



SNOW

HIGH 21°
LOW 18°

Go Irish!

Who is that rowdy group of green-clad fans at the men's basketball games? Scene reveals the masterminds behind Notre Dame's Leprechaun Legion.

Scene ♦ pages 11-12

Monday

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Class of 2003 reelects class officers

By ERIN LARUFFA

Associate News Editor

Following last Wednesday's primary, the remaining candidates in the three class council elections faced each other in a runoff on Friday.

In a close election reminiscent of the recent student body president election, the Class of 2003 reelected Matt Smith, Karen Lysaght, Nick Mastronardi and Josh Gentine as its class officers.

Smith and his ticket received 55 percent, just 62 votes more than the ticket of Steven Henriques, Edward Pettei, Brian Ostick and Catherine Disipio.

"I'm excited we get another whole six years," Smith said.

Senior class officers remain in office for five additional years after graduation to coordinate communication among class

members and to plan events such as reunions.

Currently the class officers for the junior class, Smith, Lysaght, Mastronardi and Gentine plan to continue holding monthly class dinners, that Smith said "help to unite the class." He said they also intend to work with other campus organizations throughout the year.

"The theme in student government has been collaboration," Smith said. "There will definitely be collaboration with the office of the president and some smaller clubs."

Senior class officers are also involved with organizing Senior Week between final exams and their class' graduation ceremony.

"It's really the last time in this setting that you get to be with your friends," said Smith. "It's a memory that will last."

Smith admitted that both tickets in the race were concerned

that voter turnout would be low, since the runoff election was held Friday. However, he said they were pleased to see that more juniors voted in the runoff than in Wednesday's primary.

In the election for Class of 2004 officers, Meghan O'Donnell, Pat Millea, Shawna Monson and Sonia Wallace received 57 percent of the vote, beating Jon Feczko, Sean McCarthy, Richard Mordini and Joseph Saliba.

"It's something I felt called to do and really wanted to do," O'Donnell said, who will serve as class president.

O'Donnell said that as most sophomores look ahead to junior year, their main con-

cerns are going abroad and exploring career options.

"We want to try to bring unity to the junior class as the focus on those two areas," she said.

"The theme in student government has been collaboration."

Matt Smith
president of Class of 2003

With the largest voter turnout of any class, 1009 votes, the Class of 2005 elected Jeremy Lao, Erika Bramley, Kenna Brewer and

Matt Kinsella as its class officers. The ticket defeated Stephanie Aberger, Joe Sweigart, Andrea Brault and Kevin Leicht with 64 percent of the vote.

"I'm still coming to the realization that I was elected," Lao said, who will become sophomore class president. "But I feel

lucky that the people chose our ticket."

At the same time, Lao praised Aberger's ticket, as well as the other tickets that ran in Wednesday's primary, for many of their platform ideas.

"We want to open up the class council to the people who ran in this election," he said. "All the tickets were commendable and therefore we want them to be a part of the council."

In fact, Lao said that this process of assembling the class council by both finding people who want to be involved and determining how to structure the council is his first priority now that he has been elected.

The new slates of class officers begin their terms in April.

Contact Erin LaRuffa at claruffa@nd.edu.

Yeoh depends on East and West

By LIZ KAHLING

News Writer

Actor Michelle Yeoh closed up the successful International Conference on Globalization and Media in Asia held at Notre Dame this weekend by discussing many of her experiences with both the American and Asian film industry before a showing of her blockbuster hit "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

See Also

Yeoh discusses
'Crouching Tiger,
Hidden Dragon'

page 4

"Without the Asian market I would not be recognized by the American market. I appreciate where I started in Asia," Yeoh, a native Malaysian, said. "I don't choose by location, but rather by the character I play as well as the director. It's more about their personalities and the vision they have."

She also spoke highly of her experience with Thomas Chung of Han Entertainment, also a speaker at the conference that occurred over the weekend.

After 19 films and 18 years in the industry, Yeoh has collected many awards and honors, including three nominations as "Best Actress" in several Asian film awards and status as the "International Star of the Year" at the ShoWest exhibitors' convention 2001. Her success has not been limited to the Asian film industry; she has captured

American audiences with performances in "Tomorrow Never Dies" as well as "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

What makes Yeoh an even more well known actor is that she performs nearly all her own stunts, many of them using martial arts. Rebelling against the stereotype of "damsel in distress," Yeoh has become the preeminent female action heroine. When asked what was one of the hardest movies she had done she told of her knee injury during the first week of filming "Crouching Tiger" that almost stopped production. Even more challenging for the role was learning Mandarin Chinese, a language in which Yeoh is not fluent.

While audience members acknowledged the exciting action roles she plays they wanted to know what her plans are for more dramatic parts. She pointed out her movie "Soong Sisters," a movie about three sisters during the formation of the Chinese Republic; a movie that does not involve action. Yeoh turned the question back on the audience as to why so many female roles in Hollywood tend to be stereotypical. She said that she often receives scripts that have to be slightly rewritten for her because she embodies a dif-

ferent female image than the elite Caucasian female actors who first see the script.

Even though she hopes to get more drama roles, Yeoh still defended her action roles.

"It's not action for action's sake. The dramatic part still matters," she explains. "Martial arts takes away the ugly, bloody violence that you see when someone is shot in a movie."

Yeoh was also asked about her experiences working on a huge Hollywood movie like

"Tomorrow Never Dies." She told the audience that she found herself on her own private jet between locations hoping that the audience would watch the movie and say to themselves, "now I understand where they put that \$100,000."

Recently, Yeoh has established her own production company, Mythical Films, as a way to continue her development and give back to the industry. She hopes to bring in young and upcoming directors and screenwriters to work in the Asian market. The company's debut movie, "The Touch," will be released this upcoming summer.

Contact Liz Kahling at ekahling@nd.edu.

TO THE BITTER END!



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Fighting in the 72nd annual Bengal Bouts, junior Andrew Harms (left) and senior Jemar Tisby represented the 145-pound weight class. The close match left Tisby the victor in a split-decision. The senior won his first title after being defeated last year in the finals by Michael Waldo. The event raises money for Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, sending \$75,000 to the poverty-stricken country last year.

INSIDE COLUMN

My Dr., my hero

I work at a hospital where I hear people bad mouth doctors all day long. I hear about insurance arguments, long office waits, malpractice miscommunications regarding second opinions upon second opinions that lead to confusion. So, when a professor asked me in class Friday, "who is in charge? The doctor, or the patient," I thought I could easily answer the question. I was wrong.

Doctors must endure endless years of schooling to gain their degree. And for this, I think that people think that doctors should know everything, or be able to cure everything. Although they have the ability to make life and death decisions, doctors are no different than the patients they treat. Face the facts; doctors are people too. Doctors make mistakes. Good doctors know when to admit fault.

What then makes a great doctor, or makes a doctor great? I don't believe that a person is a doctor as soon as the degree is received. A person becomes a doctor when they begin to act in the best interest of their patients, motivated by the healing aspect of medicine, not by greed. Doctors demonstrate compassion and the ability to get things done without compromising human dignity. It is a doctor's job to help a patient understand options, and guide a decision for medical care. It is through this effort, that many doctors are deemed heroes. Even heroes can't do everything — some patients choose not to listen. People continue to smoke in spite of cancer; people continue to drink in the face of addiction. The decision to explain the importance of quitting is the responsibility of the physician. The choice to stop falls upon the patient.

For this reason, it is also the patient's job to be educated. My mother always said that people could only make you feel inferior if you allow them to. With this in mind, I look at physicians today. As a patient, I trust that the information given to me is truthful. I want to know how and why, and what I can do to help myself in the situation. I want to know what is happening to me, so I educate myself. I look at my relationship with my doctors as a teacher/student, a passing of knowledge. A doctor knows what will help, and if I listen, I too can learn how to make decisions that benefit my health. But, like a good student, I am expected to ask questions. And, like a good teacher, a doctor's knowledge should be shared willingly.

And then, there's money. It can determine the path taken by both patient and physician. Patients fight to gain insurance coverage, doctor's fight for insurance coverage. The question in care turns from, which drugs offer the best outcome to which drugs will insurance cover? Sometimes, that lack of coverage leads to a substandard decision on what is deemed adequate or necessary care. A decision should be made based on cure rates, not copays.

But then, who is responsible for the actions of both doctor and patient? Is insurance the ultimate scapegoat? It is the doctor's responsibility to never allow business to tower over patient care. It is a patient's responsibility to look into the practice of the physician, and determine which is of more importance to the individual caregiver. A patient should listen to the options given by their doctor, and make an educated decision based on their own faith on what is the best treatment to ensure their health.

So who is in charge? Sometimes the seemingly easiest questions turn out to be the most difficult. Even though my answer was enough to get the time to pass in my class, the question still leaves me wondering. It's a never-ending discussion. My suggestion, start by discussing it with your own physician.

Contact Kelly Hager at khager@nd.edu.

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

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

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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Kelly Hager

Copy Editor

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

Monday
◆ **Film and discussion:**
"The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter."
DeBartolo 129, 4 p.m.

◆ **Bible Study:** "The Way Bible Study." 331
Coleman-Morse, 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday
◆ **Lecture:** "War and Power in Putin's Russia."
Hesburgh Center C-103,
12:30 p.m.
◆ **Film:** "Silences of the Palace." Montgomery
Theatre, 7 and 9 p.m.

Wednesday
◆ **Lecture:** "American Foreign Policy Challenges." Hesburgh
Center. Auditorium,
7 p.m.

Thursday
◆ **Conference:** "Assessing the Theological Legacy of John Howard Yoder."
McKenna Hall, all day.

BEYOND CAMPUS

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Plagiarism plagues Harvard historian's reputation

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.
Amid more findings of plagiarism in her book *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys*, historian and Harvard Overseer Doris Kearns Goodwin has left "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" for an indefinite period of time and found withdrawn her invitation to speak at the University of Delaware's commencement.

In a statement, "NewsHour" said that "until all outstanding questions are resolved, 'The NewsHour' and Doris have mutually agreed that Doris will take a break from appearing on the program."

Goodwin's return to the PBS show is not guaranteed.

"Once her situation gets resolved, we'll take another look," said Sara Hope Franks, public relations manager for "NewsHour."



On Tuesday, the University of Delaware withdrew its invitation for Goodwin to speak at their commencement ceremony.

"In light of recent admissions of plagiarism by Doris Kearns Goodwin, the University of Delaware has withdrawn its invitation to her to serve as the speaker at its Commencement," according to a statement issued by the university.

University of Delaware President

David P. Roselle wrote in an e-mail that the decision was based on two considerations and was discussed via phone with Goodwin, who agreed.

"I felt that the probability that she would be placed in an embarrassing situation was unacceptably high from the university's point of view," Roselle wrote.

Roselle also said the university was placed in a difficult position of determining whether the recent controversy would detract from the spirit of the ceremony.

"Commencement at our institution is a time reserved solely for a celebration of the successes of the students, and her serving as speaker under the current conditions was likely to add to the agenda for the upcoming commencement," Roselle wrote.

Harvard Crimson

BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

School tries to attract minorities

HANOVER, N.H.
Bob Jones University, a Christian school in South Carolina that has received national criticism for its now-abolished ban on interracial dating, has begun to offer a scholarship program for minority students, though the school does not perceive itself as having a diversity problem. The scholarships range from \$2,000 up to \$10,000 — approximately the cost of attendance at BJU — and are available for minority students who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship fund is controlled by a board independent of the university, described by BJU spokesman Jonathan Pait as "friends of the school." "They saw a need and wanted to address it," Pait said. The university itself offers only work-study aid programs, and government aid is denied to students because of the school's religious orientation. Pait said he hopes the program will enable students to attend BJU who might not otherwise be able to afford the school.

