

Friday, February 8, 2002

page 11

AN DREAMS

d's off-campus coffee shop scene

have yet to develop the coffee addiction. This is what Grandma's kitchen nook was always best for, anyway: cradling a warm mug while all wrapped up in an afghan?

When hunger strikes (and it always does) the kitchen at Molly's boasts an impressive menu: lots of salads, soup, homemade sandwiches and tortilla wraps. Vegetarians will be (pardon the expression) happy as clams here as well, with options like veggie sandwiches and hummus plates. The prices are just right for a student's budget, ranging from \$4.95 to \$5.95, and most dishes also come with sides like bread, soup or a muffin to make it a full meal.

Clearly Molly's knows how to cater to the starving, caffeine-addicted college student.

But as far as providing a trendy hangout or a haven for late-night studiers, the coffee house falls short. For starters, it closes at 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and isn't open on Sundays — a tough sell for those who camp out at java huts to keep their bleary eyes open as they struggle through book after book.

The atmosphere isn't specifically tailored to a college crowd either. This is more of a place to relax and have an intimate chat with good friends, or a peaceful escape for those Saturdays when the second floor of the library gets a little too crazy. Molly's has its charms, but it's more subdued and laid-back than other area coffeehouses.

Above all, there is the site's inescapable history. Despite the new homey décor of perfectly worn couches, eclectically mixed chairs and tables, Molly's former identity as Bridget's is still all-too-obvious. Its setup still looks just like a bar longing for a tap and a close listen might still reveal the strains of "Sweet Caroline" or "Oh! What a Night!" echoing in the corners.

But lingering too long in nostalgia leaves an untended cappuccino to get cold.

Laura Kelly

Higher Grounds

"The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it," said a Higher Grounds clerk. "Then we switched to [selling] Numi because we wanted to do our own thing."

Located beyond BW3's on Washington Road, Higher Grounds is a coffee shop that prides itself on being off the beaten path.

The clerk also noted that the Chai Tea has probably eclipsed the Numi in popularity since Higher Grounds began selling it. The shop offers a plethora of espresso

drinks ranging from the sweet to the all-nighter strong, including an enticing drip coffee, their House Blend.

A quick survey of the shop shows that most of the tables and chairs have reached that comfortable state of wear. Yet on the way to its current condition, the furniture may have also absorbed enough second-hand smoke to have a regulatable nicotine content. The lighting is conducive to study, if staring out the large windows or at the art that is occasionally exhibited on the walls doesn't prove too distracting.

By day Higher Grounds is a docile, meditative establishment. Most customers appear to be locals on lunch breaks looking for a place to read the paper while indulging in a sandwich.

For those who enjoy more exotic cuisine, the mushroom pita is an excellent choice. It features a grilled portabella mushroom on a wheat pita with lettuce and tomato. Other enticing lunch options include the slightly spicy southwestern sandwich and the Caesar salad. A cinnamon twist will fulfill that after-lunch or study break sweet tooth.

To wash down lunch with a non-coffee drink, Higher Grounds also offers a large selection of Italian

sodas, juices and Jones sodas.

Nights at Higher Grounds are far livelier than the afternoons. On Thursdays, an open mic is extended to all poets and prose artists alike. The response covers a range of subjects and inspirations that generally offer something to everyone.

Friday and Saturday nights showcase live bands with music beginning around 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 and the band generally determines the crowd. Faster paced music like punk will attract younger South Bend natives.

Campus bands usually ensure that the crowd will be mostly University students. The rock band The Groove Side will play today and Jah Restoration, a reggae-influenced group, will play tomorrow.

Be sure to check the table on the left as of the entrance to Higher Grounds, as it is usually stocked with flyers on upcoming live performances by local bands.

The biggest drawback to Higher Grounds is that they close at 10 p.m. For a relaxed, late-night spot to sip on a mocha and hear live music, students will have to look elsewhere.

However, to escape the bubble for a little while and hear something other than Dave Matthews, Higher Grounds will be sure to have a heavenly cup of coffee waiting.

Amanda Hughes

"The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it. Then we switched to [selling] Numi because we wanted to do our own thing."

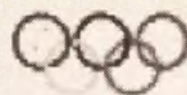
Higher Grounds clerk

Contact C. Spencer Beggs at beggs.3@nd.edu, Laura Kelly at lkelly@nd.edu and Amanda Hughes at hughes.41@nd.edu



C. SPENCER BEGGS/The Observer

Molly McGuire's Coffee House is, perhaps, not as popular as its infamous former self: Bridget McGuire's Filling Station. The establishment legally serves underage patrons now.



Torch arrives in Salt Lake City amid scare

♦ **Police blow up suspicious package; authorities say bag was a "hoax device"**

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY

Police blew up a plastic grocery bag filled with flares and electrical wire Thursday, calling the package near the Olympic media center a "hoax device."

Police said the bag might have been designed to see how authorities would react. It contained no explosives.

"There's some concern it was like a trial run," said Craig Gleason, a police department spokesman.

The bag was left near a parking garage several blocks from the media center, in a downtown area increasingly crowded with Olympic pedestrians the day before the opening ceremony. Security officials were studying videotapes for clues.

"The package was, in fact, a hoax device," the Olympic Joint Terrorism Task Force said in a statement. "This was not an exercise."

Earlier reports indicated that the bag contained fuses due to some confusion after the officer on the scene used a slang term for flares.

The bag was found around noon by construction workers, who notified security guards. A police bomb squad detonated a device next to it to make sure it wasn't an explosive, then set off a second small explosion to make sure the bag was destroyed.

"It was absolutely not an explosive device," Gleason said.

Officials vowed to prosecute anyone involved in the hoax.

Police evacuated two nearby buildings and military helicopters began hovering over the area. The FBI and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms were also on the scene.

The quick response by various police agencies is proof the Olympic security plan is working, said Robert Flowers, head of the Utah Olympic Public Safety Command.

"Everything is going the way it's supposed to," he said.

The site is about 40 yards from the Federal Reserve Building and across the street from the Gallivan Center, a park were organizers will hold some Olympic-related festivities.

Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson said he was satisfied with the police response.



KRT Photo

Cancer survivor Jane MacKenzie carries the Olympic Torch through the Olympic Village Thursday afternoon. The torch traveled through 46 states and will conclude its journey tomorrow night at the Opening Ceremonies.

♦ **Torch wraps up two month, 13,500 journey across U.S.**

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY

The Olympic torch entered Salt Lake City on Thursday the same way the Mormon pioneers did 155 years ago — aboard a covered wagon.

