



**PARTLY
CLOUDY**
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LOW 24°

Tight quarters

In the latest issue of limited space on campus, architecture students are the victims. Read how Brownson Hall has become an extension of Bond Hall.

News ♦ page 3

Friday

**FEBRUARY 22,
2002**

THE OBSERVER

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Life still goes on for former TV star Burke



KYLIE CARTER/The Observer

Actor Chris Burke sits down with his father, Frank, to reflect on his career and life with Down Syndrome Thursday night at the Morris Inn before a lecture later in the evening.

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Actor Chris Burke never abandoned his dreams.

Burke, who is best known for his portrayal of Corky on the television series "Life Goes On," overcame the challenges posed by Down Syndrome to achieve his dream of succeeding in show business.

"I've always been a dreamer ... I never think about the obstacles because I keep my dreams in mind and make them come true," said Burke.

Burke recognized his supportive family members and friends as the keys to his success.

"My parents had their dreams, and I saw how they achieved them. They are my idols," he said.

Notre Dame football legend Rudy Rudiger also inspired him to pursue his dreams.

See Also

"Actor Burke reveals how he overcame obstacles"

page 4

"Rudy's dream was to play football at Notre Dame and I felt the same way about acting — I wanted to do my own TV show. What he did was remarkable. He is my hero. He never gave up, and that's his message," Burke said.

Burke's acting career began in 1987 when he appeared in the TV movie "Desperate." Network executives were impressed with his performance and asked the film's producer to write a television show that would feature Burke. The producer created "Life Goes On," which aired from 1989-1993 and earned Burke a Golden Globe nomination.

"It was very hard for me because I felt left out at times, but I enjoyed those early episodes and never gave up on my goals, dreams, anything," Burke said.

He said his co-stars on "Life Goes On" became a second family, and he still keeps in touch with them today.

The show not only advanced Burke's career, but also created more acceptance for disabled people in general.

Burke's father, Frank Burke, said his son's determination

see BURKE/page 6

Top editors pick new dept. heads

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
London Correspondent

The Observer has rehired staff members Lauren Beck, C. Spencer Beggs and Katie McKenna to lead the Viewpoint, Scene and Graphic departments, the paper's top editors for 2002-03 announced Thursday.

Incoming Editor in Chief Jason McFarley, Managing Editor Kate Nagengast and Assistant Managing Editor Andrew Soukup also announced selections for four other Editorial Board positions:

- ♦ Sheila Egts, Saint Mary's Editor
- ♦ Chris Federico, Sports Editor
- ♦ Helena Payne, News Editor
- ♦ Nellie Williams, Photo Editor

Amanda Greco was named to the newly created position of Development Editor.

The appointments are effective March 18.

"Each person we've selected brings so much talent and experience to their respective positions," said Nagengast, who as

Managing Editor has immediate supervision over the editorial staff. "The staff we've assembled will surely build upon the strong tradition of excellence that the paper has established and find new and creative ways to enhance the product we put out each day."

Beck, the current Associate Viewpoint Editor, will reclaim the Viewpoint Editor title she held last fall.

A sophomore government major with a concentration in the Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, Beck joined The Observer staff in the fall of 2000. The St. Louis native and Howard Hall resident has been a Viewpoint copy editor and a news writer.

Fellow sophomore Beggs will retain his position as Scene Editor.

A Program of Liberal Studies major from Yellow Springs, Ohio, Beggs began work at the paper as a theatre critic when he was a freshman. The Fisher

see BOARD/page 7

Old mainframe poses problem

By GERMANY CARNES
News Writer

Notre Dame students should prepare themselves for far-reaching changes in campus computer technology.

In October, Hewlett-Packard announced that in five years it will discontinue support on the mainframe the University currently uses. As a result, the University must replace its computer hardware and software by January of 2007.

"The Hewlett-Packard announcement came as a surprise to all of us," chief information officer Gordon Wishon said. "We're still in the early planning stage."

Since the software that runs the University's administrative applications is dependent upon the Hewlett-Packard mainframe, both hardware and software must be replaced.

The Strategic Systems Replacement Steering Committee (SSRSC) was formed to oversee the transition to new systems.

"[The SSRSC] has begun forming multiple subcommittees that focus on individual elements of the overall pro-

gram," Wishon said.

These subcommittees will be assigned to various offices on campus, including admission, financial aid, registration, human resources, housing, security and health services.

The subcommittees must first identify the needed application functions of campus offices. Then an application can be selected from a vendor and implemented.

The Department of Development has already begun implementation of a system that will support the University's fundraising activities. Other University offices will follow suit in the next five years.

In order to minimize the impact on students, replacements for student utilities will generally be implemented when students are not on campus. Other offices may be updated on calendar or fiscal-year boundaries.

"It's a very tight schedule," Wishon said. "Projects of this

magnitude generally stretch out very far beyond the five-year window."

The changes will affect many of the systems students rely upon regularly, but it is too early to say exactly how those changes will manifest themselves.

"We're trying to build a Web-based interface through which [students] can access most services."

Gordon Wishon
chief information officer

"The differences won't be known until the vendors are selected," Wishon said.

"There are no students on the [SSRSC], but

I expect there to be student representation on multiple application-specific subcommittees that are being formed," Wishon continued. "Several of the systems supporting the Student Services area will require student participation in the planning phases. Similarly, the Student/Faculty Information System effort will benefit from student participation."

The Office of Information

see COMPUTER/page 9

INSIDE COLUMN

Warning: preserve print credits before it's too late

The day finally happened and I want to send a warning to Notre Dame students that they could soon suffer the same experience. Recently, I went to DeBartolo's computer lab to print a paper 15 minutes before class. Like many without a printer, I told myself the previous night, "I have plenty of time before class."

Fact: There is NEVER plenty of time before class. "Plenty of time" inevitably turns into 10 minutes of scrambling in desperation to find an open Macintosh only to realize that there are none even if the consultants insist that "there should be some Macs open."

Needless to say, all Macs were occupied and I had to stand in a mob of people to get added to the PC list. My 10 minutes of time soon became seven when I finally was able to sit down at a PC.

At that point, I had about five minutes, but the computer lab hadn't failed me yet. I opened my document, and after a quick spell check, I clicked "print" and sprinted to the print station. Although I only had two minutes left in the obstacle course, my glass remained half-full because I was seconds away from holding the finished product of my labor.

Then the drama unfolded. No matter how many times I logged into the print station, nothing appeared on the screen to show evidence of my document in the printer's queue. I was perplexed, not only because I had one minute left, but I couldn't figure out the problem.

It wasn't until I returned to the PC that I read the message on the screen that notified me of my lack of print credits and how I could go to the CCMB to address the issue. CCMB? I know we live in a world of acronyms, but CCMB is not one that I use regularly especially since it is on the other side of campus, far from my stomping grounds.

Fortunately, a nice person I knew with print credits to spare helped me, but this is not where the story ends.

I still have a trip to the CCMB ahead of me.

At the beginning of the school year, I was told that the University had determined that \$100 of print credit was adequate to cover the average student's print costs. This amounts to 1000 sheets at 10 cents per sheet. If that is so, I am concerned that it is February and I have to add credit already. I know that as an Arts and Letters student, I may not design programs or test formulas, but I do write and print electronic reserves and papers — which includes more than a final draft.

I want to be among the first to encourage students to begin watching their print credits closely because being stuck during those critical computer lab minutes is less than thrilling.

So if you see a forlorn-looking peer heading toward Juniper Road with an expression of gloom, have sympathy for that person because they might be going to the CCMB — the Computing Center and Mathematics Building, for those who might need to find it on a map.



Helena Payne

Assistant
News Editor

THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME/SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

ND approves master's in education

Thursday, February 20, 1997

Notre Dame introduced a new educational Leadership Program as part of the summer session on campus. This program was designed to be a combination of Notre Dame's master of science in administration program and the Saint Mary's education department. This marked the first time in 20 years that the University had offered a degree in education.

CLC debates prohibition of kegs on campus

Thursday, February 16, 1978

The Campus Life Council debated the alcohol policy regarding the keg directive in du Lac. Student Body President Dave Bender, requested that CLC consider making a recommendation that the University policy regarding the prohibition of kegs on campus be rescinded. Rectors would exercise personal discretion as an alternative to the directive, according to Bender's suggestion.

BEYOND CAMPUS

Compiled from U-Wire reports

University dismisses unsafe chemistry professor

ARLINGTON, Texas.

The University of Texas System Board of Regents fired a tenured UT-San Antonio chemistry professor Thursday alleging he had threatened colleagues' and students' safety by improperly storing corrosive chemicals and keeping too many books in his office.

During the board's quarterly executive meeting, members voted eight to zero to dismiss Philip Stotter. One member abstained from voting.

According to the Associated Press and The Chronicle of Higher Education, UT-San Antonio officials repeatedly urged Stotter to clean up his office and lab during the past two years. Officials said his office stored approximately 100 boxes of books. His lab was closed in January 2001



for containing too many "unsafely stored" corrosive chemicals.

Chemical storage is a serious matter, according to Craig Powell, UT-Arlington Environmental Health and Safety director.

The university has not had any

problems with chemical safety violations during his 12 years at the school, Powell said. This is mainly because administration and faculty cooperation with the new regulations.

"Change is a difficult thing for people to get their hands around," he said, adding that the university's environmental policies and regulations change with federal and state laws.

The university also complies with regulations set forth by the city's Water Utilities Department, which designates what chemicals people can pour down the drains. UTA has won four environmental excellence awards from the department for its continued compliance.

The Shorthorn

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Police investigate house fire

Police remained tight-lipped Wednesday as they continued to search, with a warrant, the burned Missoula, Mont., home of a lesbian couple for evidence to support information they have already gathered. A warrant was issued Tuesday for a further exploration of the home of University of Montana assistant professor Carla Grayson and Adrienne Neff, the couple whose house was intentionally set on fire early in the morning of Friday, Feb. 8. The couple, along with their 22-month-old son, escaped the fire unharmed. The warrant allowed for any evidence found in the home to be more easily submitted in court. Evidence found only through consent is difficult to use in court, Missoula Police Lt. Gregg Willoughby said. "We needed some things that may corroborate evidence or statements that we've already taken," said Willoughby. "We felt that the best route would be a warrant rather than putting someone in a position of having to give or deny consent."

Montana Kaimin

FARFIELD UNIVERSITY

University may restrict smokers

Just over a year after pulling tobacco products from the university bookstore, Fairfield University administrators are considering restrictions on cigarette smoking within residence halls due to the negative health aspects of second hand smoke. Fairfield has considered regulations to smoking in residence halls before, but had never changed its policy. As more universities go to smoke-free dorms, the university requested that Gary Stephenson, director of housing operations, gather information about the subject. The university will work in conjunction with Inter Residence Hall Government (IRHG) and Fairfield University Student Association (FUSA) to determine student opinion on the matter. "This is not a rights issue," Stephenson said. "We are not telling students they can't smoke, we are just looking to protect those who don't."

The Mirror

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

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

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In a headline from the Feb. 21 Observer, the headline should have read "Bear in Mind Jesus' humanity" not "Bare in mind Jesus' humanity." The Observer regrets the error.

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.

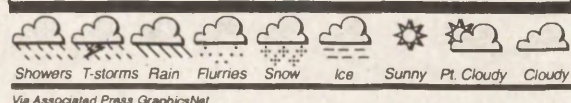
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LOCAL WEATHER

5 Day South Bend Forecast

AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions and high temperatures

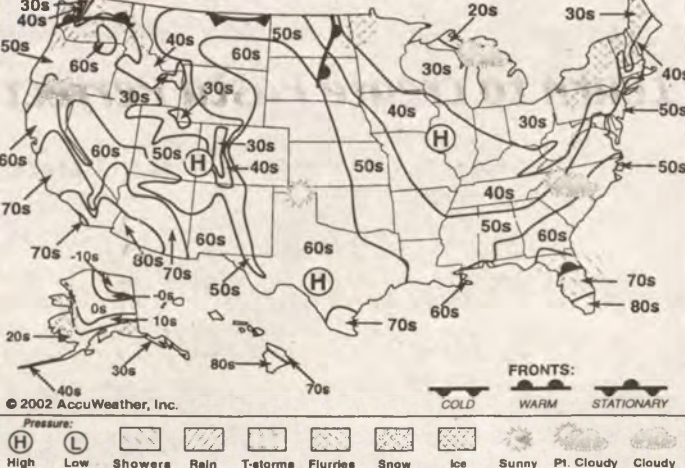
		H	L
Saturday		48	29
Sunday		44	23
Monday		35	20
Tuesday		22	14
Wednesday		24	21



NATIONAL WEATHER

The AccuWeather.com forecast for noon, Friday, Feb. 22.

Lines separate high temperature zones for the day.



Atlanta	53	32	Las Vegas	71	44	Portland	54	33
Baltimore	49	26	Memphis	47	28	Sacramento	66	43
Boston	49	31	Milwaukee	34	26	St. Louis	46	33
Chicago	37	27	New York	48	31	Tampa	72	52
Houston	63	39	Philadelphia	50	31	Washington DC	52	31

Cramped archies spread to Brownson

♦ Architecture students cope with limited space in Bond Hall classrooms

By MEGHAN MARTIN
News Writer

The growing interest in architecture have forced students out of Bond Hall and into Brownson Hall, which is currently being used as an overflow space for classes.

Since its dedication in 1855, Brownson Hall has been home to everything from a convent to a printing company, graduate student housing to the University kitchen. As of early this semester, a new function has been added to the distinguished history of one of the oldest buildings on campus. Due to the mounting issue of classroom availability in Bond Hall, space has been set aside on the first floor of Brownson for a first-year architecture studio.

"It's our melting pot, so to speak," said Joe Schellinger, director of Academic Space Management, about Brownson's many roles.

Currently accommodating a number of University offices and two classrooms, Brownson has served as what Schellinger calls "swing space," a building not earmarked for a specific department, but rather used for those immediate needs of the University as they arise.

"Over the years, Brownson has been a spillover area where people have had their temporary offices," registrar Harold Pace said. He also cited the necessity of such a facility on a campus because of the lack of academic space becoming a major issue.

The instruction-space crunch can undoubtedly be felt most soundly in the corridors of Bond Hall, home to the University's School of Architecture. Not only are incoming-class sizes increasing rapidly, but it is to the point that there is no place for students to work. However, the school's space-utilization needs are slightly different than those of other colleges within the University.

It has been said that "the lights never go out in Bond Hall," and for architecture students juggling multiple projects at once, this myth has become a reality. Because architecture students use classrooms differently than their math-and-science counterparts, space must be available to them on a 24-hour basis, barring all other departments and programs from making use of the facility.

In years past, first- and second-year architecture students typically worked side-by-side in the basement of Bond. Last semester, despite the large numbers of both classes, there was a specific studio designated for students from both. The problem, however, was the cramped nature of students' surroundings.

"Nobody worked over there because there was literally nowhere to work," said Sarah Wilson, first-year architecture student.

Due to the cramped spaces, many architecture students simply brought their supplies to the residence halls, spreading their projects out on dorm-room floors and social spaces. Professor William Westfall, chair of the School of Architecture, agreed that workspace has become an issue, mentioning the fact that many students were forced "to work on top of each other, with very little space."

This semester, however, the school has had the opportunity to collabo-

rate with Schellinger's Academic Space Management department to modify space on Brownson's first floor, so as to provide students with an adequate drafting studio.

"We were able to undergo some renovations" to that part of the building, Schellinger said, as the second semester of freshman year brings a significantly greater need for workspace, with the commencement of drafting classes for all those studying architecture. With an above-average class size of 68 freshmen coupled with the necessity of both a drafting table and layout table for each, it was clear that for the first time, Bond would prove inadequate for the space required.

In terms of the type of impact that this overcrowding may have on the School and the University in the future, Westfall could only speculate that "it is connected to other topics that we are looking into for the University's long-term planning."

Freshmen, like Wilson, however, will have to bear the brunt of the issue for the rest of the year. Although the facilities provided for them at Brownson are adequate in terms of space and availability, a number of students have voiced a concern that, of all classes, freshmen should have the opportunity to work in Bond. In order to fully gain exposure to interacting with upperclassmen in their field, and to gain a sense of what their work will be like in the future freshmen need to be working side by side with the upperclassmen.

"The big disadvantage is that we are not in Bond," Wilson said. "It is nice to get to be near the upperclassmen."

Either way, according to Schellinger, "Bond has basically run out of space," an issue which should prove to take the University to a new level of academic planning.

Contact Meghan Martin at
mmartin@nd.edu.

"Over the years, Brownson has been a spillover area where people have had their temporary offices."

Harold Pace
University registrar

GOP aims to attract Hispanics

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Republicans are stepping up efforts to win Hispanic voters this year.

They're holding a Latino Summit in Los Angeles this weekend while advising party workers how to deal with Hispanic media, teaching them Spanish and giving potential Hispanic candidates lessons on running for office.

The GOP is also continuing efforts to develop more Hispanic contacts in the communities and build grassroots strength.

"Under the leadership of President Bush, we know we can continue to make important inroads," Republican national Chairman Marc Racicot said Thursday before leaving for California. "During the last election cycle, Bush got 35 percent of the Hispanic vote. They are taking a fresh new look at the Republican Party," Racicot said. Republicans need to "seize the moment," starting with the Latino conference in California.

