



SHOWERS

HIGH 38°
LOW 30°

Playing games

Scene recommends "Tony Hawke Pro Skater 3" above other video games for advanced combo tricks.

Scene ♦ page 10

Wednesday

MARCH 27,
2002

THE OBSERVER

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Midnight alcohol rally escalates

♦ Police respond to calls reporting vandalism at Main Building

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

In the latest student demonstration against proposed alcohol policy changes, more than 100 students burned copies of the Notre Dame rule manual, du Lac, and hurled glass bottles of alcoholic beverages at the Main Building steps early this morning.

The midnight rally, which lasted for 30 minutes, ended abruptly when students quickly scurried away from the scene after Notre Dame Security/Police arrived at 12:30 a.m.

NDSP Sgt. Greg Pavlica said police received a call about a disturbance outside Main Building and "some vandalism along with a fire," which they are investigating.

The rally ended in no injuries or arrests.

"Don't give up the fight," said O'Neill Hall President-elect Joe Muto, a sophomore who has been vocal about his contempt for the alcohol policy, which will ban in-hall dances, "hard" alcohol in the dorms and will allow students 21 years old or older to host tailgaters with alcohol in a designated lot.

Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman officially announced the new policy at Monday's Campus Life Council meeting, although students received an e-mail about the changes on March 18. Since the e-mail, there has been an all-campus rally sponsored by student government.

Students said they were partic-

ipating in the latest rally because it was another chance to show the administration that their voices would be heard.

"I feel that Father Poorman's decisions are an invasion on our rights," said sophomore Cindy Adimari, who attended the rally with fellow Badin Hall residents.

Muto, who spoke to the crowd, said he was satisfied with the student response.

"We're very powerful," he said. "I don't think students realize that."

The idea for the rally, called "Give Back du Lac," came from sophomore Walsh Hall residents who wanted to prove that students weren't apathetic about campus issues. One of the coordinators for the demonstration, Krista Seidl, said she was disappointed with University administrators after the CLC meeting.

"I was really frustrated afterwards," said Seidl, adding that she had expected more of a student response at the meeting. "I was surprised that only a small crowd of the students was being proactive."

Later Monday, Seidl, along with sophomores Gabby Sopko, Leah Bertke and Mary Miksch decided to take action. The women made posters and began spreading message of the du Lac demonstration by word of mouth.

However, Seidl and the other planners advertised that students should bring copies of du Lac and old gifts from in-hall dances to the rally, not the bottles of Absolut, Bacardi, Jose Cuervo and lighters to burn du Lac that participants also added to the list.

"We didn't intend for people to start lighting things on fire," said Seidl. "[The people who started fires] went to extremes to try to

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LISA VELTE/The Observer

A Notre Dame student sets paper on fire to symbolically protest the University's proposed changes to the alcohol policy. More than 100 students gathered in front of the Main Building for the rally.

Hahn shares stories in 'Last Lecture'

By MEGHAN MARTIN
News Writer

Notre Dame's Alexander Hahn may have claimed to be out of his element, but the mathematics professor, entertained and inspired his audience with ease during Tuesday in the final installment of the student government-sponsored Last Lecture series.

"Mathematicians," he said, "always have their 'security blankets': a piece of chalk, a blackboard and logic to the flow of their studies. Here, there is no blackboard, no chalk."

To the friends, colleagues and students gathered among the

couches of Welsh Family Hall's family room Tuesday night, Hahn imparted the wisdom and insight he has gained throughout his life, from his childhood in Austria to his tenure as director of the Science College Honors Program at the University.

A 37-year veteran at the University, he discussed his early experiences in a "formidable" grade school run by Benedictine monk and related the tale of his family's subsequent move to America, predicated by the disastrous Hungarian revolution.

His initial frustrations with the English language and the suggestion of a college friend led him to the study of math during his years at Loyola University in

Los Angeles.

He took his friends' advice to heart, and it eventually led him to graduate school at Notre Dame, an arrangement that would eventually lead to his current position as full professor of mathematics at the University.

Realizing that he was asked to speak in the Last Lecture series, a theme which itself evokes a mélange of emotions, Hahn reflected on the relevance of his work, asking himself, "What has your contribution been?" and "What will your living days all have added up to?"

His own response, he says, was to initially rule out all mate-

see HAHN/page 4



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Mathematics professor Alexander Hahn, a 37-year veteran at the University, entertains and imparts wisdom to his audience at Welsh Family Hall Tuesday.

INSIDE COLUMN

Students vs. ND

It seems apparent that the student war on Father Mark Poorman's drinking resolutions is going to plague student publications, in particular the glorious Observer. Essentially, it's not my problem anymore. I am "of age," and I live off campus.

I like to fight, argue and generally make people feel uncomfortable, but I am not about to take on the administration of this University. If there is a student petition, I will sign it. If there is a march on the Main Building, I will show up and watch people burn the student handbook and revel in the raucous behavior of the angry mob. But I am not going to organize my own movement in support of a student body that cares more about scholastics than drinking-oriented social interaction.

V. Van Buren
Giles

News Copy
Editor

I believe students should have alcohol, lots of it. I think before a student earns the right to drink beer, they should be forced to drink two shots of Everclear. For those of you who are not familiar with Everclear, it's not the one-hit wonder band from the 1990s. It's grain alcohol, and frankly, it's the toughest shot I have ever had to do. The point is that you would rather strap yourself into a dentist's chair and endure three hours of root canal than swallow this liquid.

In essence, drinking is part of the Notre Dame experience. I guarantee most people will remember the night they yacked on their roommate from a top loft rather than the day they received a good grade on a test or paper.

I honestly hope undergrads retain their drinking rights. Drinking is a part of college. Just walk into the Alumni Association on a reunion weekend and you will see the proof for yourself. Every alum over 50 has a head of white hair, a well-defined beer gut and has an extremely red complexion. Their faces wear the marks of a drinking life which I bet started either in college or before. I bet they never got busted tailgating or handcuffed for drinking at a Lafayette St. Patrick's Day celebration.

This is a tier-one private school, and people would kill to get in here. If you don't like it here, the University has no problem replacing your spot with another student who could care less about the University's policy on student drinking and who will spend their entire four years of college handcuffed to their computer, cranking out work.

I am going to get my degree, and I plan on coming back next year and tripping the lights fantastic at a couple of home football games. This column is not to gripe at the school or to voice a more personal petition on behalf of the student body. I am writing this out of joy for never having been in trouble with Residence Life or any other disciplinary office on this campus. No autographs, thank you.

Unless I have jinxed myself something terrible by writing this, I will leave South Bend with a fair amount of partying under my belt while meeting some of the greatest people it has ever been my pleasure of knowing. I have even gone so far as to steal paper out of the computer cluster. Now while these offenses would probably land me in Poorman's dungeon of despair, it's all in the past, and I have already been to confession and made my penance with a power higher than the administration of this University.

I successfully escaped the long arm of Notre Dame law. Granted, I have had more than my share of parking tickets, and I have almost gotten into fist-fights with the gate attendants over not being able to get my car on campus. But I am going to leave in May with a clear conscience.

Anyone who has visited their high school after graduating knows that the school belongs to the students. Notre Dame is no different. Undergrads, the problem remains is your hands. I would give you advice, but you wouldn't know what to do with it. For now, work on two things: Fight on and raise hell. Good luck guys — show 'em what you got.

Contact Van Giles at vgiles.6@nd.edu.

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

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

On Monday, Scene accidentally omitted the last band on the NAZZ concert, Dr. Curve, and also incorrectly reported the ending time of the announcement of the winners as 1 a.m.

Also, in Tuesday's Observer, Bill Rinner was cited as a sophomore. He is a freshman. The Observer regrets the errors.

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THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

Wednesday

◆ **Lecture:** "Varieties of Secularism in Antebellum America. Leaves of Grass as Spritual Exercise," Michael Warner, professor of English, Rutgers University, Rooms 210-214, McKenna Hall, 5 p.m.

Thursday

◆ **Lecture:** "Women and College Sports: A Legal and Practical Discussion," Jill Bodensteiner, Office of General Counsel, department of Athletics, Room 129, Rolf's Recreation Center, 8:15 a.m.

Friday

◆ **Good Friday:** Campus offices closed, March 29-April 1 Easter Holiday; no classes in session

BEYOND CAMPUS

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Indiana University officials won't cover Klan mural

BLOOMINGTON, Ind.

Amid reporters, cameras, lights and concerned students, Indiana University-Bloomington Chancellor Sharon Brehm held a press conference Monday in the Maple Room of the Indiana Memorial Union to make public her decision on the Benton mural featuring Ku Klux Klan members in Woodburn Hall 100.

Brehm stated the mural would not be covered because of moral issues and could not be moved because the painting could suffer irreparable damage. "I am convinced that moving or covering the mural would be morally wrong," Brehm said. "It would, in effect, do what Benton refused to do: That is, it would hide the shameful aspects of Indiana's past."

The two sides of the issue present-



ed a philosophical juxtaposition that Brehm also addressed.

"Freedom of expression requires indifference, of perspective and of opinion, to be any freedom at all," Brehm said. "And without freedom of expression, diversity is restricted, oppressed and excluded from positions of power in the society."

After discussing why the mural would not be moved or covered,

Brehm talked about the bigger issue that helped to create the mural argument in the first place: The lack of an obvious commitment to diversity at IU. The campus has a black student population of 4 percent, and nearly 4 percent of the faculty is black. The numbers are even smaller for other minority groups.

"There is no question that we need a stronger, more vigorous and more joyous commitment to diversity on this campus," Brehm said.

With that, Brehm revealed her plan for dealing with the mural problem and also for dealing with diversity issues on the Bloomington, Ind., campus.

A revamped mural education program will be instituted to ensure all students and incoming freshmen know about the mural.

DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Murder suspect seeks 2 trials

HANOVER, N.H.

Lawyers for Robert Tulloch argued in a court filing Monday accusation he and alleged accomplice James Parker planned the killings of Half and Susanne Zantop months in advance should not be heard at the teen's murder trial. Tulloch pleaded not guilty to the charge of conspiracy to commit murder — the fifth charge brought against the Vermont teen accused of killing the two Dartmouth College professors at an arraignment hearing at Grafton County Superior Court on March 6. In a motion to consolidate the conspiracy charge with the four existing first-degree murder charges, state prosecutors have alleged the Zantop murders were only part of "an overall scheme by the defendant and Parker to raise \$10,000 illegally, to eliminate witnesses and to travel to Australia."

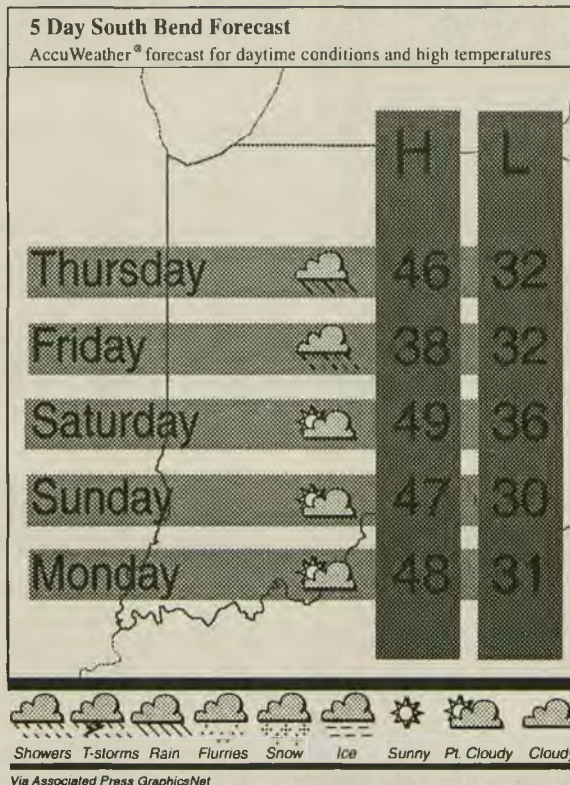
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

Former student dies in car crash

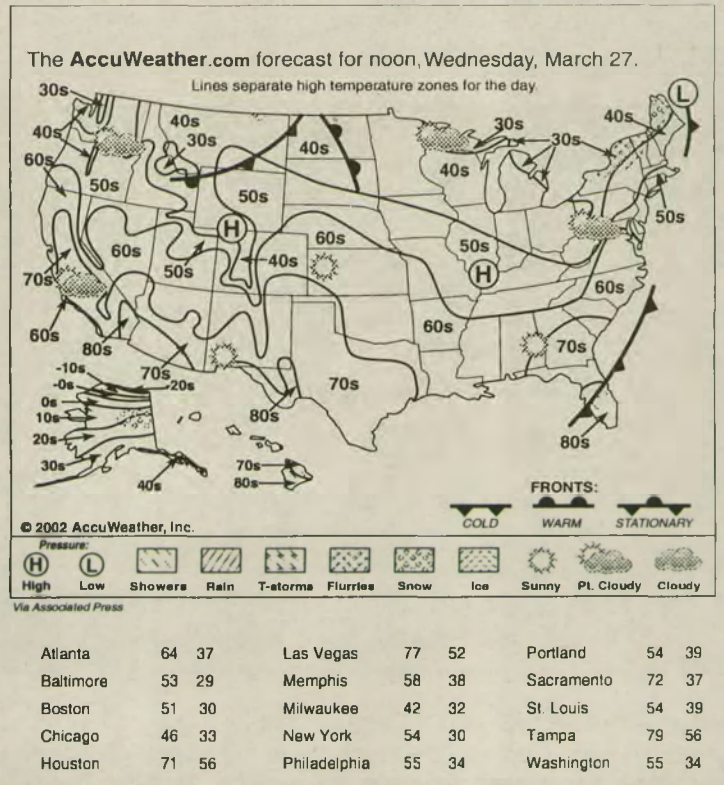
WACO, Texas

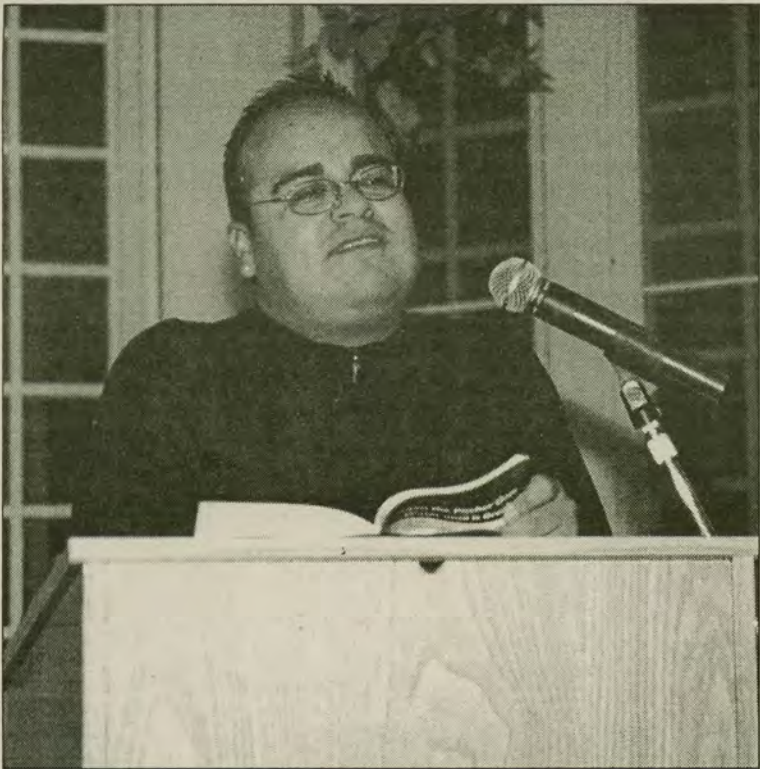
Services for a former Baylor University student who died in an automobile accident Thursday night will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Georgetown, Texas. Martin Esteban Aleman, who was a junior when he last attended Baylor in the fall, was involved in a one-car automobile accident at about 11:20 p.m. Thursday on State Highway 21 near College Station, Texas. A spokeswoman at the Department of Public Safety said Aleman, who was traveling alone, apparently lost control of his 1996 Ford Explorer when he ran off the right side of the highway into the grass. The spokeswoman said Aleman then overcompensated to the left and crossed the grass median, where the car rolled over three times. Since he was not wearing a seatbelt, Aleman was ejected from the car. He was pronounced dead at the scene by Ramiro Quintero, a Justice of the Peace. Aleman's is the first Baylor student death since August.