It took more than three decades, 13,500 miles and a bribery scandal, but the torch finally made it into town a day before the start of the Winter Olympics, rolling down Emigration Canyon with the Salt Lake valley below.

Thousands of spectators cheered as a runner jumped out of the wagon and ran toward a small stage, where a brief speech was made by an actor portraying Brigham Young.

Young led the Mormons to Salt Lake City from Illinois in 1847.

Utah civic leaders first began trying

to land the Winter Games in the mid-1960s, and finally convinced the International Olympic Committee to award them the games in 1995.

That victory later was found to have been partially secured with more than \$1 million in gifts, scholarships and cash to a handful of IOC members.

Earlier Thursday, runners carried the Olympic torch past skiing venues in the Wasatch Mountains as it headed to its final destination.

The torch left the northern Utah city of Ogden at dawn, on its way to the mountains and Park City area. Families lined the street in Midway, home of the cross-country skiing venue, and waved flags and cheered as the torch ran toward downtown.

Alan Truitt, 37, was the first runner to carry the torch in Midway. Truitt, who's on the board of directors of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, ran his two-tenths of a mile before passing the flame and getting swarmed by a dozen family and

friends.

"It was incredibly exhilarating, a tremendous rush," Truitt said. "I had a great feeling of pride."

The flame took a slow four-mile run from Soldier Hollow to Heber in a cauldron aboard the Heber Creeper, an old coal-fired train. About 800 people gathered at the train station to greet the flame.

The torch was driven to Park City, home to slalom skiing and snowboarding events. Thousands of people — many in ski gear — crowded Main Street as the torch came to the historic silver mining town.

Kelly Milligan, a member of the 1984 U.S. cross-country ski team, ran the torch Thursday afternoon before passing it to her older sister.

"Honestly, I was really self-conscious. I didn't fall, break the torch or singe my hair," she said, laughing.

The torch was to pass through the Olympic Village, by the State Capitol and to Temple Square, home to the Mormon Temple.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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TENNIS

Irish soar at Indoor Tennis Championships

◆ No. 10 men rally against No. 7 Pepperdine, 4-3

Special to the Observer

No. 10 Notre Dame rallied from a 3-1 deficit to knock off No. 7 Pepperdine 4-3 in first-round action Thursday morning at the USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships at the Louisville Tennis Club.

The Irish won the doubles point, but lost the first three singles matches off the court before rallying to win the final three matches. Senior captain Casey Smith broke serve at 4-4 in the third set of the final match on court to gain a 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 win over No. 54-ranked Calle Hansen at No. 3 singles to clinch the victory.

"Pepperdine is a team I expect to be in the top 10 all year so we're really excited to get the win," said Irish head coach Bob Bayliss. "Casey really fought hard. At the end of the match, we basically had our best fighter out there against their best fighter. It was like two heavyweights trading punches."

Notre Dame improves to 7-1 — the best Irish start since 1994. Pepperdine falls to 4-2, losing its second straight match to a top-10 team after dropping a 5-2 decision to sixth-ranked

Illinois last Saturday.

The Irish advance to the quarterfinals of the Team Indoors for the first time since 1994 and will face No. 1 Georgia today at 12:30 p.m.

Notre Dame rallied to win the final two matches on court to win the doubles point. Johan Berg and Al Garland of Pepperdine drew first blood with an 8-2 win at No. 2 doubles. Smith and classmate Javier Taborga, ranked No. 6 nationally, then notched an 8-5 victory at No. 1 doubles over the No. 11-ranked team of Sebastien Graeff and Stefan Suter. Senior Aaron Talarico and freshman Brent D'Amico clinched the doubles point for the Irish with a 9-8 (7-4) win at No. 3 doubles, marking their first victory as a doubles team.

Pepperdine won the first three singles matches completed before the Irish took the final three points to gain the win.

Graeff knotted the match with a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 6 singles before Garland, ranked seventh nationally in singles, delivered a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 1 singles. Suter, ranked No. 45 nationally, then gave the Waves a 3-1 lead with a 6-2, 7-5 win at No. 2 singles.

Then sophomore Luis Haddock-Morales started the Irish rally, notching a 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (8-6) win at No. 4 singles. Classmate Matthew Scott then

won 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles to tie the match 3-3 and set up Smith's clinching victory.

Haddock-Morales and Smith both improve to 16-2 this season in singles. Scott is 8-0 in dual-match action and has won 14 of his last 15 matches.

The Waves were the highest-ranked opponent to fall victim to Notre Dame since 1994 and are the second top-10 team the Irish have defeated this season. Notre Dame downed then-No. 10 Duke 4-3 on Jan. 29 of this year and knocked off the then-No. 4 Blue Devils by the same score in 1994.

The Irish improve to 9-7 all-time in matches where both Notre Dame and its opponent are ranked in the top 10 in the country.

The win was the first for Notre Dame in three matches against Pepperdine. The Waves are the 82nd team the Irish have defeated under Bob Bayliss out of 90 opponents.

Today's opponent, Georgia, is the defending national champion and notched a 4-1 win over Brown in opening-round play. The Bulldogs will enter the match having not lost in more than a year, winning their last 26 in a row, including nine over top-10 teams. This season, Georgia is 4-0.

"It's always exciting to play the No. 1 team," said Bayliss. "But our guys are looking forward to the challenge."

◆ No. 13 women earn revenge, defeat No. 7 USC

Special to the Observer

Notre Dame's No. 13 women's tennis team avenged an exhibition loss by upsetting No. 7 USC 5-2 in first-round action Thursday at the USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships in the A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center.

The Irish won the doubles point and four of six singles matches to gain a victory and advance to the quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

Notre Dame will face No. 4 Vanderbilt Friday at 3:30 p.m. The Commodores defeated No. 17 Northwestern in first-round action.

The Irish improve to 3-3 this season and snapped a two-match losing skid. Southern California is 2-2 after losing two straight matches. UCLA defeated the Trojans 5-2 last weekend.

Notre Dame won the doubles point with wins at the bottom two positions. Senior Nina Vaughan and sophomore Alicia Salas gained an 8-4 win at No. 3 doubles before the No. 53 ranked team of junior Katie Cunha and freshman Sarah Jane Connelly delivered an 8-6 upset of Anita Loyola

and Luana Magnani, the No. 24-ranked team in the country, who had defeated Connelly and Cunha in fall action.

In singles action, Nos. 1, 3 and 5 were played first with the other three matches following. The Irish won two of three in each wave of matches. Jewel Peterson, ranked No. 13 nationally in singles, avenged a fall loss to Irish senior Becky Varnum with a 6-2, 6-1 win at No. 1.