Hispanics in that state have been much more inclined to support Democrats since the mid 1990s when Republican Gov. Pete Wilson pushed a tough stand against illegal immigration and Republicans in Congress followed with cutbacks in the rights and benefits of immigrants and refugees.

Republicans noted Thursday that President Bush has focused on immigration issues since taking office and has made strong relations with Mexico a high priority.

"His priorities remain the same," said Racicot. "He's working on a way to ensure legal, orderly and safe immigration to this country."

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Tuesday, February 26 7:30pm Reckers, SDC
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Wednesday, February 27 7-9pm Test Kitchen, NDH
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Wednesday, February 27 7:30pm DeBartolo 102
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This Weekend in the Department of Music

Sat. Feb. 23: Anney Gillotte, voice recital
w/ Kui Min, piano
3 pm, Annenberg Auditorium

Sat. Feb. 23: Sean Lipscomb, trombone recital
w/ Katie Badridze, piano
5 pm, Hesburgh Library Auditorium

Sun. Feb. 24: Aimee Szewka, voice recital
w/ Mark Scozzafave, piano
2 pm, Annenberg Auditorium

Sun. Feb. 24: ND Concert Bands
4 pm, Washington Hall

All concerts are free and open to the public
Call 631-6201 for more information

Actor Burke reveals how he overcame obstacles

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Actor Chris Burke knows first hand the challenges that disabled individuals face, but he also knows about overcoming such obstacles.

"I was challenged from the day I was born, and I learned at an early age to keep trying," Burke said, who played Corky on the television show "Life Goes On."

When Burke was born with Down Syndrome, doctors told his parents the things he would never do, he said in a lecture Thursday about his experience with a disability. But Burke's parents fought for a better life for him, and they passed down their strength to him.

"If people say I can't do something, I try even harder; that's my focus on life," he said.

Burke said his parents and siblings played a significant role in his success.

"They always did what was best for me and gave me their undivided attention. They encouraged me in all facets of my life," he said.

Burke's parents were more hesitant, however, when their son announced his plan to become an actor. They tried to dissuade him from pursuing a career in Hollywood, but Burke said he never gave up on his dreams.

Eventually his parents respected his independence and supported his decision. "That's how my dreams came

true — we all worked together," he said.

Next on the agenda for Burke was to help other individuals with disabilities who faced similar difficulties. He has become a spokesperson for people with the disability through his involvement with the National Down Syndrome Society as editor-in-chief of the group's magazine "News and Views."

"It makes me happy to give people my time and love. I like to give

because I was given so much. Everything has worked out so well for me," he said.

Burke argued for equality and independence for disabled people. He said he believed in the value of education, citing his own middle and high school experiences that helped promote his inclusion.

"When it came to education, my parents made sure I had the very best," he said.

Disabled people should also be given the opportunity to succeed in careers, said Burke.

"We are entitled to good jobs and good pay, so that we can take care of ourselves and be independent," he said.

He emphasized the need for people with disabilities to work in the real world and interact in the community.

Burke recognized the hardships that accompanied the fight for acceptance.

"I must work hard so that I may be able to live a perfect life ... We must be persistent and get others to give us a chance," he said.

People do not confront their

disabilities alone, however.

"People must assist us along the way, to guide us and help us see the right way to achieve things," said Burke.

As an advocate for disability awareness, Burke said he believed college students were sensitive and willing to help disabled people face their challenges.

Ultimately, Burke urged his audience to remember that people who have disabilities also have abilities.

"Believe in us as we believe in ourselves," he said. "Help us make our dreams come true."

Best Buddies and Howard Hall sponsored Burke's speech as a part of Disability Awareness Week.



KYLIE CARTER/The Observer

Chris Burke, known as "Corky" on the series "Life Goes On," walks to the podium in a Thursday lecture in Stepan Center.

Contact Lauren Beck at
lbeck@nd.edu.



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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Venezuelan officer discharged: The first of three military officers to publicly demand President Hugo Chavez's resignation was discharged from the armed forces Thursday. A military investigative council ruled that Air Force Col. Pedro Soto should be discharged for publicly delivering an anti-government speech that prompted thousands to protest against Chavez. Jose Vicente Rangel told reporters after meeting with Chavez.

Sri Lanka plans cease-fire: Sri Lanka's government agreed Thursday to a long-term cease-fire plan already approved by the Tamil Tiger rebels and hopes to sign the truce deal within days. Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's Cabinet gave its consent to a proposal prepared by Norwegian negotiators.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Muslim detainees to mark holiday: Muslims held in New Jersey jails as part of the terrorism investigation will be allowed to pray together and eat special meals as they celebrate a major religious holiday this weekend, federal officials said. Friday marks the beginning of the four-day Eid al-Adha, or "Feast Of the Sacrifice." During Ramadan, detainees complained they were not allowed to pray adequately and were not given food prepared according to Muslim dietary laws. In protest, some detainees staged a hunger strike lasting nearly two weeks.

Man linked to hijackers indicted: A Virginia man with ties to Sept. 11 ringleader Mohammed Atta was indicted Thursday on two counts of document fraud, charged with helping an associate of Osama bin Laden obtain a fake ID. Agus Budiman, 31, an Indonesian native, has been detained since his arrest Oct. 30.

INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

Texas prison escapee found: A convicted killer who escaped Sunday from a Texas prison was tracked Thursday to a store in this west-central Indiana city, authorities in both states said. A credit card belonging to a guard John William Roland III overpowered in his escape was used Thursday afternoon at a Terre Haute Super Kmart, said Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesman Larry Todd. Indiana State Police Cpl. Joe Watts told Terre Haute television station WTWO that officers missed Roland, 33, by about five minutes.

Market Watch February 21

Dow Jones	9,834.68	-106.49
Up: 1,290	Same: 226	Down: 1,839
Composite Volume:	1,329,442,947	
AMEX:	847.97	+0.93
NASDAQ:	1,716.24	-59.33
NYSE:	563.58	-5.56
S&P 500:	1,080.95	-17.04

TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

COMPANY/SECURITY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ-100 INDEX	-4.75	-1.57	33.48
CISCO SYSTEMS	-9.47	-1.58	15.11
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-5.23	-1.95	29.48
WORLD COM INC (WCOM)	+2.13	+0.14	5.72
NEXTEL COMM (NXTL)	+2.74	+0.12	4.50

Officials confirm Pearl dead

Associated Press

NEW YORK
Daniel Pearl, the Wall Street Journal reporter taken hostage a month ago by Islamic extremists in Pakistan, is dead, the State Department said Thursday.

Pakistani authorities said a videotape indicated Pearl, kidnapped in the port city of Karachi on Jan. 23, had been killed.

"On the 21st of February, a videotape was received which contained Daniel Pearl in captivity and the scene of his death. The video appears to be correct," said Mukhtar Ahmad Sheikh, interior minister of the Sindh province, which includes Karachi.

In Washington, the

State Department said the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan had received evidence Thursday that Pearl is dead, adding, "We have informed Mr. Pearl's family and expressed our sincere condolences."

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher provided no details on the evidence. Two U.S. officials said, however, the FBI had obtained a videotape purportedly showing Pearl either dead or being killed, and was evaluating the tape's authenticity. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

Sheikh refused to say whether he or other Pakistani officials had seen the videotape or what "the scene of his

death" meant.

The Journal said it believed Pearl was dead.

"His murder is an act of barbarism that makes a mockery of everything Danny's kidnappers claimed to believe in," the newspaper said in a statement. "They claimed to be Pakistani nationalists, but their actions must surely bring shame to all true Pakistani patriots."

Journal spokesman Steve Goldstein said he not know if a body had been recovered.

Pearl was abducted after arranging to interview the leader of a radical Muslim faction with purported ties to the al-Qaida terrorist network and terror suspect

Richard C. Reid, arrested in December on a Paris-Miami flight he allegedly boarded with explosives in his shoes.

Pakistani officials said there were indications that Pearl had been lured into a trap by false information.

In an intensive sweep, Pakistani police seized several suspects including Ahmad Omar Saeed Sheikh, an Islamic militant who admitted in a court hearing that he had engineered Pearl's abduction to protest Pakistan's alliance with the United States' post-Sept. 11 war on terrorism.

"Our country shouldn't be catering to America's needs," the militant said.

COLOMBIA

Government launches airstrikes

Associated Press

SAN VICENTE DELCAGUAN
Military jets flew hundreds of sorties against a major rebel stronghold Thursday, bringing Colombia's 38-year civil war into a potentially bloodier phase after the peace process was abruptly halted.

Bombs were falling on rebel territory just hours after President Andres Pastrana — angered by a rebel hijacking of a civilian airliner — broke off peace talks and condemned the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

The government ordered 13,000 troops to advance on the rebel stronghold, and three planeloads of counterinsurgency troops landed at an airport in Florencia, a three-hour drive to the west.

Army officials said 85 targets were hit in the first wave of attacks on the rebel safe haven, a Switzerland-sized area that was the site of the peace negotiations. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Targets included clandestine airstrips and rebel training camps in the zone, which Pastrana ceded the area to the FARC in November 1998 in an effort to bring the 16,000-strong rebel army to the negotiating table. The rebel haven in southern Colombia is sparsely populated, with about 100,000 people.

A top army commander predicted a bloody fight, but there were no signs that military troops had yet entered the zone.

"It's dicey, and we will surely suffer casualties, but we have a moral obligation to win this war," Gen. Euclides Sanchez told Caracol Radio.

Residents in the rebel area's largest town, San Vicente del



AFP PHOTO

A pilot from the Colombian air force prepares to board his A-37 attack plane at the Aplay military base for a mission against rebel forces Thursday.

Caguan, posted white flags at their homes in hopes of bringing protection. "The white flags symbolize peace. We don't want anything to happen," said homemaker Amelia de Ficaró, 68.

Citizens stripped six vehicles abandoned by the rebels along a road outside town. Also left behind was a sign that referred to U.S. anti-drug aid to Colombia.

"The gringos give the arms. Colombia provides the dead," it said. Some 3,500 people are killed annually in the 38-year war.

A rebel in camouflage uniform and brandishing an AK-47 rifle manned a checkpoint outside San Vicente del Caguan. "We'll keep patrolling because this is Colombia and we're all over Colombia," he said.

Burke

continued from page 1

and success opened doors for other people with disabilities.

"It showed the so-called 'normal' world that there are more similarities than dissimilarities between them and disabled people. Disabled people can accomplish a lot, but they just lack the opportunity. If given the opportunity, they can excel," he said.

Burke's dreams became more ambitious as he desired to help others who struggled like he did. He began speaking to promote Down syndrome awareness in 1989, and he continues that practice today.

As a Goodwill Ambassador for the National Down Syndrome Society, Burke advocates acceptance for disabled people.

"I like to speak up ... My work with the Society means a lot to me because it allows me to inspire people with disabilities," he said.

Burke also serves as Editor-in-Chief of "News and Views," a magazine written by and for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. The magazine includes personal and inspirational stories about experiences with Down syndrome.

"They are stories about how

people with Down syndrome believe in themselves and work hard, never giving up. They tell how people can learn from individuals with Down syndrome," said Burke.

Burke said his overall goal was to be a voice and provide a vision for people with Down

syndrome. "Our future is ours," he said. "We are all experiencing this idea of pursuing our dream — that's what life is all about."

Contact Lauren Beck at lbeck@nd.edu.



Actor Burke, who is also a spokesperson for disabled people, discusses chasing his dreams despite having a disability.

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Board

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paper as a theatre critic when he was a freshman. The Fisher Hall resident, who was first hired as Scene Editor in September, has also been a Scene copy editor, Assistant Scene Editor and Associate Scene Editor.

McKenna, who temporarily vacated her position as Graphics Editor while studying abroad in Toledo, Spain, this semester, will reassume the post in the fall.

She is a Notre Dame junior government major who lives in Pangborn Hall. McKenna, of East Amherst, N.Y., joined the Graphics staff as a sophomore and was the department's editor last semester.

In McKenna's absence, current Graphics Editor Andy Devoto will remain in the position for the rest of the semester.

Egts, who has been hired as Saint Mary's Editor, is the lone freshman on the Editorial Board.

A Fort Wayne, Ind., native, Egts has worked for The Observer since last semester. The McCandless Hall resident

has been a Wire Editor for the News Department and is currently a News copy editor.

Federico, now an Assistant Sports Editor, was appointed Sports Editor.

He is a sophomore science-business major originally from New Orleans and who now lives in Pass Christian, Miss. A Knott Hall resident, Federico has covered inter-hall football, men's soccer, hockey and baseball since he began working for the paper in fall of 2000.

Payne is currently an Assistant News Editor and will take over next month as News Editor.

A Notre Dame junior who lives in McGlinn Hall, she is an American studies major with a minor in Latin American studies. She has been a News wire editor and copy editor since joining The Observer staff as a freshman.

Payne's hometown is Reston, Va., but she lived in Ohio for several years. She studied abroad last spring in Santiago, Chile. This summer, she will work for the Associated Press in New York as a business reporting intern.

Williams, a Saint Mary's junior, was hired as Photo

Editor after serving as Saint Mary's Photo Editor this year.

She lives in Holy Cross Hall and is an English writing and literature major with a minor in photography. Williams, of Murray, Ky., has been a news and sports writer and general assignment photographer since she joined the staff in fall of 1999.

She studied abroad for two semesters in Ireland as a sophomore. This semester she is a photography intern at the South Bend Tribune.

McFarley, Nagengast and Soukup have appointed Greco to the new Development Editor position to coordinate staff recruitment and training in the paper's seven editorial departments.

Greco, currently a part-time Holy Cross College student, has gained experience in several of the departments since she began work at The Observer in 1999. The Schaumburg, Ill., native is now an Associate Scene Editor. She has been Scene Editor, Assistant Viewpoint Editor, staff photographer, photo laboratory technician and news writer.

Contact Jeff Baltruzak at jbaltru1@nd.edu.

GAO lawsuit could face opposition

♦ White House says GAO does not need VP's Enron papers

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

White House officials say they will challenge the investigative authority of General Accounting Office if it sues the Bush administration to get access to Vice President Cheney's papers about meetings with Enron and other energy companies.

A lawsuit by the GAO, Congress' investigative arm, could come as early as Friday. A spokesman refused to say when the agency would actually file a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Washington.

The dispute began last April but gained political traction once Enron, the largest single corporate benefactor of President Bush's political career, entered into bankruptcy on Dec. 2.

The GAO wants to make White House officials identify the industry executives — including some from now-collapsed Enron Corp. — who met last year with Bush's energy task force, saying that oversight of energy policy and investigating the Houston-based energy trading company

are "important institutional prerogatives" of Congress.

Bush has refused to hand over documents from the Cheney-chaired task force that formulated a national energy policy, saying to do so would encroach on his ability to seek candid advice.

There probably won't be a compromise on that issue, said a senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"I don't see us compromising the principle that the president or the vice president would have to disclose to an arm of Congress what conversation we're having and with whom," the official said.

The White House said it would challenge GAO's ability to seek the information, saying the law specifies that the agency's purpose is to investigate the expenditure and disbursement of public money.

The White House has provided the agency information relating to direct and indirect costs of the energy task force, the official said.

"We believe that is the extent of the scope of authority of GAO to access information from the vice president's offices," the official said.

"If the GAO wants any additional information, they have to look elsewhere."

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CHINA

Bush praises U.S. ideology, promotes religion

Associated Press

BEIJING

President Bush sought to dispel China's doubts and distrust of America on Friday and urged the Chinese to embrace liberty, tolerance and religious freedom. "Diversity is not disorder. Debate is not strife. And dissent is not revolution," Bush said.



Bush

"A free society trusts its citizens to seek greatness in themselves and their country," Bush told students and faculty in remarks prepared for delivery at Tsinghua University.

His appeal, which China promised to broadcast live, came on the last day of a weeklong Asian trip, even as he failed to persuade China's leadership to halt sales of missile technology and soften its stance on religious freedoms.

Bush sought in the measured remarks to avoid lecturing the Chinese, but he argued passion-

ately that America is a better place than China for the human spirit to flourish.

"My country certainly has its share of problems and faults; like most nations we're on a long journey toward achieving our own ideals of equality and justice," Bush said. "Yet there is a reason our nation shines as a beacon of hope, a reason many throughout the world dream of coming to America."

He decried what he called Chinese misconceptions about the United States, blaming the disconnect on a distortion of American values in U.S. popular culture. Bush laid some blame on China too, noting that Chinese textbooks accuse Americans of bullying the weak and repressing the poor.

"Neither of these is true — and while the books may be leftovers from a previous era, they are misleading and harmful," Bush said.

Americans relish their liberty, abide by their laws, limit the powers of their leaders, love their families, serve their communities and respect others' right to religious worship, Bush said.

"Someone once called us a nation with the soul of a church.

Ninety-five percent of Americans say they believe in God, and I'm one of them," Bush declared.

A day earlier, at a joint news conference with Bush, Chinese President Jiang Zemin said, "I don't have religious faith" and later claimed his government allowed its people to practice

religion freely.

Aides said Bush was not convinced.

"My prayer is that all persecution will end, so that all in China are free to gather and worship as they wish," Bush said.

Bush said all of America's qualities were on display Sept.