LOCAL WEATHER



NATIONAL WEATHER





Poet and writer Rigoberto González reads selections of his upcoming memoir, "Butterfly Boy," to Saint Mary's students in Haggar Parlor Tuesday.

LIZ GAYDOS/The Observer

Poet González speaks at SMC

By SARAH NESTOR
News Writer

Poet and writer Rigoberto González read excerpts from his upcoming memoir and poems from his first collection of poetry to an audience at Saint Mary's in Haggar Parlor Tuesday.

Richard Yañez, an English professor and a Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership fellow, introduced González to the audience and was the main supporter in bringing the talented poet to campus. The writer read from his upcoming memoir "Butterfly Boy" and his first collection of poetry, "So Often the Pitcher Goes to Water Until it Breaks."

"One of the reasons I came to CWIL was to bring different guests to campus. Because of my own literary background, I want to bring many different writers,"

Yañez said. "Rigo and I have many different ties, from Arizona and beyond."

González was born in Bakersfield, Calif., but spent a majority of his childhood traveling between the United States and Mexico. As the son and grandson of migrant workers, these experiences are reflected in his work. His memoir, "Butterfly Boy," expresses these journeys.

"It is an emotional journey, going from migrant farm worker to going around to colleges and reading poetry. My memoir tries to understand this journey," González said.

The first poem that González read, "Blizzard," was about the first time he saw snow while in New Mexico. It reflected the weather he saw Tuesday in his first trip to Indiana.

While some of González's work includes graphic details of sex and violence, he wel-

comes the reactions of the audiences.

"It's ok to be freaked out by my work," González said. "Part of me expects that, wants that and gets off on it."

González also said that despite the graphic nature of some of his work, he is very squeamish when it comes to seeing something in real life.

González ended the session with a reading of "The Man Who Gives You Nightmares," stating that he wanted the excerpt to give the audience bad dreams.

González attended the University of California at Riverside and Arizona State University.

He now lives in New York and is anticipating the release of his books, "Soledad Sigh-Sighs," a children's book, and "Crossing Vines," a novel.

Contact Sarah Nestor at nest9877@saintmarys.edu.

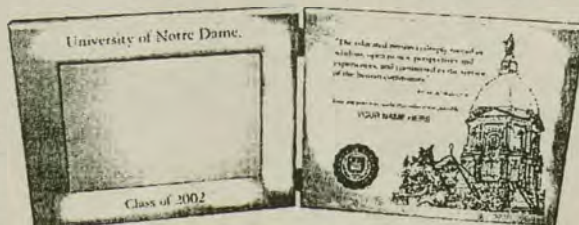
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SICB talk centers on U.N. contracts

By KATIE VINCER
News Writer

The Student International Business Council held a council coffee break Tuesday evening at Saint Mary's.

"We're trying to bring everyone together in a comfortable atmosphere to discuss issues," said senior Mary Campe, SIBC director of marketing.

Father Oliver Williams, director of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business, provided the United Nations Global Contracts as the discussion topic.

"The UN Global Contracts is a set of nine principles concerning human rights, environmental issues, discrimination, and abolition of child labor," said

Williams.

Kofi Annan, secretary-general of the United Nations, created and sculpted these principles. He announced these principles in January 1999 at the Davos World Economic Forum. This compact is an attempt to stabilize the world market.

Williams is organizing a conference this April addressing this contract. "The purpose of this conference is to familiarize U.S. businesses with this compact," said Williams.

SIBC has eight divisions: Accounting, Business Consulting, Finance, Global Development, Human Resources, Information Technology, Internships and Marketing.

Contact Katie Vincer at vinc0858@saintmarys.edu.

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Lies becomes CSC director

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

Father William Lies, a guest scholar for the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, will become the new executive director for the Center for Social Concerns this summer.

He replaces Father Don McNeill, who is leaving for sabbatical.

Lies, who is getting his post-doctorate in political science from the University of Pittsburgh, has shown the leadership qualities that the CSC staff and Notre Dame administration wanted for McNeill's successor, the departing director said.

"We shared a similar passion for justice and for the social mission of the church," said McNeill, who has been with the CSC for 19 years.

More than a year ago, University President Father Edward Malloy and Vice President for Public Affairs and Communication Lou Nanni considered the possibility of a Holy Cross priest becoming the new executive director.

"Everyone agreed that if we could find someone that had the gifts and the passion of the

Center, that we would very much like that person," McNeill said.

Lies, who received his master of divinity degree from the University in 1993, was also ordained on campus at the Sacred Heart Basilica in 1994. He had worked in Chicago, Iowa, Chile and many U.S. Latino communities before returning to Notre Dame.

"This job is an exciting assignment for me — for the entire Center staff. And I look forward to working with them and with so many others in the effort," said Lies.

Lies said he looks forward to the new challenges of reaching out to more students and getting faculty involved with the CSC.

"I see the Center's job as helping to round out the intellectual and spiritual formation of our students," McNeill said. "We look to enhance what Notre Dame as a university is trying to do, and we do it by collaborating with a lot of others to offer formative educational and service experiences for our students."

The CSC has existed since 1983, when McNeill helped found the office along with students and administrators who wanted to extend the

social service and experiential learning options available at Notre Dame.

"It's been a great joy, and the joy has been to share as a Holy Cross priest with many lay women and men the common commitment to respond to the call for a more just and humane world," said McNeill, who will begin his one-year sabbatical on July 1.

McNeill said he plans to engage in the three "Rs": relaxation, renewal, and recreation.

"I'm not retiring like many of my classmates. I'm seeing this as a transition to another type of Holy Cross ministry," said 66-year-old McNeill.

During the sabbatical, McNeill said he plans to travel to Bolivia to improve his Spanish and work with the Maryknoll order there for two months. Afterward, McNeill said he wants to work in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago to do social outreach work with Latinos, as well as spend some time in San Antonio and Mexico.

"I feel gratitude for my years at Notre Dame," said McNeill.

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



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Students burned items and left broken bottles of alcoholic drinks during a midnight rally to protest the proposed alcohol changes.

Rally

continued from page 1

get their point across."

"The point is to give another opportunity to students," Seidl said.

Some students, however, disagreed with how the rally's participants used the opportunity.

"I think this behavior is indicative of the same sort of irresponsible behavior that the policy seeks to address," said Carroll Hall Senator Jesse Flores as he listened to students shout anti-administration sentiments and light small fires.

Flores looked at the crowd and began to point out the danger of

starting fires and leaving broken glass bottles and paper on the steps of the Main Building.

"All that is ludicrous behavior in my opinion," said Flores.

Freshman Hanni Masserer said he agreed with the proposed alcohol policy changes to du Lac and that the students at the rally were behaving childishly.

Masserer, who is a 23-year-old student from Germany, said he is used to drinking beer in his country rather than the hard alcohol that the new policy bans in undergraduate residence halls.

"It's a private University. So basically, either you like it or you transfer."

Contact Helena Payne at
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Hahn

continued from page 1

rial accumulations, a point driven home "with stark finality" by the estate sale of Evelyn George, a local restaurant proprietor, that he attended nearly a year ago.

"Every bit of matter she had

accumulated was there, and it sort of struck me as a demeaning exercise."

Further citing such material marvels as the cathedrals of medieval Europe and the ancient Egyptian pyramids, Hahn emphasized the fact that although these are "the creation of genius, these are environmental things [with] an environment making a contribution. All of us

are going to be called upon to make a contribution to this ever-evolving tapestry of art, of literature, of science, of medicine," he said. "I'm old, you're young; you can make a contribution."

A past recipient of the Madden Award for excellence in teaching first-year students and former chair of the Math Department, Hahn conveyed to his audience the encouragement

he was able to find in the story of another celebrated professor, Morrie Schwartz, as written by Schwartz's former student Mitch Albom, in his book "Tuesdays with Morrie."

"[Mitch] represents us — perhaps an older version of you, perhaps a younger version of me. I think about my situation through the eyes of Mitch," he said, reading passages from the

book, which served as a segue to Hahn's own parting words of wisdom.

"Morrie's seminar was meant for an older audience, but it is never too early to embark on its central lesson: create your own culture. Here at Notre Dame, opportunities abound."

Contact Meghan Martin at
mmartin@nd.edu.

Sophomore Spirit

Scene - Wed. 4/3 - "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" shown with movie snacks and a chance to win a DVD player
7pm - DBRT 101

Smorgasbord - Thurs. 4/4 - Dinner from Chili's, Olive Garden, Boracho Burritos - Alumni/Senior Club - 6-8pm
Chance to win restaurant gift certificates

Sound - Sat. 4/5 - DICE and Class of 2004 present "Battle of the Bands" - Starts at 7pm on North Quad and moves to Alumni/Senior Club at 12am

Spirituality - Sun. 4/6 - Class Mass and Brunch
11am - Dillon Hall

Buy one ticket for all events at NDH or SDH
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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Arafat not attending Arab summit:

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will not attend the Arab League summit in Beirut this week because of Israeli conditions for his departure and return, the Palestinian Cabinet said Tuesday. The Arab League summit, set for Wednesday and Thursday, is to focus on a Saudi plan under which Israel would withdraw from all the territories it captured in the 1967 war — the West Bank, Gaza Strip, east Jerusa.

Earthquake destroys Afghan city:

An earthquake measuring 6.1 razed an entire city and several villages in a remote area of northeast Afghanistan, with initial reports saying that it killed as many as 2,000 people and left legions homeless. The earthquake struck early Monday evening. "The whole city of Nahrin was destroyed," said an Afghan official.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Wis. bus crash kills 4: A tour bus carrying residents of a retirement home collided head-on with a delivery van Tuesday, killing at least four people and injuring 18 others, authorities said. Twenty-one people were aboard the bus, authorities said. The van, which carried only the driver, burst into flames during the accident 30 miles west of Milwaukee. More than a dozen people were taken to area hospitals. At least four were in critical condition.

Lawsuit filed for slave descendants:

Three federal lawsuits seeking unspecified reparations for the 35 million descendants of African slaves were filed Tuesday against the Aetna insurance company, the FleetBoston financial services group and railroad giant CSX. The lawsuits also claim that 1,000 unidentified corporations may have profited from slavery and helped it continue in the United States between 1619 and 1865.

INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

Gunman's history of mental illness:

The gunman who killed four co-workers at an aircraft parts factory in South Bend and then took his own life had a history of mental illness and once plotted to shoot passersby from a courthouse tower, police said Tuesday. Lockey planned to use his 6-month-old daughter as a hostage to force a deputy to give him the key to the clock tower, and then to use the baby and the deputy as hostages to keep police from shooting at him while he fired on the town, the newspaper said.

AFGHANISTAN



AFP Photo

U.S. soldiers carry confiscated ammunition onto a helicopter in the Shahikot Valley in eastern Afghanistan. Part of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan is to search for and capture bin Laden's top officials.

U.S. hunts for top aide to bin Laden

Associated Press

KHARWAR

In the mountains and gorges of eastern Afghanistan, U.S. aircraft are hunting for al-Qaida and Taliban fighters after local Afghan commanders reported sightings of al-Qaida's second in command.

Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahri reportedly was traveling on horseback with three senior clerics and 26 al-Qaida officials, all Arabs. U.S. officials, however, say there is no credible evidence al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden or his top aide is among the

group.

Al-Zawahri, 50, spiritual adviser and personal physician to bin Laden, was last seen about a week ago near the site of this month's Operation Anaconda battles between U.S. troops and al-Qaida fugitives in neighboring Paktia province, according to Mohammed Momen, an Afghan intelligence officer from Gardez.

From there, Momen and other Afghan authorities believe al-Zawahri made his way to this part of eastern Afghanistan's Logar province, about 55 miles southwest of Kabul. It is a region with a long history of support for the Taliban.

"We are sure, 100 percent, they came in this direction," Momen said as his car lunged and lurched over a rock-strewn road through the Darang Gorge that leads to Kharwar — a forlorn and parched plain flanked by snow-streaked mountains.

Overhead, a U.S. reconnaissance plane could be heard prowling the skies. Four distinctive jet streams of B-52 bombers were seen against the blue sky.

Momen said he had received word that al-Zawahri plans a meeting with his supporters sometime this week in one of three places — Kharwar,

Charkh or Sur Tangi Gorge. All are within 50 miles of each other.

At the Pentagon, U.S. military officials played down reports that al-Zawahri or bin Laden himself have been sighted. In December, U.S. officials, acting on tips from Afghan allies, said they believed bin Laden was cornered in the Tora Bora cave complex. When the area was overrun, no trace of bin Laden was found.

"It's almost a weekly occurrence that we get a couple of reports," of sightings, Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said at a briefing Tuesday.