The Dartmouth (Dartmouth College)

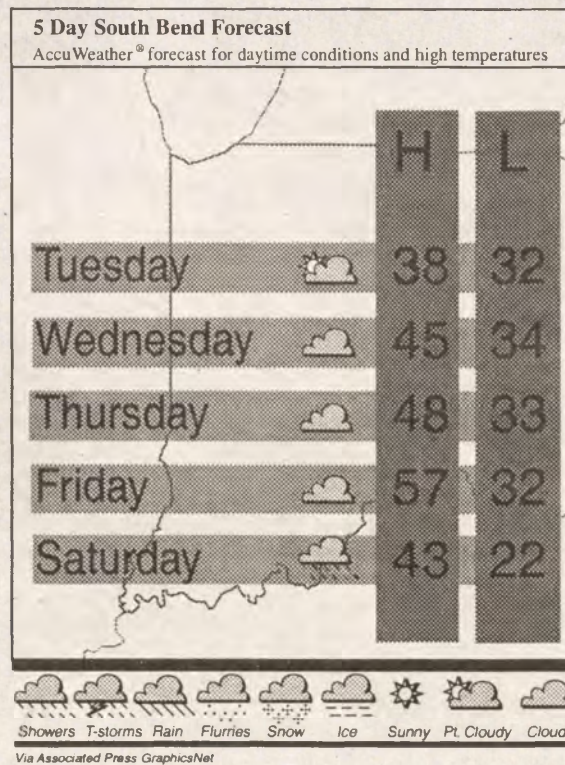
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Legislators back gun possession

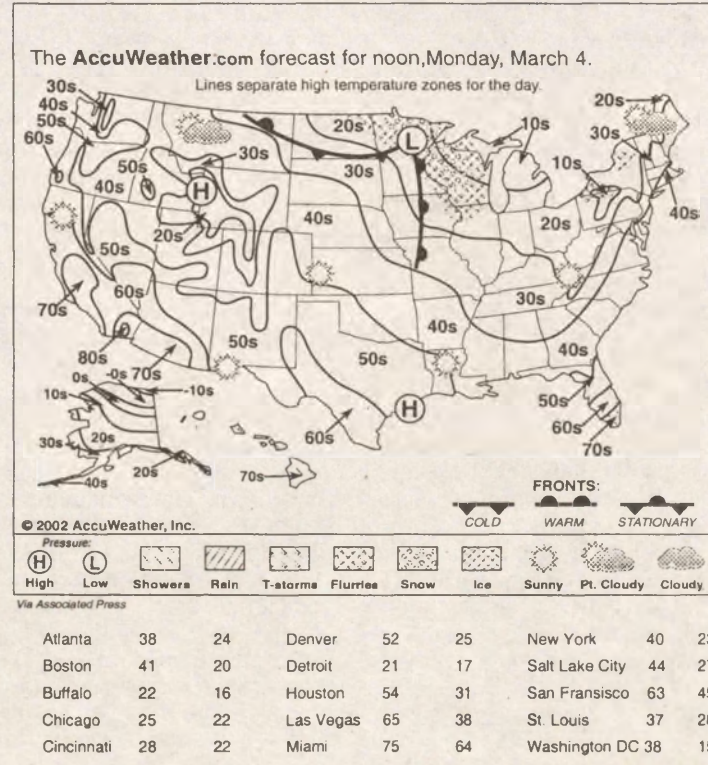
SALT LAKE CITY
With less than a week left in the legislative session, lawmakers are making a last-minute push to pass a bill that would eliminate University of Utah's no-gun policy. The bill does not single out the U but includes many state agencies with rules restricting firearms. On Friday the Senate Rules Committee will vote on the bill. To repeal the gun policies, the bill must pass through the Senate and House before the legislative session ends Wednesday. The bill would eliminate U Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities, III Student Standards of Behavior, item six, which states: "Possession or use on university premises or at university activities of any firearm or other dangerous weapon, incendiary device, explosive or chemical unless such possession or use has been authorized by the university." Despite added pressure created by the bill, U administrators remain steadfast, standing behind the policy.

Daily Utah Chronicle

LOCAL WEATHER



NATIONAL WEATHER



CEO brings Asian film to U.S.

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

In an era seemingly dominated by American pop culture, William Pfeiffer, CEO of Hong Kong-based Celestial Pictures, promotes globalization by targeting local audiences.

Pfeiffer, a 1982 Notre Dame graduate, described his experience with the business of contemporary Asian media as he delivered the keynote address in the Conference on Globalization and Media in Asia Friday. Pfeiffer has pioneered the globalization of the media, leading film studios to adopt the philosophy "think globally, script locally."

"We are bringing Asian film outside, exporting it to many countries around the world, and having an impact on the quality of entertainment," said Pfeiffer, citing the Oscar nomination for best picture that "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" received as proof.

Celestial Pictures, which owns the largest film library in Asia, distributes films to studios worldwide and also features them on new television networks it has created.

"There is a value in showing these films in their local languages. They have crossed over and are appealing to audiences they were not originally intended for. I think audiences appreciate the original language," said Pfeiffer.

Pfeiffer is currently developing a new Chinese film-based channel that will be broadcast around the world. The channel also includes some Korean and Japanese films, as well as other Asian films produced directly by Celestial Pictures. Pfeiffer made 10 films this year, but he said he hopes to produce 30 to 40 each year in the near future.

Pfeiffer said he viewed his work as a positive effort to promote cultural diversity in media around the world, rather than a means to bring Hollywood to Asia.

"I don't feel like a purveyor

of American culture around the world. I have a responsibility to show local cultures in a positive light. We have these talented actors, and I provide them with the proper resources to make their story come alive. We create stories with a local context."

Pfeiffer has a history of melding East and West. After earning an MBA from Stanford, Pfeiffer moved to Asia in 1983 and served as head of marketing for Smith Kline Beecham. He developed a campaign

to achieve acceptance for American pharmaceuticals on the Asian market, and his success merited recognition from Walt Disney.

Disney appointed Pfeiffer head of their Asian operations and hoped he would strengthen its presence in Asia.

"There was a resistance to change in international business because every country is unique. It was my job as a businessman to find a new and better way," he said.

Pfeiffer brought the culture of Disney to Japan through a television program called "The Disney Club," which combined Japanese hosts and children with Disney animation and merchandise. The show expanded to over 50 countries, with localized content for each one.

When the booming Japanese economy of the late 1980s failed in 1991, Pfeiffer looked for a future elsewhere in Asia. He moved to Hong Kong and began working with Sony pictures.

"Sony was looking for new

opportunities. Rather than go after a smaller niche, we looked at the competition around Asia and saw the opportunity to go after the mass market with localized content," said Pfeiffer.

Sony became the first major Hollywood studio to set up office in China, where it distributed programs to major networks in China. But faced with restrictions on foreign production in China, it explored other markets in Asia.

Pfeiffer and his associates saw India as a promising potential market, and in 1995 they

launched a television channel called Sony Entertainment Television. "We developed a network of channels that would appeal to a variety of audiences with diverse tastes," said Pfeiffer.

As more studios saw the growth opportunity in Asia and pursued their interests there, Sony also backed Columbia TriStar International TV.

Today, Pfeiffer continues to diversify his programming by region.

"You look at regions like China, Malaysia, India — these markets are currently depressed, they have huge populations, and they are primed for growth. We're trying to ride the wave of the next growth in Asia," he said.

Pfeiffer said he sees a bright future for the globalization of media as he helps transcend cultural barriers.

"We are all part of the same world. People make up many of the differences; I think we are in reality quite similar," he said.

"There is a value in showing these films in their local languages. They have crossed over and are appealing to audiences they were not originally intended for. I think audiences appreciate the original language"

William Pfeiffer
CEO Celestial Pictures

Casualties increase in anti-terrorism war

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Fresh U.S. combat casualties show the continuing danger five months into the anti-terror campaign in Afghanistan even as the Pentagon prepares to expand it to other countries.

In one of the largest joint operations of the war, a U.S.-led force of 1,500 Afghan allies, U.S. special forces and troops from the Army's 101st Airborne assault troops assembled for a battle that began Friday night and was continuing Saturday evening against regrouping Taliban and al-Qaida, the Defense Department said.

A statement late Saturday from Central Command in Florida said one American and three Afghans allies had been killed, and that an unspecified number from each country were wounded in the continuing battle.

Afghan fighters interviewed in Gardez, in eastern Afghanistan, said Americans told them there were about 4,000 al-Qaida and Taliban warriors holed up in the mountains.

The Central Command statement said more than 80 bombs had been dropped in the continuing operation in snow-covered, mountainous terrain.

For the first time, warplanes dropped newly developed bombs designed to send suffocating blasts through cave complexes, military officials said. The "thermobaric" bombs were tested in December and officials said in January that they would be rushed to the region for the war.

The battle was yet another example of how hard it is to stamp out the terrorists and their supporters in Afghanistan, months after the Taliban abandoned their stronghold of Kandahar and al-Qaida fighters were pushed from Tora Bora — what at that time was called their last

stronghold.

"We've said all along that it is not over," Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said hours before the bombing began.

More than a week of bombing to destroy caves and ammunition was needed in January at a huge cave complex at Zawar Kili — also after the discovery that enemy figures had been regrouping there.

President Bush learned of the combat death of the death of the American soldier from Condoleezza Rice, his national security adviser, while at Camp David, the presidential retreat in western Maryland, a White House spokesman said.

The new assault at Gardez came at the end of a week in which U.S. officials said Bush was planning to send troops to Yemen and the former Soviet Republic of Georgia, expanding the number of countries into which special forces are training local militaries to fight terrorism.

Administration officials said Friday that Bush had given the go-ahead to dispatch U.S. troops to Yemen. A Yemeni official said Saturday that he expects 100 Americans to arrive soon to train 2,000 Yemeni military personnel at a coast guard training center to be built in Aden.

That is the of the October 2000 attack that killed 17 American sailors on the USS Cole.

Washington has been pushing Yemen for greater cooperation against terrorism since the suicide bombing, which like the Sept. 11 attacks on America, was blamed on Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Officials said last week that as many as 200 Americans would deploy to help train the military in Georgia, amid sketchy reports terrorists have taken refuge in the Pankisi Gorge near Georgia's border with Russia's breakaway region of Chechnya.

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Yeoh discusses 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Actor and martial arts expert Michelle Yeoh said she attributes the recent success of Asian films in the global market to their use of martial arts.

Yeoh, who starred in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," said that the film was able to transcend cultural boundaries.

"East met West with [the film's director] Ang Lee ... He described the film as 'Sense and Sensibility' with martial arts," Yeoh said.

Yeoh shared her experience with kung fu films in a panel discussion Friday that examined the role of martial arts in global entertainment. The panel was part of the Conference on Globalization and Media in Asia and also included three Notre Dame faculty members.

History professor Dian Murray said martial arts had made their way into cinema as Asians' distinct film genre.

Yeoh agreed, adding that the fluidity and energy of martial arts captivated audiences.

"We want the audience to feel the blow because we feel

the blow. It's full contact and very realistic. It is beautiful choreography but painful and very tough," Yeoh said.

The panelists all discussed "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" as the pinnacle of Asian martial arts films for the global stage.

"It was not the be-all end-all of martial arts films. It was a culmination of the blood and sweat filmmakers have put into the genre. They assembled the best from the East and the West to make a truly global film," Yeoh said. "The surprising element is how Western audiences took an Oriental theme and culture and so warmly embraced it."

Margaret Wan, assistant professor of East Asian Languages and Literatures, said that the ambiguity of the ending of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" was the key to its global acceptance and percep-

tion. "It gives [audiences] the footage to piece the film together as they want it ... Ang Lee is intentionally giving up

responsibility for interpretation and provoking thoughts and emotions from the audience," Wan said.

Lee refused authoritative interpretation and left the ending open enough to be interpreted differently by the film's various audi-

ences. "Lee reacted against Hollywood commercial cinema and narrative structure," Wan said.

Asian media has not only succeeded in the West, but it has also brought martial arts to American film.

"The 'Asian-ization' of American cinema came in the form of 'Tomorrow Never Dies.' James Bond moved into the new century as I tried to convince audiences they couldn't accept the traditional kind of Bond girl any longer. I

worked with the director to incorporate Hong Kong style martial arts into the Bond film," Yeoh said.

Consumers must view martial arts films with a critical eye, however, said assistant professor of film, television and theater Wendy Arons. She warned against perceiving Asian culture based on one's own cultural framework, saying it could lead to incomplete comprehension.

Yeoh pioneered a pathway for women in Asian martial arts films as she entered a male-dominated arena. She chose action films because she could incorporate her dance background into them.

"Martial arts were choreographed and that related to my dance background. They involved energy, strength, choreography, flexibility, and discipline. I thought, 'I can do this,'" she said.

But Arons said the arrival of

women on the martial arts scene posed a problem for Western feminists.

"The depiction of women is not always wholly positive or unproblematic according to Western feminism," she said.

Women in martial arts films were strong and independent fighters, she said, but their femininity was still defined in terms of beauty and desirability. Beauty and power were often incompatible as kung fu

heroines were portrayed as androgynous and undesirable.

Arons said filmmakers needed to "synthesize martial artistry with femininity" in order to affirm the female's role.

Yeoh said producers had another duty: to preserve the integrity of martial arts and to protect and nurture the authentic Asian culture even as it spreads to global audiences.


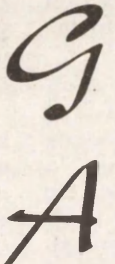
Contact Lauren Beck at
lbeck@nd.edu.

"We want the audience to feel the blow because we feel the blow. It's full contact and very realistic. It is beautiful choreography but painful and very tough."

Michelle Yeoh
actor

"The depiction of women is not always wholly positive or unproblematic according to Western feminism."

Michelle Yeoh
actor


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Thursdays 3/21-5/2 4:00-5:15 \$25 Rock 7:30-8:45pm \$25 RSRC		Wednesdays 3/20-5/1 12:10-12:50 \$21 RSRC

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RecSports

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College of Arts and Letters University of Notre Dame

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Monday, April 1, 2002

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Switzerland to join the U.N.: Swiss voters approved joining the United Nations on Sunday, finding the prospect of a greater role in today's interlinked world more compelling than fears that it would threaten the nation's centuries-old tradition of neutrality. The country will become the United Nations' 190th member sitting on the side lines for over five decades.

Hunger strike in Guantanamo: Scores of captives from the Afghan war refused meals Sunday in a protest that has lasted five days, but the U.S. military said only 13 of them had kept to the hunger strike since its start. A large group among the 300 detainees stopped eating Wednesday, some telling their captors they were upset that a guard stripped a detainee of his turban during prayers on Tuesday.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. collects DNA from terrorists: U.S. authorities have been taking samples from suspected terrorists captured in Afghanistan that could produce DNA profiles, but it remains unclear what use they will be able to make of the material. Including an analysis of the samples in a federal DNA database apparently would require congressional approval because of existing limits on what can be placed in the database.

NASA optimistic on shuttle mission: The space shuttle Columbia closed in on the Hubble Space Telescope today as NASA engineers decided to go ahead with the mission despite a cooling system problem aboard the orbiter. Ron Dittmore, the shuttle program manager, said the mission management team reviewed the cooling problem and decided today that the planned 11-day mission to renovate and repair the orbiting telescope should continue on schedule.

INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

Wrestling coach beheads sparrow: The Wayne County Sheriff's Department is investigating an Avon High School wrestling coach who bit the head off a live sparrow in front of team members. Aron Bright, 31, admitted to biting the head off the sparrow on Dec. 28 at his parents' home in Centerville. The act occurred while he and some assistant coaches, plus 15 varsity wrestlers, were attending a two-day meet in Connersville. The school board on Monday suspended Bright, who also teaches history and geography at the school, for two weeks without pay.

SAUDI ARABIA



AFP PHOTO

Saudi Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz meets with Minister Nabil Shaath in the port of Jeddah on Saturday. They discussed Israel's military escalation in the Palestinian territories and Abdullah's plan for an end to the conflict.

Mideast peace plan causes rift

Associated Press

JIDDAH
Saudi Arabia's plan to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is causing a rift among Arabs ahead of a key summit, and an Israeli official said Sunday that its main provision was an unacceptable precondition for talks.

The proposal floated by Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah two weeks ago envisions full Arab political, economic and cultural relations with Israel if the Jewish state withdraws from Arab lands it captured in the 1967 Mideast war. Abdullah has said he

would try to persuade Arab leaders to adopt his plan at the March 27-28 Arab League summit in Beirut, Lebanon.

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi rejected the plan Saturday, saying it was "shocking" and entailed "cheap bargaining."

In an interview on the influential pan-Arab satellite TV station Al-Jazeera, Abdul-bary Atwan, editor of the London-based Arabic daily Al-Quds, said the plan constitutes a reward for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "In my view, it causes more problems for the Arabs," Atwan said.

In Israel, Sharon's Cabinet made no formal decision about Saudi proposal at its weekly meeting Sunday, and Sharon reportedly said only that he wanted to see more details. In the past, Sharon has repeatedly ruled out a return to the 1967 borders.

But Cabinet Secretary Gideon Saar told reporters after the meeting that the Saudi provision on a withdrawal to the prewar lines was unacceptable as a starting point for negotiations.

"We will not be able to accept, in principle, something dictated before

negotiations," Saar said. "The frontier, in the whole area, will be determined only by negotiation."

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, both of the center-left Labor party, have said that the Saudi plan has positive elements and should be explored. Hardliners in Sharon's coalition government have dismissed it out of hand.

On the other side of the divide, militant Muslim groups in the Palestinian territories and in Lebanon have criticized the plan.

Market Watch March 1

Dow Jones	10,368.86	+262.73
Up: 2,221	Same: 182	Down: 925
Composite Volume:	1,430,894,976	
AMEX:	872.78	+ 7.20
NASDAQ:	1,802.74	+ 71.25
NYSE:	588.63	+ 10.03
S&P 500:	1,131.78	+ 25.05

TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

COMPANY/SECURITY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ-100 INDEX (QQQ)	+5.80	+1.96	35.74
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	+5.12	+0.73	15.00
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-3.79	-0.63	15.99
INTEL CORP (INTC)	+8.51	+2.43	30.98
AT&T WIRELESS (AWE)	-14.77	-1.49	8.60

Earthquake rattles South Asia

Associated Press

KABUL
A strong quake shook a wide area of South and Central Asia on Sunday, damaging buildings in the Afghan capital and sending people scrambling into the streets in parts of five countries.

Seven people were hospitalized with injuries in Kabul and 26 houses were badly damaged or destroyed, Kabul television reported.

There were no reports of deaths or broader damage despite the

intensity of the quake, which the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., measured at 7.2 — enough to cause severe damage.

Pakistani and Indian seismologists measured the quake at 6.7. The USGS said the epicenter was about 150 miles northeast of Kabul in the Hindu Kush mountains.

The U.S. institute called the quake the strongest in the region since another 7.2 quake on Dec. 30, 1983.

"It's big, but it's deep," said Bruce Presgrave, a geophysicist at the USGS. Those "tend to cause less damage."

Earthquakes and seismic activity are common in this part of the world and particularly in the Hindu Kush mountains, though they are not usually felt over such a wide area. A 6.9-magnitude quake based in the same region on May 30, 1998, killed more than 5,000 people.

The late afternoon quake Sunday was felt in parts of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. In Kabul, residents of poor neighborhoods of mud, brick and wood homes fled into the streets with their children.

States debate ban on cell use in car

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio
Many states over the past year have considered banning the use of hand-held cellular phones while driving, but so far only one — New York — has taken that step.

More than 2,000 tickets have been issued since the ban took effect Nov. 1 and at least 20 states have begun tracking cell phone involvement in traffic accidents, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Even so, states may be reluctant to single out cell phones, which business people on the go consider essential, said conference spokesman Bill Wyatt.

"State legislatures are looking at it within the bigger picture," Wyatt said. "Are cell phones the only problem? How different is using a cell phone while driving than putting on your makeup or tuning the radio?"

Last year, cell phone legislation was introduced in 43 states, 35 of them calling for an outright ban on the use of hand-held cell phones while driving.

Some safety advocates believe the legislation has been stalled by powerful cell phone lobbyists.

Patricia Pena's 2-year-old daughter Morgan Lee Pena was killed in 1999 when a driver dialing a cell phone ran a stop sign and hit the car the mother was driving in Pennsylvania.

She said many lawmakers don't bother to research the issue themselves and the cell phone industry has convinced them that bans are unnecessary.

"They hire lobbyists to cover every state capital in the nation and put on the pressure," said Pena, of Perkashie, Pa. "The telecommunications lobby is huge, powerful and has lots and lots of money."

Travis Larson, spokesman for the Washington-based Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association, said his group does not lobby at the state level. However, he said the association supplies information to cell phone companies that do.

In 1999, the Cleveland suburb of Brooklyn became the first community in the country to ban the use of hand-held cell phones by drivers. Brooklyn fines drivers \$35 for a first offense,

with a possible \$100 fine for a second offense.

Brooklyn Patrolman Rich Hovan, who wrote the first of what now totals 650 cell phone tickets in the city, jots the initials of Morgan Lee Pena on tickets and gives each motorist a photo of the girl.

"They always have an excuse about why they use the phone," Hovan said. "I ask them, 'Would you accept that as an excuse if somebody killed your daughter?' I haven't had anyone tell me 'Yeah.'"

Brooklyn is among at least

14 communities around the country that have restricted the use of cell phones by drivers, according to the state legislature conference.

A statewide ban for Ohio was introduced in the Legislature last year but is languishing in committee.

A few states have adopted lesser restrictions. Arizona and Massachusetts ban school bus drivers from using cell phones while driving.

Since Brooklyn imposed its ban, local free-lance photographer Jamie Janos said he has been using an earpiece with his cell phone, which he relies on for assignments.

"It's extremely important to me because this is my way to communicate," Janos said, adding that his business doubled when he began using a cell phone. "Without it, I can't work effectively."

He said the change has been an inconvenience, but he puts up with it because of safety.

Tim Hurd, spokesman for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said there are no reliable statistics on crashes involving cell phones, but he estimated that 25 percent of crashes are related to distractions of any kind.

"There is a broad problem of driver distraction that includes cell phone use, but is not restricted to cell phone use," said Stephanie Faul, spokeswoman for the Washington-based AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

"People feed their babies. People write. People read. People eat. They put on makeup. They comb their hair," Faul said. "Any legislation should encompass the full range of distractions."

"People feed their babies. People write. People read. People eat. They put on make-up. They comb their hair. Any legislation should encompass the full range of distractions."

Stephanie Faul
spokesperson, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

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Medical device infects 415 transplant patients

Associated Press

BALTIMORE

Johns Hopkins Hospital is alerting 415 patients and their families that a defective medical instrument may have given them a potentially life-threatening lung infection, a newspaper reported.

Some patients who were examined by one of three contaminated bronchoscopes have died, but hospital officials told The Sun they did not know if they died from the bacteria or from their existing illnesses.

The officials told the paper they have not determined how many patients have been infected or died.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration are investigating the problem, in part to determine if the device has triggered outbreaks elsewhere, The Sun reported.

"We're aware of this situation and we're looking into it," FDA spokesman Lawrence Bachorik told The Associated Press on Sunday.

A call to a CDC spokesman was not returned Sunday.

Most of those treated at Johns Hopkins were suffering from cystic fibrosis, AIDS, or lung cancer, or had recently had lung transplants.

Hospital officials discovered the problem after realizing that 128 patients had been infected with a bacterium known as pseudomonas. The number was two to three times higher than the hospital would expect, said Dr. Paul Scheel Jr., vice chairman of medicine.

"We don't know the cause

and effect between patients who died and this infection," Scheel said. "People are going through medical charts to try to ascertain this."

Scheel said at least one other hospital had reported problems with the instrument, but he did not know the name of the hospital.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Baltimore City Health Department were trying to

determine if the problem exists in other local hospitals.

The bronchoscopes are made by Olympus America, which recalled some of them last November. Hopkins owns four of the defective instruments,

but only three were found to be contaminated.

The recall letter to Hopkins, dated Nov. 30, wasn't immediately acted on because it was mistakenly addressed to the loading dock of the Hopkins physiology department, the paper said.

Officials at Olympus did not return a phone message seeking comment Sunday.

In recall letters, Olympus described the defective instruments as having a loose valve that trapped bacteria.

Physicians use the instruments to perform bronchoscopies, which inspect a patient's lungs and take tissue samples. A thin, tube-like instrument, about the width of a pencil, is placed through the nose or mouth and into the lungs.

The tube has a tiny camera at the tip and uses fiber-optic technology to produce pictures of airways.

About 460,000 patients undergo the procedure every year in the United States.

"We don't know the cause and effect between patients who died and this infection. People are going through medical charts to try to ascertain this."

Dr. Paul Scheel
vice chairman of medicine,
Johns Hopkins Hospital

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VIEWPOINT

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Monday, March 4, 2002

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Choose Mary over 'Monologues'

I was stunned to read in the Feb. 27 issue of The Observer how Kerry Walsh, student director of "The Vagina Monologues," publically responded to a flyer that I helped distribute to ticket-holders lined up to see the play. The flyer was a photograph of the famous Dome of Our Lady — except that the statue of Mary had been removed. The flyer asked "Is this what you want?" Just before the show began, Kerry addressed the audience, referred to our flyer and answered the question "Hell, yeah!"

Notre Dame is a Catholic university; the statue of Mary on the Dome is the most obvious and beautiful sign of the truths of Catholicism. Kerry's statement showed incredible public disrespect for Mary and the Catholic faith. This is nothing more than gross arrogance and indeed a sad sort of ignorance. But what should we expect? "The Vagina Monologues" is a distortion of feminine nature — and thus ultimately a distortion of who Mary is. The play's fundamental philosophical premise is that feminine sexuality is fulfilled in isolation — a deadly premise for either feminine or masculine sexuality.

The true meaning of sexuality is covenantal, nuptial, mutual and life-giving. All of these human values are mocked and degraded in the "Monologues" in a theatrical soup laden with graphic sexual language and descriptive images. Words are used in the script that inherently degrade womankind.

Kerry thinks she can reclaim certain words (including a certain C-word) as she says: "We no longer allow others to use that word in a negative light."

Well, some words are just not worth reclaiming. After all, feminists will not be on a crusade anytime soon to reclaim the words "broad" and "chick." Kerry's favorite word has a meaning — it's a word of male domination, a word used to denigrate feminine nature, a word calculated to treat a woman as nothing more than a single objectified piece of feminine anatomy reduced to its most base and obscene qualities. What symbolizes womanhood in this word is now devoid of goodness, nobility and spirit. One so reduced there's nothing left in the woman by which a man should honor her. That's the meaning of the C-word, and it's best left in the gutter of violence and injustice against women.

The "Vagina Monologues" are steeped in feminine alienation — thus, significantly, only monologues are possible. But Mary, whom Kerry wants to be rid of, provides us with the possibility of dialogues. Through the true exercise of her womanly nature, Mary made it possible for the whole human race to be in union with God.

Monica Migliorino Miller, Ph.D.

president of Citizens for a Pro-Life Society

Mar. 3, 2002

Walking in a winter
wonderland

Well, we finally got some hardcore winter weather. The freshmen complaining about how cold weather in South Bend is just a myth have suffered, and suffered deservedly. But even as a junior, this Texas native has yet to get used to the weather here, even in a relatively mild winter (I make little distinction between 20 degrees and minus 20 degrees; either way, I'm not going outside). However, I have learned some truths about South Bend weather that I'd like to share.

The basic truth is of course that snow is terrible and should be outlawed. I cannot fathom why some people like snow. They gaze out the window with glee as the first significant snowfall of the year comes down, while I bitterly envision the scene of snow flying directly in my eye that will repeat itself over and over again for the next four months. They anxiously await the time when they can have a snowball fight, while I anxiously await spring break and escape.

I admit, snow is pretty. It's pretty when it's in a postcard that I am looking at during Christmas break in San Antonio, where it is 65 degrees. That's how I envisioned snow when I was a kid and never saw it. I thought only about the sight of snow and, as far as I was concerned, sight was the only sense

that snow affected. When I saw snow fall for the first time here at Notre Dame, I was overjoyed.

That feeling lasted about a day. I quickly learned that snow was not only white but also cold, wet and terrible. But hey, it's still great as long as I bundle up and don't touch it, right? Not in the least.

Snow only looks beautiful right after it falls, which is when all those deceitful postcard pictures are taken. Soon afterwards, that snow mixes with dirt and mud, becoming the most disgusting thing to look at in the world. Ever.

My favorite winter activity is to take pictures of sludgy, black and gray mounds of icy grossness and send them to my friends and family with the title, "Winter Wonderland."

Living on a college campus gives me even more opportunities to express my bitterness through art. One Sunday morning, I found a beer can and one shoe embedded in the dirty snow. I took a picture and titled it, "Modern Despair in the Winter Wonderland." The dirty, disgusting snow causes students to lose hope — and shoes.