11, when firefighters and police died to save others and volunteers poured into New York from around the nation to help their countrymen. "None of this was ordered by the government; it happened spontaneously, by the initiative of a free people," Bush said.



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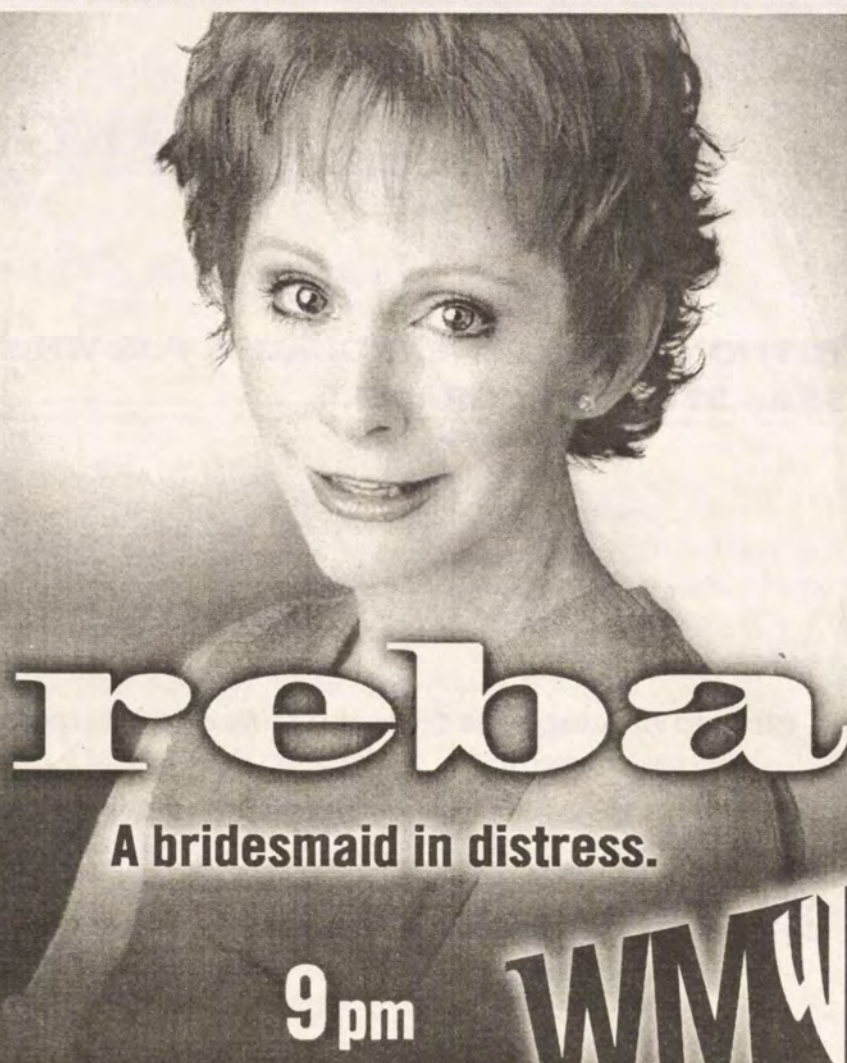
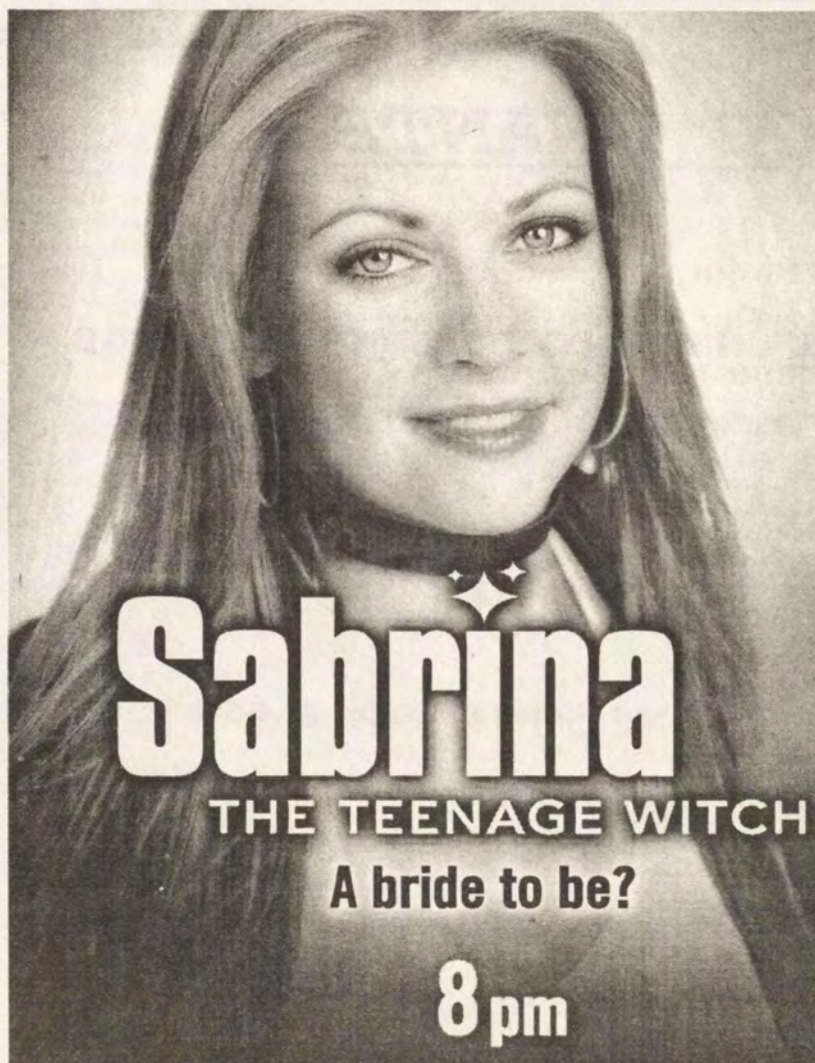
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VIEWPOINT

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Friday, February 22, 2002

THE OBSERVER

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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.

Bring 'Monologues' into the open

Saint Mary's took an enlightened step forward with President Marilou Eldred's decision not to fight an unofficial reading of "The Vagina Monologues" that will take place on campus this Tuesday.

Last year, when a similar event was organized after the play was officially banned, Eldred reprimanded the student officers of CARE for their involvement.

This year, the College will respect the right of students engage in a reading of the play. That is certainly a praiseworthy development. Thanks to a dedicated group of students, the relevant and controversial issues of the Monologues will be addressed at Saint Mary's.

Unfortunately, the production still must hide in the shadows – unseen, unheard and unwanted. Organizers refuse to go on the record; advertisements are conspicuously absent from

hallways and the performance will not be officially recognized by the College. "The Vagina Monologues" are not part of the official image Saint Mary's projects to itself and the world. A feeling of disapproval hangs in the air.

This attitude may seem natural given the unique nature of the College. It is a Catholic institution with a mission to promote and develop Catholic values in a modernizing, globalizing world. Its students typically come from middle-class families with convictions similar to those endorsed by the Church. And its largely self-sufficient campus without much interaction with the surrounding community creates a parental role for the administration. Thus, the administration must monitor the ideas to which students are exposed, ensuring that opposing perspectives do not unduly challenge students' inherited

beliefs. If students take it on themselves bring one of these heresies to campus, they must be forced into the shadows.

This attitude would seem natural except for the example of a very similar university that has chosen a better path. Notre Dame will host an official production of "The Vagina Monologues" this Monday and Tuesday. Organizers are vocal; advertisements are prominent and LaFortune Student Center even has advanced ticket sales. Despite sharing the Catholic background of Saint Mary's and many, if not all, of its values, Notre Dame has shown that the free expression of ideas is important to the University and that the option of censorship is not viable.

Saint Mary's should follow Notre Dame's example by shining a light of tolerance on "The Vagina Monologues." Bring it out of the shadows.

The
Observer
Editorial

Understanding a different life

Last week I looked in a mirror larger than 3 inches by 3 inches for the first time in about four and a half months. It scared me. I did not recognize myself. I looked older. My hair is bleached out and in some indescribable way it simply looked like I had lived in Africa for awhile. This triggered multiple reactions, the major one being a realization that I now use very different characteristics to describe myself.

Much of how I saw myself in the United States is gone. I wear ankle length dresses everyday with my hair in a ponytail. My last name is now Ba. When people ask about my family, I immediately describe my Mauritanian family. I am rich as a result of the approximately \$100 a month I make, my United States citizenship and my skin color. No one cares what my major was in college or that I even graduated from college. I left almost all of my personal possessions at home.

I speak French on a middle school level and Pulaar on a very elementary level so there are few intellectually stimulating conversations. I think two story buildings are skyscrapers. I see pavement as an American luxury. I live in a culture that considers 23-year-old men and women children, polygamy, although uncommon, is acceptable and women are supposed to stay close to home and not go gallivanting around the globe to live in strange and foreign places.

More important than the change in

my material possessions is the change in all of my personal relationships. I talk to my parents for about half an hour every two weeks. I have only talked to my best friend from college on the phone twice. Some of my relationships at home have actually gotten stronger because of the honesty that letter writing tends to bring out in people. Other friends can not seem to reconnect with the lost art of letter writing so I hear from them every three months over e-mail.

No matter how much I write or talk to my family and friends they really have no understanding of my life. I can tell them how I heroically killed a scorpion with a flip flop, but they cannot truly comprehend how scary that is. They cannot understand how difficult it is to function in a place where I hear four or five languages on a daily basis without a strong grasp of any of them.

I have similar problems with my family here. I cannot talk to them very much about my life at home. I give them little bits and pieces of American life, but they cannot even imagine what a five-story building looks like. The concept of eating at a table with a fork and knife is completely foreign to them. Then there is the small problem that the average Notre Dame experience and 23-year-old single American lifestyle does not tend to be acceptable in a dry Muslim country.

The person I am in the United States and the person that I am in Mauritania seem to be so different on the surface. I laugh at things I do here that I never did in America and vice versa. Here I have become obsessively clean in some sort of attempt to have

at least one thing in my life under control. Here I go to bed at 9:30 p.m. and wake up at 7 a.m. There I socialized with people around my age group. My best friends here are my 80-year-old grandmother, my 16-year-old sister and my 4-year-old little brother.

Here I have become proud to say that I am American. There I sat in front of a computer eight hours a day in a cubicle. Here I am completely aware of the cycles of the moon and can tell time by the movements of the constellations.

All of these differences in the day-to-day existence of my life and the relationships that I have with people seem so glaring. It has forced me to look at myself differently and for purposes of mental health to search to find similarities between who I was and who I am.

After contemplating this for some days on my mat I have started to find more similarities than differences. I like to laugh. I like to be continually challenged. Friendship and family come before everything else. I like freedom. Most importantly I like waking up everyday and being happy with where I am despite the drastic changes in my life. I find joy and challenge at looking in a mirror and not recognizing the person looking back.

*Maite Uranga graduated from Notre Dame in 2000 as an anthropology and government major. She is currently a Peace Corps volunteer in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.**The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*

Maite Uranga

Life in Africa

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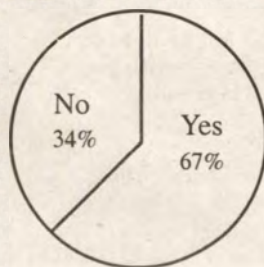
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NDTODAY/OBSERVER POLL RESULTS

Should "The Vagina Monologues" be performed at Notre Dame?

Poll courtesy of NDToday.com
Total Votes: 380

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"An idea that is not dangerous is unworthy of being called an idea at all."*Oscar Wilde
writer

VIEWPOINT

Friday, February 22, 2002

page 13

Why can't we all hear voices?

I often feel overwhelmed by expectations and opinions. I remember one e-mail from the office of Dean Roche sent to all sophomores and juniors within the College of Arts and Letters this fall. It detailed a list of options that students should pursue "to achieve their academic and career goals." I read the letter, somewhat panicked and anxious. It offered useful advice. I think that I decided then to rebel, to avoid the academic-internship scene and to waitress at the Jersey shore this summer.



Joanna Mikulski

Tuesday Voice on Friday

In a constant stream of noise, professors, administrators, advisors and other students offer their views on how all students and I should think, believe, act and live. As a writer for this newspaper, I myself contribute to this confusion.

We hear strong suggestions regarding not only what jobs we should pursue and what academic roads we should follow, but also what ideas we should cling to and which beliefs we should promote. Many times these voices that shout at us

uphold the same beliefs and ideals; other times, these voices contradict each other. Students, like myself, are challenged to decide, from among or outside them which voice is their own.

Most days, I have only a vague conception of my "voice" — little idea of what I believe, what road I want to take in life and what ideas I want to uphold. Yet, I have a good idea of what I do not believe, what road I do not want to take and what ideas I do not want to uphold. In my search, beliefs, values and ideas that contradict my own have proven more useful than those that compel me to nod with agreement.

Viewpoints that challenge, offend or destroy my own perspective have opened my mind and led me to think with honesty and seriousness.

I have often discovered who I am not and what I do not want before I have discerned who I am.



In this sense, contradictory voices that can confuse and frustrate students serve a necessary function. However, at this university, the voices that shout at students too frequently convey the same message — uphold the same values. Without a city encroaching on the campus, little of the "real world" with its controversy and its non-Catholic understanding infiltrates the University community and the lives of students.

Until I brought a car to school this semester, I could not travel beyond Grape Road into the South Bend-Mishawaka area without getting lost. Freshman year I saw little outside of the immediate area around my dorm and class buildings.

In this bubble, administrators and professors have an inordinate amount of influence over the ideas and beliefs given voice on campus.

The greater the degree to which the viewpoints and ideas heard on campus are restricted, the greater the likelihood

that dialogue on campus will be reduced to a black and white issue. Students, for example, would choose either to stand with or to stand against the conception of faith that the University upholds.

To ensure that students remain in a true dialogue with the Catholic values supported by this University, all administrators and officers should work to give all controversial beliefs and viewpoints a "voice" on campus.

The showing of plays, like the one currently under debate that some within the community find challenging and insulting, does not threaten the values of the University community, but instead increases the student's understanding of them.

The University should continue to increase the diversity of "voices" on campus. It would further help students, like myself, discover new ways to believe and to think and new conceptions of the way to live life.

It would help us discover who we aren't.

Joanna Mikulski is a junior English and German major. Her column appears every other Friday. Contact Mikulski at mikulski.1@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Agree to disagree

I am tragically male. Worry ye not because I do not intend to lament about reverse discrimination or any such nonsense. I am a white male, meaning that social amenities are more readily available to me than to any other segment of the general population. I am tragic because, as a male, a blueprint has been submitted to me, and I am expected to live in pursuance thereof. That means that I am expected to live a life filled with violence of all kinds. I am, you know, one of those whom, if necessary, will be called to defend this country of ours.

I recognize the capacity for violence which has been conditioned into my personality and I work everyday to effect its atrophy. What being male also means is that I am expected to objectify women. Do not mistake me, I do not mean objectification as blatant as some kind of rapper schtick. It is more subtle than that. It means that I grow up reading women only when I do so by my own endeavor, and it translates into my inability to think of one woman whom I admire intellectually. Try it, men — it is harder than you would think.

I am writing because I just returned from an Ani DiFranco concert, and I realized that only four years ago, I would never have done such a thing. I would never have allowed myself to witness such a strong, articulate, sensitive and charismatic figure of femininity that defies objectification in her very demeanor. My blueprint tells me to fear and decry her and so I ignore what it tells me.

Four years ago, I was Catholic. I am recovered now, thank you. I do not mean to single out Catholics, but I will say that it warps your outlook. Skimming editorials concerning "The Vagina Monologues" for a few days makes that abundantly clear to me. At the very availability (nobody is forced to watch the show) of a program based on discovering feminine identity and over-

coming the male dominated climate of our world (admittedly conveyed through a medium that some understandably find to be objectionable), some benighted nouveau riche kid has to start in with the generalizations and improperly formed conclusions.

Of course, the enraged feminists write responses to the knee-jerk conservatives and the polemic goes back and forth. What people seem to forget here is that neither side possesses the only moral compass on the issue. It is permissible to allow others to express their ethos and not to descend to petty bickering, without succumbing to pitiable moral relativism. The frustrating thing is that the people who generally start these diatribes are usually disgorging some kind of institutional rhetoric (probably incorrectly) without having experienced that which they criticize. Thus, they have no validity in their criticism.

What I would like to see is Catholics trying to understand those other viewpoints before they start into the dogmatic criticism. Let's face facts, Catholicism is not exactly the most plausible system of faith that one can embrace. If you want my honest opinion, I find it pretty silly, but that is because I also gave up ghost stories, cootie shots and swingsets when I was a child.

I am also, however, looking in from the outside. What that means is that Catholics have a considerable responsibility to act amenably to contrary viewpoints, because we non-believers certainly accommodate you and your cultish beliefs. And, my bottom line to Catholics principally and to all verily — respect other viewpoints and understand them before you start in with your officious commentary. It is possible to agree to disagree.

Jesse Daniel Schomer
law student
O'Hara-Grace Hall
Feb. 19, 2002

'Free speech' limited

Paul Schofield in a letter yesterday entitled, "Knights misunderstand free speech," attacks the criticisms of the Knights of Columbus and claims they do not understand free speech.