Market Watch March 26

Dow Jones 10,353.36 +71.69



Same: 194



Composite Volume: 1,201,788,647

AMEX:	901.02	+5.14
NASDAQ:	1,824.17	+11.68
NYSE:	595.68	+3.25
S&P 500:	1,138.32	+6.45

TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

COMPANY/SECURITY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
WORLDCOM INC-WO (WCOM)	-6.29	-0.41	6.11
NASDAQ-100 INDEX (QQQ)	+0.93	+0.33	35.89
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	+2.90	+0.47	16.65
SUN MICROSYSTEM (SUNW)	-1.75	-0.15	8.42
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COLOMBIA

Man arrested in archbishop slaying

Associated Press

BOGATA

The head of a Cali-based gang that allegedly trains young assassins was arrested in the slaying of the city's archbishop, officials said Tuesday.

John Jairo Maturana was arrested in a joint police-army operation Monday in Cali, Colombia's third largest city. Authorities said they believed Maturana either had information on the slaying of Archbishop Isaias Duarte or took part in the

killing.

Maturana's was the first major arrest in the March 17 killing.

The archbishop was killed as he left a group wedding in a poor Cali neighborhood. He was the highest ranking Roman Catholic clergyman killed in this country plagued by drug violence and a 38-year civil war.

Authorities have said they suspect cocaine traffickers were behind the murder. Duarte had recently denounced the use of drug money to finance candidates in legislative elec-

tions.

Army 3rd Division Gen. Francisco Pedraza said Maturana, nicknamed "Marimba" and believed to be in his late 20s, is the leader of one of the city's most feared gangs.

"Maturana ... is the head of the assassins school," Pedraza told local RCN television.

"He should be able to give information ... or could have even participated in the death of the bishop, because he is a person who deals in the business of death," Pedraza said.

ZIMBABWE

Voting figures expose alleged election foul play

Associated Press

HARARE
Widespread disparities in official voting figures should nullify President Robert Mugabe's victory in presidential elections earlier this month, Zimbabwe's opposition said Tuesday.

Official results show Mugabe won the March 9-11 election with 56 percent of valid votes cast to 42 percent for Movement for Democratic Change leader Morgan Tsvangirai.

But state Election Supervisory Commission voting tables differed widely from results announced by Registrar-General Tobaiwa Mudede, opposition officials said in a report that included purported copies of the voting tables.

The supervisory commission organizes the logistics of the election, while Mudede is in charge of voter registration,

supervising the ballot boxes and announcing the results.

To bring Mugabe's vote total below the required 50 percent majority and force a potential runoff, the opposition would need to prove that 200,000 votes were improperly cast.

MDC officials said the disparity calls into question enough votes to invalidate Mugabe's entire 434,000-vote lead, and it was considering legal action to challenge the results.

The tallies showed unusually high voter turnouts in ruling party strongholds and a decline in voting in urban opposition strongholds since parliamentary elections in 2000, opposition legal affairs spokesman David Coltart said.

Coltart said both the commission's statistics and the announced results amounted to about the same total of votes, but adjustments from district to district had weighed heavily in Mugabe's favor.

"We have evidence of low

turnouts where the figures show otherwise and vice versa," he said. "These figures must be explained by the relevant authorities."

In one instance, the supervisory commission showed 46,993 votes were cast in Bubi Umguza district in western Zimbabwe, compared to the 29,340 votes Mudede

Mugabe, 78, led the nation to independence from Britain in 1980 and faced little dissent until recent years, when the nation's economy collapsed and political violence erupted.

Several foreign election observer groups have said the poll was biased to ensure a Mugabe victory.

The Commonwealth of Britain and its former colonies has suspended Zimbabwe from the orga-

nization's meetings for one year, citing the "high level of politically motivated" violence in the vote.

Tsvangirai has called for a new vote and vowed not to hold talks with Mugabe's party until authorities end political

violence and reprisal attacks against his supporters.

At least 150 people have died and tens of thousands have been left homeless in the past two years of violence, which human rights groups say was part of a government plan to scare opposition voters away from the polls.

The report said a reduction in the number of urban polling stations and an increase in rural ones was intended to favor voters in Mugabe strongholds and disenfranchise urban opposition supporters.

Despite long voting lines in one Harare district, Mudede announced a 32 percent turnout, while the supervisory commission reported a 51 percent turnout.

In the rural Mugabe stronghold of Mudzi, three voters reportedly cast ballots every two minutes, while in the opposition-dominated Dzivaresekwa township, one vote was cast every three minutes, according to the report.

"We have evidence of low turnouts where the figures show otherwise and vice versa. These figures must be explained by the relevant authorities."

David Coltart
legal affairs spokesman

announced, a shortfall of 17,653 votes, the MDC said.

Tsvangirai lost that district by about 4,000 votes.

The MDC also found that nationwide there were 185,961 "missing votes" and 106,731 "extra votes."

FRANCE

Gunman kills at least 8 near Paris suburb

Associated Press

NANTERRE
A gunman opened fire near the city hall of a Paris suburb early Wednesday, killing at least eight people and wounding 18 others, rescue officials said.

At least eight of the wounded were in serious condition. Dozens of police vehicles and more than 100 rescue officials flooded the scene in the western Paris suburb of Nanterre, said Cmdr. Christian Decollredo of the Paris rescue squad.

He said police arrested the suspected gunman but did not provide any other detail on how the apprehension occurred. The suspect was not identified. Police said the motive was not immediately clear.

The shooting took place at around 1:15 a.m. following a

city council meeting in Nanterre, a middle class neighborhood near a business district of western Paris, officials said.

Prime Minister Lionel Jospin rushed to the scene. Rising crime has risen to the top of France's political agenda ahead of presidential elections in the spring.

Thousands of police officers held nationwide strikes in December, saying they deserve more pay and better equipment because their jobs have become increasingly risky.

The protests started after two officers were shot and killed during an armed robbery in a Paris suburb in October.

In October, a masked gunman opened fire in the central French city of Tours, killing four people and sending terrified bystanders running for cover.



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Hesburgh earns honorary degree

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh added to his record number of honorary degrees at Ohio State University's winter commencement exercises on March 22.

The new honorary doctor of humane letters degree will bring Hesburgh's total to 148, the most ever bestowed on one per-

son, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

One of the 20th century's leading figures in higher education, Hesburgh served as Notre Dame's president from 1952-87. His 35-year tenure included the transfer of governance from the Congregation of Holy Cross to a predominantly lay Board of Trustees in 1967, and the admission of women to the undergraduate program in 1972.

Since his retirement, Hesburgh, 84, has continued to serve on the boards of national and international organizations, write articles and deliver speeches.

Highlighting a lengthy list of awards to Hesburgh are the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor awarded by Congress, and the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, bestowed on him by President Lyndon Johnson.

Blood vessels made from stem cells

◆ Despite ethical debate, scientists plan to continue research

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Scientists seeking new ways to repair damaged arteries and ailing hearts have coaxed stem cells from a human embryo into forming tiny blood vessels.

It's the first time human embryonic stem cells have been nurtured to the point where they will organize into blood vessels that could nourish the body, according to Robert Langer, leader of a laboratory team at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

But it isn't likely to be the last, as scientists pursue research into uses for stem cells despite debate over the ethics of using the cells.

The new development is reported in Tuesday's online issue of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. John Gearhart of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine said the research is a "nice illustration" of how stem cells can serve as a source of various types of cells, in this case for blood vessels.

"I think this is terrific," said Gearhart, who was not part of the research team. "It's another good example of the isolation of an important cell type from human embryonic stem cells."

"These are the kinds of papers we are going to see a lot of," Gearhart added.

Langer said the work shows that endothelial cells can be made from human embryonic stem cells.

Endothelial cells line veins, arteries and lymph tissue. They are key to the structures that carry blood throughout the body.

He said if the technique is refined, scientists may eventually be able to make in the laboratory blood vessels that could be used to replace diseased arteries in the body.

"There are thousands of operations a year now where doctors take vessels from one part of the body and transplant them to another," said Langer. Eventually, he said, such vessels might be made outside the body from embryonic stem cells.

Langer said endothelial cells also might be used to restore circulation to cells damaged by heart attacks. He said the processed stem cells may be able to re-establish blood flow

to hearts failing due to blocked arteries.

The research was conducted under a private grant, but Langer said the cell culture used is one of 61 worldwide that have been approved by the National Institutes of Health for federally funded research.

The use of embryonic stem cells is controversial because extracting the cells kills a living human embryo. President Bush last summer decided that federal funding would be permitted only for stem cell cultures that already existed and were made from embryos that were to be discarded by fertility clinics. The aim was to prevent further killing for research purposes of other human embryos.

Langer said his lab will seek federal money to continue

research using the same stem cell cultures, which were obtained from the Rambam Medical Center in Haifa, Israel.

Embryonic stem cells are the

ancestral cells of every cell in the body.

In a developing embryo, they transform into cells that make up the organs, bone, skin and other tissues. Researchers hope to direct the transformation of such cells to treat ailing hearts, livers, brains and other organs.

Langer said his team cultured the cells in such a way that they were allowed to develop into the various types of cells that are precursors to mature tissue.

From this colony, the researchers extracted cells that were following a lineage that would lead to mature endothelial cells.

These were further cultured and some eventually formed primitive vascular structures.

Some of the cells were injected into laboratory rodents, called SCID mice, whose immune system will not reject foreign tissue.

Langer said the cells continued to transform themselves and after 14 days they developed the tiny tubes and structure of capillaries, the small blood vessels.

He said some of the vessels contained mouse blood cells, suggesting that they had actually incorporated themselves into the mouse circulation system.

The result, said Langer, shows that embryonic stem cells can spontaneously transform to vessels and organize themselves into a pattern like that which occurs during the formation of an embryo.

"This is the first time this has been done with human cells," said Langer.

"There are thousands of operations a year now where doctors take vessels from one part of the body and transplant them to another."

Robert Langer
MIT laboratory team leader

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to meet the editors and
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Mohandas Gandhi
Indian nationalist leader

VIEWPOINT

Wednesday, March 27, 2002

page 9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alcohol is not students' only concern

Service and concern mark Notre Dame students

In her March 26 letter, Notre Dame graduate Mary Ann Hennessey remarked that "there is no cause but the cause of alcohol which can arouse the students of Notre Dame to action." Let me add one cause to that list, at least — refuting vitriolic attacks by bitter Notre Dame graduates.

Hennessey cited the AIDS epidemic, the Gulf War and health care, among others, as causes which Notre Dame students don't care about. Hennessey is just plain wrong. Notre Dame students are socially-conscious and have always been interested in learning and discussing such worthy topics as these.

Ms. Hennessey should be invited to virtually any class in the law school, the government department or many of our other fine departments to hear the intelligent dialogue that students have over many of today's "hot topics." The fact that we don't regularly hold open protests on campus concerning these issues proves nothing. Did Notre Dame give anyone AIDS? Is it responsible for the abominable health care situation? Did Notre Dame order the Gulf War? Of course not. If it was, then I guarantee that student protests would be off the charts. If you want to protest the health care situation on the campus of Notre Dame, go ahead, but don't expect that it will do much good, even if many of us join in. Effective protests should be directed at people or organizations that have a say in the matter, not colleges that are much more focused on educating students and not leading them into battle.



Of course, Hennessey also ignores the fact that many Notre Dame students join the March for Life in Washington, D.C. — a protest that supports a worthy cause and which occurs in a venue that has some positive effect. Where do you protest if you want to end abortion? In Washington, which is conveniently full of judges and legislators, not politically inactive college administrators and teachers.

In addition, many Notre Dame students have protested the University's stance on gay and lesbian issues, a topic that Hennessey points to as one that students could care not less about. I've found these public protests on campus to be informative and useful mechanisms of possible change at the University.

Hennessey ignores the many Notre Dame students that aim their future lives towards service, politics and teaching. After four years of education, Notre Dame students are primed and ready to engage actively in politics and to make a difference in front of an audience that can affect social change. In the meantime, students here are more focused on learning the issues and probing their beliefs. Don't blame us if we choose to read and observe before we act.

In short, Hennessey assumes way too much about a campus that is probably as interested in social justice as she purports to be.

Andrew Malahowski
law student
March 26, 2002

Misplaced protests accomplish nothing

On March 26, Mary Ann Hennessey expressed in her letter that the student body is concerned solely about alcohol and was apathetic to other, more important causes, such as women's rights or the Gulf War. This is not the first time I have heard this view expressed. It has been implied in several Viewpoint letters, and I have been lectured by some fellow students as to why protesting the alcohol policy serves as evidence that the student body has its priorities completely out of whack.

Allow me to make two points to these types. First, I'm insulted that you would judge the compassion of the general student body based on the subject matter of mass demonstrations. You want to know the real reason why we don't hold demonstrations for, say, the AIDS epidemic? It has nothing to do with apathy — it has to do with pragmatism.

The AIDS epidemic is not an issue that the Notre Dame as a whole has any control over — it is an issue that has been left to national bureaucrats and independent organizations created expressly for that purpose. If you want to help the AIDS epidemic in South Africa, organizing small demonstrations at a university is a waste of time at best, because no one of importance, such as foreign aid commissioners, will listen. It would be much more sensible to work within the inherently pluralist democracy we live under and help found an organization at the University, or join one if it already exists, that devotes time and resources to the cause. Which, by the way, is the approach of many students — as proof I offer the success of the

Center for Social Concerns. We protest the alcohol policy because it's one of the few issues that involves only the persona of Notre Dame and therefore one that demonstration has a realistic chance to affect.

Secondly, the reason why so many of us are irked by the policy has nothing to do with hard alcohol. We know that as long as we keep things low-key we will be able to continue drinking even the harder stuff in the privacy of our rooms; RAs are not out to get us. What does irk us, however, is the fact that dorm life is taking a huge hit with the no in-dorm SYR policy, and, more importantly, that students, other than "drinking-is-evil" focus groups, were not consulted in the policy decision.

As students, we came to this University in the hope that we could escape the grip of our parents and learn to live on our own. Instead, we are living under the Fourth Reich. Our lives are not run by our own volition, but by a not-so-invisible hand whose job seems to be to protect us from our own rationality. We are annoyed because we came to Notre Dame to make our own decisions, not to have our growth stunted for four years.

I close by saying to the administration, get off our backs and let us live our own lives. And to you who complain about our lack of demonstrations, which I'm sure you all regularly attend, how about dismounting your high horse so that you can pull your head out of the clouds?

Brodie Butland
freshman
Saint Edward's Hall
March 26, 2002

Lack of participation not a new problem

Although sadly I am no longer a student, I am an alumna of Notre Dame. Yet it seems nothing has changed; I don't remember being consulted about this policy either. Not that it surprises me.

I understand that Mr. Little was not around when the administration's crackdown on alcohol began, but I was. I was at Bridget McGuire's. I was at the last ticket campout before they were banned. I was an opponent of the cancellation of the Graffiti Dance. And I was there when the students were denied a seat on the Board of Directors.