There is something worse than snow, however, and that's ice (I basically have issues with all forms of frozen water, excluding snow cones). I make a fool of myself almost every winter day by slipping and falling, or nearly falling, on ice. At this point, I would rather fall than stay up, because staying on my feet requires a 10-minute episode of arm-flailing and general ridiculousness.

Though the French judge gave me a 6.0 for my last slip, most of the time I'm more laughable than an organization that excludes women trying to seriously express its opinion on female sexuality.

I slip on ice because the University fails to clear all of it out. Now let me state that I know workers here work very hard and at all sorts of crazy hours to keep the sidewalks clear for us, but at some point you know that they say, "Ah screw it, let's watch the kiddies fall."

They choose to neglect the lesser seen pathways, like the one Pasquerilla East women and Knott men take to North Dining Hall. Around mid-March, residents of these dorms who take that path are not eligible for health insurance because the risk of icy death is just too great. And even if we do make it to the dining hall alive, we still have to face the horrors of flank steak.

But whether steak, snow or ice plagues you this winter, stay strong and don't let anyone convince you that winter in South Bend is anything less than the personification of miserable. Plus, look at the bright side, maybe we'll get some snow days that aren't during finals week this year. Oh wait, for that to happen, a place even hotter than Texas would have to get snow.

Amy Schill is a junior English major. She can be reached at schill.2@nd.edu.

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

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NDTODAY/OBSERVER POLL QUESTION

Do you believe there is a tolerant environment for gays and lesbians at Notre Dame?

Vote at NDToday.com by Thursday at 5 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"God makes sech nights, all white an' still,
Fur'z you can look or listen,
Moonshine an' snow on field an' hill,
All silence an' all glisten."

James Russell Lowell
poet

VIEWPOINT

Monday, March 4, 2002

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

News poll asks leading questions biased against the Church

I just completed a poll from ABC News and the results will probably be quite disturbing — especially to the Notre Dame/Catholic community. I am not sure if it was a push poll, but it was truly one of the most unfair persecutions of Catholic priests or any member of the clergy I have ever witnessed.

Around 8 p.m. the phone rang and the "private" entry on my caller I.D. appeared. Usually, I would not answer the phone right before "That 70's Show," but since I have started the job hunt lately, I answered the phone.

The young lady on the other end of the line introduced herself as a person conducting a poll for ABC News. I have participated in several polls over the last few years, so I thought I would be a good citizen and let the country feel my pulse.

Her first question was something to the effect of, "Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Catholic Church?"

Her second question was roughly, "Have you read, heard or seen anything in the news lately about the sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests?"

This was followed by several more questions that seemed to become increasingly pejorative. Here is a sample (paraphrasing from memory) of the questions that were asked. The order may not be correct.

"Do you believe that sexual abuse of children by priests has hurt the Catholic Church greatly or not so greatly?"

"... is a major problem or a minor problem?"

"... happens often, not so often or infrequently?"

"Do you believe the Catholic Church thinks this is a major problem or a minor problem?"

"... covers up these incidents, tolerates these incidences or ignores these incidences?"

After a few more of these questions, she asked one that I really had to think about.

This was just enough time for me to realize that I really did not know the answer, but the "I don't know" option was not available to me. So I paused and thought about the question.

Then I realized that I really did not know the answer for many of the questions, but I was never given the "I don't know" option. In fact, it became obvious to me, during this pause, that any answer given since the second question would disparage the Catholic Church or its priests.

Go back and look at the questions. Put the questions into the form of a sentence. It happens. It hurts the church. It is a problem. The Church thinks it is a problem. The Church does something wrong. Get the point? I

did.

If this questioning was about Judaism and Rabbis it would be seen as anti-Semitic. Replace it with a minority group or the leaders of a minority group, and it would be racist — and rightfully so. Each allowable answer slights the Church.

At this point, I just had to ask her a couple questions. Trying to remain calm, I asked her, "What if I don't know the answer, do I have that option? I mean, can I answer, 'I don't know?'"

She replied, "Well, let me see. Oh yeah, you have that option." "But I wasn't given that option," I said. "Do I have that option on every question, and if so, why wasn't I given that option?"

The poll taker replied, "Well sir, I'm supposed to read the questions exactly as they appear, and that option is not part of the question."

This begged a question from me, "So when conducting this poll, do you always read the same questions in the same order, or do you follow some predetermined script?"

She said, "The agent that has commissioned the poll has a set of ques-

tions that we are to ask in the order given, exactly as it is written."

After this answer we had a discussion about the randomness, tenor and fairness of the questions. First, the questions appeared to be leading me to some conclusion that I thought that I had figured out. Second, all of the questions were biased, because they only portrayed the Church in a negative fashion. Finally, if I answered the questions as written, it was not fair to the Church. The questioning addressed an inflammatory issue, asked for leading responses and ignored any positive light.

We decided to return to the questionnaire. I was really expecting her to ask me about snake-handling Southerners or cross-burning Hoosiers, but I was wrong. She kept hammering the Church and its priests, but the questions grew darker. Every question continued to harp on sexual abuse of children by priest. Then the interviewer began to question the Church's moral and legal responsibilities.

Now the gambit was complete. Define a problem. Suggest that it exist. Inflammate the interviewee. Offer a solution.

Do all of these in the context of a poll which is guaranteed to substantiate the original thesis.

Is this modern news?

William D. Haynes
doctoral candidate
chemical engineering
Feb. 26, 2002



Biblical 'proof' inadequate

I am skeptical when I read an article quoting the Bible as "proof" for anything, especially if quoting the Old Testament. Becket Gremmels, in his article titled, "Biblical evidence offers proof of homosexual immorality," uses the incident of Sodom and Gomorrah as "proof" that homosexuality is a moral evil.

First of all, the belief that homosexuality was the sin committed by these cities is only popular opinion. Where does it say explicitly in the Bible that this is true? In Ezekiel 16:49 God says, "This was the guilt of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters had pride, excess of food and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty and did abominable things before me."

Nowhere does it say these people were being punished for their sexual orientation. Furthermore, Yahweh in the Hebrew Bible was a wrathful God, one that did not seem to make the most rational decisions. In Exodus, God sends Moses to tell the sons of Levi to "each of you kill your brother, your friend and your neighbor." Using the words of such a violent God as evidence for the immorality of homosexuals is inadequate.

I have no problem with devout Catholics who believe strongly in their faith. I do, however, have mixed feelings about Catholics who submit articles that quote Saint Paul in comparing homosexuals to godless kidnappers, liars, murderers and prostitutes. Homosexuals on this campus already have a difficult time living and getting an education like the rest of us without being oppressed. People with religious objections to homosexuality have a right to their beliefs, but they should refrain from using these types of comparisons purely out of consideration for a human's dignity.

Monika Mehlmann
freshman
Breen-Phillips Hall
Mar. 1, 2002

Celebration of U.S. greed rings hollow

After reading Christine Niles's column entitled, "Poverty, American-Style," I got the impression that she was trying to offer a defense of the United States's distribution of wealth. I am not convinced.

Niles cites two main facts to suggest the poor in the United States are actually well off. In 1993, the poorest 20 percent of the population spent an average of \$13,957 in one year, much of which came from social welfare policies. Secondly, she cites a number of household appliances that the poor in the United States are far more likely to own than the poor in other countries. Put these two facts together and the argument seems to be that the U.S. poor are better off because: one, on average they spend less than 50 percent of the GNP per capita (approximately \$28,000 in 1992 according to the Higgins Labor Research Center) and two, they are very likely to own a television with which to distract themselves from hunger pangs. I note that Niles failed to share any statistics on how many of the poor owning televisions are so fortunate that they have the additional luxury of cable.

Niles mentions the commonly cited growing gap between rich and poor. As if to refute that gap's significance, she asks, "Could someone please tell me precisely what the appropriate gap should be?" Admittedly, there is no definition of what that gap should be, but that is exactly the point: There is no definition because the gap

should not be.

Despite the claims of our country's religion — capitalism — the gap should not even exist. In 1998, the distribution of net worth was such that the richest fifth of the population owned 83.4 percent while the poorest two-fifths owned 0.2 percent according to inequality.org. So even if I cannot define what the gap should be, it ought to be apparent that the current gap is far too wide for a country that considers its economic system the most successful ever and its political system the most just form of democracy.

I will agree with Niles that if I had to be poor, I would choose the United States as the location. But is this really an accomplishment that the poor here are better off than the poor elsewhere when conservative estimates place the United States as controlling 80 percent of the world's wealth while containing only 6 percent of its population? I think a better question to ask Niles is whether she would want to be poor here, even if she had a television with cable.

As Niles says, here in the good ol' United States, we are "free, free, free to be hogs." Hurray for greed and gluttony. Excuse my failure to sound excited about that freedom.

Shamus Rohn
junior
Stanford Hall
Feb. 28, 2002

SCENE
campus

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Monday, March 4, 2002

Cheers and jeers

*From distracting players to mocking their coaches, Notre Dame's Leprechaun*By JOE LINDSLEY
Scene Writer

Providence Friars basketball coach Tim Welsh paced the sideline during Saturday's game against Notre Dame. As his team was starting to lose its grip over the Irish, something must have caught his attention and distracted him, possibly even stirred up some anger. Was somebody chanting his home phone number?

What is this heckling scourge that inflicts itself upon Notre Dame's opponents, that messes with their minds and gets in their face?

It is a "Green Monster" of sorts that has the potential to terrorize its enemies. Some, including Notre Dame men's basketball head coach Mike Brey, say that it contributes eight to ten points per game. Numbering 200 strong, these are the self-proclaimed promoters of Fighting Irish spirit, and saviors to the basketball team.

This is the Leprechaun Legion.

Call it a carbon copy of Duke University's Cameron Crazies or Gonzaga University's Kennel Club and the legionnaires may have some invective to shout at you. This is different; the Leprechaun Legion is based on Notre Dame's tradition, clarifying the "fight" in Fighting Irish.

Founded by Zahm Hall senior Robert Paznorik, junior Nick Iaria and freshmen Joe Hettler, Drew Updike, Erik Tarnowski, Brian Logan and Matt O'Connell, the Legion was conceived last December as a way to increase the enthusiasm of the student body at Notre Dame basketball games in order to help out the Irish on the court.

The Legion serves as a cheering and jeering section, encouraging the Irish and blasting their opponents with startling and sometimes sensitive remarks that have a tendency to grab attention.

"When a player's listening to me and not his coach, when we're in the back of his mind, his head's not in the game," Paznorik, the Legion's president, said. "If we cause one bad pass, one missed free throw, we've done our job. We want the most hostile court environment."

According to Paznorik, the Legion is organized like a company, where each member has his or her own

responsibility.

Paznorik made a distinction between the Legion and other campus organizations: "Everyone's really involved. The majority are really dedicated."

Additionally, the Legion is organized into committees: Digging and Sloganry, Signs and Ballyhoo, Public Relations and Human Resources.

If an opposing player is on the bench and hasn't played much or at all, the Legion will start chanting "Rudy." Paznorik said this bitterly sarcastic cheer will sometimes cause the player to nudge himself toward the coach, wanting to get into the game, possibly inspired by the resounding, familiar chant from the stands. But alas, the coach doesn't respond.

"We like to find out parents' names," Paznorik said. Armed with this information, the legion sometime heckles an opposing player's parents when they stand up to cheer on their son, shouting things like, "Jim and Judy, shut up and sit down."

During the game against West Virginia, the Legion noticed a 7'2" player who looked like Lurch from "The Adams Family," so the group encouraged the student body to sing the theme song from the television show.

The response from the Irish basketball team to the Legion has been positive. In addition to Brey's comments, several players have shown an interest in the green-clad cheering section that occupies the first rows of the student section.

"[Irish players] will ask what we have for the next game the day before the game," Paznorik said.

The ushers at the Joyce Center have welcomed the Legion, surprising as it may seem to some.

"The ushers are cool," Iaria, chair of the Human Resources committee, said. "On the [online] message boards, people get upset with ushers. But we love them."

During one game, an opposing team's water boy wanted a Jeer Card, the flyer which lists all of the slogans and insults as a reference guide for the student body and other Irish fans.

"You know you're doing well when that happens," Updike said.

A few visiting players have mumbled expletives, but on many occasions, they tried to hide their laughter as their teammates are derided on the court.

"We're out to find everything we can," Paznorik said.

"We want them to be surprised. We want them to be shocked. We want them to miss shots."

One of Paznorik's favorite responses came from Kentucky guard Adam Chiles.

"It seems that Adam was drunk one night and started making phone calls to cute girls on campus," Paznorik said. "He was apparently quite unsmooth: the ladies started calling him 'Bigalo,' as in 'Deuce Bigalo, Male Gigolo,' the male prostitute played by Rob Schneider in the movie of the same name."

During Kentucky's pre-game warm-ups, Paznorik shouted out, "Where's the Ladies' Man? Is Bigalo here today? Where's Adam?"

Chiles' teammates seemed to enjoy this, as evidenced by their grinning and chuckling as they warmed up.

"Adam didn't think it was so funny," Paznorik said. "He came strolling up to us from the bench, stood about a foot away from my face and said, 'Man, you got somethin' to say to me?' This was actually pretty funny, because he's a little shorter than I am."

The Legion proceeded to fire back some of Chiles' "wretched statistics" for the season.

"We asked him if Tubby [Smith, Kentucky's head coach] had pulled him from the scrub team yet, what it was like to wash his teammates' uniforms and whether he'd heard any good pick-up lines lately," Paznorik said. "This just plain didn't amuse him, but again, his teammates were going nuts. One even had to stop shooting so he could sit down on the bench and catch his breath."