May I suggest that it is Schofield — along with much of the rest of the country — who does not understand the term "free speech." Although it is slowly being converted into a cultural term for the notion that we may publicize any conduct we like, the term originates in the First Amendment.

It is at origin a legal term with a precise meaning. For 170 years following the ratification of the Constitution, the term applied only to political, or in a few cases commercial speech. As late as 1956, Supreme Court Justice William Brennan acknowledged that it did not apply to popular entertainment.

Since then, the U.S. Supreme Court has made the arbitrary decision to expand the scope of the First Amendment to provide for complete freedom of expression. The expansion of the scope of the First Amendment in such a profound way should have been done via amendment, not by judicial fiat.

Perhaps the more important issue though is whether all ideas, no matter how destructive, need to be considered. They do not. By that logic we ought to watch murders and rapes in order to fully understand why they are wrong (or study racist theories such as eugenics). The role of the Catholic university is not to expose students to all viewpoints. Instead it is to help students find the truth. Catholic schools, after all, have a mission not completely unrelated to that of the Catholic Church: to help people achieve salvation. They cannot do that job while encouraging people to engage in conduct in direct conflict with the teachings of the Catholic Church.



Schofield points to Galileo as an example of an incident in which the Catholic Church has previously erred. Galileo represented a tangible advance in scientific knowledge; the act noted in Schofield's letter appears to be little more than an exercise in depravity.

Admittedly the Church erred in attempting to keep people from reading "The Catcher in the Rye." However, the past mistakes of the Church do not relieve Catholic institutions of the right to bar messages that not only conflict with their view of life but actually threaten the very students whom it seeks to assist.

In sum, Catholic schools ought to feel free — and in fact obligated — to bar carnival acts such as the one described in Schofield's letter. Such acts do not help students seek out truth. Catholic schools

like Saint Mary's and Notre Dame ought to be more forthright in stating that they will expose students only to paths that lead them to understand themselves, their world and their maker. If students want to be taken to the carnival, they can go somewhere else.

I suppose Notre Dame has no one to blame but itself, because instead of proudly advertising itself as Catholic university where the ravings of the lost are ignored, it seems to think, as a "national Catholic research university" that it must go along with the popular trend in higher education — expose everyone to everything, no matter how confused, stupid or destructive.

Peter Zavodnyik
class of '92
Chicago
Feb. 21, 2002

SCENE

Internet

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Friday, February 22, 2002

Past, present and future

Frank Helgesen, co-founder of the popular student-run Web site, comments

By EMILY HOWALD
Scene Writer

What was once a dream for graduate Frank Helgesen is now a reality that is considered to be the third form of communication on campus.

In 1998, Helgesen initiated a Web page that had only a student search. Due to the popularity that his personal Web page received, he decided to make a Web site that would tell others what was happening on campus.

Helgesen began advertising and slowly developing a page that would appeal to all the students of Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's and would allow the students to share with each other what was going on around campus.

With the help of three of his friends, they created a way to unite the Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's community via

the Internet, through what is now known as NDToday.com. In March of 2000 the site took off and gained notoriety through the use of message boards.

"I thought once there was somewhere to go, they are going to keep going there to see what was new," Helgesen said. "After the word got out, I hoped people would keep coming back and it would build up," Helgesen said.

Graduates Andy Warzon, Helgesen, Nick Fellers and senior Robert Pazornik are still very closely affiliated with the site. NDToday is owned and operated by Jephne, Inc. (formally 3bstudios) and all four founders have positions with the

company.

Jephne Inc. funds the site through selective advertising because they don't feel that college students should have to pay for use of the Web sites. Companies sometimes hope for exposure through the site so they offer a

certain amount of money to NDToday for each response or reaction that is received about the campaign. NDToday recently made nearly \$175 from a project similar to this done by Kaplan.

The founders finance themselves by building other Web sites, and they all have other jobs as well. Each founder still spends approximately 10 to 15 hours a week on NDToday. Jephne, Inc. has also begun to franchise and will soon be creating Web sites for other colleges.

NDToday began with message boards where students post their opinions, the student search, which can locate any student's address and the voting booth, which polls random questions and posts the answers.

Now NDToday contains many applications that are designed to aid the Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's student. The content is usually produced by user input and the users are automatically linked to their desired locations within the site.

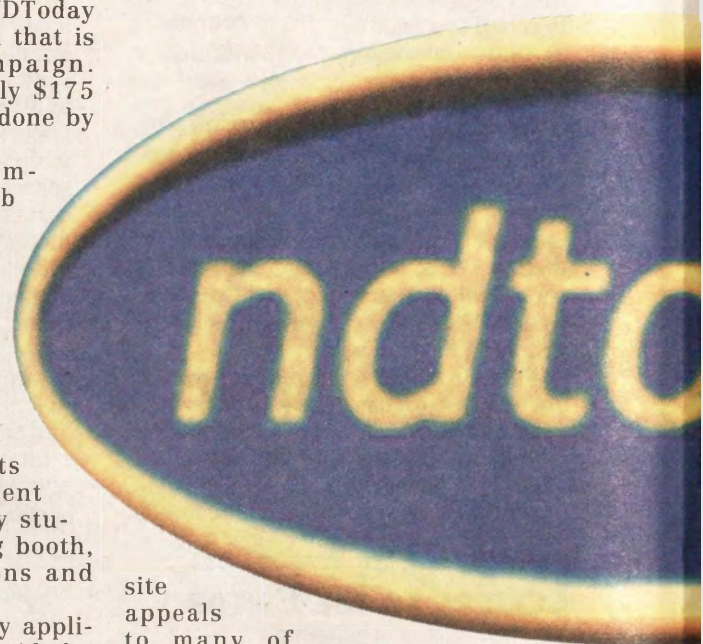
The site contains powerful programming, but there is also interaction from Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's students relative to the staff. The site is currently run by its NDToday president, junior Scott Palko, and sales manager, senior Robert Pazornik. There is also a general manager, sales representatives, a photographer and a food critic.

Although NDToday was founded and is run by Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's students, the site is not directly affiliated with either the University or College. NDToday is exclusively a production of Jephne Studios. The ideas expressed on the pages are solely those of the authors and do not reflect the opinions of Notre Dame nor the producers of the site.

NDToday has grown from a page with few links to a resourceful Internet application. With direct links to the most common Notre Dame home pages and sites created for the community, around the campus, around the town and more, the

"I think that the school before teacher evaluations and the school after teacher evaluations are like night and day."

Frank Helgesen
co-founder, NDToday.com



site appeals to many of the needs of students.

The most commonly used aspects of the site are the teacher evaluations, the message boards, the front page and the student search.

Teacher Evaluations

NDToday prides itself on "sharing info for when you need it," pertaining to the teacher evaluations.

"I think that the school before teacher evaluations and the school after evaluations are like night and day," Helgesen said.

He also believes that the evaluations are beneficial because they do not



Scott Palko, NDToday president, PJ Mercanti, business manager and Joel Pidel, site manager, take a break from the hard work of maintaining campus' favorite student Web site.

AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

The message board section of NDToday.com is the site. There are 10 different sections with which you can post ideas and respond to others'.

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ure of NDToday.com

on the site's history, while Scene explains what students find on the site

allow the school to get away with assigning bad teachers. According to Helgesen, there are hundreds of teachers who are subscribers to NDToday because they want to see what their competition is like and work to get good reviews.

"I used NDToday for teacher evaluations, and they really help me to determine which classes I wanted to take," freshman Bridget Samuelson said. "The difference between first semester and second semester is definitely noticeable, and I plan on using the evaluations for the next three years," Samuelson said.

The Message Board

There are 10 categories on the message board that enable students to post their opinions and questions in a place where they are viewed by whoever may want to look. The categories range from general chat, to the rant, the rave, the love board, sports and more.

People who want to post their messages have to be members of the Notre Dame/Saint Mary's community and some messages are censored. The main purpose of the message board is to allow students to say nearly whatever they want about topics on their minds.

The Front Page

The front page shows the user all the options that NDToday offers. According to Helgesen, it is common for users to just check the front page to see if anything is going on.

The front page contains sections such as Today's Polls, Campus Events, Observer Headlines, Photo Gallery and all the links that the pages present.

"From time to time, I just check in on the front page to see if anything new is going on. It's quick and it's easy so I enjoy using it when I need to," freshman Sara Sheffield said.

The Student Search

This aspect of NDToday allows students to search the database and virtually do a reverse caller-ID. The information is a front-end to the database of Notre Dame.

All of the information that is on the student search is also on Notre Dame's homepage, but the availability is much more accommodating on NDToday.

"Everybody has access to a computer and it is easier to use because you never really lose your computer, but you lose your phone book all the time," freshman Mike Roaldi said. "There is more information and it is easier access too."

Many features of the Web page are only allowed to be used by students with an AFS ID password. The

teacher evaluations are not available to any outside of the Notre Dame community because the University does not want the future careers of any teachers to be jeopardized by the evaluations.

The founders of the Web page try to maintain a close relationship with the University because they feel that the page is an important reference to the students and the founders don't want that privilege to be revoked.

NDToday is continuously expanding and is always open for new changes or recommendations.

The founders hope to start up a mini company that will be viewed as an unofficial club at the University. They hope to begin publishing articles and they want to come out with a new issue every two weeks.

For now, Helgesen said the site is looking for new ideas and more help. Ideally, new people will bring in fresh ideas that will benefit both the com-

munity and the Web site in general.

The founders will be sending out an e-mail to all the subscribers hoping to get a response from students who are interested. They don't care how much experience people have, they just want their input and involvement to better NDToday.

"Where we are right now is about 50 percent of where we could be and hope to be in the future," Helgesen said.

Helgesen encourages students to look into NDToday because of all the benefits that are available to the students. All the mediums can be published on the page because they are done so via the Internet, so there are more variations available.

"Come on, you are at ND!" Helgesen said. "This is what people are talking about and thinking; so why not check it out? It's made for you; and personally, we love what we've done for the people."

"Where we are right now is about 50 percent of where we could be and hope to be in the future"

Frank Helgesen
co-founder, NDToday.com

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howald.2@nd.edu.

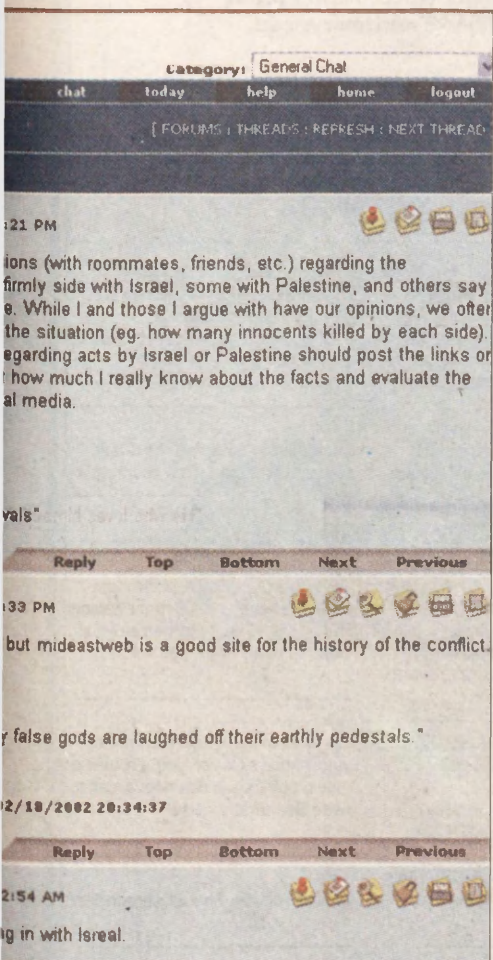
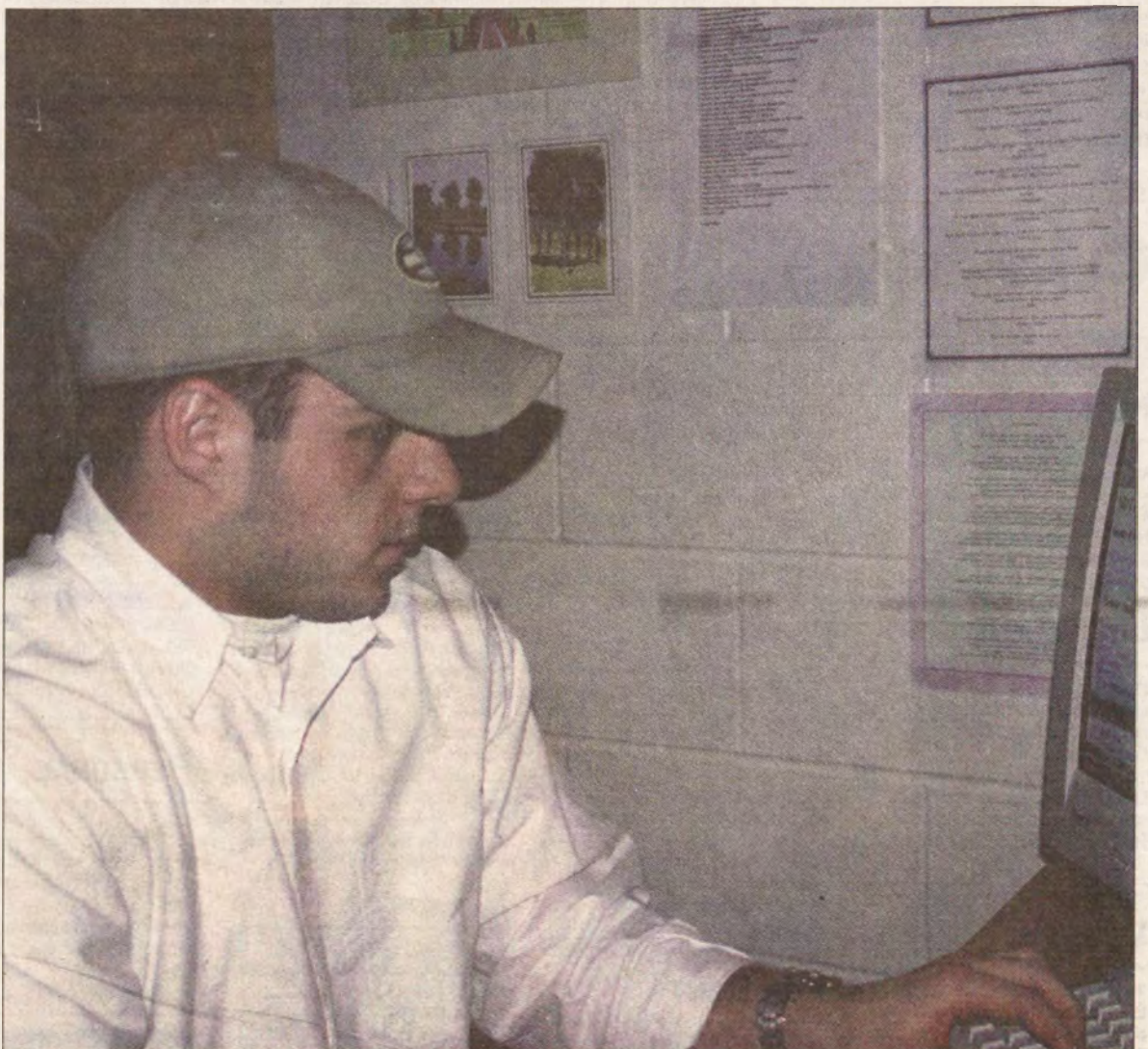


Photo courtesy of NDToday.com

one of the most frequented features of the site is the message boards where students



Scott Palko, current president of NDToday.com, views the site from an on-campus computer. To post messages on the site, users must have an AFS ID and password.

AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

BIG EAST SWIMMING AND DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Diver bounces back from injury

♦ Sophomore takes second at Big East Championships

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
Sports Writer

UNIONDALE, N.Y.

Last year, diver Meghan Perry-Eaton thought she would never get on the diving board again.

Sidelined midway through her freshman year with fractures in her spine and bulging discs, there were days that she couldn't even bear the pain to pull herself out of the pool.

"My freshman year was horrible. I was so excited about coming here and diving and then in just all stopped," the sophomore from Tampa, Fla. said. "I thought my career was over."

But Thursday night at the Big East Swimming and Diving Championships, Perry-Eaton proved her career is just beginning. Taking the runner-up position on the 1-meter board, Perry-Eaton's first championship performance was nearly flawless.

Perry-Eaton narrowly missed defeating senior Michelle Davison of Miami, who won the event with a score of 300.65. Perry-Eaton finished with 293.30 points. No Notre Dame diver has ever defeated a Miami diver since joining the Big East.

"I was a little nervous, and I'm not used to that," Perry-Eaton said. "I didn't know what to expect."

Perry-Eaton took the lead in the competition after the fourth round, inching ahead of Davison by two points. She remained in the lead going into the sixth round by six points, but over-rotated on her final dive, a front 2 1/2 tuck.

She nailed the dive in preliminary competition Thursday morning, even though it wasn't one of her best dives. The slip in finals was the result of the trouble Perry-Eaton has had all season focusing on her dives.

"Mentally, I'm just a basket case right now," she said. "I don't know what to expect day to day. I'm really excited — I wish I had won, because I could have. My last dive was pretty bad, but that's life."