Notre Dame senior Lindsey Green registered an upset of No. 91-ranked Loyola 6-2, 6-3 at No. 3 singles, while Salas defeated Brymer 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles. Salas has a 9-0 career singles record in dual matches and has won nine in a row overall this season, as well as 12 of her last 13 matches.

Connelly clinched the Irish win with a 6-4, 6-3 triumph at No. 6 singles over Bernadette Bayani. After the outcome was determined, Vaughan gained a 7-6, 6-3 upset win over No. 34-ranked Magnani at No. 2, while Maureen Diaz won 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 1-0 (10-2) at No. 4.

The Irish and Trojans faced off last October in an exhibition match in the Eck Tennis Pavilion with USC gaining a 5-2 win. The Trojans won the doubles point and then gained victories at Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 singles.



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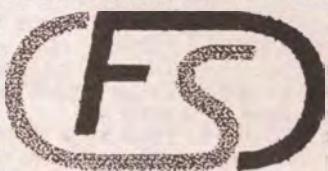
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PRIZES: \$10, \$50, and \$100 Meijer gift certificates!

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~ There *IS* Something To Do ~



Men

continued from page 20

Notre Dame players seem to know they have survived a conference slump and are ready to continue their winning-streak well into February.

"The season's rolling now," guard Matt Carroll said. "February makes or breaks teams. We've overcome lots of obstacles and hope we've passed that."

With a 16-6 record, the Irish are ready to prove they have what it takes to recapture their Big East West Division title. A huge hurdle in that quest will be Saturday's rematch.

"I think we were [embarrassed] after that game with Georgetown. And it has stuck with our players," Brey said. "We'll accept that challenge Saturday."

That challenge will be a formidable one as the Irish enter a particularly hostile arena.

Georgetown is enjoying a two-game winning streak, including a 15-point win over then No. 14 Syracuse, a team Notre Dame fell to earlier in the season. But the Hoyas have also dropped two games to No. 21 Pittsburgh, a team the Irish have downed twice.

If they Irish hope to walk away with a win Saturday, they will have to pay particular attention to Sweetney. The forward, who received Big East Player of the Week honors last week, has led his team on both the offense and defensive ends. He averages 19 points and 10 rebounds a game.

Tip-off against Georgetown is at 12 p.m. The game is televised on WNDU-TV.

Contact Kerry Smith at Smith.387@nd.edu.

SMC SWIMMING

Belles wrap up dual meets this weekend

By NATALIE BAILEY
Sports Writer

The 3-5 Saint Mary's swim team wraps up its dual meet season this Saturday with its final match against Kalamazoo.

After knocking off Albion last weekend, the Belles hope to carry that momentum into Saturday's meet and the MIAA conference meet.

Although Kalamazoo finished third in the MIAA last year, they have struggled this year. They enter Saturday's meet with a 1-4 record — with one of the losses being to Albion.

Belles' head coach Gregg Petcoff knows this meet does not

come at the best time in his tapering schedule, but he remains confident that his team will do as best they can.

"I fully expect a mixed bag," he said. "We are going to have to take it event by event and person by person."

At this point in the season, lethargy and physical strain are simply the nature of a taper used to prepare swimmers for a large meet like the MIAA Conference Championships.

But the Belles have to fight more than fatigue and weariness — they'll need to take on Kalamazoo one of their top swimmers. Lane Herrington, junior co-captain of the team, has obligations towards an aca-

demic competition on Saturday.

"She is one of the top swimmers, so we will have to try harder without her," teammate Julie McGranahan said.

Despite the negative factors, the Belles believe this is the season for Saint Mary's to defeat Kalamazoo. Last year, Kalamazoo beat Saint Mary's by a narrow margin of 10 points. Had the Belles placed higher in just two events, they could have claimed victory over the third

best team in the MIAA.

But Kalamazoo isn't as good as last year and Saint Mary's is better, leading many Belles to believe they have the edge on Saturday.

"I would love to beat Kalamazoo but I would rather place better at conference," he said.

Contact Natalie Bailey at bail1407@saintmarys.edu



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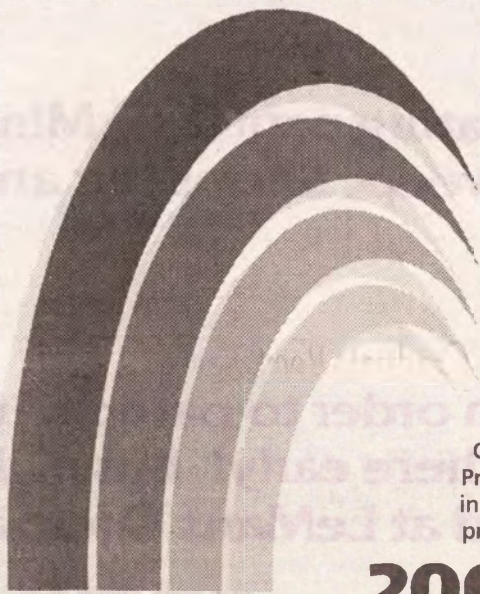
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MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish swim against CSU in final home dual meet

By SHEILA EGTS
Sports Writer

The men's swimming and diving team faces off against Cleveland State on Saturday, commemorating the first dual meet ever held in Rolf's Aquatic Center when it was built in 1985.

While Cleveland State defeated the Irish in that first meet 17 years ago, Notre Dame is prepared for an opposite outcome this time around.

Irish head coach Tim Welsh is emphasizing the 20 swimmers and three divers who are already qualified for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East Championships in two weeks.

"This meet is more or less a tune up for us before the Big East Championships which have been

our focus all season," said senior freestyler Elliot Drury. "We have a few more guys who will use this meet to make a big effort and get the whole team qualified for Big East."

Travis Kline will race the 200 butterfly in a final attempt for a qualifying, but feels fairly confident about the event.

"I've been struggling to make the cut, and I'm about a second off in the 200 butterfly," Kline said. "I know how to swim it, I've put in the yards, now I just need to get up and race."

Since this is the last dual meet of the regular season for the Irish, time will be taken on Saturday to honor seniors Austin Anderson, Elliot Drury, David Horak, Mike Koss and Jonathan Pierce.

Contact Sheila Egts at
egts0236@saintmarys.edu.

TRACK AND FIELD

Irish set for Big East tune-up

♦ Windsor Invite last meet before conference meet

By DAVE COOK
Sports Writer

With the Big East championships just a week away, the Notre Dame track and field teams hope to carry their early-season success as they travel to Canada this weekend for the Windsor Invitational.