Another Kentucky player came over to calm him down.

"You just watch what you say," Chiles sneered as he was escorted back to the bench.

"You just keep your head in the game," shouted a legionnaire.

"Adam was ours for the rest of the day," Paznorik said.

The only negative response from the Notre Dame community came from a sophomore who wrote into The Observer criticizing the Legion for making fun of a Georgetown player because of his weight problem.

According to Paznorik, the Legion will not shout just anything and they take steps to ensure that their comments are not too hurtful.

"There is a line we will not cross," Paznorik said. "We won't make fun of anyone based on race, ethnicity or religion."

Other areas, though, seem to be open to jeering. Paznorik said that most issues, such as illegitimate children, are dealt with on a case-by-case basis, as investigated by a special section of the Legion.

At 10 p.m. on Wednesday in the DeBartolo Hall computer cluster, most students were merely doing schoolwork, but a handful was diligently working on a task of great importance. They were doing CIA-level work with a "National Enquirer" attitude.

This was a meeting of the Digging and Sloganry Committee of the Leprechaun Legion, the group whose responsibility is to find out all the dirty secrets and embarrassing moments of the players on whatever team the Irish basketball squad faces.

These facts, such as accounts of illegitimate children, are then used as jeers and nicknames to shout at the opposing players during games.

"We probably know more about them than their teammates," freshman Drew Updike, the chair of the committee, said.

The Digging and Sloganry Committee employs every resource it can in order to dig up obscure, usually embarrassing, information on members of the opposing team.

Resources such as anti-school websites and online



BRIAN PUCHEVICH/The Observer

The Leprechaun Legion leads the Notre Dame student section in holding up copies of The Observer as a sign of disrespect during the announcement of the opposing team's line-up.



SCENE
campus

Monday, March 4, 2002

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from the stands

Legion works to pump up the home crowd at men's basketball games

message boards are key to this process, but the committee's most reliable and often most interesting sources are friends and relatives at Big East schools, people who have seen players cheat, who have seen what players do at parties, who have seen a player steal (and that's not on the basketball court). The committee claims to find out everything about players, from dogs' and parents' names to histories of old hook-ups.

While the members gathered around computers in Debartolo Hall, surfing various Web sites, a cell phone rang — a tipster. Updike left the room to talk to the caller in private. He returned with great enthusiasm, believing he had found some quality dirt.

Dirt that could potentially help to change the tide of Saturday's game against Providence, spelling victory for Notre Dame.

Once Updike announced how he learned that Providence guard Sheiku Kabba cheated on his Western Civilization test, the other legionnaires got excited and began devising jeers to bring before the Legion's consideration.

Just as the last engineers left Cushing Hall for the weekend, students wearing green tee shirts filed into room 303 for the General Meeting of the Leprechaun Legion: a gathering that members seem to view with as much importance as a General Assembly of the United Nations.

This was when the Digging and Sloganry Committee presented its ideas for jeers to the entire Legion.

Only a dozen members were present as Updike opened the meeting. They began with the first player on Providence's roster: forward Ryan Gomes.

"It took him more than one try to pass the SAT for eligibility," Updike said.

"I like SAT," another member said.

"I think it will get to him more."

"Yeah, that's embarrassing."

"But he probably doesn't care about his SAT score."

An argument ensued, so Updike moved along to the next item, or, perhaps more appropriately, victim: guard Abdul Mills.

"He missed a championship because of a groin injury. It wasn't cancerous, so don't worry. We're not going to be making fun of something bad," Updike said. "Can we just have everyone go, 'Ow my groin?'" asked one member.

Pazornik then entered and took charge.

"Let's move right along to our friend John Linehan," Pazornik said.

"He's a senior and he's only 5'9. Most of you guys are probably taller than him," Updike said.

"I'm taller than you, I'm taller than you," someone chanted, hoping his idea had potential as a jeer.

"I like 'stand up.'"

"What about 'get off your knees?'"

Everyone began to offer his or her own idea somewhat chaotically until a member who had just entered raised his hand.

"We've gone too far," he said. "Gome's nickname should not be SAT."

"SAT's horrible!" said another member.

"Is he going to know we're talking about the SAT? I mean, who cares? He plays basketball."

"He probably didn't even know that was the SAT he was taking," said another legionnaire as the room erupted into laughter.

The group proceeds to guard Kareem Hayletts. When one of his teammate's fake IDs was rejected at a club, Hayletts went to the bouncer's house with a few of his friends and beat him up. He was later charged with



BRIAN PUCHEVICH/The Observer

The enthusiastic members of the Legion are impossible to miss in the front rows of the student section at every men's basketball home game.

felony assault.

"Kill the bouncer," someone said.

"Why not 'beat?'" said another. "They didn't kill him."

A show of hands overruled her and "kill the bouncer" it was.

Once the business was completed and all the nicknames and slogans had been settled upon, the Legion closed the meeting with a triumphant shout of "Amen! Hallelujah!"

Then many of them rushed out.

"I left work at the dinning hall to attend [this meeting]," said a member, hoping she would not be fired.

Approximately nine hours after the meeting, at 1:55 a.m. on Saturday of the Providence game, two legionnaires, one of them dressed as a leprechaun, headed for the Joyce Center.

Freshmen Jenny Scherer and Nick Dobertin wanted to ensure that they were first in line when the gates opened 13 hours later, despite that fact that the rest of the student body would not get to the JACC until 30 minutes before tip-off.

As the doors to the building were locked, the pair slept outside in the bitter wind, cold and snow.

Finally, after a freezing night, they were allowed in the lobby of Gate 11 at 7 a.m.

"They killed my streak," said Iaria, who was previously the first one to every game.

He said it was very important that they were allowed to wait inside once the JACC opened in the morning. "If we were out in the snow, most people probably wouldn't be here," Iaria said.

Laurie Privitera arrived at 8 a.m. When asked why she joined the Legion, Privitera said, "It's the beginning of tradition, a lot of fun. It's good to get involved."

She also enjoys the time spent waiting for the game at the JACC. "We sleep, hang out, have fun with people, get to meet people," Privitera said.

Once the gates of the JACC were opened on Saturday, the Legionnaires hurried towards the front rows of the student section, where they began their pre-game preparations.

Members passed out the Jeer Cards and distributed copies of The Observer for fans to hold up while the Providence Friar's starting line-up was announced as a show of disrespect.

The insults began as soon as the players took the court.

"Didn't you guys lose to West Virginia?"

"Hey, Anderson, that's a pretty cool tattoo."

"Maybe your ugly sister loves you, but you mother definitely doesn't."

The ushers laughed all the while, but when asked to comment on the Legion, they had to keep quiet.

A legionnaire sporting an Irish Elvis costume was not pleased with the energy of the crowd. "How come we aren't heckling, guys?" he shouted.

Throughout the course of the game, the Legion continued to do their best to tick off the Friars.

For forward Christopher Anrin, a native of Switzerland, the Legion shouted "Belarus," as Belarus beat the Swedish national hockey team in the Olympics and Anrin was quoted as saying "I love Swedish national hockey."

The Legion does not always shout in unison. Often it is a crowd of hecklers shouting out angry and humorous insults.

When Irish guard Chris Thomas lodged the ball between the rim and the backboard and Friar forward Tuuka Kotti failed to knock it down, the Legion erupted into laughter.

"I think [the Legion] is pretty cool," Jackie Adesso, a non-member, said. "I think all the students take part in it. It provides a sense of unity."

The Legion has received attention and praise from newspapers, Notre Dame alumni and even from Dick Vitale.

The members take a pride in what they do and what they feel they have contributed to Irish basketball, but many still feel they have more work to do in encouraging the student body to be more enthusiastic during games.

"[Contributing to the game] is something we really do take pride in," freshman legionnaire Garrett Kuk said. "These guys, [the basketball team], we're living next door to them, going to class with them. It's part of that larger teamwork."

Contact Joe Lindsley at Lindsley.1@nd.edu.

BENGAL BOUTS: 180-POUNDS — HEAVYWEIGHTS

Experience pays off for Criniti with 3rd title

By CHRIS FEDERICO

Assistant Sports Editor

In what many expected to be the top fight of the championship round, senior Mark "Bright Lights, Big City" Criniti won a split-decision victory over classmate Matt Sarb to win the 180-pound title Friday night. The two survived a hail of punches from each other for three rounds, but in the end the experience of three-time champion Criniti paid off over the first-year fighter and football walk-on Sarb.

"I definitely think my experience helped, especially with someone like Matt who is a first-year fighter," Criniti said. "Anytime you fight someone who's maybe not a better fighter or more athletic, but has the experience of four years, it will make a difference and I think that was one of the advantages I had over Matt more than athletic ability."

Sarb came out in the first round true to past form, attempting to overwhelm Criniti with a flurry of punches, but Criniti's experience allowed him to shake off the attack and return with some punches of his own.

In the second round, Criniti appeared to take control of the

match, as the referee temporarily stopped the fight with a standing eight-count on Sarb.

In the final round, Sarb made a final appeal for the title, coming out of the corner extremely aggressive and throwing many punches at Criniti. The technique was successful; he got a standing-eight count on the defending champion, but the attempt seemed to come too late for the judges.

"I felt pretty comfortable with the first two rounds, in that I scored on some good punches there," Criniti said. "Matt made it pretty close in the third round, but I felt pretty comfortable about my first two. But sometimes you can see a fight one way and the judges might score it differently."

The first-year competitor Sarb was pleased with his performance in the Bouts, even though he did not get the title.

"I was glad to get as far as I did in my first year," Sarb said. "I went a long way in the six weeks of training from where I was. I'm just happy for Mark. He's put his heart and soul into this for the past four years and it paid off for him."

190-pounds

A substantial contingent of supporters chanting "Brandl! Brandl!" were not enough to

lead the senior Kevin "Hardcore" Brandl to victory over junior John Lynk. In the end, the aggressive style of Lynk proved to be too much for the elder Brandl to withstand in the 190-pound title fight as Lynk won a unanimous decision for the championship.

The fight appeared pretty even after the first round with both fighters throwing many punches but failing to gain any significant advantage over the other. In the second, Lynk began to put Brandl on the run landing several punches and combinations.

The younger Lynk all but put the fight away in the final round, getting the referee to stop the fight twice to administer a pair of standing eight-counts on Brandl. The first came on a knockdown that sent the senior to the canvas.

Heavyweights

In the final fight of the 2002 Bengal Bouts, law student Carlos Abeyeta used a significant size advantage to earn a split decision victory over sophomore Stefan Borovina.

"I think [Abeyeta's] weight advantage helped a lot in the eyes of the judges," Borovina said. "When he would hit me it would be more noticeable because I would move back



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Carlos Abeyeta, right, lands a jab to the face of Stefan Borovina. Abeyeta successfully defended his heavyweight title Friday night.

more than when I hit him because he was so much bigger than me. With the scoring, all punches that are landed count the same, but his looked like they had more of an effect even though I hit him just as much and even made his nose bleed."

Abeyeta, the defending champion in the heavyweight division, took the early advantage in the fight, knocking Borovina to the canvas with a solid blow. The younger Borovina proved he would not lay down, however, retaliating

with several strong combos of his own in that opening round.

After a rather mild second round, Borovina came out of the corner strong in the third, hoping to earn the decision with a final surge. Abeyeta ended the threat, however, with a solid hit that caused the referee to send the two fighters to their corners.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu.

BENGAL BOUTS: 165-POUNDS — 170-POUNDS

Matassa outduels Cosse for 165-pound title

By BRIAN BURKE

Sports Writer

Junior Clay "The Mouth of the South" Cosse kept coming at senior Chris "Stay Outta My Business" Matassa and at times it appeared he might overwhelm his opponent in the 165-pound title bouts. The senior was constantly able to supply an answer to Cosse's assaults, however, as Matassa came away with the split decision victory.

Every time that Cosse landed a series of punches that seemed to stun his foe, however, Matassa answered with combinations of his own. The lankier Matassa,

who had taken a strategy of waiting for fighters to come to him in earlier bouts, fought Cosse's type of fight, standing inside and trading blows.

Cosse seemed to control the beginning portion of both the first and second rounds, getting Matassa against the ropes and landing hooks. Matassa was able to punch his way out of it each time and finished the rounds strong.

It went back and forth into the third round where Matassa returned to his previous style and countered Cosse when he looked to brawl. Matassa landed enough jabs in the third and avoided getting tangled in the

ropes to earn the title.

170-pounds

In a battle of two New Mexico natives, seniors Ryan "The Rhino" Hernandez and Domingo "Lunes" Maynes took about five seconds to circle the ring at the start of round one.

Then the brawl was on.

The bout for the 170-pound title was full of shoving, tangled fighters, headlocks and a warning for just about anything for which a referee can warn a fighter. As was expected, the two fighters stood toe to toe, furiously swinging away, holding each other, sometimes simultaneously.

At one point in the first round, Hernandez was warned for hitting Maynes in the back of the head when Maynes was circling around. At another point, Maynes was late in obeying a break command and was also warned for a low blow.

In the second round, Hernandez moved around some and was able to counter Maynes, but the contest eventually digressed back to one fighter trying to out-punch the other. Hernandez was the taller of the two fighters, and that seemed to give him in advantage in close fighting.

In the end, Hernandez out-brawled Maynes in a close fight

and won by split decision.