The win in the 1-meter comes after an inconsistent season for Perry-Eaton. She shined at the Minnesota Invitational in November, coming back from fifth place to win the 1-meter. But in dual meet performances she struggled, even failing a dive at the Northwestern meet in January.

But she's the type of diver that hangs tough, said diving coach Caiming Xie.

"I've told her the five 'C' words: confidence, competitive, calm, comfortable and concentrate," he said. "I've said if you can control yourself, you can control the meet."

The injury still nags at her, in practice and in competition, however. And for a diver who is so tough, it's a constant struggle between coach and athlete about training. When she wants to push harder, Xie sometimes tells her to stop, Perry-Eaton said. There are times, too, when she's in pain and he tells her to keep going.

Both are difficult in finding a training balance that lets her push hard enough, but rest enough to heal.

"I feel like a different diver, which is kind of upsetting," she said.

"Sometimes because her back hurts, she cannot make her last dive," Xie



Sophomore diver Meghan Perry-Eaton flips off the 1-meter springboard during diving competition at Thursday's Big East Championships.

said. "She's not at her best yet, but she's getting back."

Perry-Eaton will climb up on the boards again today in the 3-meter competition. Like every other performance this season, she knows it's a day-to-day guess at how she'll perform.

"I hope I do well," she said, smiling. "I feel like I'm ready to. Mentally, I'm getting ready. Physically, I can get up there and win. But mentally, I can get up there and lose."

Contact Noreen Gillespie at gill0843@saintmarys.edu.

Women

continued from page 28

eration time of 3.40.98.

The swimmers with consideration times won't find out if they will swim in the championship until March, but according to last year's entries, the consideration times should be fast enough to swim in the meet, Weathers said.

"We would have liked to be about two-tenths faster," Weathers said. "We have to be a little guarded, because that 200 relay is right on the bubble."

Nixon was the only swimmer to earn an automatic berth to the NCAA meet in the 50-yard freestyle. Touching the wall in 27.73, she won the event and defended her title from 1999. But she missed breaking the meet record she set in 1999 by three tenths of a second, and the finish was almost a second from her best.

"It was just real sloppy. It's good to get that automatic time out of the way ... But I've definitely got a lot of areas to improve in," Nixon said.

The Irish qualified more swimmers for finals than any other team at the meet, securing their hold on the top position.

Divers led the evening, with sophomore Meghan Perry Eaton placing second on the 1-meter board in her Big East debut. Perry-Eaton sat out her freshman season due to back injury. Senior Heather Mattingly placed fourth in the event.

In the 50-yard freestyle, six Notre Dame swimmers qualified for finals in the event. Following Nixon, senior Brooke Davey and Eckholt placed sixth and seventh. Sophomore Danielle Hulick won the consolation heat, followed by freshmen Hannah Pawlewicz and Heidi Hendrick in ninth and 10th.

The 200-yard individual medley was also a strong event for the Irish. Following Garcia's second-place finish, Lloyd was seventh, sophomore Marie Labosky was eighth, sophomore Amy Deger was ninth, D'Olier was 14th and senior Maureen Hillenmeyer was 15th.

The competition continues today with preliminaries at 10:30 a.m. and finals at 6:30 p.m. The challenge in getting through the weekend will be to stay focused, said co-captain Tara Riggs.

"We have to remember this is a long meet," Riggs said. "We have to refocus every session. Most of all, if we have disappointing swims, we have to put it out of our minds."

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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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MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish struggle after first day, hope to catch up

By SHEILA EGTS
Sports Writer

UNIONDALE, N.Y.

The day went according to plan for the blue and gold at the Big East Championships on Thursday. But it was the wrong team of blue and gold.

The Pittsburgh Panthers were well on their way to defending their Big East Championship title with a first-day score of 250 points.

Disappointing sixth and eighth place finishes in key relay events left the Irish questioning their ability to turn the meet around and reclaim the second-place finish they held in 1999 and 2000.

"Both of our relays were slower than we had hoped they would be tonight," said Irish head coach Tim Welsh. "Can we still be second? Who knows?"

According to Welsh prior to the meet, the team was relying on major point contributions from the senior Jonathan Pierce in the distance events. Pierce started off on the right foot with a preliminary swim in the 500-yard freestyle. But his final time was nearly four seconds slower, leaving Pierce short of his expectations with a fifth-place finish.

"I know I personally did not swim as well as I wanted to tonight. I think I get caught up too much in how fast I need to go or who I need to beat," said Pierce, who swims again Saturday in the 1,650-yard freestyle. "I had a bad race but I just need to look past it and move on to my next races."

Fellow senior Mike Koss is still optimistic about Pierce con-



NELLIE WILLIAMS/The Observer

Irish senior Jonathan Pierce competes in the 500-meter freestyle Thursday at the Big East Championships. The Irish hope to make up some ground on the leaders during the next two days of competition.

tributing team points and getting the NCAA invitation he has been working for all season.

"It's tough for Jonathan especially as a senior. I thought he would do a little better, but this is his weakest event," Koss said. "His 400 IM and his mile should be a lot stronger."

With the addition of two competitive freshmen divers from Miami, Andy Maggio only managed to place sixth in the 3-meter diving, an event that he

took second in last year.

"Four of the guys here were really Olympic caliber divers," he said. "I was shooting for fifth place and one of the guys beat me out at the end, but I still feel good about the 3-meter finish. I didn't dive my best but I placed around where I should have."

But Maggio is focusing on his stronger event in the 1-meter diving to compensate for some of the points he lost Thursday.

As a whole, the Irish have

their work cut out for them if they hope to catch up with Rutgers, who is currently is second place. According to Welsh, the team has an even set of entries for the rest of the meet with four or five swimmers qualified in the majority of the events.

"This has traditionally been a tough day. What I think we need to do is use this to build the momentum and really try to get focused for our next two days,"

said Koss, who competes in the 100-yard backstroke today. "But if you look at our scoring and our place compared to last year, we are way ahead of where we were last year. What I think we need to do is use this to build the momentum and really try to get focused for our next two days."

Contact Sheila Egts at
egts0236@saintmarys.edu

♦ The Odd Couple ♦

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as
Felix Unger



Tim O'Malley
as
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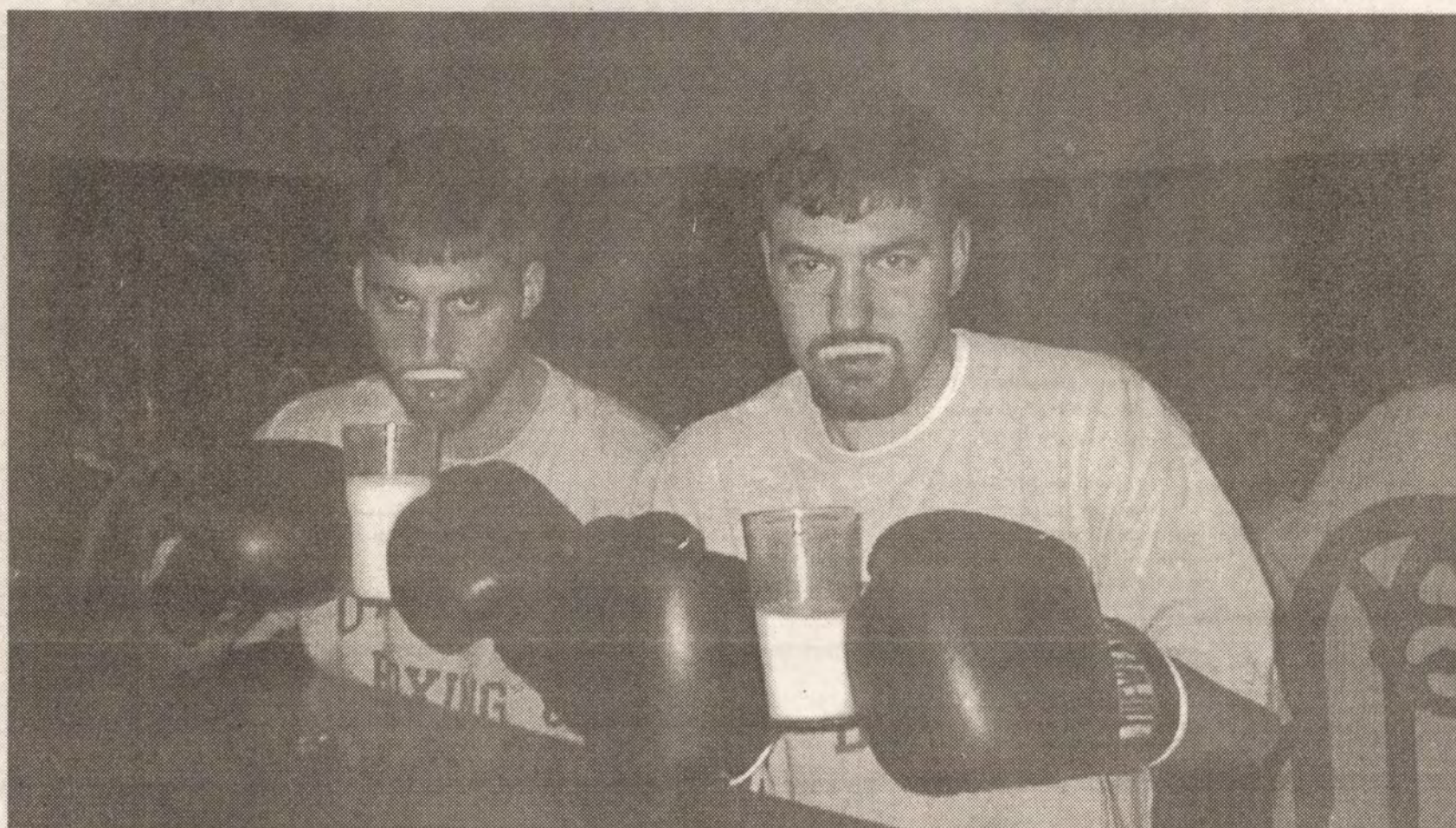
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BENGAL BOUTS: LIGHTWEIGHT - 145-POUNDS**Lightweights begin fights on Sunday**

By CHRIS FEDERICO

Sports Writer

The lightest weight class in the Bengal Bouts features three first-time competitors out of the seven fighters.

The most experienced fighter in the bracket is junior captain Shawn Newburg, who lost in the finals last year to Camilo Rueda.

Newburg will face the winner of the fight between senior Derrick Bravo and freshman Mike Feduska. Bravo may have the aid of experience on his side, having advanced to the semi-finals in the tournament last year.

One of the better matchups of the bracket may be between a pair of junior newcomers to the event, Lance Hendron and Peter Kim.

"I fought some on and off through junior high and high school, but my father was a kick-boxer and he's tried to get me involved in boxing," Hendron said.

On the other hand, Kim may be one of the smallest competitors in the group, but his size allows him to be very quick and strong.

In the final bout of the bracket, freshman Mark Burdick takes on senior Jason McMahon.

The first-year fighter Burdick may have his hands full with the more-experienced McMahon. The senior won the bouts in his freshman year, and even trained over break with fellow competitor Hendron in Las Vegas.

Because there are only seven boxers competing in this class, the first round of bouts will be Sunday at 2 p.m.

round of the 135-pound weight class tonight will face a tough road ahead as three boxers considered to be favorites for the title all drew first-round byes. Senior Matt Fumagali, captain and Boxing Club president, drew the spot at the top of the bracket. Sophomore Tony Hollowell, who upset Fumagali last year in the first round on his way to the finals before being defeated by Joshua Coleman, drew the bye at the bottom of the bracket.

"This class did not fill out, but the boxers in it are strong fighters," said sophomore T.J. D'Agostino, who drew the third bye in the bracket.

At the top of the bracket, sparring partners Luke Dillon and Pedro Alves will square off for the right to fight the favorite Fumagali.

Since the two fighters have sparred against each other, their styles should be familiar.

"Luke has dropped about 13 pounds to fight in this class," Alves said. "When we sparred, I was faster than him and was able to throw clusters of punches. Since he's bigger than me, he'll try to keep me away with his jab, and I'll have to try to get inside."

In the top half of the bracket, senior Thomas McGree will take on classmate Richie "The Funky Cold" Redina and sophomores Jacob Cusack and Matt "The Bull Dog" Welsh will square off.

In the bottom half of the bracket, juniors Kevin "I Pity Da" Hool and Chris "Please Turn Your Head And" Hoffman will fight for the right to take on D'Agostino.

Hollowell will fight the winner of the matchup between Jon "Tejano Terror" Valenzuela and Matt Shulha.

class should be fierce with 16 fighters all competing in the first round tonight. With no byes available, even the favorites are subject to the open-round upset.

"This a great class, and it's wide open since there are no byes," senior Jamar Tisby said. "These guys are some great fighters, and I'm confident that any one of them would put up a good challenge."

Tisby may be viewed as one of the favorites, having advanced to the finals last year before losing the championship match to Michael Waldo.

Tisby will square off against freshman Ryan "The Tenacious Townie" Brady.

At the other end of the bracket is one of the Boxing Club captains Andrew "Golden Arms" Harms. Harms, considered one of the other favorites in the class will face off against junior Patrick Healy.

Healy, who is competing in his first Bengal Bouts, remains optimistic despite the tough opening-round draw.

"It's my first year, but you've got to fight the good fighters sometime," Healy said. "All you can do is remain confident and do your best."

In other fights in the top of the bracket, sophomore Joe "Mamma" Shonkwiler will square off against Tim "Pummelin" Huml. Jon "The Thunder from Down Under" Pribaz fights Matt "No Fat" Pyle and Sam "The Big Easy" Fuller takes on Eric Eddy.

On the other side of the bracket, senior Daniel "Aztec Warrior" Gonzalez draws the freshman Nathan "Low Blow" Lohmeyer. Freshman Andy "The Sweet Computer Scientist" Callan fights junior Brent Lawton and Ryan "Rock Skin" Rogers faces Ted Volz.

Contact Chris Federico at
cfederic@nd.edu.

Bengals

continued from page 28

their Notre Dame career pass by without stepping into the ring.

"It was my last year at Notre Dame and I just wanted to be a part of it," said Kevin Conoscenti who has two roommates who fought in the Bouts before.

The experience of training and working out with the club is more important to Conoscenti than whether he wins or loses tonight.

"If you don't enjoy training, it's not worth it," he said. "You are going to be in the ring for possibly 30 seconds. I've enjoyed the training and doing something that is a big tradition and for a good cause."

Many of the first year boxers expressed nervousness about fighting in front of a large crowd. Baker said he just hoped he didn't look foolish tonight.

"Am I worried about completely embarrassing myself?" he said with a laugh. "Yes but hopefully that won't happen."

The most important thing for first year fighters to remember, two-time champion and captain Mark Criniti said, is to enjoy the experience.

"They are never going to have another opportunity like this after they graduate," Criniti said.

The most important piece of advice that Christoforetti got from his champion brother had nothing to do with technique or strategy.

"He suggested that I go to the grotto and pray and just enjoy it for what it is," he said. "Whatever happens in the fight, just appreciate the experience and enjoy it rather than focusing on winning and losing."

Contact Mike Connolly at
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HOCKEY

Irish look for surge to playoffs

By MATT ORENCHUK
Sports Writer

After a weekend off, the Notre Dame men's hockey team hits the road this weekend to take on the Lake Superior State Lakers. The biggest question for the Irish will be whether the time off will help or hurt the team.

The last game Notre Dame played was a big one. They defeated No. 3 ranked Michigan State on the Spartans home ice. The Irish win ended Michigan State's 33-game home winning streak, and snapped Notre Dame's six game losing streak.

However, any momentum the Irish gained from that win might have been negated by the two weeks in which all they have done is skate in practice. At the same time, the time off might also help heal those nagging injuries that always seem to occur in the final stretch of the season.

Lake Superior State currently is last in the CCHA with a 4-18-2 conference record. Two of the conference losses for the Lakers were to Notre Dame back in December. The Irish defeated Lake Superior State 7-0 and 5-2 for a two game sweep.

Lake Superior State's leading scorer is Adam Nightingale, who has six goals and nine assists over the season. Unlike Notre Dame, who has stuck with goaltender Morgan Cey most of the season, Lake State likes to rotate their goaltenders. Matt Violin has appeared in 15 games, Terry Denike 14, and Scott Murray 10. Violin has the best stats of the three, with a 3-6-2 record and a .920 save percentage.

The Irish are looking to play some consistent hockey going into the final two weeks of the season. Offensively, Notre Dame has been consistent this season. They currently have the No. 6 scorer in the league in Connor Dunlop, and the No. 10 scorer in David Inman.

The uncertainty lies with the Notre Dame defense. On Feb. 2 and 3, the Irish gave up 13 goals in two losses to Alaska-Fairbanks. The next weekend against Michigan State the defense only gave up four goals in splitting the series.

For Notre Dame, these last two weekends of hockey will determine positioning for the CCHA playoffs. Currently the Irish are ninth in the CCHA with 20 points.

The drive to the finish for the Notre Dame hockey team will begin when the puck drops at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Matt Orenchuk at morenchu@nd.edu.

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SMC SWIMMING

Belles in 5th after first day of MIAA

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

Despite feeling a little tired from taper workouts, the Belles are in the thick of things at the MIAA Tournament.