The difference between myself and most students at the time was that I was a member of the Student Union Board staff for three years at Notre Dame and witnessed firsthand the efforts of the Student Union to try again and again, without avail, to have a voice in the truly important decisions at Notre Dame. Instead, intelligent students with good intentions are rebuffed, or worse, ignored. Notre Dame kids are touted as some of the brightest and best students in the country today by the same people who, behind the closed doors of Student Affairs, treat students as though they do not even merit expressing an opinion.

If the alcohol policy is what the administra-

tion thinks it will take to ensure the safety of its students, so be it. As some have said, you are free to leave; there are others who would give up alcohol entirely to attend Notre Dame.

My problem is this: until the higher-ups at this University learn that Notre Dame students and alumni should have a place in the decision-making processes that affect them, situations like these will continue to contribute to the sad public commentary on what is otherwise known as a bright, progressive, student-oriented university. Sadly, I am sure the current prospective students visiting at this time are getting quite an earful from some angered freshmen.

In my years at the Student Union, I finally realized that our efforts to have a voice were futile and unfulfilled. I am beginning to realize that, in the absence of a capital campaign, the majority of alumni are overlooked as well. Father Mark Poorman, the majority of alumni and students and I respect your leadership, intelligence and good faith. Please help ensure us that you respect ours.

Kathleen Leicht
class of '01
March 26, 2002

Comparisons extend too far

American policy is not perfect. However, the radical comparisons made in Colman McCarthy's guest column on March 22 are extremely irresponsible.

Equating the deaths of starving human beings with the deaths of animals for food is absurd. I hope that beef producers donate a few hundred thousand tons of veal to alleviate hunger in Africa. I wonder how McCarthy would respond to that moral dilemma.

Furthermore, the columnist states that the Bush administration's domestic and foreign policy is following the "familiar script" of Nazi Germany. Now, call me an oppressive warmonger if you will, but it's just a bit excessive to characterize the Bush government as the Fourth Reich.

McCarthy exhorts his readers to "withdraw support — political, financial and emotional" from entities that commit any sort of violence. How far should this withdrawal go? Should Americans refuse to give their political support by voting? Tax evasion and money laundering are great ways of refusing financial support of the government. And who really believes in that hokey Declaration of Independence, anyway?

As the Gospel tells us, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's," (Matthew 22:21).

Matt Bramati
sophomore
Knott Hall
March 25, 2002

SCENE

video games

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Wednesday, March 27, 2002

Tony Hawk completes holy trinity

By C. SPENCER BEGGS
Scene Editor

For the most part, sequels are always a letdown. Not so for the "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater" series, in which each game has been better than the last.

Neversoft and Activision O2's newest addition to the series takes advantage of the Playstation 2's high-end processing capabilities and large storage capacity of its DVD format, while remaining true to the old addictive style. The game strikes the perfect balance between tweaking and overhauling.

One of the biggest gameplay improvements in "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3" is the addition of the "revert" trick that allows players to string vertical ramp tricks into combos. The biggest scores in the last installment of the game were only possible during grind moves, sliding the board on an edge of a structure. By adding the connecting revert move, players will be able to explore a whole new world of combo tricks.

Of course, there are tons of other new

moves to try out and most of the old skaters are present, with the notable exception of Bob Burnquist who has recently added his moniker to the "Konami" skateboarding game series.

Although Burnquist was a favorite among "Tony Hawk Pro Skater" aficionados, gamers may not miss him as much as they initially expect. Bam Margera of MTV's sophomore daredevil show "Jackass" has been added to the lineup, and gamers will be able to put a digital rendition of themselves in the action with the "Create-A-Skater" mode, which features an enormous amount of customization options, including body styles, cloths, glasses, tattoos and accessories.

The level editor has also been supplanted if gamers get bored with the built-in

levels that are based on real-life skate parks.

The most fascinating aspect of "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3" is that it is the first PS2 game that can be played online. Online players can purchase the Playstation 2's modem adapter, connect using a USB modem or connect directly through an Ethernet hub (perfect for college dorm rooms). Most gamers report favorably on the feature even though network lag can severely sway a match that is only two minutes long.

The physics engine in "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3" is very advanced, and playing the game is fairly intuitive; there's a lot to learn in the game but players will find themselves improving almost unconsciously. Game designers also took a lot of time

designing the new levels and addressed anti-aliasing issues often complained about in previous editions.

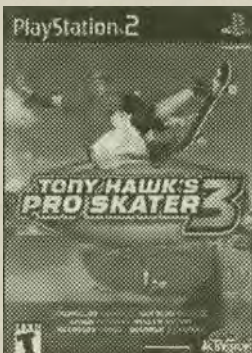
One plus side of the game is its soundtrack, which features artists like KRS-One, Redman and Alien Ant Farm. The game has a large selection of music and players can utilize the playlist feature to turn off any songs they don't like.

But "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3"'s real strength lies in its playability: This game is perfect for a study break or a marathon all-nighter with friends. With a number of different games to play both competitively and cooperatively, "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3" is sure to please almost all game fans. In fact, even gamers who don't like sports games will appreciate the beguiling gameplay.

"Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3" is probably more dangerous to a student's social life than the new alcohol policies.

Contact C. Spencer Beggs at
Beggs.3@nd.edu.

Tony Hawk Pro Skater 3



out of five shamrocks

Neversoft and
Activision O2

'Ancients' Gate' opens way for role playing games

By ADAM TURNER
Scene Video Game Critic

Role-playing games (RPGs) are the under-appreciated, often overlooked children of the gaming industry. Gaming companies spend up to a year in development, trying to create hype for a game, and only the RPG enthusiasts are likely to pick up a copy, unless it happens to display a large stamp proclaiming "Squaresoft" or "EverQuest" somewhere on the cover.

The sad part is that sometimes a really great game gets published, hits the shelves and just collects dust on its way to the bargain bin. Hopefully this will not be the case with Surreal Entertainment's "Drakan: The Ancients' Gates."

As the title was slapped with a mature rating for blood and gore, gamers find themselves in the middle of a huge, lushly designed world that fully takes advantage of the Playstation 2's processing abilities. This world is seen through the eyes of Rynn, a well-modeled Lara Croft look-alike, and her dragon, Arokh.

The quest is typical RPG fare: save the world from the oppression of the evil desert lords by opening the ancients' gates and bringing back to life all the dragons that have been slumbering since the Great War. This will bring justice back to the world of Drakan.

Although tired and clichéd, the game can stun players on almost every front. When Rynn isn't riding Arokh, the game flows a lot like any of the "Zelda" games on Nintendo 64, with lots of running and

gutting monsters with all sorts of weapons. While on Arokh, the game can't be compared to anything. Hours can be whittled away as goblins are incinerated by large balls of fire from above. The screams are a bit disturbing but add more to the game than they take away.

The animation and voice acting, almost always looked over in the lesser RPGs, are just great. The mission maps are huge and densely populated with monsters, traps and sub-quests. From time to time, missions are added to Rynn's journal, which help players remember what it is they are supposed to be doing. Some missions are required to finish the game, but some are optional, which really adds to the replay value.

"The Ancients' Gates" does have a lot of great features. For instance, the problem found with platform version of games (as opposed to PC versions) is that it is impossible to save the game's progress at all points. Not an issue here. The save menu is always available to save progress, eliminating annoying backtracking that is ever-present and frustrating in RPGs.

Another feature of "The Ancients' Gates" is that weapons a player buys can be broken. This makes sense, because after slaughtering about 500

Trogs, a scimitar should be darn near broken. This addition lends to the realism and the fun, and encourages the use of weapons that a gamer might typically avoid. With over 50 hand-to-hand weapons and 30 spells,

"The Ancients' Gates" provides a veritable arsenal with which to dispatch the hordes of evil.

On the other side of the playing field are the annoyances that can plague all great games. The hand-to-hand fighting system is not altogether perfect. A swing of the spiked mace can result in a miss just as likely as a hit, even with the targeting system turned on.

That miss leaves just enough time for a Trog to gut an unsuspecting gamer with its razor-sharp claws and result in a thrown controller.

Any game that encourages abuse of the hardware deserves another run-through at the bug department. The controls in "The Ancients' Gate" can also be difficult to learn. For example, Arokh is very hard to control at first because of the degree of freeness that the programmers wished to give the gamers in flying. This results in much confusion for the gamer, wondering where he is going and if this is the right way, and then staring at the map for two minutes.

Expect nothing and a bounty of good shall be received. "Drakan: The Ancients' Gates" isn't a spotlight in the gaming world, but it still adds a fantastic adventure to the realm of RPG gaming on the 128-bit consoles.

Contact Adam Turner at
Turner.50@nd.edu

Drakan: The Ancients' Gate



out of five shamrocks

Surreal Entertainment



Photo courtesy of Gamespot.com

SCENE

video games

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Naughty Dog puts its tail between its legs

By C. SPENCER BEGGS

Scene Editor

PlayStation game developing powerhouse Naughty Dog Inc., author of the ultra-successful "Crash Bandicoot" series, has started what hopefully will not become a running series for the Playstation 2 with its newest release of "Jak and Daxter: the Precursor Legacy," its first foray into the three-dimensional platform genre.

Following its convention of having purposefully light plots, "Naughty Dog" set this game in a tropical utopia whose residents have strange mystic rites centering on an energy substance known as "eco," which comes in a number of varieties. Eco can be harnessed for a number of purposes, from giving the main character, Jak, superpowers to providing mechanical energy for a whole village.

The fluffy plot follows Jak's quest to find a cure for his buddy Daxter, who has fallen into a pool of "dark eco," which has turned him into a wise-cracking, orange, ferret-type creature. The pair set off to explore their fantasy world and uncover the secrets of the mysterious Precursors, a race that left ancient machines lying around that can be activate by — you guessed it — the proper colored eco.

"Crash Bandicoot" fans will recognize the gameplay style of "Jak and Daxter" because they are almost identical. Jak even whirls Daxter around his body in a suspiciously bandicoot-like manner and can do a leaping drop kick analogous to the face plant move in the "Crash Bandicoot" series.

The striking difference between "Crash Bandicoot" and "Jak and Daxter" is the latter's 3D free-roaming platform environment. The "Crash Bandicoot" series was limited to more or less linear levels, much like the original "Mario Brothers" were, but not necessarily side-scrolling. "Jak and Daxter" features



Photo courtesy of Gamesdomain.com

an impressive design in which gamers can move about freely. If Jak is standing high up on a lookout point, he can see levels that are very far away. Normally, these are represented by scaled down models, but in "Jak and Daxter" gamers

actually see the real realms in the distance. As Jak moves through the game, the Playstation 2 doesn't have to reload sections of the landscape back in to memory causing a pause in gaming. As a result, "Jak and Daxter" has a seamless feel.

The graphical capabilities of "Jak and Daxter" are phenomenal. While games like "Final Fantasy X" strive for realism, "Jak and Daxter" takes the exact opposite approach and makes its characters and landscapes cartoonish. The intricately detailed textures in the game give it a polished and precise look. The sound follows suit, delivering a fantastic three-dimensional quality.

The down side to "Jak and Daxter" is that it's not that much fun to play. The objectives of the game mostly involve searching various areas of the world to collect "power cells," relics that open up other areas for the duo to explore. The pair also collects "precursor orbs" which can be traded to non-player characters for power

cells.

There are a number of enemies in "Jak and Daxter," but gamers are given a wide berth to run around enemies, ignoring them completely. Besides, the enemies are extremely easy to defeat and there are only a few wimpy bosses

to take on. The real challenge of "Jak and Daxter" is finding all the relics in an area to open up new areas to be able to find all the relics there to open up yet another area, etc.

Furthermore, the game often neglects its three-dimensional realm by creating situations with only one path to complete the objective. These are usually based on an ascending structure like a mountain or scaffolding, which means that as soon as Jak falls off, gamers will have to

start over again to complete the task, which gets very frustrating.

Finally, "Jak and Daxter" wastes a lot of potential with so many search-and-retrieve type missions. Gamers will spend a lot of time running around looking for the relic they are missing. It is frustrating to have completed all the challenges in a level and then have to backtrack looking for one stupid orb. It seems that Naughty Dog has created a beautifully designed game targeted at the obsessive-compulsive market.

Jak and Daxter: the Precursor Legacy



out of five shamrocks

Naughty Dog Inc.



Photo courtesy of Gamesdomain.com

Contact C. Spencer Beggs at
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NBA

Jamison leads Warriors past Timberwolves

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS

Antawn Jamison scored 25 points Tuesday night to help the Golden State Warriors end a 10-game losing streak with a 115-106 victory over the fading Minnesota Timberwolves.

Reserve Chris Mills added 18 points for the Warriors, who had seven players score in double digits and won for just the third time in their last 29 road games. Even with Tuesday's win, Golden State has lost 20 of 23.

Kevin Garnett scored 31 points and Wally Szczerbiak had 24 of his 28 in the first half for Minnesota, which lost for the seventh time in eight home games and is 2-9 in the last three weeks. The Timberwolves have slipped to sixth place in the Western Conference playoff race.

The Warriors, whose last win came March 8 at Houston, built a 12-point lead in the third quarter, although Garnett scored 17 of his team's 29 points in that period.

But Minnesota couldn't come closer than five points in the fourth.

Marc Jackson, who came to Minnesota on Feb. 21 from Golden State in a trade for little-used center Dean Garrett and a 2007 second-round draft pick, had four points and four rebounds against his old team. He and Danny Fortson got tangled up underneath and each drew technical fouls in the second quarter.

With the Timberwolves' chance of grabbing one of the top four seeds in the West nearly gone, coach Flip Saunders said before the game his team — while still concerned with winning — has already begun preparing for the postseason.

Judging by the first half, the Timberwolves have a lot of work to do.

Szczerbiak had 17 points on 7-for-8 shooting in the first quarter, but his teammates were 3-for-16 from the field.

Robert Pack's pull-up jumper just before the first-period horn cut Golden State's lead to 29-25, but the Warriors wouldn't let up in the second quarter.

Felipe Lopez's 3-pointer put Minnesota ahead 49-48 with

1:37 before halftime, but Jason Richardson gave Golden State the lead with a jumper, and Gilbert Arenas added two more layups to make it 54-49 at the half.

The Wolves shot 38 percent (18-for-47) from the floor in the first two quarters.

Bulls 96, Magic 82

Tracy McGrady had 20 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists in his first game back after suffering back spasms last week, and the Orlando Magic beat the slumping Chicago Bulls.

Monty Williams contributed 18 points and a season-high 11 rebounds for his second double-double of the season. Reserve Troy Hudson added 16 points as Orlando snapped a two-game losing streak.

For Chicago, Jalen Rose scored 20 points, 14 in the third quarter, and had six assists and six rebounds. Marcus Fizer had 11 of his 15 points in the first quarter.

The Bulls have lost 13 of their last 15 games.