"I knew it was going to be a lot of brawling, definitely wasn't prepared for all the grappling," Hernandez said. "My corner gave me a lot of good advice to throw that straight right and I think throughout that whole thing we may have grappled a lot, but my straight right, I managed to get that off enough. Obviously the judges agreed. [The win] kind of vindicated a lot of my efforts. I had done so much, and to get knocked out so early last year, to come back, it's great."

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Bouts

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quickly finding his jab and following it with several strong rights to Fumagalli's head. Despite absorbing the heavy blows, Fumagalli continually sprang up and into D'Agostino, landing a quick right hook that pushed the taller fighter back. Moving well, Fumagalli tried to work the fight into the corners, where he landed clusters of punches to his opponent's midsection and head.

The taller D'Agostino seemed to gain momentum as the second round began, while Fumagalli was forced to expend energy fending off punches from above. He continued to counter-punch, but all the while was under the burden of D'Agostino's larger frame. After receiving one standing eight count in the first round, Fumagalli got two more in the second round. In the meantime D'Agostino continued fighting downhill, landing more punches as Fumagalli tired. The top-seeded senior got caught in the corner shortly after the final round began, prompting the referee to issue Fumagalli a fourth standing eight count, which stopped the fight by rule. Nineteen seconds into the third round, the third-seeded D'Agostino had earned his first championship.

145-pounds

In the championship match, Jemar Tisby finally had the chance to face an opponent who

was more on his level of height and reach. While Andrew Harms, the junior captain, is slightly taller than Tisby, it was his unmoving stance in the center of the ring that helped Harms deflect punches and set up his offense. Fighting from flat but steadfast feet, Harms kept throwing his long jab until it landed on Tisby's face.

But the speedy senior was undaunted, delivering body shots in the center of the ring while waiting for a chance to throw his jab and overhand right combination. Harms and Tisby traded combinations in the second round and when the third bell rang the match seemed deadlocked. Tisby delivered a right to his opponent's face, and then began working closer to his target than he had all night.

Still absorbing powerful rights from Harms and visibly tired, Tisby would not stop. He continued to lean in close and alternate shots to the body and head. In perhaps the most evenly fought contest of the night, Tisby edged out a split-decision victory. While the result brought heartbreak to one fighter's face and joy to the other's, those at ringside agreed that in the end, only a few punches decided who wore what expression.

155-pounds

In his last ever appearance as a Notre Dame boxer, senior captain Brock Heckmann looked to complete his quest for a second title. Arguably the most complete fighter in the tournament, Heckmann won a unanimous decision over scrappy

southpaw John Nowak on Friday night.

A sophomore who had captured the second seed in the bracket, Nowak fought with energy and resolve until Heckmann's power and technique simply proved unstoppable.

Nowak opened with his best round by far as he threw the roundhouse left hook that had worked so well for him in earlier fights. While several of the punches landed, Nowak never demonstrated a jab adequate enough to slow Heckmann's advances. Just as in his earlier fights, Heckmann controlled the spacing and angles to neutralize his opponent's strengths. Rather than clinching when Nowak got close, Heckmann used a right hook that swooped up and into the southpaw's body. His feet bouncing and moving laterally, Heckmann landed a huge left-hand blow near the end of the second round as Nowak continued to lower his head.

Looking fresh as the third round elapsed, Heckmann stayed on the offensive with his jab while dodging the wild hands of Nowak, who left nothing in reserve in the final round. Waging against Heckmann's punches, Nowak consumed all of his energy throwing his left hand. It was not enough to stop Heckmann, who was later named the most outstanding boxer of this year's Bengal Bouts.

160-pounds

Freshman Mark DeSplinter came into the first round of his championship match looking



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Senior boxing club captain Matt Fumagalli, left, reaches back to throw a punch in the 135-pound title fight Friday as sophomore T.J. D'Agostino winds up to counter.

defensive. Facing senior Chris Kitalong, the division's top seed, the gangly DeSplinter appeared primed to avoid Kitalong's range and quickness and then counterpunch to keep the fight close.

As the fight progressed, however, that strategy became necessary as DeSplinter was able to fight his own way. With no fear even when he was trapped on the ropes in the first round, DeSplinter fought out of every tight space.

The second round opened with a bevy of wild punches from both fighters, who eventu-

ally went toe-to-toe in the center of the ring. Without the grace he had shown in earlier fights, Kitalong continually took jabs from DeSplinter.

DeSplinter improved as the fight went on, both moving and punching more in the third round than he had in the first. The freshman DeSplinter won a split decision thanks to his adjustment and the mental resolve to conquer his bracket one match at a time.

Contact Paul Camarata at pcamarat@nd.edu.

University of Notre Dame



Summer London Program

Information Meeting for Summer 2003

Wednesday: March 6 7-9 pm

And

Thursday: March 7 7-9 pm

131 Debartolo Hall

Irish

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won Sunday because they had a feisty point guard who set the tone with her fearless attitude, made five of six key free-throws in the final minute and played from the opening whistle to the closing buzzer.

That point guard, the 5-foot-4 Julie McBride, who started in just 10 of 27 games for Syracuse last year, is just a sophomore. But what she lacks in height, she makes up in attitude.

"It came down to who wanted the game more, and it was obvious that we did," McBride said. "We wanted to beat them so bad. We wanted to stay longer. We came out and we were ready. We were focused and we were mentally ready, and that was the key."

Notre Dame's sophomore point guard, Le'Tania Severe — who admittedly didn't gain the game experience McBride had last season — dished out nine assists, but wasn't able to inspire her team the same way her counterpart did.

Syracuse scored 29 points off of Irish turnovers.

"We've struggled with the turnovers all year long, and when you have kind of a rookie point guard it really makes it a little more difficult," McGraw said. "We didn't have that intensity and that focus, early in the game especially and they got a lot of steals in the first half."

Syracuse also used their underdog status as inspiration. While the Irish might have seen the Orangewomen, whom they defeated 71-46 at the Joyce Center earlier this season, as an easy stepping stone on the road to the conference championship game, Syracuse saw Sunday's game as a chance to extend their season and gain a bid for the NCAA Tournament.

And for the team's four seniors, it was a chance to keep their basketball careers going.

"I said in the huddle, 'I don't want to go home,'" Syracuse senior guard Jaime James, said. "I don't want to go home, I want to go to the tournament, I want to have post-season play. This was a big game for us, and we had incredible people step up."

James led the Orangewomen in scoring with 23 points.

They also had a coach that realized that her team might not have had the most talent on the court Sunday, but wouldn't let the game be decided before tip-off.

"I told them that you're guaranteed when you first arrive 40 minutes. You have to play 40 out of 40," Syracuse head coach Marianna Freeman said. "On this given night, we ended up being the team that won the game. It's not always the best team that wins, it's the team that plays the best. On this night, we played the best."

The No. 7-ranked team played above their heads, while the No. 2-ranked Irish did not. And head coach Muffet McGraw was quick to point out exactly why.

"We're a young team without great leadership and I think that when you come out, you're just trying to find your way, and you're waiting for somebody to step up and show you the way," McGraw said. "And really in the first half,

nobody stepped up and showed us the way."

But in the second half, as the Irish saw an 18-point deficit and the seal closing on the envelope holding their early plane ticket home, that leader showed up.

Her name? Alicia Ratay.

The junior shooting guard, a first-team All Big East selection, decided to take over late in the second half, scoring 17 of her team's final 21 points in the final four minutes to pull the Irish within two at one time.

What happened?

"In the second half, when we had to score we found a way to score," Ratay said. "You do whatever you can to put up a shot."

Ratay, who passed up shots because she wasn't open in the opening 20 minutes, walked onto the court and huddled her teammates together during those final four minutes. The normally quiet Ratay stepped up and became not just a leader by example but a vocal leader.

And she took every shot she could, regardless of whether or not she was open.

With hands flying in her face and the whole Syracuse team knowing who was getting the ball, Ratay sank three 3-pointers while converting two more three-point plays.

Ratay did the same thing two years ago against Rutgers in the Big East semifinal and the Irish came back to win in overtime.

Now, Ratay must lead like that for the entire 40 minutes. Notre Dame's other standout player, freshman forward Jackie Batteast, played just 13 minutes Sunday while healing from a knee injury and didn't score a point.

With their second-place Big East finish during the regular season and impressive wins over ranked Boston College and Virginia Tech teams, the team wearing the same uniforms as last year's national champions are still a shoe-in for the NCAA Tournament. Heck, they might even get a top-eight seed in their bracket.

But if the Irish are going to get past their first opponent, they have to come in with the same attitude as their opponent. Syracuse knew that a loss meant the end of the season, for some players the end of their careers. And they didn't want to see that happen.

Whoever Notre Dame plays in the NCAA's in mid-March is going to come in with the same attitude. The Irish must know that it's win or go home and come to really, really detest South Bend.

To get there, the Irish need a leader. And as she proved in the closing minutes Sunday, they have one in Ratay. That same leader needs to show up for 40 minutes come tournament time. If she does, this team, with a healthy Batteast, could surprise some and advance to the Sweet 16.

But if that leader doesn't appear, students could return from spring break to find The Observer's back page telling the story of another upset by a team with nothing to lose and a trip home from the dance before the music even started.

Contact Noah Amstadter at namstadt@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily The Observer.

Have an interesting sports story to tell?
Call Noah at 1-4543

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Printmaker Artemio Rodriguez will be on campus the first week of March for the opening of an exhibition of his linoleum cuts to be held in the Galeria America @ ND in the Institute for Latino Studies, 230 McKenna Hall. The exhibition, which runs from March 4 through May 31, is free and open to members of the Notre Dame/St. Mary's community and the general public; gallery hours are 9 to 5, Monday through Friday.



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Additional thanks to the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts,
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HOCKEY

Irish sweep Falcons, streak into playoffs

By MATT ORENCHUK
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's hockey team finished up the season in style this past weekend, posting a sweep of the Bowling Green Falcons, winning 4-3 Friday night and 4-1 Saturday night.

The wins made the Irish's final record 14-15-5 (12-12-4 in the CCHA) and secured the team eighth place in the conference's final standings.

After missing the CCHA playoffs last season, Notre Dame returns to the post season with a series against Nebraska-Omaha starting Friday.

The sweep was especially important because it gives the Irish momentum for the post-season.

"We started playing a new defensive system the weekend of MSU," said junior Mike Chin. "The new system has helped us out a lot, but hasn't taken away from our offensive productivity."

On Friday night the Irish peppered the Bowling Green goal, outshooting the Falcons 50-31. Despite the shot count difference, the game was close with Notre Dame holding on for a 4-3 victory.

The Irish got the scoring started in the first when Paul Harris flipped the puck toward the goal at an odd angle. The puck took a funny bounce and got past

Falcon goalie Tyler Masters for the first score of the game. The Irish finished the first in a hurry, with goals from Jake Wiegand and Jon Maruk to pull ahead 3-2.

The only score in the second period came from Kyle Dolder.

The Falcons made the third period interesting when they cut into the Irish lead 5 minutes in. But in the end the Notre Dame defense and goalie Morgan Cey were too much. The Irish kept Bowling Green from tying the game and took home the 4-3 victory.

In Saturday's game the shots were more even but the score was not. Notre Dame had 35 shots on goal to Bowling Green's 30, but the score was a lopsided 4-1 Notre Dame victory.

The Irish got the scoring started 6 minutes and 45 seconds into the first with a David Inman goal. Rob Globke added a goal to bring the Notre Dame lead to 2-0.

In the second Globke added another goal and the Irish never looked back.

In the third Bowling Green was able to get on the board but it wasn't enough. Notre Dame put in an empty netter at the end of the game to seal up a 4-1 victory.

Contact Matt Orenchuk at
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MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Watson qualifies for NCAA Championships

By DAVE COOK
Sports Writer

Qualifying for nationals is a superb accomplishment for any collegiate athlete. Qualifying in two events is even more spectacular. But being able to qualify in a third event that you won't even compete in at nationals is downright amazing.

Such is the story of Luke Watson this year in his final season with the Irish. Watson had automatically qualified for the NCAA championships in two events: the 3000- and 5000-meter going into this past weekend. He then added a third qualifying time in running a personal best mile-run at this weekend's Alex Wilson Invitational. Watson's time of 4:01.16 was a career best for him by over six seconds.

"I thought he ran terrific. He just needed to settle a bit. It [the race] wasn't quite quick enough, but then he just started to roll," head coach and men's distance coach Joe Piane said.

"This is mostly a mental boost. I knew that I was in shape enough to run a 4:01. I feel like coming out of the race that I have enough in me where I can break four [minutes] in the right race," Watson said. "This was a confidence booster to get that down on paper and to know I'm in that kind of shape one week

before the championships."

Joining Watson in the distance events with a great weekend was sophomore Todd Mobley, who provisionally qualified in the 5000-meter this weekend. Mobley's seventh place time of 14:14.33 was also a career best for him in indoor track.

"Mobley ran well. He qualified for NCAA's and ran a personal best by nearly 10 seconds. He had a great race," Piane said.

Dwight Ellick ran a personal best time in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.61 seconds. Selim Nurudeen finished third place in the 60-meter hurdles while running a personal best time of 7.95 seconds.

Sprinter Trevor McClain-Duer ran his best time of his collegiate career, finishing the 400-meter race in 48.7 seconds.

In the field events, senior Quill Redwine, who is still having problems with his left leg, jumped 6' 6.75", enroute to a second-place finish. Godwin Mbagwu finished seventh in both the long jump and the triple jump.

Overall, the Irish had a strong showing leading them into the national championships.

"I thought it was great. It was a great performance," Piane said.

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Bball

continued from page 20

point shot to bring the game within two with 18 seconds left, James hit two free throws to put it out of reach. On the previous three Syracuse possessions, McBride hit five charity shots and missed none.