Heading into this weekend's competition, head coach Greg Petcoff was looking optimistically toward a third place finish. After the first leg of the three-day competition, the Belles are in fifth place, only four points behind fourth place team Alma. The Belles are a mere 18 points behind third place team Kalamazoo, a team the Belles beat in dual meet competition earlier this season.

"I think we're not so far behind, we haven't lost touch with Kalamazoo up there," Petcoff said. "Albion [in sixth place] behind us are probably saying the same thing. We haven't broken free of them, but obviously. Between the three of us it could come down to a real

close third day battle, but Albion could throw in some great swims and make it a third day battle."

But the Belles could have a leg-up in third day competition. Saint Mary's has been a second half team; the Belles came from behind in that win against Kalamazoo. With that in mind, Saturday's events are Saint Mary's strongest and as long as they keep in close proximity to the third and fourth place teams, they have a solid chance of a top three finish.

"We've been very strong in second half events and I think what that might lend itself to is the possibility that the third day, with the 200 fly and the 200 breast, we could have our best day," Petcoff said. "I think each day there will be strong events and some maybe not so strong. But our third day could possibly be our best day."

Saint Mary's produced one top three finisher on Thursday in sophomore Megan Ramsey.

Ramsey, a sophomore who is the Belles' best bet for a national qualifier, took home third place in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5 minutes 18.12 seconds. Defending champion Michelle Smith from Hope took home first. Although she and Petcoff were looking for a little better time, her third place finish met their goal.

"I think time wise we were hoping for a little bit more but with the training she was a little bit tired and ultimately when we went into the evening she did what we wanted," Petcoff said. "When you swimming in the evening finals, you do swim for third place. She was seeded third and that's what she could do. The goal was third and she met it."

Saint Mary's two relay teams, the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 400-yard medley relay, both took home fourth place finishes. The 200-yard team finished in 1:41.81, just five seconds behind first place finisher Hope.

The 400-yard team was 14 seconds behind the first place finishing team.

The Belles had two place finishers in the 50-yard freestyle event. Maureen Palchak finished in ninth place with a time of 0:25.78 and teammate Lane Herrington finished right on her heels with a time of 0:25.80.

"Some of those relay swimmers in the prelims had great swims. So I think some of those people we're hoping will be in the 5-12 are really primed and ready to come through," Petcoff said. "Our better days are ahead."

After the first six events, Hope has a controlling first place lead, with 198 team points. Calvin is in second with 159.

Today, the next 11 events of the tournament will take place, beginning with the preliminary for the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Contact Katie McVoy at mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Doubles matches crucial to Irish

By COLIN BOYLAN
Sports Writer

As the Notre Dame women's tennis team approaches a weekend face-off with Iowa and Virginia Tech, it has a pretty clear idea of what it will take to earn a pair of victories. Simply put, the team needs to win the doubles point.

In the 10 matches the Irish have played this season, the team has won the doubles point five times and lost five times. In each of those competitions, the winner of that point has gone on to win the match.

When the Irish take on the Hawkeyes on Friday and the Hokies on Sunday, they will need to be on top of their doubles games to improve on their

5-5 record so far this season.

"I don't know why [the doubles point has been such a strong indicator of success]," said head coach Jay Louderback. "I just think there's such parity in the college game today that the doubles point becomes crucial in a seven point match."

While on paper, one point shouldn't be a big deal against the No. 48-ranked Hawkeyes, the Irish realize that Iowa is much better than their 1-4 season record would indicate.

"Iowa's had lots of injuries this season but they're going to be at full strength this weekend," said sophomore Alicia Salas. "And they've always

"I just think there's such parity in the college game today that the doubles point becomes crucial in a seven point match."

Jay Louderback
head coach

given us trouble in the past, so were treating this as a very important match."

Louderback agreed.

"Iowa knocked us out of the NCAAAs a couple of years ago, so we know how dangerous they can be," he said.

The Irish will follow up their Friday match by traveling to Blacksburg, Va. to take on the

Hokies. Virginia Tech enters this weekend with a 6-2 record and a No. 75 national ranking.

As for Salas, she is just seeking to maintain the momentum she has built thus far in the season. A reserve player for much of her freshman year, the sophomore has emerged as one of the Irish's most consistent threats this season.

Currently, she is riding a 13 match winning streak and building upon the strengths she developed in the off-season.

"I played lots of matches over the summer and worked on my serve a lot," said Salas about her success. "But we're working on team success above all."

Contact Colin Boylan at
cboylan@nd.edu.

FENCING

Fencers return to action

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

After a weekend off, the Notre Dame men's and women's fencing teams return to action this weekend at the Wayne State Duals.

While Notre Dame is the only team at the meet ranked in the top 10 nationally in both men's and women's competition, Andre Crompton knows this contest isn't meaningless.

"I don't want us to get too overconfident because we still have some unfinished business," said the senior sabreman. "We still have to accomplish our goal of having an undefeated season. But it is nice that some of the guys that don't usually get to travel can make the trip and get some experience."

Leading the men's team so far this season has been its three captains. Junior foilist Ozren Debic, junior epeeist Jan Viviani and Crompton have compiled a combined 98-10 record through the team's first three meets.

"I know we [the captains] have just focused on winning," Crompton said. "We are trying to lead by example."

Earlier this week, the men's team returned to the top spot in the country and claimed the No. 1 ranking in the national poll. Coincidentally, last year during the same week, the men's team took over as the No. 1 team in the nation.

"We shouldn't get too overconfident about this pre-tournament ranking," said Crompton. "We are still the underdogs going into NCAAAs since we finished third last year."

Last weekend, freshman Derek Snyder finished fifth in the junior men's foil at the Junior Olympics in Columbus, Ohio. Snyder is still ranked second nationally in the junior men's foil.

While the men's team moved up a spot in the national rankings, the women's team dropped to No. 3. Its loss to St. John's and split with Northwestern led to the change in the poll.

Two weeks ago, the women's team compiled a 4-0 record. They look to regain that momentum this weekend.

"Wayne State should be a nice practice meet," said sophomore Destanie Milo. "We are going to take it really easy, take our time and do our best."

Having last weekend off, the Irish were able to use their practice time to focus on becoming sharper and more prepared for the rest of the season.

"We have been working on the basics, doing some drills, and did a little bit of conditioning," Milo said.

Besides host Wayne State, Detroit-Mercy, Lawrence, Michigan and Michigan State will be competing this weekend at the duals in Detroit.

Next weekend, the Irish will host their only home meet of the year, the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships.

Contact Matt Lozar at
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish veterans step up down the stretch

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

At the beginning of the season, with a 2-4 record, the Irish were looking at a season that looked like it might never end. But now, with only two games left to play, Notre Dame is on an eight-game winning streak and just one win away from clinching the No. 2 spot in the Big East.

Earlier in the year, the focus was on six freshman who would have a heavy load on their shoulders. But in recent games, it has been the Irish veterans that have stepped up and taken the lead and the spotlight.

Junior guard Alicia Ratay has been the leading scorer for the Irish in their last two wins, with 25 and 31 points respectively. And a much-improved Ericka Haney has finished up with double figures in the last four games and stopped some of the toughest individual competition for the Irish, including West Virginia's Kate Bolger.

As the Irish head into Georgetown on Saturday to face off against the 12-13 Hoyas, Haney will have to step up again. Her assignment this time: post-player Rebekkah Brunson.

"It's just like every player Ericka's had to guard," said Irish head coach Muffet McGraw. "I feel like each game I'm saying the same thing over and over again, 'Ericka, the key to the game is this player and you have to guard her.'"

Brunson has been the key to what success Georgetown has had this season. After sitting out six weeks with an injury, she returned to the Georgetown line-up and has been helped the team to three victories in its last seven. She averages nearly 16 points a game and promises to be a threat to the Irish defense.

"[Brunson] is capable of getting double-double and taking the team, obviously when she wasn't in they didn't win a lot of games," McGraw said.

Haney will have her work cut out for her. Used to guarding perimeter players, Haney will take on the new challenge of a post-player who scores off the block and is capable of grabbing a lot of rebounds for her team.

"I think Ericka can shut her down, and this is a little different for her because she's more of a post-up sort of a player, a rebounding player and Ericka is so good on the perimeter," McGraw said. "It will be a little bit of a challenge for her. Brunson is a lot bigger than she is."

However, Brunson isn't new to Haney. This summer Haney and Brunson were teammates on the Big East touring team and spent time together, working for the same team, in Germany.

With Haney leading the charge on defense, the Irish will also have to look out for freshman guard Mary Lisicki who leads the Hoyas in 3-point shots and sets up a solid inside-outside game for the Hoyas.

"[Lisicki] is someone we're going to have to find on the perimeter," McGraw said. "So I guess an inside, outside team is always a problem."

Despite the fact that the Irish have struggled on the road this season, they have found a routine in recent games. A win on Saturday would bring their road winning percentage up from the very slow start at the beginning of the season.

"If we win this game we'll be .500 on the season and coming from whatever we started from, that's a really big jump," McGraw said.

Notes:

- ♦ Freshman Jackie Batteast will be sidelined again due to a leg injury, but should be ready for Big East Tournament play.
- ♦ Junior guard Jeneka Joyce is still questionable for play.

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Men

continued from page 28

their home court in 14 outings this season.

"They are a great basketball team, a very effective machine," Brey said.

For the Irish, who are coming off a dominating Wednesday win against conference bottom-dweller West Virginia, a victory against No. 17 Miami is key in securing the team's post-season plans.

"A win would mean a lot," freshman point guard Chris Thomas said. "They have big wins. They're a great team. Their RPI is so high it would definitely help our RPI."

Notre Dame has had mixed results against ranked teams this season.

The good news for the Hurricanes is that the Irish own only a 2-4 record when matching up with ranked opponents. But the bad news is in the four games they have dropped, the Irish have lost by a combined total of 16 points, meaning they can hang with the best of them.

And that's exactly what the Irish plan to do Saturday.

"It's going to be a hell of a game," forward David Graves said. "It's going to be fun."

According to Brey, the keys to an Irish win will lie in his team's ability to rebound and take care of the ball.

"Their length bothers you on the court," Brey said.

Miami has much riding on Saturday's outing.

One more notch in the win column will give the program its best regular season record in more than a decade, with two games still left to play.

A win would also give the Hurricanes their fourth-consecutive victory against the Irish.

Coming into the game, Miami



DUFFY-MARIE ARNOULT/The Observer

Irish center Tom Timmermans goes up for a layup during Notre Dame's loss against Syracuse.

boasts a balanced attacking field. All five starters average double-figure scoring numbers and the team has outscored its opponents by an average of almost 10 points a game. Forwards Darius Rice and John Salmons lead the Miami offense, averaging about 14 points and six rebounds game.

"They don't have one single go-to player, but they play very well together," Graves said.

But Irish forward Ryan Humphrey thinks the Irish pose a similar challenge to the Hurricanes with the depth Notre Dame has coming off the bench.

"It's tough for people to just key in on the starters," he said.

One starter who may be noticeably absent from the Irish line-up is junior guard Matt Carroll. Carroll re-injured his foot in the first-half of Wednesday's game and according to Brey on Wednesday night is "questionable" for Saturday.

The match-up with Miami is the third-to-last regular season game for the Irish before they head to New York for the Big East Championship.

Contact Kerry Smith at
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BASEBALL

Irish eager to open season in New Orleans

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Assistant Sports Editor

The Notre Dame baseball team enjoyed a marquee season last year, winning a school-record 49 games and reaching the No. 1 ranking in both the Collegiate Baseball and Baseball America polls for the first time in the program's history.

Following such a successful 2001 season, the Irish are more than ready to return to the diamond as they travel to New Orleans this weekend for three games with Missouri, the University of New Orleans and Southern Illinois.

"We're fired up," Irish centerfielder Steve Stanley said. "We're just getting through the practices inside, and I just can't wait to get out there and play."

The senior captain is coming off of the best year of his collegiate career. Stanley batted .400 last year and was named Big East Co-Player of the Year, earning national All-American honors. The four-year starter, however, isn't as concerned with individual goals as he is with helping his team take that final step to the College World Series.

"This year, I just want to go out there and have a good time and improve my individual game, but most importantly help the team in any way I can," Stanley said. "As a team, we just haven't yet attained that Big East

Tournament win, and we haven't gotten to the College World Series. I think those are things we can do."

The Irish return to play this year with one of the most experienced teams they have ever fielded. Notre Dame returns 16 of 21 letter-winners from last season, including seven of eight starters in the field.

"I think we have a really experienced team this year, especially in the position players," senior captain Andrew Bushey said. "I think we pretty much know what we have to do mentally and physically to get ready for this season."

Like Stanley, Bushey is another four-year starter who is expected to split time between catcher and third base with classmate Paul O'Toole, another four-year starter who spent his first three seasons entirely behind the plate.

Unlike last season, when the Irish relied heavily on its pitching and on the strong arms of graduates Aaron Heilman and Danny Tamayo, Notre Dame will be largely untested on the mound. All of the returning pitchers to the Irish staff combined for only 49 percent of the innings pitched last season, as Heilman and Tamayo handled the bulk of the assignments.

"I think even though we have a young pitching staff, it's going to help us and contribute a lot," Stanley said. "We've got a very experienced and veteran group of hitters, and we're just going to help each other out during the

year. We're going to try to score going to try to score more runs for them to help them get their feet wet."

Returning as the probable top starter is junior Peter Ogilvie, who started seven games last year with a 5-1 record and 1.90 ERA. Classmate J.P. Gagne will likely occupy the next starter position.

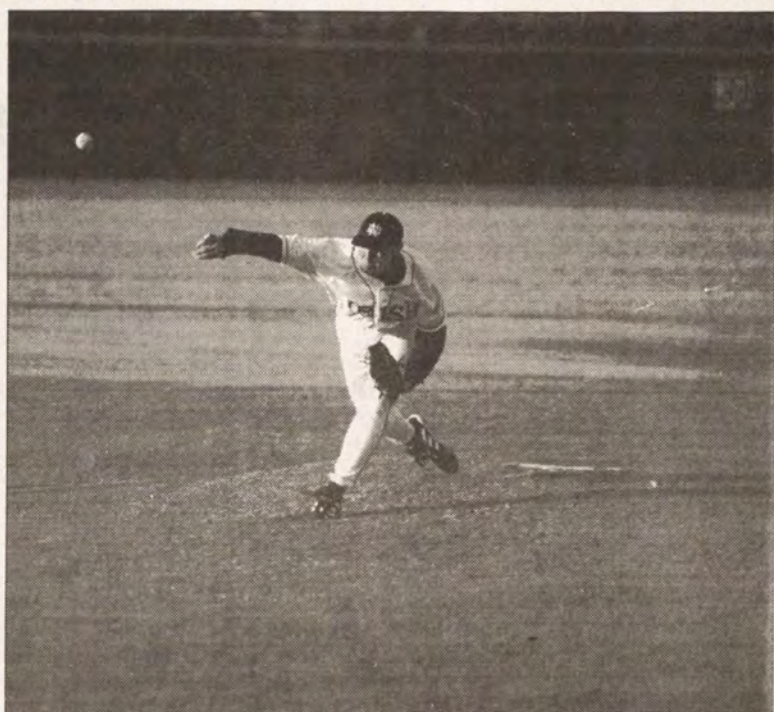
Gagne threw 70.2 innings last season, tallying a 5.35 ERA and a 5-5 record. In addition, the Irish return two of their top relievers from last season in juniors Matt Laird and Brandon Villoria, who notched ERA's of 3.09 and 3.32, respectively.

"I think with our pitching staff, we have some veterans that have done the job day in and day out, but we also have some young guys that probably just need some confidence," Bushey said. "As older position players, we know that at the beginning of the year, we can't play around. We have to really start producing runs early to get them that confidence and that maturity."

In addition to the many experienced players, the Irish enter this season with the top-ranked class of freshmen, according to Baseball America. Most notably is shortstop Matt Macri, who should start right away for shortstop Alec Porzel, the only position player the Irish failed to carry over from last season.

Other freshmen that are likely to have an early impact on the Irish are pitchers Chris Niesel, John Axford and Scott Bickford. Niesel, a high school All-American according to Baseball America, is slated as the starter for Notre Dame's game Sunday against Southern Illinois.

The most difficult task the Irish could have to overcome in this



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer

A Notre Dame player hurls a pitch last season. The Irish kick off their season today in New Orleans.

first part of the season is 18-straight road games. Much of their early competition will include Southern schools that have had the advantage of warm weather and the ability to play and practice outside before Northern schools like Notre Dame.

"The biggest adjustment [to the traveling] is that we have to play Southern schools who have been outside and adjusted to the weather and everything else for at least a month," Bushey said. "My sophomore and junior years, our first game was the first time we had been outside all year. It just takes a while to get adjusted to playing outside."

The long Southern road trips, in which the Irish will play in

tournaments in Louisiana, Florida and Texas, may hurt the Irish out of the gates — especially since their top ranking during the season last year has made many other teams aware of their ability — but the players fully anticipate a season at least as successful as the one last year.

"I think you might not see us get out to a start like we did last year," Stanley said. "Maybe you will — I don't know. But I think that towards the end of the season, we're going to be right where we were last year."