McGrady, who hadn't played since after being wheeled off the court on a stretcher last Friday in a loss to Charlotte, shot 7-for-17 in his return. He put the game away in the fourth quarter, scoring the first six points of a 13-3 tear, and sat down with 3:45 left and the Magic holding a 91-73 lead.

After allowing the Bulls to hang close into the third quarter, the Magic finally opened up some breathing room behind a 10-2 run that put them ahead by 11 points. Four players scored to give Orlando a 66-55 lead with 4:06 left in the period, with McGrady assisting on three baskets.

From there, Chicago never came closer than eight points. The Bulls' comeback chances were sabotaged by their 6-for-14 foul shooting in the fourth quarter.

Wizards 103, Nuggets 87

Michael Jordan wouldn't have to worry about his playoff streak if he could schedule the Denver Nuggets more often.

Chris Whitney and Richard Hamilton scored 22 points apiece as the Washington Wizards beat up the Nuggets

for the second time in seven days, following last week's 32-point rout.

The game was never that competitive as the Wizards pulled within 2 1/2 games of the Indiana Pacers, who lost 96-77 to Detroit. The Pacers hold the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference, and the Wizards play nine of their remaining 11 games against teams with winning records.

Donnell Harvey had 18 points, and former Wizards forward Juwan Howard, booed every time he touched the ball, scored 17 to lead the Nuggets, who had a come-from-behind, one-point victory in New York the previous night.

Courtney Alexander scored 14 points and Etan Thomas had a career-high 13 for the Wizards, playing their first home game in two weeks. They went 3-4 in seven straight road games.

Jordan, who has never missed the playoffs in his career, wasn't needed much for this one. Still recovering from knee surgery, he came in as a substitute to play 20 minutes, scoring nine points on 4-for-9 shooting with six assists. His first shot, a long-range jumper, was stuffed by Voshon Lenard, and Jordan and Lenard talked trash much of the game.

Jordan spent considerable time at point guard because Tyronn Lue was out with a sinus infection. Some of Jordan's passes were masterful, including a no-look feed to Tyrone Nesby for a dunk, and a 70-foot pass to Hamilton for a fast-break layup.

Hawks 103, Nets 77

Shareef Abdur-Rahim figured the Nets would be sticking close to him. So he decided to let his teammates share the fun.

Abdur-Rahim was among six Atlanta players scoring in double figures, leading the Hawks to a rout of New Jersey, the best team in the Eastern Conference.

It was the worst loss of the season for the Nets, eclipsing a 22-point defeat at Washington on Dec. 31.

Abdur-Rahim averaged 32 points in two previous games against New Jersey this season. He didn't think the Nets would

let that happen again, so he focused on getting others involved.

"My mindset was not to score, score, score," said Abdur-Rahim, who still managed 18 points. "I wanted to make them pay by finding the open guys."

Vaughn kept getting open. The backup point guard equaled his career high with 18 points and also contributed nine assists, four rebounds and three steals.

Vaughn had a chance to beat his previous scoring high in the final seconds, but he passed up a layup to give the ball to Leon Smith for a dunk.

"Why not share the ball?" Vaughn said, who was aware of his personal mark. "The biggest smile on my face was seeing Leon get a dunk and get on the scoring sheet."

The Hawks, winning for the seventh time in nine games, took control with a 36-point second quarter. They hit 16-of-24 shots (67 percent) in the period to build a 59-44 lead at halftime.

Four Atlanta players were in double figures by halftime. Six finished there, with Jason Terry and Toni Kukoc scoring 13 each, Alan Henderson 12 and DerMarr Johnson 11.

The Hawks shot 50 percent (40-of-80) overall, while holding the Nets to 29-of-72 (40 percent). Richard Jefferson paced New Jersey with 21 points, but no one else scored more than 11.

"That was a very solid 48 minutes," Hawks coach Lon Kruger said. "That was as consistently as we've played all year. The guys played really good defense."

His counterpart couldn't figure out what happened.

"We got beat in every facet of the game," New Jersey coach Byron Scott said. "They outhustled us. I have no way of knowing why that would happen, to be honest with you. To me, they should be very embarrassed."

The Nets played without Kenyon Martin, who began a two-game suspension for throwing an elbow at Abdur-Rahim on Sunday. His presence probably wouldn't have helped.

"This wasn't the effort we should have given," Jefferson said. "They played with the

enthusiasm and excitement that a first-place team should play with."

Detroit 96, Indiana 77

Detroit's Corliss Williamson won two battles Tuesday night against Indiana — the one on the scoreboard and his skirmish with Jermaine O'Neal.

Williamson scored 23 points before he was ejected near the end of the game, leading Detroit to a 96-77 victory over Indiana on Tuesday night.

The Pistons were cruising late in the game when Williamson drove the baseline and was fouled hard by O'Neal. Williamson bounced the ball off O'Neal's back and the two stood on the baseline jawing before O'Neal made the first move. He threw an elbow as Williamson backed away. Several players stepped in to separate them, and O'Neal threw a punch that didn't land before he was wrapped up by Pacers assistant coach Tree Rollins.

Both players were ejected. "I don't know the reason for that kind of foul," Williamson said. "My reaction was the ball slipped out of my hand. Our team is like a family. If you pick on one of us, you pick on all of us. We are always there to pick each other up."

Williamson, who was 9-of-13 from the field and 5-of-6 on free throws, received plenty of support on the court.

Chucky Atkins, who hit three straight 3-pointers in the third quarter to spark a 13-0 run that gave the Pistons a 15-point cushion, finished with 18 points. Clifford Robinson added 13 points and Jerry Stackhouse 12 for Central Division-leading Detroit (42-28). Ben Wallace grabbed 14 rebounds.

Pistons coach Rick Carlisle was angered by O'Neal's conduct.

"From my understanding, he (Williamson) will not get suspended," Carlisle said. "I can't speak for O'Neal, but that was one of the worst cheap shots I've ever seen."

Brad Miller, who scored eight points in the first quarter before getting into foul trouble, had 18 points and 15 rebounds for Indiana (35-35), which holds the final playoff spot in the East.

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NHL

Simon's last-minute goal lifts Capitals over Sabres

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Chris Simon scored with 1:58 left, lifting the Washington Capitals to a 4-3 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Tuesday night.

Danius Zubrus had a goal and three assists, and Ken Klee and Brendan Witt also scored for the Capitals, who rallied from a 2-0 deficit in a critical game between Eastern Conference teams striving to stay in playoff contention. The victory moved the ninth-

place Capitals three points ahead of the Sabres and New York Rangers. It also improved Washington's record to 4-3 on its eight-game road trip, which concludes in New Jersey on Friday. Miroslav Satan, with two goals,

and Taylor Pyatt scored for the Sabres, who dropped to 2-4-1 in their last seven games.

After the Sabres controlled the play, outshooting the Capitals 10-2 over a 12-minute stretch, Simon scored courtesy of a neutral-zone turnover.

Witt poked the puck off the stick of Buffalo's Curtis Brown, and Zubrus pushed ahead to Simon, who was coming off the bench. Simon snapped a 25-footer that beat Martin Biron on the stick side.

The Sabres fell behind 3-2 when Zubrus scored a power-play goal 41 seconds into the third. Buffalo tied it when Satan deflected in Alexei Zhitnik's point shot five minutes later.

The goal was Satan's team-leading 28th, and marked his fifth two-goal game of the season, and third in 10 games.

Capitals goalie Olaf Kolzig stopped 28 shots. His best save came midway through the third when he kicked out his left pad to block Jay McKee's 20-footer.

then scored 10 seconds after getting out of the box.

Rod Brind'Amour scored his second of the game and 20th of the season with Carolina playing 6-on-3 with 29.3 seconds left.

The Bruins, who failed to make the playoffs a season ago, have 94 points — four better than Philadelphia for tops in the Eastern Conference. Boston has already clinched a postseason berth.

The Bruins have also won nine of 10 and six straight on the road, their best road winning streak since 1997.

Southeast Division-leading Carolina hadn't lost at home since a 7-5 setback against Vancouver on Jan. 21 (1-0-7).

Arturs Irbe made a great diving save on Sergei Samsonov in the slot midway through the second period to preserve Carolina's 1-0 lead.

But Samsonov beat Irbe from nearly the same spot 2:23 later to tie it.

Rolston then scored his NHL-leading eighth short-handed goal when Jeff O'Neill fanned on a bouncing puck in the Carolina zone, and the Boston center broke free up ice alone. He faked Irbe to his left and tucked the puck into an open net with 55.5 seconds left in Boston's 18-shot second period.

Maple Leafs 7, Lightning 2

Tie Domi and Alexander Mogilny had two goals apiece as the Toronto Maple Leafs rallied for a victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Mats Sundin, Robert Reichel and Paul Healey also scored for the Maple Leafs, who had four goals in a span of 1:25 in the third period.

Reichel's goal at 5:10 gave Toronto a 4-2 lead. Dieter Kochan then replaced goalie Nikolai Khabibulin, but it only got worse.

Kochan allowed three goals on his first four shots. After Sundin got his 36th goal, Domi scored just 16 seconds later and another 26 seconds after that.

The Maple Leafs won despite missing forward Gary Roberts (abdominal muscle strain), starting goalie Curtis Joseph (broken bone in his left hand), forward Mikael Renberg (strained left hamstring) and defenseman Dmitry Yushkevich (blood clot).

Bruins 3, Hurricanes 2

Brian Rolston broke a 27-year-old Boston record with his eighth short-handed goal as the Bruins won their season-best sixth straight, beating the Carolina Hurricanes.

Rolston scored with less than a minute left in the second period to put the Bruins ahead and break the single-season franchise mark of seven held by four players — the last being Gregg Sheppard in 1974-75.

Glen Murray took a tripping penalty with 6:24 left, but Carolina failed to record a shot during its power play. Murray

Panthers 2, Canadiens 1

Marcus Nilson scored a power-play goal with 4:19 left in the third period, and Wade Flaherty earned his first NHL win in 14 months as the Florida Panthers ended a five-game losing streak by beating the Montreal Canadiens.

Nilson scored his 14th goal at 15:41 of the third, just 10 seconds after Stephane Quintal was sent off for high-sticking. Nilson deflected defenseman Eric Beaudoin's point shot past goalie Jose Theodore to break a 1-1 tie.

Flaherty, recalled from Utah of the AHL on March 20, made 32 saves in his first start — and appearance — of the season for his first win since Jan. 26, 2001, when he was with the New York Islanders.

Niklas Hagman also scored for the Panthers, who earned their first points since Pavel Bure was traded to the New York Rangers on March 18.

Yanic Perreault scored his 24th goal for Montreal, which dropped into a tie with Washington for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Canadiens right wing Andreas Dackell dressed for the game and played two shifts early in the first period despite not appearing on the official lineup.

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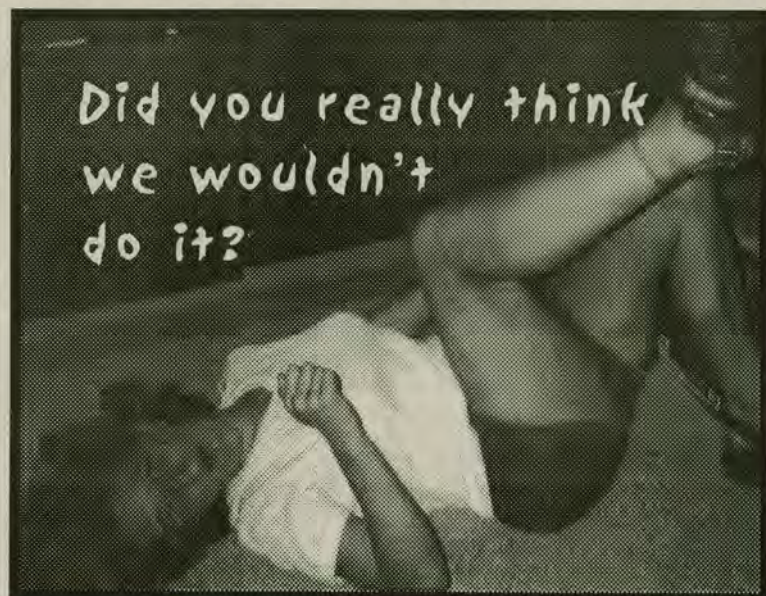
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NFL

Spurrier gets down to business in practice

Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. Steve Spurrier took the field in chilling fog and drizzle Tuesday for his first practice as an NFL coach. The Fun 'N Gun is definitely not in Florida any more.

"Sort of like playing golf in Ireland," said Spurrier, who exchanged his trademark visor for a black baseball cap because of the weather.

The Washington Redskins' three-day, non-contact minicamp is a chance for the new coach to get to know his players and learn the feel of coaching in the big leagues, but the first practices skipped the preamble and went straight to Chapter One.

"We put in — gosh — more plays in one meeting than I've ever seen in any offense," quarterback Danny Wuerffel said. "I was thinking, 'How would these guys adjust to this?' You go to another team, and you'll spend a week on three plays and you'll run them over and over. We've got just about the entire playbook in one meeting."

At least Wuerffel was familiar with it all, having won the Heisman Trophy playing for Spurrier at Florida. Spurrier has signed other former Gators — Jacques Green, Reidel Anthony and Chris Doering — and it wasn't hard to tell who understood what was happening and who didn't.

Receiver Rod Gardner completely misunderstood an audible call and ran the wrong route on the first play in the morning's final drill. Gardner heard what he did wrong from both Green and Spurrier when he got back to the huddle.

"There's a lot of stuff," said Spurrier, who left Florida in

January to sign a five-year, \$25 million contract with the Redskins. "Yeah, I sort of believe you give the players a whole bunch of stuff so they don't get bored."

As expected, Spurrier spent his entire time with the offense, leaving defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis in charge of the defense. There were no tantrums or heavy lectures, just a reminder to the players to have fun.

Wuerffel said Spurrier hasn't changed since the Florida days.

"Not really a lick," Wuerffel said. "He's just a ball coach. That's what he wants to be, and that's what he's doing. He's in there just drawing plays up there on the board, and we're learning them."

About 50 players were on the field, but depth was lacking at many positions. The first-string guards were Alex Sulfsted and Ross Tucker, who have just three games of NFL experience between them. The team is negotiating with free-agent guard Tony Semple, who visited Redskin Park last week.

The first-team quarterback was Sage Rosenfels, a second-year player and the only holdover quarterback from last year's team. Even so, he actually looked much sharper than the Spurrier-savvy Wuerffel, who wore gloves.

Dameyune Craig was the third quarterback in camp. The Redskins have been unable to work out a trade with Chicago for ex-Florida quarterback Shane Matthews, and free agent Jeff Blake didn't accept Washington's initial offer and is considering other options.

