THE OBSERVER

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Jefferson may face charges

By MEGHANNE DOWNES
News Editor

Michael Anderson, attorney for the plaintiff in the civil sexual assault trial of former Notre Dame football player Clifford Jefferson, said Wednesday that he intends to ask St. Joseph County Prosecutor Michael Dvorak to consider filing criminal charges against Jefferson.

Jefferson

see JEFFERSON/page 6

Wall Street Journal honors COBA

Business college ranked No. 31 in survey

By KATHERINE GALES
News Writer

The Wall Street Journal has again recognized the excellence of the University's Medoza College of Business, ranking it thirty-first among the nation's top business schools for the second consecutive year.

The school's grade of 61.90 out of a possible 100 points placed it in the thirty-first spot, between Stanford University and Southern Methodist University. Leading the pack was the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, with a score of 71.25. The article appeared in a special section of the Sept. 17 edition of the Journal.

Carolyn Woo, Dean of the Business School, said the rankings were useful in "seeing what we need to do better — whether we are doing the job we want to do. Our goal is to improve what we do, and that usually leads to higher rankings, [which are] not our primary objective." Although the school's rank stayed the same, its score decreased slightly, from the score of 62.21 in 2002.

According to the publication, the Wall Street Journal/Harris Interactive Business School Year 3 Survey was based on the online inter-

Observer File Photo

The Business Information Center in the College of Business, shown here, may have played a role in the Wall Street Journal's favorable ranking of the Mendoza College of Business.

see COBA/page 6

'Coupling' to air on UPN network

PR Newswire Photo Service

The cast of Coupling, seen here, will be appearing on the local UPN digital channel after WNDU refused to air the show.

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

Mirroring the intemperate love lives of the singles it features, "Coupling" did some partner-swapping of its own Wednesday, when UPN-affiliate WSBT-DT agreed to air the controversial show rejected just days ago by WNDU-TV.

WSBT-DT, a second, digital channel connected with CBS-affiliate WSBT, picked up the sitcom and will air it on Thursday nights at 10 p.m. The fledgling station, founded in September, agreed to air the program in part to help fill the 22 hours of open airtime around the two hours provided by UPN, said Bob Johnson, the station's operations and programming director.

"'Coupling' sounded like a show compatible with the station's younger and edgier tone, so we thought it was a good fit," Johnson said. "But [the acquisition] probably would not have happened if we didn't have the second channel to program."

Johnson also said that the 10 p.m. time slot, amended from NBC's 8:30 p.m. airing, puts the show "out of family hour," when it will suit an older, more appropriate demographic.

WBST-DT received the rights to air the show after entering into direct negotiations with NBC, which previously released a statement addressing the controversy that said, "The show was reviewed by NBC Standards and Practices and was considered appropriate for broadcast on the network. It's unfortunate that not everyone will have the opportunity to make their own viewing decisions."

Today, the network added, "We're thrilled that the viewers will have the opportunity to see 'Coupling.'"

Karl Kirbie, director of programming at WNDU, said the station was not surprised by WSBT-DT's acquisition.

"We did know that NBC would offer ["Coupling"] to other stations in town ... and the show is more UPN's demographic," said Kirbie. "We still feel strongly that it does not belong on WNDU."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

Police report unclear on fight details

University says it will not investigate the incident

By SHELIA FLYNN
News Writer

The Notre Dame students and local residents involved in a Sept. 19 fight in downtown South Bend gave police conflicting reports of what provoked the incident, said South Bend Police Captain John Williams.

A University spokesman also said the school does not plan to investigate the incident, which Irish Guard members say involved two Guardsmen. Meanwhile, the director of the marching band cautioned all band members Tuesday to avoid placing themselves in precarious situations without specifically mentioning the Sept. 19 brawl.

Williams, who said Monday he was unaware of a police report outlining the incident, said his staff located the report Tuesday.

The report states that Patrolman Christopher Bortone responded to a call referencing a fight on East Wayne Street, Williams said. By the time Bortone arrived, the fight had been broken up.