Entering into their fourth week of the indoor track season, the men and women's teams have posted a total of six NCAA provisional times and four automatic times that would qualify them for both the Big East championships on Feb. 16 and 17 and the NCAA championships on March 9 and 10.

In their first month of competition, two runners and two relay teams have posted nationally ranked times. Luke Watson and Ryan Shay are both ranked second in the country in the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter respectively. The men's distance medley team and the women's mile relay are both ranked third in the country.

"With the men, we can be a little bit farther along," Notre Dame head coach Joe Piane said. "I think that some of our distance guys are doing exceptionally well, and the same with our sprinters. But I think there are some distance guys that can improve significantly, and I think we can get a little bit better in the sprints and field events area."

"If we want to do something in the Big East, we are gonna have

to be a notch better or two."

This weekend the team hopes to qualify a few more runners and prepare themselves for the Big East championships.

"Everyone is going there to prepare for the Big East meet. Some people haven't qualified and we still need to get them qualified," said Piane.

"We're using this meet to give

some people

an opportunity

to run on a

200-meter flat

track similar

to the one

we'll be run-

ning on at the

[Big East] con-

ference meet,"

sprints coach

John Millar

said. "[The

Windsor

Invitational's]

events are different than what

we normally run, which is good

preparation for the events we

will be running next week."

Notre Dame is sending mainly

sprinters to run in the Windsor

Invitational, but a few distance

runners will be racing also to

condition themselves for the Big

East.

Sean Zanderson, who ran a

career-best time in the mile last

weekend at the Mevo

Invitational, will be racing in the

1,000-meter, the longest dis-

tance any Irish runner will be

running in this weekend.

Most of the distance runners

are taking the weekend off to

prepare for the Big East cham-

pionships. Of the six automatic

and four provisional qualifying

times, six of the times were in

distance events, so many run-

ners do not need to qualify this

weekend.

"We'll just run a couple kids who just missed qualifying," women's distance coach Tim Connelly said. "They'd race three weekends in a row, and I tend to be pretty conservative about how often we race. Getting ready for a really big meet I tend not to race them the weekend before."

Many of the sprinters will be

conditioning

themselves for

the sprint

events on a

200-meter

track. Notre

Dame's Mevo

Field track is

320 meters

long, so the

sprinters are

more accus-

tomed to longer

straightaways

and softer

turns. But at the Big East

Championships, they will face

tighter turns and shorter

straightaways.

"It's a chance for them to gain

experience running on a smaller

track," Millar said. "We're really

using this as preparation for next

week."

The Windsor Invitational is an

all day event taking place this

Saturday at the University of

Windsor.

Tameisha King was named

Most Outstanding Female Athlete

in last year's Windsor

Invitational. King and company

hope it can carry its positive

momentum into this week's meet

and then into next week's Big

East Championships.

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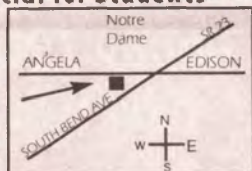
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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles hope for first series sweep

By JOE LINDSLEY
Sports Writer

After a loss against the top-ranked team in the conference, the Saint Mary's basketball team will take on the last-place team in the MIAA standings this weekend.

Saint Mary's (7-15, 3-8 MIAA), coming off a 74-64 loss at Hope College, plays Olivet (7-13, 2-9 MIAA) on Saturday at 3 p.m.

The Belles defeated the Olivet Comets 73-58 on Jan. 16, but they have yet to beat the same team twice.

Instead of depressing the team, though, this fact is another reason why the Belles are committed to winning on Saturday.

"We're expecting [Olivet] to come out ready to play on Saturday just because we beat them earlier in the season," said freshman Katie Boyce. "When you get beat by somebody, you're always more likely to come out with intensity and more likely to want to get revenge the next time you play them."

This time, the game will be played at Olivet's home court, and Saint Mary's has struggled on the road this season. The Belles have yet to achieve a conference victory at an opponent's arena.

Olivet, with four conference losses at home and five on the road, does not seem to limit its losses to those games played on the road. The Comets' only conference victories so far were won by narrow margins over Alma and Albion, both teams which Saint Mary's has defeated.

The Belles are still riding on a surge that first began to swell last Saturday as they narrowly lost to Calvin College, 52-51. Then, on Sunday, the Belles defeated conference rival Alma 50-43, a huge emotional win for the team.

The Belles were hoping to defeat Hope on Wednesday night, but despite the loss, they were pleased with their strong performance and ability to keep up with the MIAA's

top-ranked team.

"The second half of this season we're coming out with a lot of intensity every game," Boyce said.

Statistically speaking, Saturday's competitors seem to match up closely. The Comets have been shooting 39.1 percent from the floor this season, while the Belles have shot 37.7 percent. Saint Mary's grabs an average of

30.9 rebounds per game, while Olivet is nearly with an average of 31.0.

With three games left in the regular season and cognizant of the importance of each victory, the Belles seem to be full of

confidence and ready for another victory though.

"We'd really like to get two wins against Olivet," Boyce said.

Contact Joe Lindsley at
jlindsle@nd.edu.

"When you get beat by somebody, you're always more likely to come out with intensity and more likely to want to get revenge the next time you play them."

Katie Boyce
Belles freshman

Hockey

continued from page 20

Dame has the No. 2 and No. 3 scorers in the CCHA with Connor Dunlop and David Inman respectively.

"In the past it has been the exact opposite," said Poulin. "We have had good defenses and no offense in the past, but this is the first time we have had a really proficient offense."