"If opening day was tomorrow, we'd be able to go play," Spurrier said. "I don't know how well we'd do, but we got enough ball players (that) after one day we could go play. That's how simple this offense is. ... We don't need five exhibition games to be ready, but unfortunately we've got to play all of them."



Spurrier

"There's a lot of stuff ... I sort of believe you give the players a whole bunch of stuff so they don't get bored."

Steve Spurrier
Redskins head coach

Coors signs 5-year deal as NFL's sponsor

Associated Press

NEW YORK Coors has become the NFL's official beer sponsor in a five-year deal that includes the right to use the league's various logos.

Brian McCarthy, the NFL's director of corporate communications, confirmed the deal Tuesday, but would not release terms. Sports Business Daily reported the contract is for \$300 million.

Coors obtained rights to use the logos of the NFL, the Super Bowl and Pro Bowl in advertising and promotions. Coors can also do promotions or advertising with team logos, but it must use all 32 logos at the same time. The Coors contract does not prevent each team from cutting its own deals with other beer companies or with Coors. In the past, Anheuser-Busch and Miller Brewing shared the category.

The NFL will receive the rights fees from Coors, and all 32 teams will share the money. The various NFL franchises also retain money from local team deals.

MLB

Patriots' effort inspires Indians' GM

Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Fla.

Mark Shapiro has been wearing a New England Patriots baseball cap around the ballpark this spring. Don't accuse the Indians' general manager of jumping on the Super Bowl champions' bandwagon, though.

Shapiro was a big fan long before Adam Vinatieri kicked his game-winning field goal.

"The Patriots are a good lesson for everyone," said Shapiro, Cleveland's rookie GM. "They are an affirmation of everything we're trying to do here."

Team first.

That's the message Shapiro and Indians manager Charlie Manuel have been preaching to Cleveland's players for weeks. Sacrifice personal success for the good of the team and watch what happens. And if you don't believe it, they say, just look what it did for the Patriots.

Less talented than many other NFL teams, New England won it all anyway. And it wasn't just their dramatic win over the St. Louis Rams that impressed Shapiro.

Instead of being introduced one by one before the Super Bowl, the Patriots came out as a group.

"When they said, 'The New England Patriots are being introduced as a team', I had goose bumps," Shapiro said. "That said so much about them. I want us to feel that way."

Shapiro didn't know the Patriots would come out on

"The Patriots are a good lesson for everyone. They are an affirmation of everything we're trying to do here."

Mark Shapiro
Indians' general manager

the field en masse, but once they did, he wasn't surprised.

Scott Pioli, the Patriots' director of player personnel, has been a friend of Shapiro's for more than 10 years. The two became close when Pioli was beginning his career with the Cleveland Browns in the early '90s and Shapiro was starting in baseball operations with the Indians.

While watching games together at old Municipal Stadium, the future big-league executives shared philosophies, values and thoughts about sports.

"We would always talk about the way we would do things if we would have a club," Shapiro said.

So a few weeks ago, Shapiro invited Pioli to Cleveland's camp to talk to the Indians. Before his speech, Pioli showed the players a highlight film of the Patriots, which began with their group pregame Super Bowl introduction.

Pioli then took two polls. First, he asked how many Indians had played on All-Star teams. Several hands shot up. Then, he asked how many had won a World Series.

Only two hands were raised. One was reliever

Mark Wohlers, who was on the mound when the Atlanta Braves beat the Indians in 1995. The other was hitting coach Eddie Murray, who then spoke about how winning the Series in 1983 with Baltimore was the highlight of his career.

Shapiro has been reshaping the Indians on and off the field.

Under orders to trim the club's payroll, he traded All-Star second baseman Roberto Alomar to the New York Mets this winter and then passed on re-signing outfielder Juan Gonzalez.

They've been replaced by Ricky Gutierrez and Matt Lawton, lesser players but better clubhouse guys and the kind the Indians want to find more of.

"When we add a player, we want to bring a person of character with strong moral values and not just a talent," Shapiro said.

Chemistry is underrated he believes, and it all begins with the right mix of players — just like the Patriots had.

"They made a statement with how they won, and with the type of players they had," Shapiro said.

Manuel said Pioli's presentation was well received by the Indians.

"He gave a good talk," Manuel said. "He said a lot of what I like to talk about."

Manuel enjoyed Pioli's film, too. Edited or not.

"The Patriots were hitting pretty hard," he said. "But they didn't show that play (quarterback Tom Brady's fumble) against the Raiders that got them there."



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Saturday, March 30 8:30am - 7:00pm

Easter Sunday, Closed

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Mouton finds inspiration in tragedy

♦ Maryland senior leads team after almost quitting

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. A second straight trip to the Final Four and a showdown against the top team in the nation isn't enough to faze Byron Mouton.

Maryland's senior forward nearly didn't make it this far.

Mouton considered quitting the team in December after his brother, Kevin, was shot to death in Houston.

Mouton learned of his brother's death during a game against Connecticut.

"I wanted to be with my mom and stop whatever I was doing," Mouton said Tuesday. "But she made me realize that the most important thing is to keep doing what I've been doing. She said one thing my brother always wanted me to do was to keep playing ball and get an education."

Mouton's physical play and defense have been key components in Maryland's success this

season.

He hopes to play a pivotal part Saturday when the Terps attempt to slow a speedy Kansas team in a national semifinal in Atlanta.

Mouton has used December's tragedy as motivation late in the season and in the NCAA tournament.

"Ever since that day, I don't want to take anything for granted," he said.

"Every time I step on that court, I want to give it my best effort."

While the death of his brother has been the biggest challenge Mouton has faced in his two seasons at Maryland, it hasn't been the only one.

Mouton transferred from Tulane without knowing much about the success of Maryland's program.

"Coming in my first year, I wanted to be in a different environment," he said. "I just wanted to help the team and win the national championship."

Mouton averaged 9.6 points in his first season with the Terps

and 11.3 points this year.

The senior's biggest contribution has been on defense and his presence in the locker room.

"He's definitely played well since that happened. Maybe he's refocused."

Steve Blake
junior guard

if we didn't make the Final Four," he said. "It would be great if we get to the national championship because of all I went through."

Steve Blake said Mouton can set the mood for the team with his antics in the locker room.

"He's a character — he's a guy that brings a lot of energy to us," Blake said. "He'll come in and do a flip or start barking like a dog."

Antics aside, Blake said, Mouton has stepped up his game since December.

"He's definitely played well since that happened," Blake said. "Maybe he's refocused."

For now, Mouton said he's focused on beating Kansas and advancing to the championship game.

Is there anything special Mouton is working on for Kansas?

"Transition," he said. "We have to slow them down. Transition is the key."

Not a surprise coming from someone who knows about change.

Kansas calmly deals with media crush

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan.

Jeff Boschee moved smoothly from a national radio interview to a press conference.

Kansas' shooting guard fielded questions ranging from 3-point shooting, to the Jayhawks' Final Four matchup with Maryland, to a couple who named their infant daughter "Deavynn Boschee Christine Schlesener."

"It's flattering," Boschee said. "I guess it's a credit to what I've accomplished here in my career and what the team has accomplished."

The Jayhawks have handled the media crush all season and are about to step onto a bigger stage, making their first Final Four appearance since 1993.

Kansas players have had a sampling of what to expect from the national media from their fans in Lawrence.

The Jayhawks are treated like a boy band — especially Boschee, the team's designated heartthrob.

"They crowd in on us, scream at us, grab at us," forward Nick Collison said. "It's good to know that those people support you, but sometimes it's tough when all those people are up in your face, screaming for an autograph from like a foot away."

The Jayhawks have received plenty of national attention throughout the season with media reporting on the squad that spent a number of weeks as the top-ranked team.

"It seems like you just keep answering the same questions over and over," guard Kirk Hinrich said Wednesday at the Jayhawks' final news conference before heading to Atlanta. "It's a good problem to have, though."

In addition to basic statistical information, Jayhawks fans now know All-American forward Drew Gooden spends

his summers in Finland with his mother's family, and that coach Roy Williams once threatened to send him back to Oakland on a bus if he didn't buy into Kansas' game plan.

Gooden doesn't shy away from the attention — and if he gets a bit prickly fielding questions about the Jayhawks' inside toughness, he generally remains gracious even through long interview sessions.

"Coach told me that I was going to get a lot of media attention this year, and the media can either make you or break you," Gooden said. "So I try to get along with the media and not turn anybody down. I know everybody's got a job to do."

Fans also know that Boschee and Hinrich have had dates interrupted by fans, and that there was a Boschee impostor was on the Internet — until the university tracked the culprit down and put a stop to it.

The Jayhawks, and even Williams, seem more amused than distracted by the offbeat questions and the spotlight.

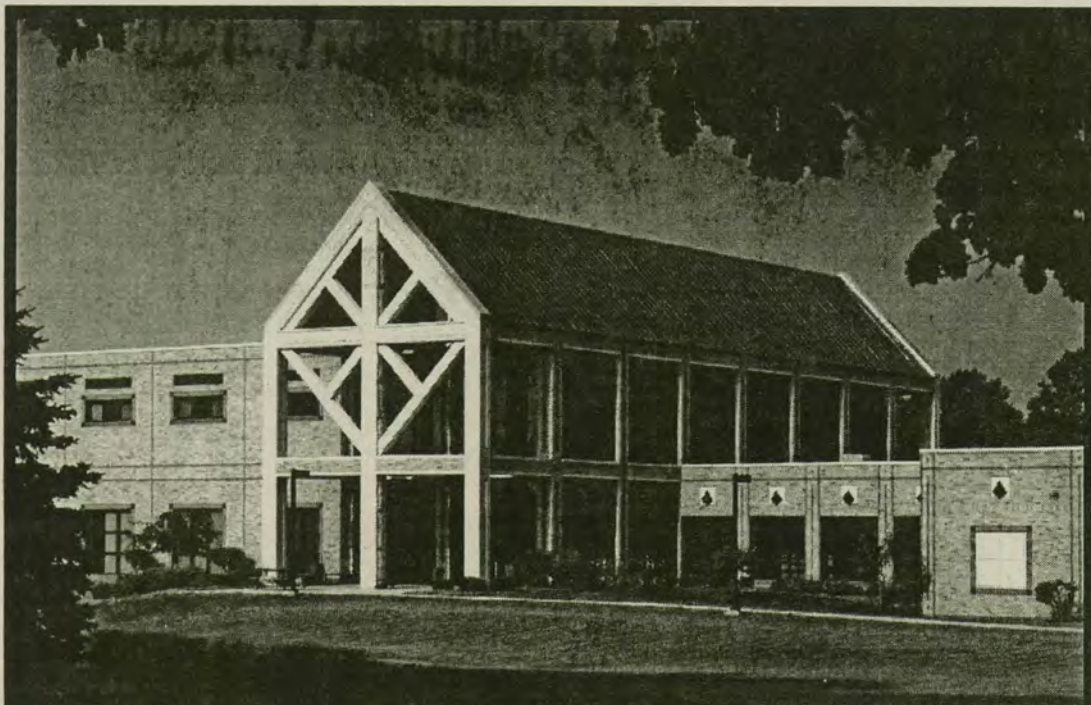
"This team's composed of old guys and a couple of freshmen who have really handled themselves well this year," Boschee said. "We don't let the media hype get to our heads. We've still got a job to do."

That job, Collison said, is winning the Jayhawks' first national title since 1988.

"We realize how close we are to our goal, and we realize we can enjoy the journey and get into the media hype after the season," he said. "We realize now that it's all about basketball."

That's exactly what Williams wants to hear.

"I think this team's mature enough to handle the attention," he said. "Every once in a while, they'll say a little bit more than maybe they should."



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MLB

Selig pledges not to lock out players

Associated Press

NEW YORK

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig pledged Tuesday not to lock out players through the World Series but left open the chance that owners would impose new work rules during the offseason, a move that could trigger another strike this summer.

The players' union, operating without a labor contract since Nov. 7, quickly interpreted Selig's statement as a veiled threat to impose vast economic changes as soon as the postseason ends.

In 1994, the union struck on Aug. 12, saying the move was its only recourse to fight management's plan to implement changes, including a salary cap. The walkout, baseball's eighth since 1972, lasted 232 days and caused the World Series to be canceled for the first time since 1903.

Union head Donald Fehr called Selig's statement "a tacit acknowledgment of the clubs' continuing intention" to make changes after the World Series.

"He thinks what we do not: that the fans can be more easily fooled, fooled into thinking this 'pledge' is a concession of sorts on his part," Fehr said.

Selig said for months that a lockout was not "on my radar screen," but he had refused to rule one out. His promise not to impose new terms and conditions of employment for players through the end of the World Series bore little significance because players already have signed their 2002 contracts.

A rules change in the offseason would affect new contracts signed for 2003 and beyond.

"Our fans deserve to know that the 2002 season will be played to completion without interruption and they deserve to know that now before we begin the new season," Selig said. "Therefore, on behalf of the clubs, I pledge that we will not take any economic action either in the form of a lockout or unilateral implementation against the players' association throughout the course of the season and postseason.

"The sanctity of the season, however, is only partially within my control. Since we do not have a new collective bargaining agreement, the players have the right to strike at any time. I sincerely hope that they share my strong feeling about the importance of playing the entire season."

Asked why he made the announcement Tuesday, Selig said during a telephone interview: "I thought the timing was good. In my judgment, this way was a very good way to reassure fans."



Selig

Fehr did not say whether players would make a similar no-strike pledge, and history suggests they won't.

"All I can say, the players setting a strike date is always a last resort," Fehr said.

Negotiations for a new labor contract have been slow, at first delayed by the owners' failed attempt to eliminate the Minnesota Twins and Montreal Expos. Talks, which recessed March 13, are to resume next week but the sides are far apart.

The union also fears that owners also could lock out players following the World Series or stop negotiating player contract, a strategy the NBA used after its 1998 playoffs. Baseball's outside counsel is Howard Ganz, the NBA's outside lawyer during the lockout.

"He specifically limited the pledge to the season and postseason, reserving for himself the right to kick off the same strategy the NBA did," Fehr said in Tampa, Fla., after talking to the New York Yankees, the final stop on his tour of the 30 spring-training camps.

During the strike, owners implemented a salary cap on Dec. 23, 1994. However, the players' association filed an unfair labor practice charge, the National Labor Relations Board issued a complaint and on March 31, 1995, a federal judge ordered owners to restore the old work rules, which caused players to end their strike.

Negotiations resumed and the sides signed a new contract on March 14, 1997.

Owners say baseball is losing hundreds of millions of dollars annually and has a competitive-balance problem. They have proposed a vast increase in revenue sharing and a 50 percent luxury tax on the portions of payrolls above \$98 million.