"I thought McBride was a tremendous leader for them," Muffet McGraw, Irish head coach, said. "She really did everything she needed to do to win the game for them. At the end she made the free throws. She really made some big plays — we couldn't guard McBride. She killed us down the stretch with her free throws. James hit her free throws as well."

It was a strong Syracuse first half that allowed them to win, after the Irish stepped up play in the second half. After taking an early five-point lead, the Orangewomen made sure they never trailed the Irish by more than four. When halftime rolled around, they had a seven-point lead.

"It was very important that we started off well in the first half and at least had ourselves in a position to be in the ball game," Freeman said. "And I think that was the key to the ball game: to get off to a good start and come off the floor at halftime with a lead."

The Irish took a four-point lead four minutes into the game, their largest of the game, before Syracuse began stealing. The Orangewomen had four steals in a little less than five minutes and forced enough Irish turnovers to take a five-point lead.

In the course of the game, Syracuse forced 19 turnovers, had 11 steals and scored 29 points on turnovers.

"I think that we've struggled with the turnovers all year long," McGraw said. "When you have kind of a rookie point guard it really makes it a little more difficult. I really don't think we had that intensity and focus early in the game."

The Syracuse offense seemed to have Notre Dame pegged as well. While the Orangewomen were boggled by several Irish defensive schemes when they played at the Joyce Center earlier this

season, they had no problem scoring against zone and man-to-man defenses.

"They just played hard," McGraw said. "They just came at us. They shot the ball better than they did last time. No matter what we played, zone or man, it didn't matter. They were shooting well. They just kept attacking us."

The Irish played a more solid game in the second half. They upped their shooting percentage from 32.4 percent to 51.5 percent and took more three-point shots; even after Syracuse took a 19-point lead, it looked as if the Irish would have a shot at the ball game.

"I think we felt we could win. The problem was we had to foul somebody else," McGraw said. "And as we kept fouling McBride [I became worried] that she was going to make the free throws. I thought if we had fouled somebody else we could have won."

Ratay, who totaled a game-high 29 points, led the charge in the last 20 minutes of the game. Guarded early by the strong Syracuse defense, she had trouble getting open looks. But as the seconds ticked down and she found her team down by as much as 19, she made sure she took whatever shots she could get.

"In the second half, when you have to score, you find a way to score," Ratay said. "You do whatever you can to get an open shot."

Freshman Katy Flecky added 12 points to the final Irish score, the only other player to hit double digits.

Syracuse was unstoppable in the long run. McBride, who scored 18 points and James, who scored 23, proved to be unbeatable foes. Syracuse refused to lose.

"There was no way they were going to take the game away from us," Trammell said.

"It's not always the best team that wins, it's the team that plays the best," Freeman said. "And on this night, we played the best."

Notes:

♦ The Syracuse win marks the farthest this team has come in the Big East tournament since 1988 when they made it to the semifinals before losing that game.



NOAH AMSTADTER/The Observer

Irish guard Alicia Ratay attempts a jump shot Sunday in the first round of the Big East tournament. The junior led the team in scoring with 29 points.

♦ Freshman forward Jackie Batteast played for the first time following a four-game absence due to a knee injury. Batteast, who was the Irish leading scorer prior to her injury, played 13 minutes, scored no points and grabbed two rebounds.

♦ In its previous six appearances in

the Big East tournament, the Irish have at least made it to the semifinals. Sunday's game marked the lowest tournament finish in Irish history.

Contact Katie McVoy at mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu.



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FENCING

Irish ease through conference championships

◆ Irish fencers claim four individual titles, nab 11 of 24 first-team conference spots

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

After winning the team competition on Saturday, the Notre Dame fencing team continued its domination of the Midwest Conference in Sunday's individual competition: The Irish won four individual titles, took second place four times and claimed 11 of the 24 first-team conference spots.

In two events, the Irish sent two fencers to the championship match. Sophomore Kerry Walton defeated teammate junior Anna Carnick 15-13 to win women's epee.

"I was glad it was a teammate," Walton said. "If you have to fence anyone in the finals, it might as well be a teammate."

With two fencers in the finals, the women's epee squad rebounded from their third-place effort on Saturday that prevented the Irish from sweeping the team competition.

Junior Ozren Debic continued his success at the confer-

ence championships by winning his third individual foil title in as many years. For the third consecutive year, Debic beat a teammate in the finals; this year he defeated senior Steve Mautone 15-11.

In his two previous conference championships, junior epeeist Jan Viviani took second in the individual competition. This year, however, Viviani finally won his own conference championship by defeating Spencer Jones from Ohio State 15-5.

"It's nice not to finish in second again," Viviani said.

"I was glad it was a teammate. If you have to fence anyone in the finals, it might as well be a teammate."

Kerry Walton
Irish fencer

With the score 5-4 after the first period, Viviani took control of the match by outscoring Jones 10-1 in the second to win the match 15-5.

"I think usually when I fence a 15-touch bout, it takes me a period to get comfortable," Viviani said.

Freshman Alicja Kryczalo continued her impressive debut season by winning women's foil. The championship match had Kryczalo against Northwestern's Julia Foldi. Kryczalo easily won 15-4. Sunday's match was the third time Kryczalo defeated Foldi this season.

In women's sabre, senior Carianne McCullough and sophomore Destanie Milo faced each other in the semi-

finals. Down 14-12, McCullough battled back and won the match 15-14. Both fencers lost in the semifinals of the 2001 conference championships.

Louise Bond-Williams, a freshman from Ohio State, awaited McCullough in the finals. McCullough defeated Bond-Williams earlier in the season but was unable to get on track in Sunday's conference championship match. Bond-Williams won 15-5.

Senior sabre captain Andre Crompton faced a familiar foe in the finals. Wayne State senior Jakub Krochmalski, who defeated Irish senior Andrzej Bednarski 15-11 in the semifinals to make it to the finals, awaited Crompton.

In 2000, Krochmalski defeated Crompton to win the conference championship; but in 2001, Crompton beat Krochmalski in the semifinals en route to his first conference title. Crompton won 5-3 in the 2001 NCAA Championships but Krochmalski won 5-2 at the Ohio State Duals this season.

In a tightly contested match, Krochmalski took a late lead at 13-10 and held off Crompton's final charge to win the men's sabre title 15-13.

The Irish fencing team looks to continue their individual success next week at the Midwest regional qualifier at Case Western Reserve University.

Contact Matt Lozar at
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◆ Men's and women's squads combine to give Irish overall title

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

At the Midwest Conference Championships, the women's sabre team was able to avenge their defeat to Northwestern last year and help lead the Notre Dame women's fencing team to first place. The men's squad defended their conference title and combined with the women to give the Irish the overall title.

Against rival Northwestern, the Irish went 2-1 on the day in team competition. In the women's foil, freshmen Andrea Ament and Alicja Kryczalo led the Irish to the 5-3 victory.

The semifinals of women's sabre saw the Irish face the Wildcats with the Irish prevailing 5-2. Senior captain Carianne McCullough and sophomore Maggie Jordan each had 2 wins in Notre Dame's 5-2 victory. The Irish won the title with a 5-0 sweep of Michigan.

The only disappointment of the day for Notre Dame came in women's epee: Northwestern got the best of Notre Dame in the semifinals, 5-2, and won the title against Ohio State. The Irish defeated Wayne State for third place.

Coach Yves Auriol was not satisfied with the results from the epee squad.

"They did good, except for women's epee," Auriol said. "The women's epee is a weapon where the results sometimes are up and down. So they didn't fence too good today."

The two first-place finishes

and one third-place finish gave the women's team 425 points.

On the men's side, for the second straight year they won each individual event to sweep the overall team title with 450 points.

In the most exciting men's championship match, the epee team pulled out a 5-4 victory over Ohio State. Junior captain Jan Viviani got three wins, leading the squad. Freshman Michael Macaulay replaced Brian Casas and earned the deciding victory to give the Irish the title.

Both of the other events saw the Irish cruise to the titles. Men's sabre won the championship 5-3 over Ohio State. The foil team defeated Wayne State 5-2 in their title match.

The Northwestern women's team finished second with 400 points. Ohio State was in third with 385 points. In the men's standings, Ohio State took second with a total of 385 points and Northwestern was third.

Overall, Ohio State finished in second with 770 points and Northwestern ended up in third with 745 points.

Coach Auriol was pleased with his team's efforts in the team portion of the weekend's competition.

"I am very pleased overall. The goal was to win the overall [title] and we did," Auriol said. "I am very pleased with the women's sabre team. They fenced very well [especially since] Northwestern has a good sabre squad."

Next weekend, the Irish will participate in the Midwest Regional Qualifier at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland attempting to qualify their fencers for the NCAA Championships.

Contact Matt Lozar at
mlozar@nd.edu.

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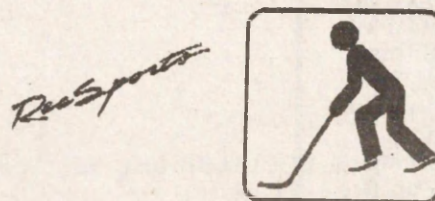
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20 minute games

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish come from behind, win on Senior Day

By JOE LICANDRO
Sports Writer

For one final time, Irish seniors David Graves, Ryan Humphrey, Harold Swanagan and Charles Thomas were introduced in a special presentation with their families to the home faithful at the Joyce Center. The capacity crowd loudly voiced their appreciation for the contributions of each player in revitalizing the Notre Dame program. After the emotional pre-game Senior Day festivities, the Irish had to refocus their energies on defeating the visiting Providence Friars and their star point guard John Linehan.

The Irish senior class of 2002 did not disappoint; all four seniors played a factor in the Irish's 76-68 victory over the Friars on Saturday.

Although Providence entered the Joyce Center with a record of only 15-14, the Friars played with reckless abandon throughout the game. From the opening tip-off, the Irish players must have known they were going to be in for a dogfight.

The first half was a seesaw battle which saw neither team able to take control of the game.

Matt Carroll was deadly from the three-point line in the first half, nailing three critical shots to keep the Irish in the game. Carroll led all scorers in the first half with 11 points.

While Carroll did his damage from beyond the arc, Humphrey provided his usual athletic flair around the basket for some thunderous dunks that brought the crowd to its feet. Humphrey scored nine of his game-high 21 points in the first half.

Despite Carroll's hot shooting and Humphrey's offensive acrobatics, the Friars held a 41-38 lead thanks to a balanced offensive attack. Eight different players for the Friars scored in the first half with Linehan leading the way with 7 points.

"I expected them to give us a game," said coach Mike Brey. "They played with nothing to lose. My hat goes off to them. Sometimes the other team just plays really well, and Providence played really well tonight."

In recent games, Notre Dame has struggled at the beginning of the second half, allowing other teams to make long scoring runs that force the Irish to play catch-up for the remainder of the game.

Saturday was no different. Providence came out on fire at the beginning of the second half. The Friars made three straight three-pointers to take a seven-point lead with just under 16 minutes remaining.

For the next ten minutes, Notre Dame struggled to play catch-up. Every single time the Irish made a run, sharpshooters Abdul Mills, Christopher Anrin and Tuukka

Kotti had an answer for the Friars.

With 7 minutes and 30 seconds left in the game, Notre Dame appeared to be in trouble, finding themselves down 62-55 with the Friars in possession of the ball, but Graves refused to let the Irish lose the game.

"At that point in the game, it can go either way," said Graves. "Every time we made a run, they put a dagger in us. It was the climax of the game and someone had to step up."

Graves stole the ball from Christopher Anrin, then

raced down the court and was fouled on his breakaway lay-up attempt. He calmly sank two free throws to make the score 62-57.

Two possessions later, Graves stole the ball from Anrin again and streaked down the court for another lay-up. Once again, Graves was fouled on the shot, but this time he converted the lay-up. Graves nailed his free-throw attempt for a three-point play, bringing the crowd to its feet.

After stopping the Friars' next offensive series, the Irish found themselves down 64-61. On the next Irish offensive possession, freshman Chris Thomas nailed a 3-pointer to tie the game.

After a Providence free throw, the Irish would take a 66-65 lead on a Ryan Humphrey put-back lay-in. Notre Dame would not relinquish the lead for the rest of the game.

Matt Carroll's three-pointer on Notre Dame's next possession, which stretched the Irish lead to 69-65, deflated the Friars' hopes and brought the Irish crowd to a wild frenzy.

"It was a good time to hit a



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Irish senior Ryan Humphrey goes for a putback Saturday afternoon against Providence. The Irish defeated the Friars 76-68 on Senior Day, the last game of the regular season for Notre Dame.

three," said Carroll. "We needed something big like that."

In nearly all of their losses this season, the Irish were able to keep the game close until the very end where they struggled to find ways to score. Saturday night was no different. "We've been there and done that," said Ryan Humphrey. "We've been in so many close games this year, we knew we were not going to panic."

With one minute remaining and a nine-point lead, the student section began chanting for walk-on senior Charles Thomas to enter the game.

In the waning seconds of the game, the Irish students got their wish, as Brey put Thomas into the game.

It was a fitting end to a great game and a great season for the Irish.

"Our crowd was awesome today," said Brey. "As soon as the crowd got into it, we got more intense. It was great to get Chuck in there. Charles Thomas has done a great job for us as a leader of this team. We will miss his presence next year."

With the final score reading 76-68, Notre Dame closed out the regular season with an impressive record of 20-9, and 10-6 in the Big East.

Brey became the first Irish head coach in school history to lead back-to-back 20-win seasons.

The Irish will now look ahead to the Big East Tournament next week.