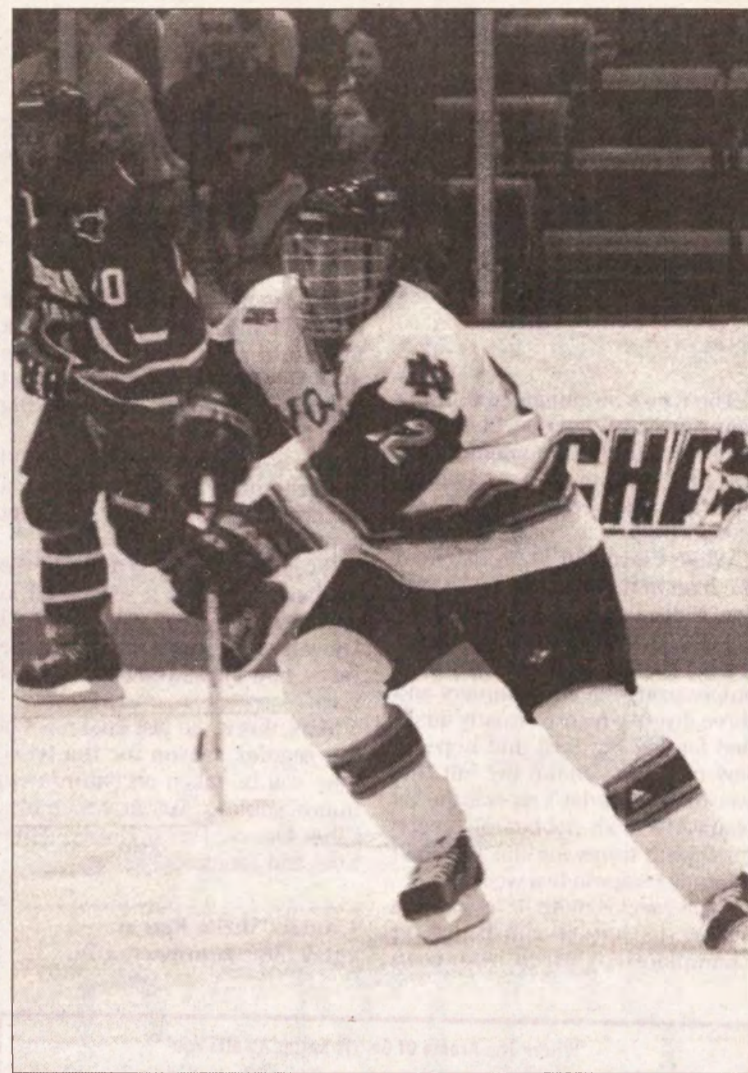
While the goals are nice, the Irish will need to play a complete game to knock off the Spartans.

Michigan State is loaded with talent. Their top three scorers are forwards Brian Maloney and Adam Hall and defenseman John-Michael Liles.

The Spartans also thrive on special teams. They are first in the CCHA on the power play, and first in the CCHA in penalty killing.

Michigan State boasts the top goaltender in the nation in Ryan Miller. Miller won the Hobey Baker award last season, an award is given out every year to the best player in college hockey.

This year in the CCHA, every team makes the post-season tournament. While the Irish are guaranteed a spot, that does not mean the team can afford to limp into the postseason with a losing streak. Notre Dame is still within four points of a having home ice advantage for the first round of the CCHA post-season. For Notre Dame to



BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

Notre Dame's David Inman skates toward the puck during a game last week. The Irish have a tough weekend matchup as they play a pair of games against No. 3 Michigan State.

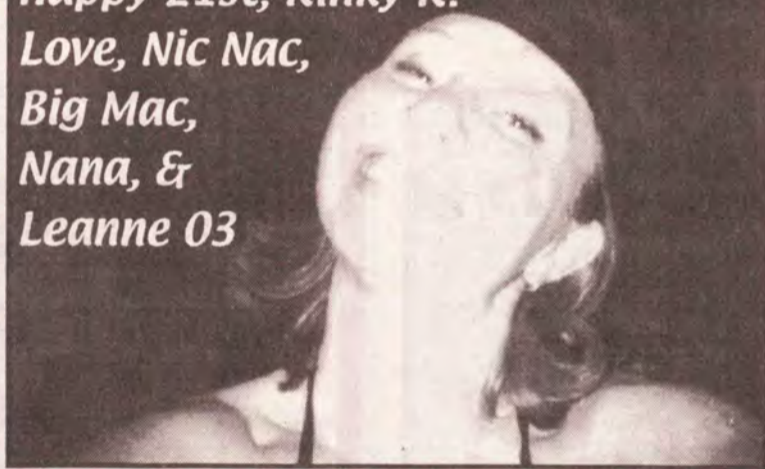
do that, they will have to beat one of the elite teams in the country.

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Senior Ericka Haney looks to pass between a pair of Connecticut defenders during Notre Dame's loss to the Huskies last month.

BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

Women

continued from page 20

Stepherson is just an outstanding point guard."

The one thing Boston College has that Notre Dame doesn't is experience. Amber Jacobs and Stepherson, both shooting in the double digits, are both veterans joined in the paint by center Kim Mackie.

The freshmen have been carrying the Irish, especially in recent games when Batteast has become the go-to player and center

Teresa Borton has stepped up in some dire situations. As Notre Dame takes the court on Sunday, McGraw will be looking to her few veterans to step up.

"[Borton] has done so many great things at critical times and Jackie has been the go to player," McGraw said. "But certainly Ericka [Haney] and [junior] Alicia [Ratay], we expect them to lead us in

terms of playing a good game."

Jeneka Joyce, who has missed the last four games due to problems with her Achilles heel, may be key for the Irish. With the limited number of veterans, her leadership would be sorely missed. After Wednesday's practice, McGraw said Joyce was probable for Sunday's game.

"They probably have the second-best backcourt in the conference behind Connecticut."

Muffet McGraw
Irish head coach


"We really need Jeneka in this game in terms of stability," McGraw said. "I think she's the one who has a lot of poise

and would help us in a game like this."

Boston College brings a lot of weapons to Notre Dame, but with home court advantage, the Irish toppled ranked Virginia Tech by seven.

Tip off is at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

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FENCING

Top freshman fencer breaks foot

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

Against its toughest competitor in the Midwest Fencing Conference, Notre Dame will be battling short-handed.

Freshman epeeist Michal Sobieraj fractured a bone in his foot and will not fence against Ohio State this weekend in Columbus, Ohio. Sobieraj's injury which he suffered against Northwestern last weekend will keep him out for at least the next three weeks. The Irish expect their top male freshman to be ready to fence against at the NCAA qualifiers in March but not before then.

"We are kind of stunned right now," foil captain Ozren Debic said.

On the year, Sobieraj is 26-1 with his only loss coming against Air Force All-American Seth Kelsey.

The injury comes at a bad time for the Irish as Ohio State is expected to be Notre Dame's top Midwestern competition. Sobieraj's injury will move senior Brian Casas into the No. 2 spot while the No. 3 spot will be filled with a walk-on.

"When someone like Michal is out, you just can't replace someone of that caliber," sabre captain Andre Crompton said.

The strength of the Buckeyes

lies in their epee and sabre squads. National team members Colin Parker and Jason Rogers make Ohio State's sabre team one of the best in the country while epeeist Alan Jones led the Buckeyes to a 5-4 win against perennial power Penn State last weekend.