Players are skeptical of management's claims of losses and haven't agreed that competitive balance is a problem. The union doesn't want to drain the high-revenue teams of money they would otherwise spend on salaries, and it has no interest in a luxury tax that would slow the increase in salaries.

"The inability of the clubs and the players' association to reach closure on a new basic agreement that would resolve the basic inequity of competitive imbalance that exists in our game today should not, I believe, be a burden borne by our fans," Selig said.

Yankees pitcher Mike Stanton said players would strike if they think it's necessary.

"If we were pushed to it, we've proved in the past it's not just a threat," he said.

New York Mets pitcher Al Leiter said he hoped Selig's announcement "will lead to an agreement sooner rather than later."

"It is encouraging, and it's a positive gesture to the great fans of this game," Leiter said in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Injury gives Banks a shot

♦ Burkett's sore shoulder opens spot for ex-Cub

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla.

In one corner of the clubhouse, Boston Red Sox pitcher John Burkett was talking about disappointment over an injury than will sideline him for the start of the season.

A few lockers down, pitcher Willie Banks was thankful to be getting a second chance because of that injury.

Manager Grady Little told Banks he had made the team Tuesday. Banks probably would have been the last pitcher released if Burkett hadn't gotten hurt.

"My hands are shaking right now," Banks said with a smile after meeting with Little.

"I've been sent down (to the minor leagues) the last day a couple times," he said. "For him to tell me I made the team, I don't know what's better, graduation day, winning the championship or making this club right now. I worked hard and it all paid off."

Banks, a first round draft pick in 1987, missed the entire 1996 season with severe nerve damage in his right shoulder that caused the muscle to deteriorate.

He came back for brief stops with the New York Yankees in 1997 and 1998 before beginning an exile that took him through the minor leagues and Japan. He landed in Boston at the end of last season.

This offseason, Banks, 33, headed for the Venezuelan winter league, hoping to pitch a lot

of innings and persuade any remaining doubters that his shoulder was healthy. He came to spring training strong and has a 4.20 ERA in 15 innings this spring. But it looked like he was the 12th man on Little's 11-man pitching staff.

"I woke up this morning and I was just praying to God, man," Banks said.

"My knees are all bent down and dirty right now."

Little liked Banks' aggressive-ness this spring, and said the life on his fast-

ball and curve persuaded him that Banks was as good as ever. He said he will use Banks out of the bullpen in a variety of roles.

"I feel like a rookie all over again," Banks said.

Burkett, meanwhile, was resigning himself to a longer stay at Boston's training camp in Florida because of shoulder tendinitis that hasn't gotten better. He was placed on the 15-day disabled list on Tuesday, retroactive to last Thursday.

Shoulder soreness is normal for him during spring time, Burkett said. The difference this year is that instead of gradually getting better, it got worse.

"We've been trying everything to try to get it to calm down, but nothing's worked," he said.

"I'm trying to be optimistic about it, but I'm (angry)," Burkett said. "I've only been on the (disabled list) twice in my career. I don't want to start out

this way here."

Burkett, 37, salvaged his career in Atlanta last year, going 12-12 with a 3.04 ERA after being cut by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Boston signed him to a two-year, \$11 million deal this winter, and he looked good this spring, posting a 0.90 ERA in 10 innings.

But Burkett said the pain in his right shoulder hit a peak when he pitched 3 2-3 innings in a minor league game last week. He was scheduled to

"I don't know what's better, graduation day, winning the championship or making this club right now."

Willie Banks
Red Sox pitcher

start against Texas on Tuesday, but decided to step back and give himself time to heal instead.

Burkett declined to put a timetable on his return, guessing it might take two weeks.

"Believe me, I want to get out there as quickly as I can, but I've got to be smart, too," he said.

With Burkett out, the Red Sox early season rotation is set. Pedro Martinez starts opening day, followed by Dustin Hermanson, Derek Lowe and Frank Castillo. Darren Oliver would be the fifth starter if Burkett isn't ready when the first time the team needs a fifth starter, April 12.

Burkett's return could also mean the end for Banks.

"I can't worry about that," Banks said. "All that stuff is out of my control. I'm just happy to make that trip ... to Boston, for Grady to come out and say, 'You're my guy.'"

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Cubs send phenom Hill to minors

"We all think the world of him and don't have any doubt he's going to be an everyday

"I did all I could," Hill said. "I played the way I needed to play. I hit the ball the way I needed to hit. I got on base the way I need to get on base. I scored the runs the way I need to score runs for guys to hit me in."

"Someone told me you'll know when you're close. You'll taste it, you'll smell it, you'll be able to feel it. And boy, I felt it this spring."

Boston bats nail Rocker for 11-8 win

Moises Alou played for the first time in more than a week, going 2-for-3 with an RBI in the Chicago Cubs' 13-11 loss to Oakland in Mesa, Ariz. Alou

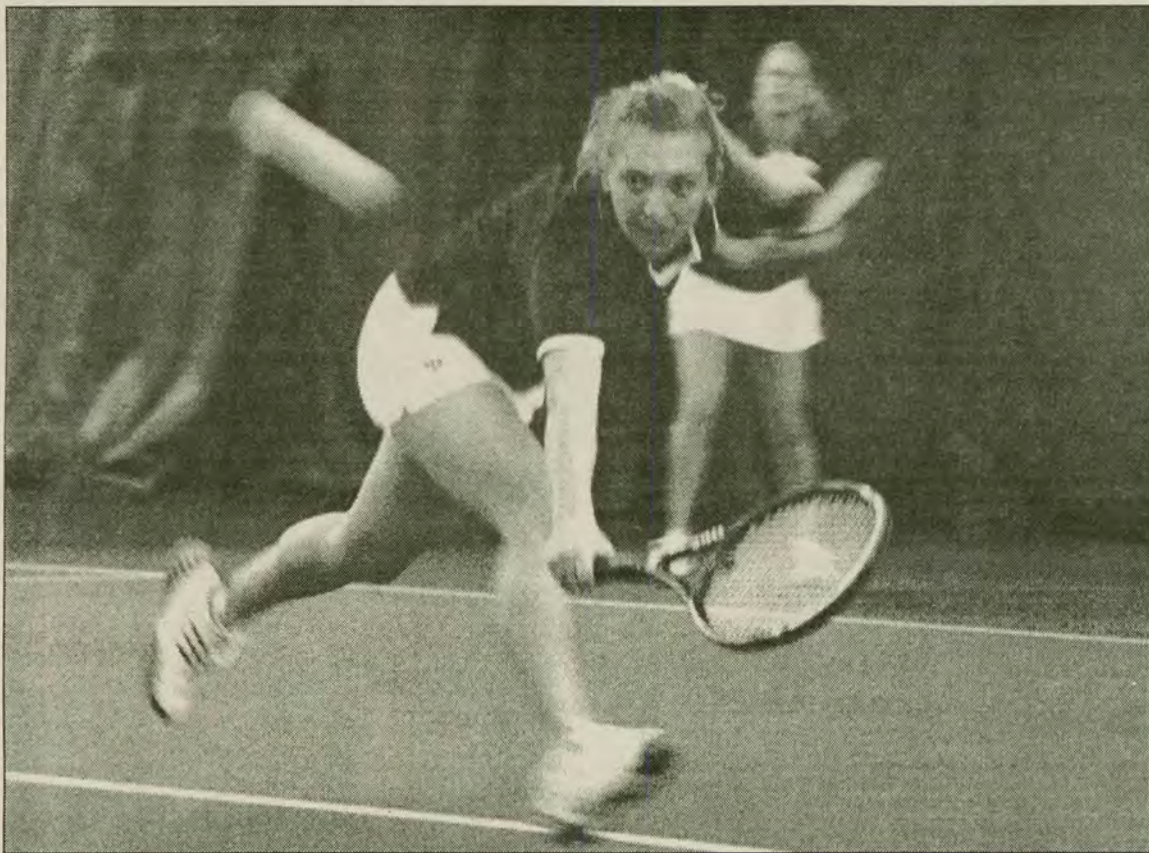
Miguel Tejada's two-run homer capped a seven-run Oakland rally in the eighth inning. Sammy Sosa, Chris Stynes and Joe Girardi homered for the Cubs.

◆ Texas right-hander Ismael Valdes returned to Florida on Tuesday night after an exam showed no ligament damage in his right elbow. Valdes returned to Texas to be examined by Conway after complaining of elbow stiffness Monday. An MRI exam determined that there was some irritation but no damage in the ligament. The Rangers haven't made a decision on the status of Valdes.

The Observer is now accepting applications for the positions of

2002-2003 Strip and Panel Cartoonist

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BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

Irish senior Nina Vaughan returns a serve during Notre Dame's recent match against Miami. The Irish host the Fighting Illini of Illinois today.

Women's

continued from page 20

dent, the team knows that the 7-10 Illini cannot be taken lightly.

"We know Illinois is going to be a tough match. They've always played us close in the past," said junior Katie Cunha.

One pressing concern for the Irish will be to make sure that the top of their lineup plays as well as they are capable of. No. 1 singles player Becky Varnum hopes to end her slump against top competition today. Varnum, ranked 75th nationally, will face off against Illinois' No. 1 player, 54th-ranked Jennifer McGaffigan. Things should get interesting as McGaffigan herself is looking to end a six-match losing skid of her own.

Louderback is confident that once the team finds its rhythm, it should have no problem playing Illinois.

"Alicia Salas and Lindsey Green have been very solid

for us all year in the middle of the lineup," he said. "We just need to pull out some more of those tight matches in the top and bottom spots."

The road doesn't get any easier after today, however. After the Irish complete their match against Illinois, they will fly to North Carolina Wednesday for an Easter-break trio of matches against Wake Forest, Duke and North Carolina.

All three teams are ranked in the top 25 and should pose a significant challenge for the Irish.

Still, the team is confident that a recent weekend off and a series of solid practices are good signs for its upcoming competitions.

"Last weekend, was the first one the girls have had off since classes started," said Louderback, "and they have come right out and followed that up with some great practice sessions this week."

Contact Colin Boylan at cboylan@nd.edu.

Men's

continued from page 20

matches at both No. 1 and No. 2, as well as two of the last four at No. 3.

"I think our team is confident, but I think we need to regain a little of what we had a week and half ago," D'Amico said. "We haven't been competing as well as we could have in the last couple of matches."

Against Indiana last week, the fifth-ranked doubles duo of Taborga and fellow senior Casey Smith fell to the Hoosiers' Zach Held and Ryan Recht, who were not ranked.

"[Lately] we've been losing the doubles point after really solidifying it for the bulk of the season," Bayliss said. "I think [Taborga and Smith] need to have their antennae up and realize they have a target on their back and people are coming after them. They have to meet that challenge. They've lost three of their last four matches, so it's been a little bit of a downward spiral."

Taborga also was upset in his singles match at Indiana, but Bayliss is not worried about his top player.

"It's hard to get on Javier because in singles he's really carried us," Bayliss said. "He's been playing that No. 1 position. He's been reeling off the wins. To see him stumble a little bit, I'm not concerned. Everyone has due a bad match every now and then, and [Taborga] had one."

However, Bayliss is concerned with ensuring that the Irish are not obsessed with their ranking and instead just maintain their intensity.

"We've had a marvelous year to date, and it's difficult to keep your focus when the wins are flowing as they have been," Bayliss said. "My concern is that we not get caught up in the success we've had and [that the Irish do not] fail to keep doing the little things that got us where we were."

"We've never been an overpowering team," he continued. "We've been a team that scrapped hard for every match and every point. And if we lose that identity, [winning becomes] difficult, because sometimes all of the sudden you wake up and say, 'What happened?'"

The Irish recognize that they must continue to work hard to be rated in the top 10 in the nation.

"I think we may have become a little satisfied [for a while] and forgot that we still have to improve if we want to go towards our goal of winning a national championship," D'Amico said.

With opponents such as Indiana State, No. 41 Southern Methodist and No. 4 Kentucky approaching, the Irish will not be gliding through the remainder of the season.

"The next two or three matches we play are extremely dangerous. They're all teams that are good enough to beat us," Bayliss said. "They are teams that were ranked preseason pretty high and have had one or two losses."

So Bayless says the Irish won't take any opponent lightly as the team approaches the NCAA tournament.

"Eastern Airlines used to have a slogan: 'You've got to earn your wings every day,'" Bayliss said. "And we need to do that."

Contact Joe Lindsley at jlindsle@nd.edu.

Lacrosse

continued from page 20

hard on the field."

The Blue Hens had a chance to make it 8-8, but White made a key save to get the ball back in Irish hands.

"She definitely came up with some key saves, especially at the end," said Coyne.

White, however, was more praising of her teammates than her own play.

"My defense gave me the shots that I am supposed to save," said White. "They are keeping [attackers] out and giving me off-angle shots. I've always got my defense in front of me."

The combination was good enough to keep Delaware down.

The Irish face Big East opponent Virginia Tech Saturday at home.

Contact Chris Coleman at ccolema1@nd.edu.



BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

Irish midfielder Danielle Shearer heads downfield during Notre Dame's 10-9 loss to Cornell earlier this season.