Contact Chris Federico at
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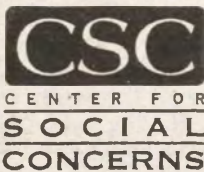
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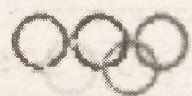
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BOBSLED

2001 ND graduate competes in Olympics

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Sports Editor

Two weekends ago, the Notre Dame track and field team had just stepped off the bus and was checking into their hotel in Windsor, Canada, where they had a meet the next day.

As the athletes waited for their room assignments, somebody flipped on the television to watch the Opening Ceremonies for the Winter Olympics. The camera scanned the athletes, showing faces from countries spanning Nepal to Cameroon.

All of the sudden, a face from Hungary appeared on the screen, a face quite familiar to the Irish athletes.

It was Marton Gyulai, a 2001 Notre Dame graduate who competed in the sprints for the Irish the previous four seasons.

"The Opening Ceremonies were going on and for some reason they kind of zoomed in on Marton," Notre Dame sprint coach John Millar said. "That was kind of the talk of the meet for a little while there."

Gyulai, whose father and brother have both previously represented Hungary in the Olympics, is carrying on the family tradition as a member of his country's four-man bobsled team. Competition begins today at 5:30 p.m. EST at Utah's Olympic Park.

Gyulai's four-man team, which also includes Nicholas Frankl, Peter Pallai and Bertalan Pinter took first place at the America's Cup in Lake Placid, N.Y., on Dec. 15, 2001, edging out the Austrian, United States and Croatian teams.

Despite that success, Gyulai realizes the competition in Salt Lake City today will be far greater, so his expectations are realistic.

"Hungary does not have a realistic chance of winning a medal, not even to be in the top 10,"

Gyulai said through e-mail earlier this month, explaining his squad's limitations. "Even though we won an amateur race in Lake Placid, we are still a very young sport in Hungary. We finance most of the events and travel ourselves, which is not cheap as a new sled costs around \$25,000. For this reason we do not have a sled but rent one at every competition."

In fact, bobsledding as a sport in Hungary is just 10 years old. Back then, two young men were looking for fun and decided to give the sport a try. The worst that could happen, they thought, is that they would fun sliding down the hill at a speed of more than 90 miles per hour.

One of those men was Miklos Gyulai, Marton's older brother who went on to compete for Hungary in the four-man event in 1994, when the team placed 28th, and 1998, when the team placed 24th. The elder Gyulai also competed in the 4x100 meter relay in the 2000 Sydney Summer Olympics.

After watching all the fun that he was having, younger brother Marton wanted to try his hand at bobsledding as a child. But the rules stated that one cannot sit in a sled before the age of 18. By the time Marton was 18, he was already enrolled as a student at Notre Dame.

So when Marton returned home after graduation, his brother had an opportunity waiting. The younger Gyulai first sat in a sled this fall, an experience he will not soon forget.

"Initially, it was horrible," said Gyulai, who also worked as an RA in Knott Hall last year. "You are shoved into a very tiny spot, with carbon fiber walls on either side, no seats but a metal sheet that you sit on, nothing to really hold on to. You wear a helmet, a speed suit and a pair of spikes, someone behind you probably accidentally rested their spikes in your calf just because there is



Photo courtesy of Marton Gyulai

Former Notre Dame student and Knott Hall RA Marton Gyulai (second from right) stands with his teammates. The former Irish sprinter will compete for Hungary in the four-man bobsled.

no space, and you are flying down an ice tunnel over 80 to 90 mph."

But Gyulai soon adjusted, and quickly found his way onto the national team.

"I no longer think about the problems there could be," Gyulai said. "I am no longer scared by the speed at which this thing flies, but enjoy the extreme situation and thrive on it."

If the team reaches its goal of improving on its prior 24th-place finish and makes the top 20, some of that success can be attributed to Gyulai's leadership and hard work, an attribute he showed often as a member of the track team at Notre Dame.

"Marton was a guy that came out and would do anything you asked him to do," Millar remembered. "I think he really liked being part of the team and part

of a program. I think he had a really strong work ethic that people caught off of and saw what he would do."

Although Gyulai never approached his brother's Olympic numbers during his time at Notre Dame — he suffered a torn knee ligament during his freshman season — he did earn a monogram last fall, when he finished fifth in the 60-meters in an indoor dual meet against Michigan State and 13th in the 100-meters at Purdue's Boilermaker Open.

"He enjoyed the sport," said Millar, who has coached multiple Olympic athletes in his career, but only Gyulai in a sport other than track and field. "I think part of that is why he did the bobsledding. It's something that he enjoys doing I'm sure and obviously making the Olympics in

that event, he must have shown some abilities in it as well. I'm sure you don't just walk out there and jump on the sled and all of the sudden become a bobsledder."

The Olympic experience has been interesting for Gyulai, who says he is enjoying the atmosphere in the Olympic Village.

"The town is nice, the people are great, you can really feel they made a huge effort here," he said. "The security is so-so. Some places it is extremely harsh, other places it is surprisingly low. However, I feel safe and enjoy it a whole lot. I don't think there will be any problems."

Contact Noah Amstadter at
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WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Canada upsets Americans

Associated Press

WEST VALLEY CITY, Utah

America's great winning streak ended at the worst time possible.

Canada beat the U.S. women's hockey team 3-2 on Thursday night to win the gold medal and halt America's 35-game string of victories, which included eight straight against the Canadians.

Hayley Wickenheiser broke a second-period tie and Kim St-Pierre stopped 25 shots as Canada ended a 50-year gold medal drought in Olympic hockey.

Canada, the seven-time world champions, avenged a loss in the gold-medal game of the inaugural women's tournament in Nagano four years ago. It is the first Olympic gold for Team Canada — male or female — since 1952, when the men won for the sixth time in seven tries.

And it was no fluke. The Canadians controlled the flow of play, and killed seven of America's nine power-play chances. The balance of power between the world's two best teams — far and away — shifted back to north of the border.

Wayne Gretzky was called in to restore

the men's program, but it was Wickenheiser who ended the drought with her goal 4:10 into the second period, knocking the rebound of Danielle Goyette's shot past Sara DeCosta to make it 2-1.

DeCosta stopped 26 shots, but defender Sue Merz — who went to the ice trying to stop the original shot — was in the goalie's way as she tried to get to Wickenheiser's shot.

Canada made it 3-1 with one second left in the second when Jayna Hefford grabbed a bouncing puck with her glove, placed it in front of her stick and shot it off DeCosta. The puck landed behind her and trickled into the net.

The United States pulled within one when Karyn Bye's shot deflected off a Canadian stick into the net with 3:33 left in the game. Despite pulling DeCosta after a timeout with 1:14 left, the Americans couldn't tie it.

The Canadians poured over the boards onto the ice at the final buzzer, throwing their equipment into the air. Having beaten the United States in every world championship ever played, the Olympic gold was the one prize they still sought.

FIGURE SKATING

Hughes shocks world, captures skating gold

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY

Michelle Kwan's medals collection still is incomplete. The gold she came back to win belongs, once again, to another American teen-ager — Sarah Hughes.

Hughes, with the performance of her young life, soared from fourth place to win the free skate and the title Thursday night in one of the biggest upsets in Olympic figure skating history.

While Hughes played the same role as Tara Lipinski four years ago, Kwan made two major mistakes to fall to third, behind Russian Irina Slutskaya, who won the silver medal.

But Hughes was sensational and the rest of the competitors were ordinary.

Her mouth dropped open and tears sprang from her eyes when

the marks showed she had won. Coach Robin Wagner, who was sitting beside her, screamed and the two of them hugged.

Hughes showed none of the tension of her short program, rolling through seven triple jumps, five in combination.

The smile on Hughes' face grew along with the crowd's din, and she nearly doubled over in joy when she finished a captivating program. Wagner, meanwhile, practically jumped over the sideboards to hug the youngster, who responded magnificently in the biggest moment of her life.

Kwan did not respond nearly as well as her fellow countrywoman. She fell on a triple flip, two-footed another triple jump in combination and didn't skate with the passion and fire that has become her trademark in world and U.S. championships.

BENGAL BOUTS 165-POUNDS - 170-POUNDS

Crosse, Matassa appear favorites for 165-pounds

By BRIAN BURKE
Sports Writer

One look at the 165-pound bracket shows that there are two obvious front runners for the title: junior captain Clay Crosse and Chriss Matassa. Matassa narrowly lost a split decision thriller to Brock Heckman last year in the 150-pound final.

Fighting for the right to take on Matassa will be Wyatt "Shifty" Shiflett and Justin "The ResLife Regular" Meyers. Meyers was a semifinalist last year at 165 pounds.

The other end of the bracket has Matt "Diesel" Wilkerson facing off against first timer Mike "The Scottish Nightmare" MacRitchie, with the winner taking on Crosse.

The weight class has several other inexperienced fighters. The preliminary bouts pitting Will "Muhammed" Holley against Mark "The Holy Ghost" Yost, Patrick "Moo Hair" Muehr and Nick "The Silent Assassin" Nanovic, Matt "The Meat Hook" Seidler and Michael "Bike Mike" McDonald, and David "The Double Barreled" Cannon against Matthew Klobucher all feature competitors making Bengal Bouts debuts.

"You can see there's mixed emotions with the fights starting," Cannon said. "There's some tension building in practice, you can see it in the Pit [the auxiliary gym in the Joyce Center where the boxers train]."

170-pounds

The 170-pound weight class should be one of the more entertaining in the tournament, not only

because of its competitiveness, but the makeup of the fighters as well.

"It's a real aggressive weight class," said Ryan "Rhino" Hernandez, who faces James Ward in the preliminaries. "There's a nice mix of power and endurance, so you see guys who are able to maintain a barrage throughout the fight."

Hernandez, who lost a preliminary round bout to eventual finalist Rob Joyce last year, has a slight advantage in experience over the first-time fighter Ward.

The highlight of the 170 preliminaries matches Matt "Rocky Mountain Avalanche" Padilla against Nate Scheid. Last year, both boxers claimed preliminary victories in a relatively inexperienced bracket. Padilla lost to eventual finalist Joyce.

The only other fighter with Bengal Bouts experience is Matt "The Booster" Knust, who lost a preliminary bout last year to eventual 175-pound champion Mark Criniti. Knust faces freshman Chris "The Count of Monte Fisto" Milliron.

The other fights pitting Bengal Bouts rookies are Domingo "Lunes" Maynes against T.J. "The Human Punching Bag" Strachota, Geoff "Ragin' Asian" Dennie against William "The Kid" Phillip, Evan "Dysfunctional" Oliver against Kraig "Left On Colfax Right On Hill" Kotteman, Shaun Iversen versus Craig "The Devil's Advocate" Oliver, and Eric "Broke" Barroso against Patrick "The Irish Curse" McGarry.

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BENGAL BOUTS 180-POUNDS - HEAVYWEIGHTS

Criniti awaits opponent

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

Two-time champion Mark Criniti received the only bye in the 180-pound weight division and will watch Friday as 14 other fighters battle for a spot to join him in the quarterfinals.

Criniti will use his extra night off to evaluate potential opponents but he already knows there are several fighters who could take his title from him.

"There are probably a group of four or five boxers that I would say are real solid boxers," he said.

In the top part of the bracket, Keith "The Little Ball of Love" Arnold could pose the biggest challenge. The senior is a seasoned veteran of the bouts and made it to the semifinals last year.

"He's won a few fights," Criniti said. "I see him as being a tough competitor."

Arnold will face Cimarron "Wild Thing" Gilson in the first round.

The winner of the Arnold-Gilson fight will await the winner of Kevin "Big Tank" Conoscenti and John "The Brick House" Wahoske.

Conoscenti, a first time fighter, hopes to use his reach to keep the more experienced Wahoske away.

"I am taller than most people so I just want to keep using my jab," he said.

Alex Wood will face Eric "Crash Test" Callahan in the other preliminary fight in the top half of the 180-

pound bracket. The winner of that fight will face Criniti.

Matt Sarb, a walk-on football player, is one of the favorites to emerge from the bottom half of the bracket, according to Criniti. Sarb will face law student Eric Goulet in the first round.

Freshman Jim "Spicy Chicken Combo" Christoforetti faces Chris "The Sweet Scientist" Pearsall in a battle of youth against experience. Christoforetti comes from a good pedigree — his brother was a three-time champion — but Pearsall has fought in the Bouts before. The winner will face either Sarb or Goulet.

Doug "As I Dug Your Grave" Lawrence battle law student Justin "Avarice" Alvarez in the first round. The winner will face either John "Shake On" Baker or Tommy "Gun" Demko.

190-pounds

Every fighter in the 190-pound weight division will need to win four bouts to be declared champion as no one gets a bye.

John Lynk faces Shane "The Man in the Black Pajamas" Cooper in the first round. Lynk was a semifinalist in 2001.

The winner of that bout will meet either Patrick "Soul Pole" Otlewski or Douglas "Landon the Lugan" Pope in the second round.

Fights between Jason "Willie Hayes" Mayes and

Larry "The Anchor Yanker" Rooney and Alexander "Tell Your Girlfriend Not To Call Me" Menze and William Zizic round out the top bracket of the 190-pound weight class.

Kevin "Hardcore" Bradl may be the favorite to come out of the bottom bracket. He was a finalist as a sophomore before losing in the semifinals as a junior. He will face Tony Mirabile in the first round.

The winner of that fight awaits the winner of John "Your Favorite Flavor" Caver and Eddy "I'm Not For Play, Only For Show" Vulin. Vulin is a first time qualifier while Caver lost to eventual champion Josh Thompson in the quarterfinals last year.

Law student Jeremy Gayed fights junior Jose "El Pepe" Ronchetta for the right to battle either Rick Hasty or Joshua "Da Flyin' Hawaiian" Kaakua in the quarterfinals.

Heavyweights

Knute Rockne started the Bengal Bouts in the 1920s in part to keep football players in shape in the off season. The heavyweight quarterfinals, which will be fought on Sunday, feature two senior walk-on football players — Eric Nelson and Jeffrey Campbell.

Campbell will fight Herry while Nelson battles Hinchman.

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



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BENGAL BOUTS 155-POUNDS - 160-POUNDS

Old bodies, new faces square off in Bouts

By PAUL CAMARATA
Sports Writer

With a mix of seasoned boxers and rookies, the 155 and 160 pound divisions of this year's Bengal Bouts offer many intriguing matchups. While several veterans will bring both great technical skill and past experience to the ring starting in tonight's preliminary rounds, every fan who knows the Sweet Science knows that predicting the results of any given fight can be the most unscientific aspect of the sport.

155-pounds

Action in the 155 pound division will begin with seven fights on Friday night.

After winning the 150 pound title in 2001, bruiser Brock "Landers" Heckmann looks to repeat his success in a different weight class. With the ability to withstand punches and his talent as a strong counter puncher, the seasoned Heckmann may be the boxer to beat at 155 pounds. He will be challenged in the first round by Morrissey senior and second year Bouts participant Dan "The Manler" McCoy.

Senior Mike "Dynamike" McCabe, a first year boxer who brings to the ring the poise and discipline he developed while earning a black belt in martial arts, will take on "One Punch" Paul Robinson, a sophomore from Zahm who is also boxing for the first time.

Freshman Colin Kerrigan, who completed the novice training period last semester, will matchup in his first ever Bengal Bout with sophomore and Morrissey resident Julian "Bel Biv" DeVoe. The speedy DeVoe

is looking to improve on his performance last year, when as a first year boxer he advanced to the semifinals of his weight class.

Third year law student Andy "The Atomic" Baum will bring his age and the experience of last year's Bouts to the first round to face off-campus senior Chris "Third Time's A Charm" Pettit. Fighting in his third Bengal Bouts, Pettit will try and use his skills as a lefty, generally atypical among boxers, to disrupt the strong technique that Baum has on both offense and defense.

Second year boxer Mike "The Militia Man" Melby, a Dillon Hall junior who is tall among the other 155 pound fighters, will try to combine his strong jab and long reach to solve Chris Henry, a sophomore from Zahm Hall.

Brandon "4-1072" Gasser, a sophomore from Alumni Hall boxing for the second year, takes on another South Quad sophomore in the first round, Fisher's Christopher "Border Bandit" Solis.

Off-campus senior Mike Messina will challenge John "The L-Dizzle" Nowak in the first round tonight. A left-handed boxer, the sophomore Nowak is competing in the Bengal Bouts for the second year.

Freshman Jesse "The Kangaroo" Shallcross received an automatic bye into the quarterfinals, after his first round opponent was declared medically ineligible to box.

160-pounds

An even pool of 16 boxers means a full bracket in the 160 pound weight class, so that every man must win three matches in order to climb past the competi-

tion and fight in the Joyce Arena one week from today.