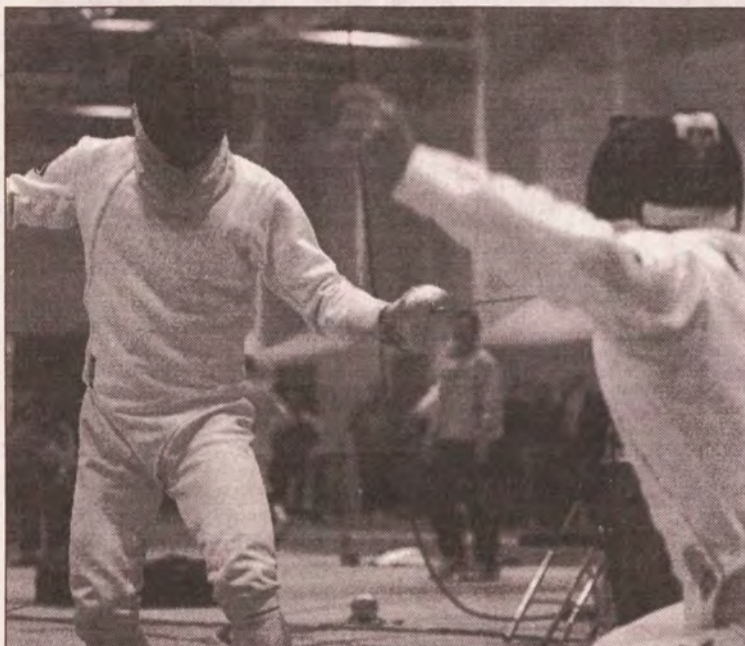
The weakness of the Buckeyes lies in their foil squad. With Sobieraj out, Debic said his squad will try to build as big a lead as possible to make up for a weaker epee squad.

"We are going to have to try to make the biggest advantage possible because this is their weakest weapon," Debic said.

The sabre squad will have a little more pressure on itself as well this weekend with the epee squad down a man. Crompton said that Ohio State's squad is definitely the toughest the Irish will fence in the Midwest but not quite comparable to St. John's top sabreman Ivan Lee.

"I have fenced [Parker and Rogers] a lot when I was younger," he said. "We grew up fencing nationally together. Colin and Jason are both great fencers but I don't think they are out of our league. It's going to come down to a good fight."

Crompton said that although Ohio State's top two sabremen are strong, he believes that the



MIKE CONNOLLY/The Observer

A pair of fencers square off during the Notre Dame Invitational. Notre Dame battles Ohio State this weekend.

Irish depth will carry them to victory. He doesn't think the Buckeye's No. 3 fencer is on par with himself, Andrzej Bednarski and Matt Fabricant.

The Notre Dame women will also be in action this weekend in Columbus, Ohio.

The Irish will face the Buckeyes but their toughest competition will come from the Northwestern Wildcats. The Wildcats beat the Irish last weekend 15-12 but the Irish

were fencing without freshman foilist Andrea Ament. Ament missed last weekend because she was fencing at a World Cup event in Germany. Even though Ament is back in action for the Irish this weekend, she will be slowed by an ankle injury she suffered in Germany. She is expected to fence just not at 100 percent.

Contact Mike Connolly at
Connolly.28@nd.edu.

FOOTBALL

Receiver commits to Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame rounded out its 18-member recruiting class early this morning when wide receiver prospect Rhema McKnight faxed his letter of intent to the Irish football offices.

McKnight planned on announcing his decision late Wednesday night. While rumors slowly trickled around the Internet that the California prospect had verbally committed to the Irish, he had yet to sign a binding letter of intent.

Apparently, the delay occurred because McKnight had to play in a basketball game Wednesday and was unable to fax his letter to the Irish before his game. Notre Dame received McKnight's letter early this morning.

McKnight, the No. 10 wide receiver prospect according to analyst Tom Lemming picked the Irish over UCLA, Washington, Oregon and Florida.

Contact Andrew Soukup at
asoukup@nd.edu.

Do it all
night long
one more
time.



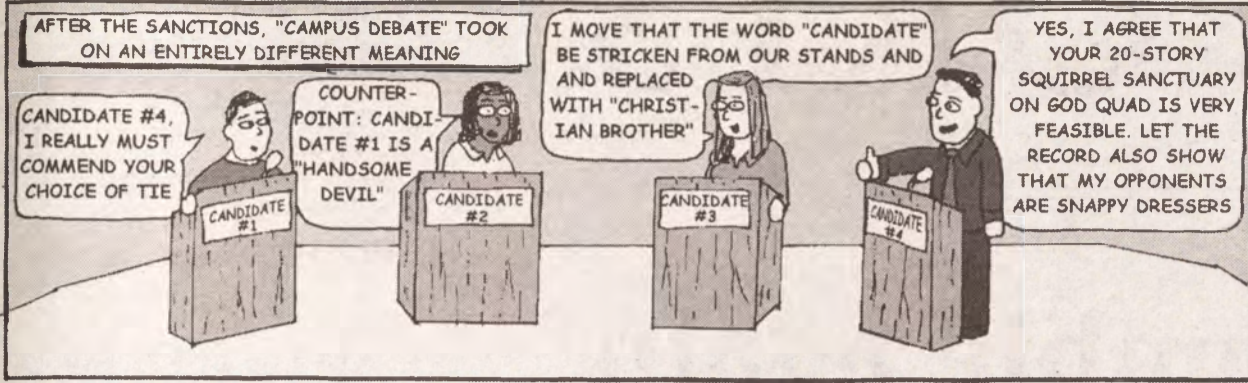
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FOURTH AND INCHES

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FOXTROT

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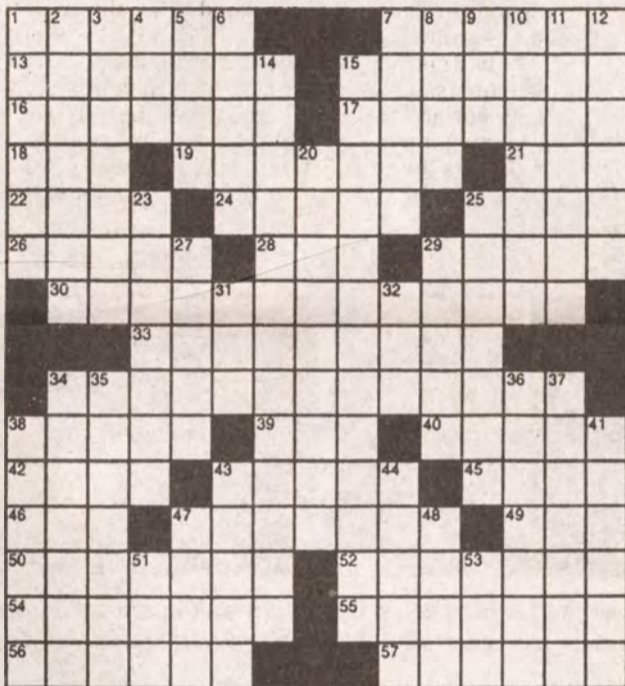
HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