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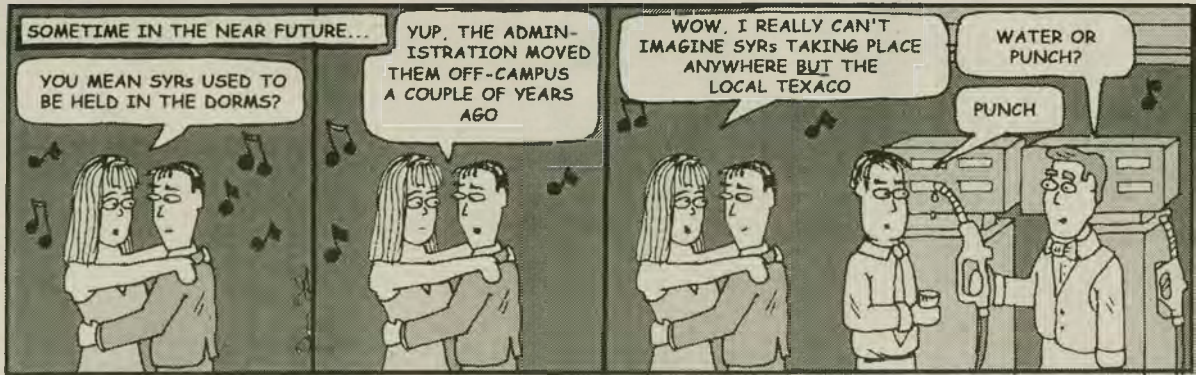
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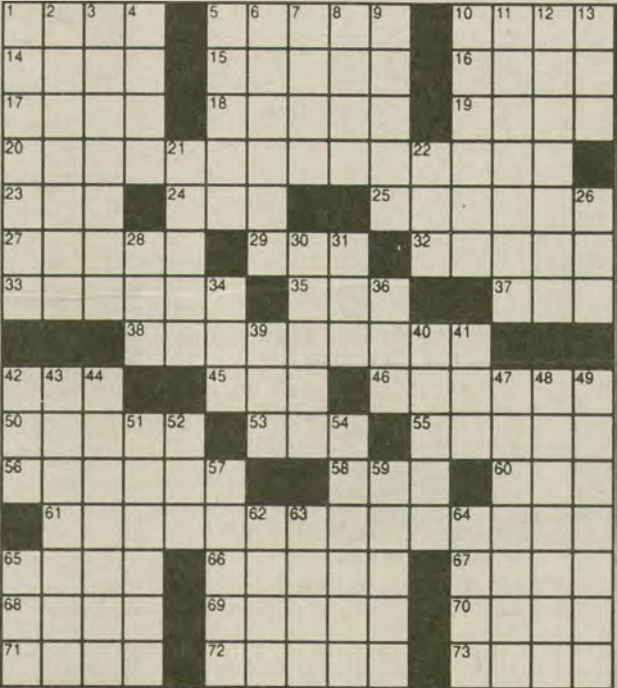
RYAN CUNNINGHAM



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EUGENIA LAST

- ACROSS**
- 1 High-hatter
 - 5 "Where's ____?" (1970 film)
 - 10 Smooch
 - 14 Lift
 - 15 Hearing-related
 - 16 Blunted blade
 - 17 "I'll get ____!"
 - 18 Bundle-of-joy bringer
 - 19 Peak near Taormina
 - 20 Start of a quip
 - 23 Actress ____ Marie Saint
 - 24 Part of a poker pot
 - 25 Washington site
 - 27 Add luster to
 - 29 Hide-hair link
 - 32 Brief fight
- DOWN**
- 33 Hipster's eyewear
 - 35 Military inits., 1946-92
 - 37 Make out
 - 38 Middle of the quip
 - 42 Bear greeting?
 - 45 Hirsute Himalayan
 - 46 Least furnished
 - 50 Habituate
 - 53 Mouse's place
 - 55 Buttnsky
 - 56 Church laws
 - 58 Southern constellation
 - 60 Downing Street number
 - 61 End of the quip
 - 65 Diva's moment
- DOWN**
- 66 They may be mowed down
 - 67 Conductor Klemperer
 - 68 City on the Aare
 - 69 Steps over a fence
 - 70 Yucca plant cousin
 - 71 They often begin with "To"
 - 72 Like many brandy casks
 - 73 Jersey group?

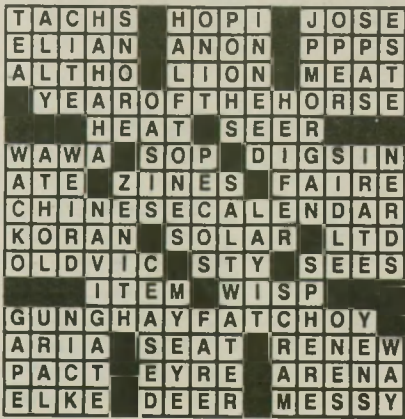


Puzzle by Steven Picus

- 36 Hack
- 39 Big, fat mouth
- 40 Uxmal builder
- 41 Poetic preposition
- 42 Lush sound?
- 43 Never broadcast
- 44 Oater sound effect
- 47 Make a baron, say
- 48 Loud speaker
- 49 Practiced an Arthur Murray lesson
- 51 Mountain ashes
- 52 Wind dir.
- 54 Lollygag
- 57 Final authority
- 59 Out of bed
- 62 Pro ____
- 63 Composer Satie
- 64 Ham's father
- 65 Blood-typing system

Answers to any clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (\$1.20 per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Quentin Tarantino, Maria Schneider, Sarah Vaughan.

Happy Birthday: Social activities will be plentiful this year. Expect your creative abilities to surface. You will be in the mood for love and romance and should take advantage of this. This is not the best year to take financial risks but if you are conservative in your investments you can make gains. Your numbers are 8, 14, 16, 24, 32, 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may have to fight for what you want today. Be quick to utilize your talents and be prepared to go the extra mile. Socially you should make plans to get out and do something lively.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get involved in activities that will help you expand creatively. You should be able to win the respect of colleagues if you mix business with pleasure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Things may not go according to plan if you are trying to make alterations to your home. A relative or someone you live with will leave you with added responsibilities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be able to help someone with his or her problems if you tell them about some of your past experiences. Your sensitivity toward others will be appreciated.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may have trouble getting others to believe in what you are trying to achieve, but if you are hard-working, you will accomplish your goals without the help of others. You can be proud of yourself and your ability to finish

what you start today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be receptive to the personal problems that a friend is facing. Helping someone else will make you feel good about yourself. Some limitations may occur at work if you try to push your opinions on colleagues.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may find it difficult to get along with some of the people who don't agree with your tactics. Follow your gut feelings and you will know that you are on the right course.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you've got the time, a pleasure trip will be worth your while. You will discover things that will benefit you in the future. Keep an open mind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There will be greater activity in your home that should lead to positive changes. This may be a make-it or break-it time with someone you've been close to.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The more you listen to others the greater your own knowledge will become. You should have an opportunity to take part in something that will allow you to experience different lifestyles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You should be thinking about your financial picture. A property investment or making valuable additions to your home will be prosperous in the long run.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone you like may not be telling you everything. You may have added responsibilities today if an older relative or younger family member needs your assistance.

Birthday Baby: You are friendly and you can easily adapt to environmental changes. You will do well in your life studies. You are curious and can be a real chatterbox. You will love to travel and meet new people.

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

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- ◆ MLB, p. 14, 16, 17

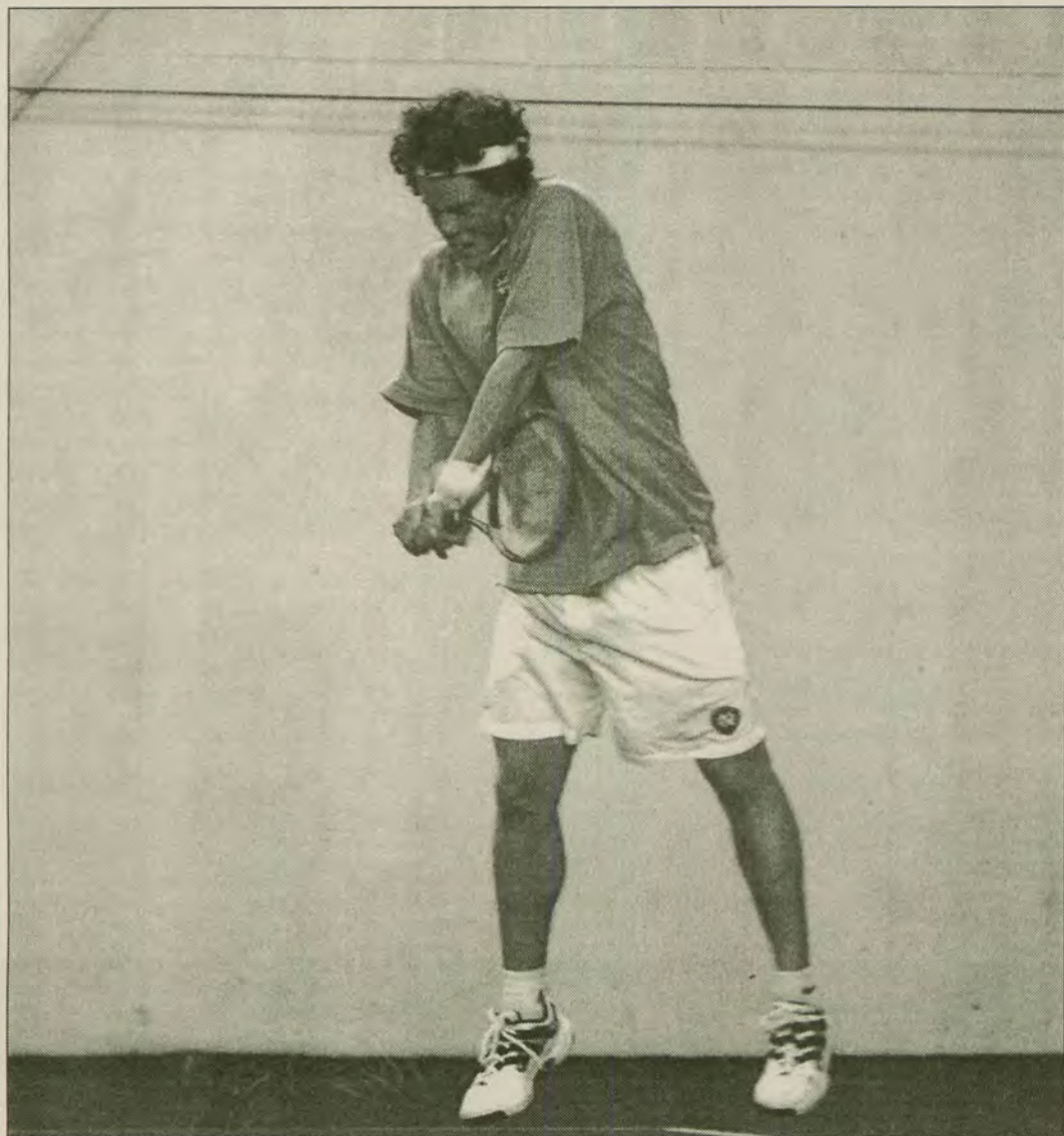
- ◆ Final Four, p. 15
- ◆ NHL, p. 13
- ◆ NBA, p. 12

SPORTS

Wednesday, March 27, 2002

MEN'S TENNIS

Ready to feast on the Wolverines



BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

The Notre Dame tennis team hits the road today to take on Michigan. The Irish are coming off a 6-1 win over Indiana Saturday.

No. 7 Irish head north to take on No. 40 Wolverines

By JOE LINDSLEY
Sports Writer

The seventh-ranked Notre Dame men's tennis team, wary of a string of upcoming opponents who have the potential to upset the Irish, travels to Ann Arbor today to play No. 40 Michigan. The team will then head to Terre Haute, Ind., to take on No. 32 Indiana State Saturday.

The Irish, coming off a 6-1 win at Indiana, are confident but not complacent.

"We're expecting a pretty tough match," freshman Brent D'Amico said. "[Michigan] is possibly a little under-ranked at this point. They have a lot of players that could definitely give us trouble."

Many of those players have given Notre Dame trouble in the past. The Irish shut out the Wolverines last year, but Notre Dame struggled to overpower Michigan at the Tom Fallon Invitational last fall and lost to the Wolverines two years ago.

"They have a lot of seniors on their team, much like we do, so it's pretty much the same cast of characters," Irish coach Bob Bayliss said.

At the Tom Fallon Invitational, the two teams essentially squared off in a hidden dual match, with the Irish achieving the victory, but not without getting bruised by a Wolverines squad that was missing a few of its players due to injury.

"We won, but everything was really skewed," Bayliss said of the September 2001 tournament.

At that invitational, Greg Novak, Michigan's No. 5 player, upset Notre Dame's No. 1, senior Javier Taborga, who is currently ranked 11th nationally among singles players. Novak was eventually defeated by Notre Dame senior Aaron Talarico. Irish senior Casey Smith was upset by Michigan's Matt Lockin.

Today, the Irish will also be looking out for Henry Beam, ranked 54th in the nation, who will play Taborga at No. 1. Beam is 15-8 this season.

Bayliss asserts the team rankings can be deceitful and that disparity between Notre Dame's No. 7 ranking and Michigan's No. 40 ranking is really not as advantageous or as great as it may seem. Many of the Wolverines, who are currently 9-5, have beat Irish players before and are probably keen on staging an upset. However, Michigan has yet to defeat a team in the top 30 this season and the Wolverines are 2-3 against teams that the Irish have gone 4-2 against this season.

Although the Irish own a 16-4 record and have posted only one loss to No. 2 Illinois in their last 10 matches, the past two matches have exposed a particular weakness in doubles play. The Irish have lost three of their last four doubles

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish hold off Blue Hens

By CHRIS COLEMAN
Sports Writer

Behind a 10-save effort from goalkeeper Jen White Tuesday, the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team defeated Delaware 9-7.

The teams locked at 7-7 with less than three minutes to play when Eleanor Weille scored the winning goal off a pass from Natalie Loftus. Lauren Fischer added an insurance goal as the 14th-ranked Irish improved their record to 5-1.

The Irish opened the game strongly with Fischer scoring her first goal of the day on a free position shot only 39 seconds into the game. Fischer, who scored three on

the day, has had a breakout year for the Irish. She has started every game and is fourth on the team in scoring.

Delaware fought back and scored two goals, to make it 2-1, but it would be their only lead of the game.

The Irish answered with a solid defensive effort, when Captain Kathryn Lam stole the ball and set up Natalie Loftus' eventual free-position goal.

The attack continued to bombard Delaware's net, but the effective goalkeeping of senior captain Laurie Tortorelli stopped several Irish scoring opportunities.

Delaware shifted defenders to double-team Irish scoring threat Danielle Shearer, but

this proved ineffective as Shearer scored the next two Irish goals and one more in the second half.

It was Notre Dame goalkeeper Jen White who stole the end of the half, however, making two spectacular point-blank saves to keep the Irish lead 4-3 into half-time.

The teams traded goals back and forth throughout the second half until Weille, from off the bench, sparked the team with her goal, making it 8-7.

"She has really come on this season," said head coach Tracy Coyne. "She really gives us another dimension, she always works hard on the field."

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish start tough stretch against Illini

By COLIN BOYLAN
Sports Writer

With three tough matches against top-25 teams on the horizon, the Notre Dame women's tennis team could be forgiven for overlooking their matchup with No. 65 Illinois today.

But after coming off a two-match losing streak against a pair of inferior opponents, no one on the Irish squad expects that to happen.

"I think we'll be well prepared for Illinois," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "At this point in the season, we understand how dangerous it is to look past any one

match."

While the Irish have struggled in recent losses to Air Force and Purdue, the Illini will be wrapping up what has been a tough road trip during which they dropped six straight matches.

Notre Dame hopes to push that streak to seven, but both teams have matched up equally in terms of common opponents this year. Both the Irish and the Illini emerged victorious over Illinois State and Michigan, while both schools dropped decisions to Purdue, Indiana, North Carolina and Tennessee.

With that kind of parity evi-

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SPORTS
AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Men's Tennis at Michigan, today, 3 p.m.
- ◆ ND Women's Tennis vs. Illinois, today, 3:30 p.m.
- ◆ Baseball at West Virginia, Thursday, 4 p.m.
- ◆ ND Softball at Pittsburgh, Saturday, 11 a.m.

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