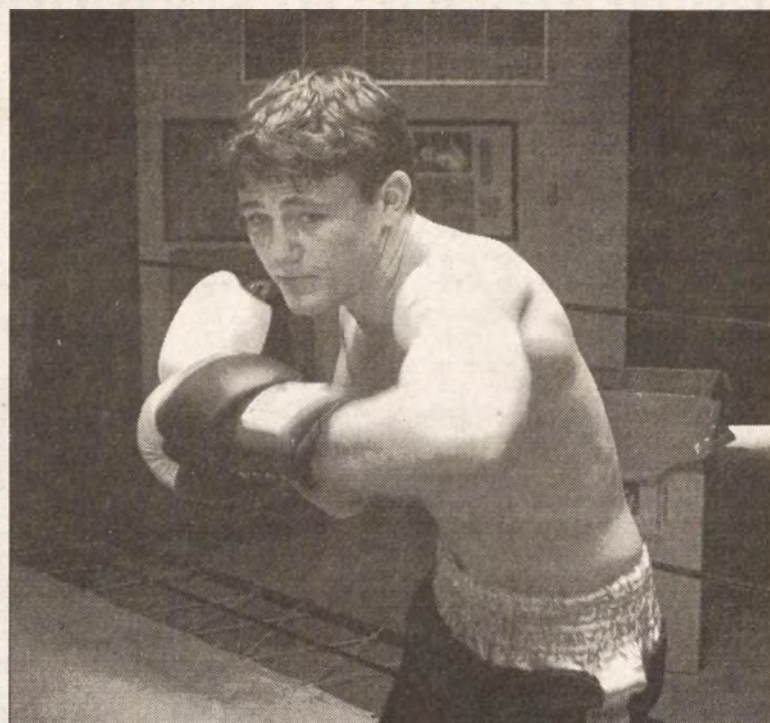
The 160-pound division includes the only two Notre Dame boxers who hail from overseas. Chris "Can't We All Just" Kitalong, an off-campus senior, is a native of Palau, a small island southeast of the Philippines in the Pacific Ocean. A second-year boxer who relies on fast hands and athleticism, his first round opponent is law student Ethan "The Dude" McKinney, ironically, a native of nearby Mishawaka, Ind.

The other international matchup pits former Dillon Hall resident and current off-campus senior Dan "The Danimal" Probst, of Columbia, S.C., with third-year law student and current Dillon assistant rector John "The Chris Reid Shamrock Express" Murphy from New Ross, Ireland. Probst, who lost a questionable decision as a sophomore, is eager to return to action after missing last year's Bouts while abroad.

Two freshman boxers will square off in the preliminaries when Keough's Mike "Pure Sweetness" Panzica faces Galen "La Maqu'na" Loughrey from Dillon Hall. Both boxers have shown promise in their first year, notably Panzica for his technique and Loughrey for his dedication during training.

Zahm Hall sophomore Dusty Segretto's first round draw is Jason "Donkey Punch" Voss, a junior from Sorin Hall who has bulked up to compete in the 160-pound weight class. Voss had success last year in the 145-pound division, advancing to the semifinals.

Mark "Donkey Punch" DeSplinter is a freshman that



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer

Brock "Landers" Heckmann won the 150-pound title last year. This year, he moves up in class and hopes to repeat.

has received high marks from the senior captains for his strong work ethic throughout the season. The well-conditioned Alumni resident will face Dillon's Eric "It Saul Good" Saul in the first round, a senior and one of the taller fighters in his division.

An off-campus senior but first year boxer, Dan "Sunshine" Frailey will also try to use his long reach to advance to the quarterfinals. His first round opponent is John Enterline, a sophomore from O'Neill Hall.

After transferring to Notre Dame, Pat "Boom-B-Yea" Hobbins competed in his first Bengal Bouts last year as a sophomore. Now a junior from Keenan, Hobbins will bring his

strong technical skills to the first round to meet Knott Hall junior Matt "The Hogtown Hurricane" McDonald.

The bottom of the 160-pound bracket matches two more South Quad sophomores. Brent "Total Eclipse of the Heart" Burish, a Dillon resident with a long jab, will face Pat "The Beast from the Bend" Dillon, of Morrissey Manor. A graduate of South Bend's Marian High School, Dillon is a second year boxer who has shown great improvement since his novice season a year ago.

Contact Paul Camarata at
pcamarat@nd.edu.

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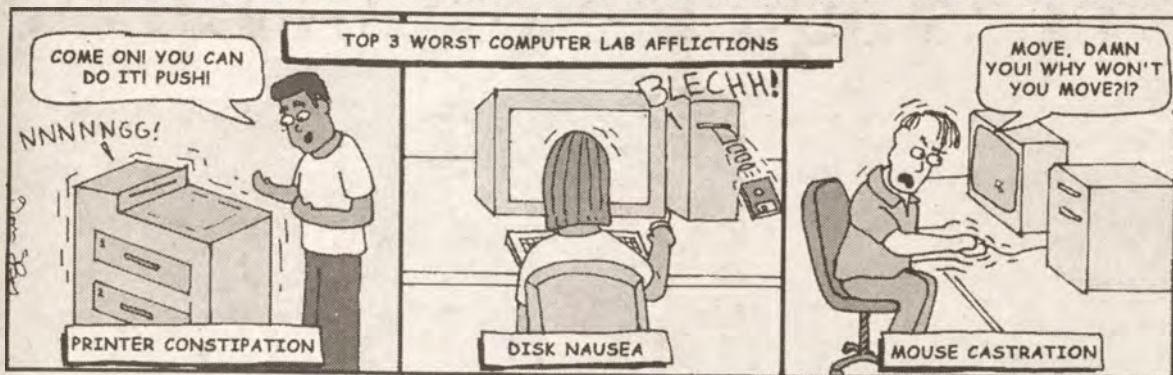
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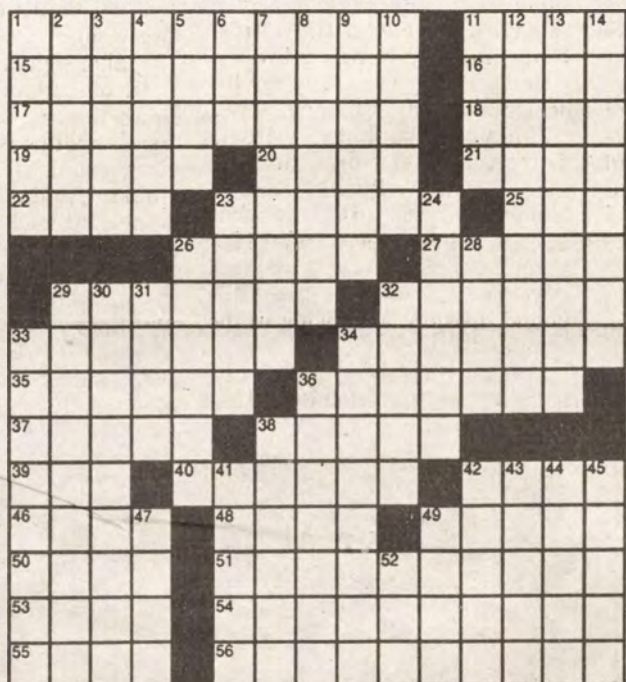
BILL AMEND



Even if this is true, for your own sake, please don't ever say it out loud.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Bring lunch from home
 - U.S.M.C. recruits: Abbr.
 - 100, for sure
 - Silver lead
 - Square
 - Mythical craft
 - Square
 - Football Hall-of-Famer Ronnie
 - "Dear ____": The Autobiography of Vincent Van Gogh
 - Surgical setup
 - Turkey, e.g.
 - TV planet
 - 1989 Grammy winner for "Nick of Time"
 - Not good at losing
 - Surfing aid
 - First name in the White House, 1885
 - Shuffle along
 - Bearded ones
 - Hollywood sightings
 - "It's Too Late Now" autobiographer
 - Spout
 - Garden veggies
 - Put coins in
 - Some chip features
 - Walled town
 - Times or Schoolbook
 - Launcher's launch
 - Calculus developer
 - Send flying
 - Yelled at
 - In addition
 - Station wagons abroad
 - "Guarding ____" (1994 movie)
 - Commercial name for brine shrimp
- DOWN**
- Wembley Stadium borough
 - Snake, e.g.
 - Works
 - Darling girl
 - Obviously interested
 - Diner order
 - Capital near Encounter Bay
 - Quick-stepping dance
 - "But of course!"
 - Nearing the hour
 - Something to fall back on?
 - "Total Recall" director Paul
 - Ornamental stone made of colored quartz
 - Dupes

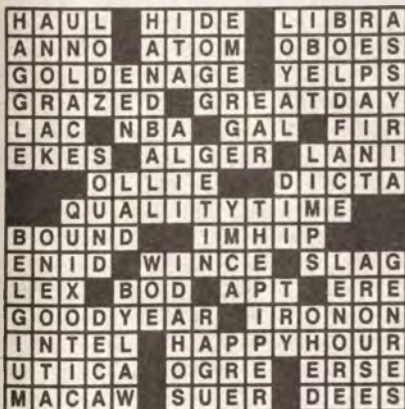


Puzzle by Mark Diehl

- Catches red-handed
- Frank who wrote "The Pit," 1903
- Kind of match
- Picker's target
- Side in a criminal case
- Authenticity
- Feds
- Plays for money
- Makes light of
- Buffet staple
- Early capital of Georgia
- Music box?
- Some refueling spots
- Riviera, e.g.
- Arm parts
- Take another stab at
- "Ick!"
- Rare bills
- First home
- 1944 initials

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.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Drew Barrymore, Edward Kennedy, Michael Chang, Julius Erving

Happy Birthday: If you aren't happy with the situation, consider your options and don't be afraid to make a move. Your willpower, coupled with your intuition, should help you accomplish all you set out to do. Stress and nervous tension must be dealt with and eliminated. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. Your numbers are 5, 17, 22, 35, 41, 47

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can make changes if you stand up for your rights. Join forces and press employers to improve your working conditions or talk to friends and work as a team to achieve self-improvement projects. ☼☼☼

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will be emotionally challenged today. You know in your heart that you need a change, but you just aren't sure where to start. Talk to someone you trust and ask his or her opinion. ☼☼☼

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may want to hibernate today. Spend time making yourself happy. Do the things that you enjoy the most. It's time to lower your stress, pamper yourself and get back on top of personal matters. ☼☼☼

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can make a difference if you get involved in a fund-raising group or join an organization that has an intellectual slant. You are great at delegating work so don't hesitate to take a leadership position. ☼☼☼

Birthday Baby: You can turn on the tears at the drop of a pin. You are highly intuitive and can pick up on other people's feelings easily. You are truly an individual with vivid imagination and creative ability.

(Need advice? Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, astromate.com.)

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VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will face frustration and obstacles if you try to interest someone in helping you get ahead. Your ability to work with detail will help you but don't overdo it. You could end up missing your deadline. Be precise, efficient and wise. ☼☼☼

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are intelligent, gifted and certainly intuitive. Don't stand in the way of your own advancement. You have the goods but you must believe in yourself as well. ☼☼☼☼☼

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Saving is the key to getting ahead today. You need to mellow out and take better care of yourself. A regimented routine and proper diet will fix any stress that you have been experiencing. ☼☼☼

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be on an emotional roller-coaster ride today. Try to stay grounded and don't let anyone upset you. Be true to yourself and honest about the way you feel. ☼☼☼

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make changes that will turn your life around today. Take a look at all your options and don't be afraid to take a chance. Accept the changes going on around you. ☼☼☼

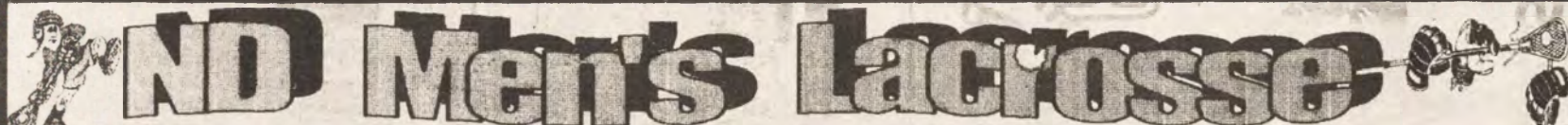
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't hold yourself back. You have the opportunity to do something creative so take the plunge and let everyone see how gifted you are. Expand your knowledge through books, seminars or talking to intellectual people. ☼☼☼☼☼

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may want to remain quiet today. Problems will surface if you are too forthcoming with your opinions. A misunderstanding may cause problems with someone you considered to be close. ☼☼

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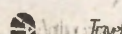
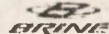
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- ◆ Baseball, p. 23
- ◆ Women's Basketball, p. 22
- ◆ Fencing, p. 21

SPORTS

Friday, February 22, 2002

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- ◆ Hockey, p. 20
- ◆ SMC Swimming, p. 20
- ◆ Men's Swimming, p. 17
- ◆ Women's Swimming, p. 16

BENGAL BOUTS

First-time boxers await tonight's prelims

◆ 72nd Bengal Bouts begin tonight at 5 p.m.

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

Jim Christoforetti has been dreaming about a short walk for almost eight years.

Ever since the freshman from McMurray, Pa. watched his brother John win three titles in 1995, '96 and '97, he has waited for his chance to step into the ring.

"I'd imagined it and envisioned it," Christoforetti said. "It was sort of one of those childhood dreams. It seems weird

that [tonight] it's going to come true when I step into the ring."

Christoforetti is one of many first time boxers who will step into the ring tonight when the 72nd Bengal Bouts begin in the Joyce Center at 5 p.m.

The first-time boxers have many different reasons for wanting to fight but for Christoforetti, the Bengal Bouts were the main reason he came to Notre Dame. As soon as he stepped on campus, he signed up to fight.

"The second day I was here, I came on campus and went into the boxing room and signed up for it," he said.

Although Christoforetti had never boxed before, he was a

veteran of hand to hand combat. In addition to watching his brother win three titles, he has also taken kick-boxing lessons for five years. He said the techniques and strategies are different in kick boxing but it did teach him one important lesson: how to take a punch.

"I am used to fighting somewhat," he said. "It's a new kind of fighting and a different technique but it never hurts to have fought someone before."

Not all the first time fighters have that experience. Sophomore Douglas Pope had never even been in a playground scuffle before he signed up for the Bouts at Activities Night.

"I am usually quite a pacifist,"

Pope said.

So when Pope first got popped in the face, he was stunned.

"It was a real wake up call," Pope said. "I've never been in a fight before. It was a real shocker."

Freshman John Baker had a similar reaction to his first good shot to the head.

"It was kind of funny," Baker said. "I just kind of stood there for a moment and thought 'what did I get myself into?'"

After five spars, however, the shock of getting punched has worn off but the pain remains.

"It hurts a little more," Pope said. "My nose hurts a little more than I thought it would."

Pope has also been forced to

battle his natural instincts in the ring. When the instinctive fight or flight reaction kicks in, Pope's first thought was flight. But now he has to fight.

"It's sort of fighting your natural tendencies that you body has to just start flailing your arms and protecting your face," Pope said. "You can't do that. I think I've gotten better through sparring."

Although many first-time fighters are freshmen or sophomores, there are several seniors stepping into the ring for the first time. After watching the Bouts from the stands for four years, they weren't going to let

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BIG EAST SWIMMING AND DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Alone at the top



NELLIE WILLIAMS/The Observer

Notre Dame's Marie Labosky swims the butterfly leg of the 200-yard individual medley. Labosky will face Sydney Olympian Maddy Crippen from Villanova in the 400-yard individual medley today.

◆ Women lead by more than 100 points after first day of Big East finals

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
Sports Writer

UNIONDALE, N.Y.

The meet had barely started before the Irish women's swimming and diving team sent a message to the Big East.

In the second leg of the 200-yard freestyle relay, the Irish outdistanced the heat by a body length. By the end of the event, the Irish were ahead of the pack by more than a second, and

secured the meet record and an NCAA consideration time of one minute, 32.01 seconds.

The relay told any Big East teams looking to contest the Irish for the 2002 title there wasn't a chance. After day one of competition, the Irish lead with 210 points, more than 100 points ahead of closest competitor Rutgers.

"I think we're focused and where we need to be," said Irish head coach Bailey Weathers.

But the Irish had limited success in their main goal for the conference championships. Aiming to use the meet as a stepping stone to NCAA championships, Notre Dame wants to qualify as many swimmers as possible during the

three-day weekend championship meet.

In the first day of competition, the Irish posted three times that will be considered for entry at the national meet.

The 200-yard freestyle relay of sophomores Katie Eckholt and Danielle Hulick and seniors Carrie Nixon and Kelly Hecking earned a consideration time with their first-place finish. Sophomore Lisa Garcia earned a consideration bid in the 200-yard individual medley, finishing in 2:02.37. The 400-yard medley relay of Hecking, Nixon, senior Allison Lloyd and sophomore Lisa D'Olier also earned a consid-

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Hurricanes present big challenge

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

When the Miami Hurricanes arrived at the banquet hall of the Sugar Bowl Classic in late December, Mike Brey did a double-take.

"They come walking in and I almost choked," the Irish head coach said.

What Brey and the Irish saw at the New Orleans tournament was a team that boasts seven players who measure at least 6-foot-7.

Two months later, Brey and his players repeat their initial impression of the Hurricanes over and over again: "They're just so long."

And the Irish will find out just how their shorter roster will match up against that height Saturday when the two teams from the conference's West and East divisions clash in Coral Gables.

The Irish own the third spot in the West division, behind Pittsburgh and Syracuse, with an 8-5 Big East record.

The Hurricanes, who also have an 8-5 conference record, have captured the second spot in the East division and the second best conference and overall record in the Big East.

Playing Miami on the road will not make Notre Dame's task any easier — the Hurricanes have dropped only one game on

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SPORTS
AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Bengal Bouts, today, 5 p.m.
- ◆ Big East Swimming Championships, today, Sunday, 10 a.m.
- ◆ Men's Basketball at Miami, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

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