- ACROSS**
- Settlement
 - Seasons
 - Big change
 - Chivalrous
 - Baton twirler, maybe
 - Grand finale?
 - "... provoked with raging ____": Shak.
 - Like a blind spot?
 - Chess champion of 1960-61
 - Go (through)
 - "Get a move on!"
 - Carry on
 - Foofaraw
 - Besmirch
 - Hollered
 - Middle of the road?
 - Semi-service station
 - To a degree
 - Henry and June's friend in "Henry & June"
 - Hupmobile contemporary
 - Sticky stuff
 - "____ ain't broke ..."
 - Heart of France
 - Watchdog org.?
 - Make go "vroom"
 - Gave too much
 - Street shader
 - Unseen troublemaker
 - Pogo of the funnies
 - Not good, as ideas go
 - Unseen part of the moon
 - Instant, in a phrase
 - It's a bore

DOWN

- Venomous, as a snake
- Old two-wheeler
- Nurse
- 900-plus-mile Volga feeder
- Cold war group
- Where seconds count
- Illinois birthplace of William Jennings Bryan
- Made a case (for)
- U.N. arm
- Team leader
- Ready to spit bullets
- Like fine coils
- Warm-up
- Provoked
- Place for a pistol
- "Eureka!"
- News summaries



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- Big dos
- Buddy-buddy
- Giant syllable
- Puf Marshmallow Man
- Hot spot
- Least worldly
- Snags, so to speak
- Rule out
- It operates by compression
- Talk too much
- Singer profiled in "Sweet Dreams"
- Settle
- Down at the mouth
- Maar (Picasso subject)
- "Li'l ol' me?"
- Compass reading

Answers to any clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656 (\$1.20 per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jack Lemmon, Mary Steenburgen, Nick Nolte, Robert Klein

Happy Birthday: You will be the one who moves into the role of leadership regarding personal financial affairs this year. You should take a serious look at your insurance policies, investments, wills or any other personal papers.

You will have greater need to spend time with the one you love and you will have a greater sense of what it is that will make you happy. Your numbers are 9, 13, 18, 22, 34, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't count on something that hasn't already happened. You will be disappointed by the events going on around you. Nonproductive activities will only tire you out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will be quick to respond to an opportunity. You can make positive changes to yourself as well as to your outlook. Your actions will bring about changes that you can be proud of.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You have to get your papers in order. You may experience a loss if you don't sort out financial matters. Long-term investments are your best bet.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take this opportunity to talk to someone you care about. Let your feelings and intentions be known. If you don't share your thoughts you can't expect to change anything.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can get ahead by talking to people who can make a difference to

your position. Don't be afraid to help those that work under you. You'll gain their respect and get favors in return.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can't just sit at home all alone today. Make plans to do something that will bring you into contact with new and exciting people. You may have a problem with an older family member.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't expect to get help from anyone you live with. Problems with contractors or other services for your home can be expected. Put your efforts into your career where you do stand to get ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Family trips will be hectic but rewarding. Greater communication with relatives and friends can be expected.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Unexpected financial gain is apparent. Put your heart and soul into getting ahead in your chosen field. Don't let a partner limit you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be a little emotional today. Keep busy and you will avoid some unsavory situations. Keep a positive attitude and refuse to let anyone bring you down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The answers are right in front of you. If you take time to review your past you will find it easy to make decisions concerning your future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have so much to offer. Your humanitarian outlook will attract people who need help. Your compassion and generosity will be admired.

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THE OBSERVER

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- ◆ Football, p. 18
- ◆ Fencing, p. 18
- ◆ SMC Swimming, p. 16
- ◆ Track, p. 15

SPORTS

Friday, February 8, 2002

- ◆ Men's Swimming, p. 15
- ◆ SMC Swimming, p. 14
- ◆ Men's Tennis, p. 13
- ◆ Men's Tennis, p. 13

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ready to rumble again

◆ Georgetown, Notre Dame set for rematch two weeks after Hoya blowout

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

Mike Brey was blunt when he described the last meeting between Notre Dame and Georgetown.

"It was like the varsity playing the JV," the Irish head coach said. "It was men among boys."

The Hoyas crashed the Joyce Center in late January and went home with a critical 83-73 Big East West Division win that sent the Irish below .500 in conference play.

Capitalizing on Irish forward Harold Swanagan's injured ankle which kept him out of the game, the Hoyas dominated in the paint as forward Mike Sweetney put up a game-high 21 points and led his team to dominate on the boards.

But a lot has happened since the Jan. 21 meeting.