With Syracuse's loss to Boston College on Sunday, the Irish finished second behind Pittsburgh in the Big East West Division. Notre Dame

earned a bye in the first round of the conference tournament and will not play again until Thursday at 9:30 p.m. when it will face the winner of Wednesday's matchup between Seton Hall and St. John's.

"We have as good a chance as anyone else to win the conference tournament," said Carroll. "Anybody can beat anybody in the Big East. It's been like that all year."

Notes

♦ Chris Thomas set the Notre Dame single-season record for assists during the game, finishing with 217 this season. Thomas's assist to Ryan Humphrey in the first half broke the previous record.

Contact Joe Licandro at jlicandr@nd.edu.

INTERFACE

Nurturing: Creating an Interracial Family (Part II)



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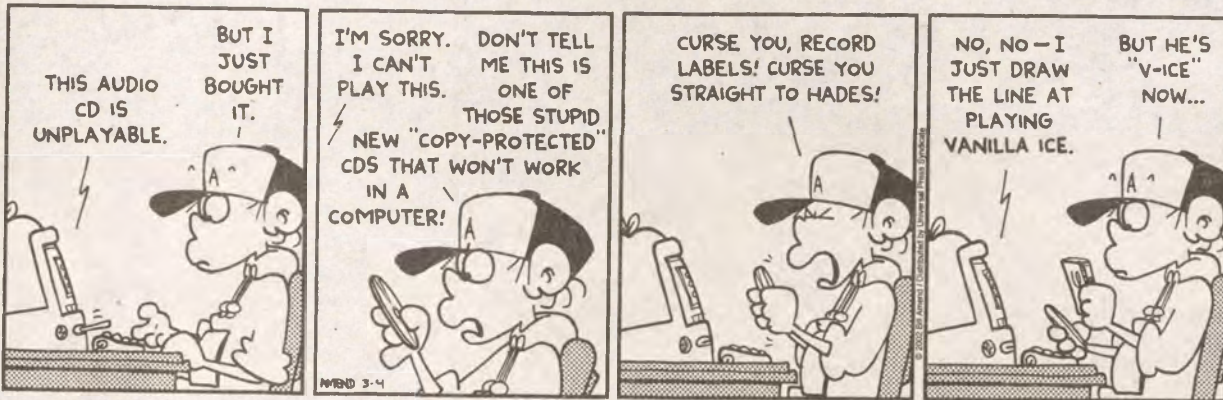
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TOM KEELEY



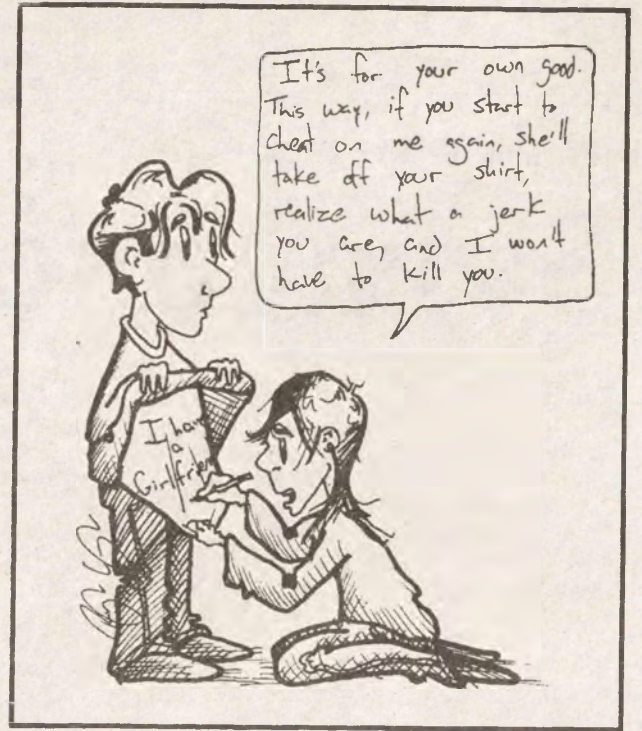
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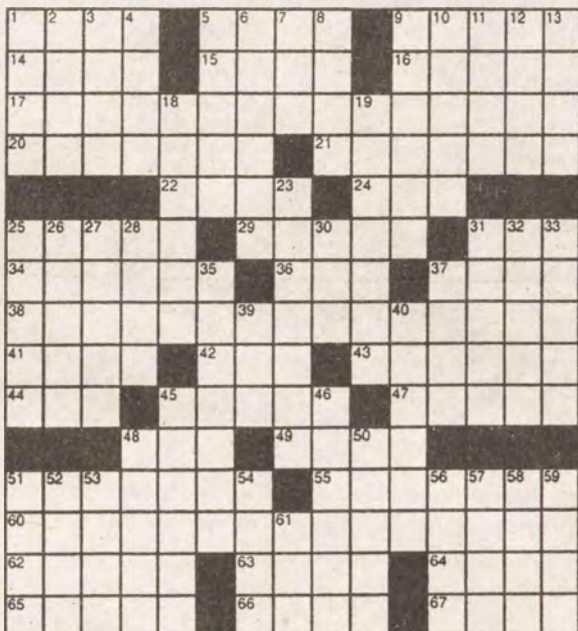
HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

- ACROSS**
- 1 Norway's capital
 - 5 Person in a puffy white hat
 - 9 Latin dance
 - 14 Comparable (to)
 - 15 Part of U.A.W.
 - 16 Farewell
 - 17 Contents of some tablets
 - 20 Popeye's son
 - 21 Shakespeare's last play, with "The"
 - 22 Muscle quality
 - 24 Blubber
 - 25 Was forced
 - 29 Do a great job
 - 31 P. Diddy's music
 - 34 Courtyard
 - 36 Attila, for one
- DOWN**
- 37 Opening in a sweater?
 - 38 Classic parlor game
 - 41 Effortless
 - 42 Total
 - 43 Bothers greatly
 - 44 Salk and Pepper: Abbr.
 - 45 Have the helm
 - 47 Passover staple
 - 48 Take to court
 - 49 Relief pitcher's goal
 - 51 "Top Hat" star
 - 55 Boo-boo
 - 60 Hit 1980's-90's series
 - 62 Chutney fruit
 - 63 Whole bunch

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TIRAMISU FEDUP
INELEGANT OVINE
SCALLOPER RECUT
ROOT EXTREME
DEWY SHEEDY
ELI LATE DETACH
BANDOLERO VILLA
RIDINGACADEMIES
INONE MUTINEERS
SEWERS LENS NIL
EASTER RACE
ASSANTE PSAT
BOURG SCARED OFF
ADELE HONORARIA
SATYR SOMERSET



Puzzle by Peter Gordon

- 31 Fowl pole?
- 32 "I Love Lucy" star
- 33 Basil-based sauce
- 35 Whodunit
- 37 Falafel bread
- 39 "Sera, Sera"
- 40 Least wild
- 45 Pitcher of woo
- 46 Rear-ended
- 48 Boot camp boss
- 50 Opinions
- 51 Cash dispensers, for short
- 52 Former Iranian leader
- 53 Fork part
- 54 A gas from the past
- 56 God of thunder
- 57 Full of breezes
- 58 Patella's place
- 59 Freudian topics
- 61 Aged

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

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Jordan, Jerry O'Connell, Billie Joe Armstrong, Denise Richards

Happy Birthday: You will handle joint finances with ease this year and you will make gains through gifts, inheritance, or other means of acquiring things that you don't work for. You will prove how strong and courageous you are. Your numbers are 10, 18, 20, 37, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may be emotional about your personal life but strive to be affectionate and kind. Get out and enjoy friends and make plans to experience different events taking place in your community. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may want to take care of unfinished business. Go over your paperwork and make sure that you dotted all the i's and crossed all the t's. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You owe it to yourself to take a little time out. Rest and relax. You will feel much better going into the week ahead if you have had a chance to rejuvenate. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You should avoid getting into a deep discussion with someone who is looking for an argument. You will be in a no-win situation and if you bite at the bait you will have regrets. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be in rare form today. Your friends will make you feel good about yourself and your ability to be entertaining, clever and generous will result in getting the help you require. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't put cash into a risky venture just because a friend is trying

to cajole you into doing so. You will do far better if you remain an observer. Your friend will need your help when money becomes tight. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be in a romantic mood. If you have someone in your life, plan a special day for the two of you. If you aren't, get involved in new organizations that can offer you the chance to meet someone special. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It may not be a workday, but you should be contemplating how you could get ahead in your professional field. Make your game plan and stick to the strategy that you know will bring the biggest returns. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An adventure is just around the corner. Gambling may be tempting, but there will be better ways to spend your cash. Listen to a friend with experience. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may have trouble with family members today. Try not to push your ideas and desires on others. You should be trying to get your own life in order, not trying to change everyone else's. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will have an impact on others today. Join a humanitarian group that could use a helping hand. You will receive great satisfaction from assisting others. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If you are too quick to point the finger at someone else you may actually divulge your own shortcomings. Focus on being the best that you can be and refrain from getting involved in other people's private affairs. ***

Birthday Baby: You have strong ideas and will stand up for your beliefs. You always take the road less traveled in order to create an intellectual challenge.

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

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SPORTS

Monday, March 4, 2002

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Syracuse stuns Irish

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

PISCATAWAY, NJ
Before her team entered Louis Brown Athletic Center on Sunday, Syracuse head coach Marianna Freeman had three words for the Orangewomen: Refuse to lose.

And that's just what they did.

In 40 minutes of play, the Orangewomen did everything they could to win the game and when it looked like they might be playing not to lose instead of playing to win, Freeman called a time out and reminded her team what they were there for: to win.

When that 40 minutes was over, it was clear that Syracuse had come to bring home the victory and kill any hopes the Irish had of making it past their first game in the Big East tournament.

"I told them that you're guaranteed when you arrive the first 40 minutes, but you have to play for the other 40," Freeman said.

During the 84-79 Syracuse victory, the Orangewomen shut down Notre Dame's offense, took the ball out of the team's hands and put the ball in

the basket from every place on the floor. Led by the efforts of guards Julie McBride and Jaime James, Syracuse proved that, despite a mid-season loss to Notre Dame, whatever team wants to can win.

"It was a long 20 minutes in the second half, but I think we wanted it more," Tara Trammell, senior Orangewomen center, said. "Coach Freeman said 'refuse to lose' and I just think we lived by that."

While Syracuse allowed the Irish to get close, allowing a run that brought the Irish from 18 points down to within seven in the second half, the Orangewomen refused to lose. Freeman called a time-out with 1:18 left in the game and the Irish down by only six and told her team something.

"I brought them back — as you can see I was pretty upset with them," Freeman said. "And I told them I didn't like their body language. I felt that they were beginning to play not to lose. And I said don't play [not] to lose, play to win."

After that, Syracuse did everything they could to win. When Irish guard junior Alicia Ratay hit a 3-

see BBALL/page 16



NOAH AMSTADTER/The Observer
Irish head coach Muffet McGraw shows her frustration with her team's performance Sunday. The Irish lost to Syracuse 84-79 in the first round of the Big East Tournament.

ND WOMEN'S BBALL

Syracuse wanted it more

PISCATAWAY, N.J.

Looking at the reasons behind Syracuse's upset victory over Notre Dame Sunday, one could suggest many explanations.

It could be that Notre Dame was too young: Five freshmen played at least 13 minutes.

Or it could be that the Irish just can't seem to find a way to win

at Rutgers' Louis Brown Athletic Center where Notre Dame has historically struggled putting the ball in the net.

But in the end, it was simply a children's game of follow the leader — and the Orangewomen had a leader to follow for the whole 40 minutes. Notre Dame's leader didn't step up until it was too late.

The youth excuse doesn't work here either. Syracuse



Noah Amstadter

Sports Editor

see IRISH/page 14

BENGAL BOUTS: 125-POUNDS — 160-POUNDS

Newburg outlasts McMahon, captures title

By PAUL CAMARATA
Sports Writer

Even in skill but varied in style, 125-pound title contenders Shawn Newburg and Jason McMahon provided the crowd with an intriguing opening to the Friday night Finals.

The brawny McMahon came out aggressively in the first round, jabbing his way around the ring in pursuit of a tussle. Newburg would not be drawn into a brawl, however, moving

smoothly around the perimeter of the ring and attacking only when he had an ideal opportunity.

Again in the second round, Newburg used his active feet to move away from McMahon's snappy jab. McMahon continued to chase in search of a slugfest, while Newburg used his active feet to take advantage of the entire ring. Along the way he stopped to drop a combination or toss out a right hand, but it was his lower body that dictated the action.

McMahon was aggressive in the beginning of the third round, pulling Newburg against the ropes and into the corner. The second seeded senior did not relent and did manage to land punches, but never enough to slow the jittery Newburg.

Despite absorbing punches and never completely deterring McMahon, Newburg stayed faithful to his strengths and was awarded the 125-pound title in a split-decision victory.

135-pounds

T.J. D'Agostino also entered his championship fight knowing that to earn a victory he would have to stay true to his advantage. Perhaps the lankiest fighter in his weight class, the sophomore D'Agostino employed his reach advantage over senior Matt Fumagalli and jabbed his way to the 135-pound title.

D'Agostino rushed eagerly into the center of the ring after the opening bell sounded,

see BOUTS/page 13



LISA VELTE/The Observer
Freshman Mark De Splinter, right, and top-seeded Chris Kitalong exchange a pair of jabs in the 160-pound title fight.

SPORTS
AT A GLANCE

- ◆ ND Women's Golf at Tulane Green Wave Golf Classic, Monday-Tuesday, All Day
- ◆ Men's Basketball at Big East Tournament, Thursday, 9:30 p.m.

OBSERVER
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