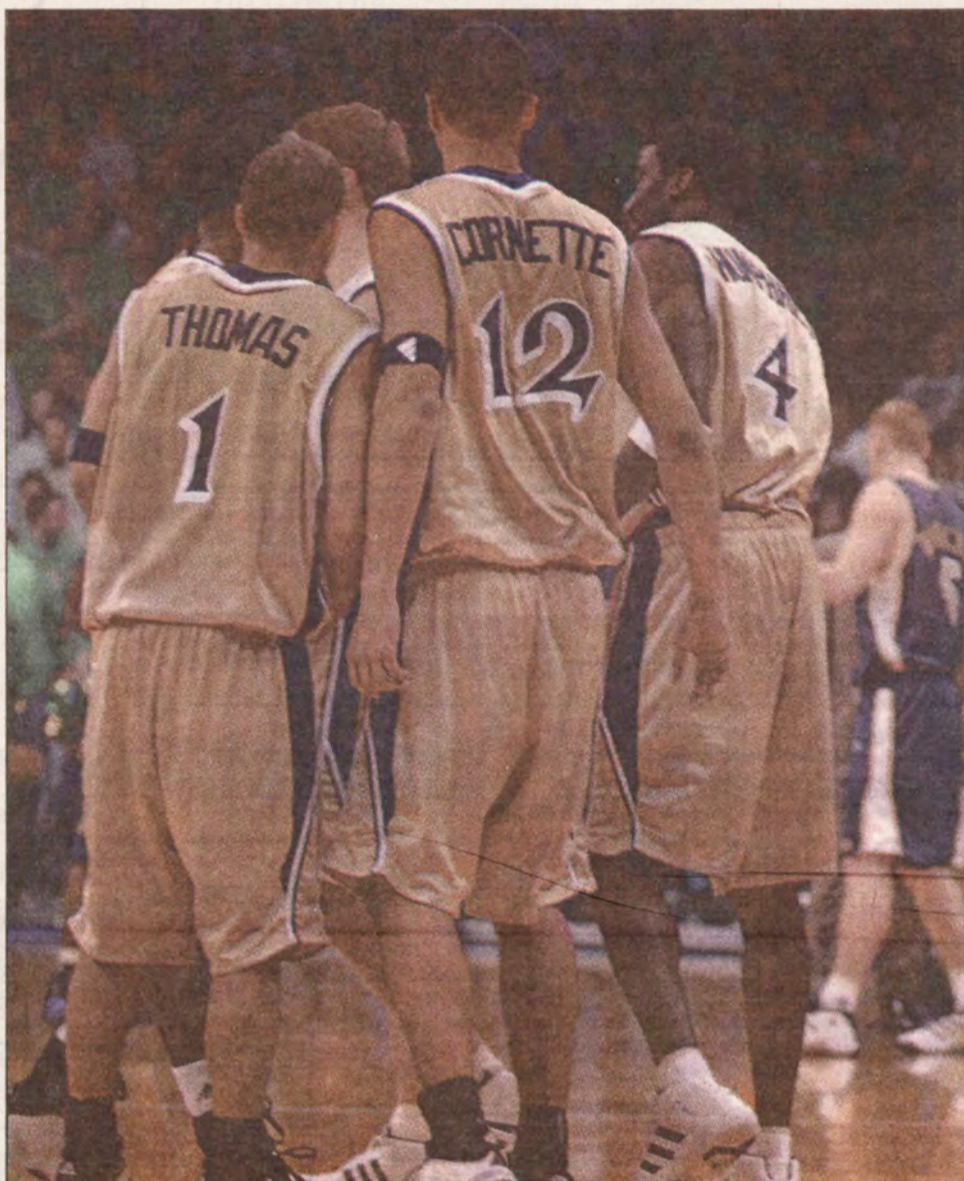
Swanagan is back in the line-up. Freshman point guard Chris Thomas has weathered through a midseason slump.

Notre Dame has picked up four straight conference victories since the loss and the Irish are coming off an impressive offensive display in their Wednesday win over Rutgers.

And the Irish have proven they can win on the road.

"We like the road," Brey said. "It takes older guys to be good on the road. They like to go in and quiet crowds. They've brought the younger guys along saying this is what we do and this is who we are."

The Irish have dropped only three of 12 road games this season, with two of those losses coming to ranked teams.



The men's basketball team huddles during a break in action against Pittsburgh. Notre Dame looks to avenge a 10-point loss to Georgetown this Sunday.

see MEN/page 14

HOCKEY

Slumping Irish take on No. 3 Spartans

By MATT ORENCHUK
Sports Writer

This weekend the Notre Dame men's hockey team travels to East Lansing, Mich. to take on the Michigan State Spartans. The Spartans, ranked No. 3 in the country by USA Today/American Hockey Magazine, have an impressive resume.

They are first in the CCHA with a 14-4-4 conference record, good for 32 points. The Spartans also has a 32 game home-unbeaten streak (29-0-3).

Despite all of the achievements that Michigan State has racked up, Irish head coach Dave Poulin is not afraid to go on the road and play the Spartans.

"We think we can go in there and play well," said Poulin. "We have played well against them the last four or five years."

The Irish could certainly use the win. They have dropped six of their last seven, and are currently in 9th in the CCHA with 18 points.

For Notre Dame to win, they will have to tighten up defensively. Last weekend against Alaska-Fairbanks, the Irish gave up 13 goals in two games. A lot of those goals came on odd man rushes, something that the team worked on controlling this week.

"This week we worked a lot on handling the rush," said Poulin. "We also worked on handling the puck in the gap between offensive and defensive zones."

A big question mark will be who will be in goal for the Irish. Freshman Morgan Cey has gotten most of the starts this year. But after letting up four goals in the first period Saturday against Alaska-Fairbanks, Poulin pulled Cey in favor of Jeremiah Kimento. As of Wednesday, Poulin was still unsure who would be in net this weekend for the Irish.

One bright spot for Notre Dame during the current losing streak has been the offensive output. Currently Notre

see HOCKEY/page 16

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Eagles, Irish vie for second in Big East

By KATIE McVOY
Sports Writer

Although Irish head coach Muffet McGraw may see the second and third spots in the Big East as basically the same, she'd rather finish in second.

As the Irish take on 20th-ranked Boston College, the Irish will be vying for second place and testing out their skills against a team that's hard to beat.

"Two and three are the same in the Big East," McGraw said. "We would rather be second. But every game is important to us and

I think this is a game that has NCAA implications as well as Big East implications."

The Irish are coming off of a pair of close road wins against unranked teams. But when they take the floor at the Joyce on Sunday, they'll be facing real ammunition against the Eagles.

Boston College shoots over 41 percent from the 3-point line and promises to give the Irish defense a taste of perimeter play it faced since Connecticut.

"I think it will be a huge challenge for our perimeter players," McGraw said. "This is a team that has more tal-

ent, so I think it will be a great opportunity to see how we are."

The perimeter players will have to focus on containing the ball. During Tuesday's victory against Pittsburgh, Notre Dame had trouble stopping driving players. In order to defend against the Eagles' ability to drive to the basket and then pass out for a 3-point shot, the Irish will have to stay focused on the ball.

"We've just got to keep the ball in front of us," McGraw said. "We're working on a help defense, but we're working on an individual defense as well."

Eagles freshman Clare Drosch may be the only Big East player to challenge Jackie Batteast for Big East Rookie of the Year. Drosch starts games on the bench, but still averages 12 points a game and shoots over 60 percent from the perimeter against Big East opponents.

In addition, Boston College brings a solid backcourt to the game. Led by Brianne Stepherson, it promises to be a challenge for the Irish.

"They've got probably the second best backcourt in the league behind Connecticut," McGraw said. "Brianne

see WOMEN/page 17

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Hockey at Michigan State, Friday, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Men's Basketball at Georgetown, Saturday, noon
- ◆ Men's Swimming vs. Cleveland State, Saturday 2 p.m.
- ◆ Women's Basketball vs. Boston College, Sunday, noon

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