"All parties involved were very uncooperative, and the stories they were telling to me were not making sense," Bortone said in the report. "The stories I was getting were conflicting on both sides."

The report said three Notre Dame students were injured in the brawl: John Raih, a member of the Irish Guard; Frank Krakowski, a member of the swim team; and senior Stephen Trautmann. Another Guard member, Drew Dewalt, said he was present but is not named in the police report.

"They said they were just standing on the corner when a black Mercedes pulled up, and these three guys got out and they started a fight," Williams said.

The three Mishawaka residents involved in the confrontation were Jacob Fogle, Gregory Eller and Niv Taunaholo.

"The three suspects said Stephen threw a piece of pizza on the hood of the black Mercedes," Williams said.

The suspects said this angered them, and according to Williams, they stopped their car and addressed the Notre Dame students before a fight erupted.

DeWalt, however, said the attack was "unprovoked."

"My impression was they were just looking to fight, and they found a reason, somehow," DeWalt said Monday.

DeWalt said another car, filled with the suspects' friends, also stopped, and its occupants joined in the assault against the Notre Dame students. These additional assailants were not named in the report.

No arrests were made and no charges have been filed.

The report said that Trautmann

see FIGHT/page 6

More students taking double majors

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Writer

Senior John Devins wants there to be no doubt about the qualifications behind his Notre Dame diploma; not only is he on track to graduate from the University with a double major in history and philosophy, but he will also earn a minor in theology.

"I'll admit that I tacked on the minor for the credentials," Devins said. "Given the light course load that it involved, I decided, why not boost my resume?"

Devins' comprehensive approach is not unique. Facing heightened competition in an uncertain economy, rapidly-growing numbers of Notre Dame undergraduate students are counting on the theoretical advantage that comes with pursuing a double major, minor, concentration or some combination of the three. Unfortunately, they may be making a big sacrifice in the process, said Ava Preacher, Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Letters.

"It's really been a disappointing shift towards a 'check-it-off' mentality," Preacher said. "Especially during the last six years, we have seen a real explosion of students using minors, double majors, even triple majors as a credentialing move."

see MAJORS/page 4

Inside Column

Stand-ins no better

Chad Silker

Ads Account Executive

Ah, yes ... the powers-that-be at this University strike again! No longer satisfied with dictating the lives of Notre Dame students, the fine administration has taken on a greater mission: controlling the television viewing decisions for all of Michiana. Instead of showing the new sitcom "Coupling," WNDU will treat its viewers to the recently filmed "Roastin' the Golden Boy," featuring former Notre Dame Heisman Trophy winner Paul Hornung. After the "roast," we'll be reintroduced to the hilarious reruns of the ABC-cancelled "Spin City."

Apparently, WNDU feels the need to determine the "boundaries of good taste" and "community standards" for each resident of South Bend and Elkhart. As a fan of the British version of the comedy featured in the United States on BBC America, I will admit the show features an exorbitant number of sex jokes. Yet instead of letting television viewers express their distaste for the show by turning their televisions off for the half hour a week, WNDU feels the need to make the choice for them by not showing "Coupling" at all. The University's General Counsel claims it's not censorship. However, according to Black's Law Dictionary, to "censor" is "to officially inspect and delete material considered offensive." That's exactly what has happened here, for WNDU has inspected three episodes of "Coupling," judged it inappropriate for all local audiences.

Comically, WNDU has replaced the racy, yet entirely fictional, "Coupling" with two programs featuring individuals known for their real-life sexual escapades. Notre Dame's own Paul Hornung was well known throughout his NFL career for his hard-drinking and womanizing ways. Just last year, Sports Illustrated ran a feature article on Hornung in which former teammates noted his ability to bring a different woman back to his hotel each night on the road. Fortunately, after the end of what I can only assume was a hilarious roast, Michiana residents can tune in to watch Charlie Sheen's "Spin City" character lust after Heather Locklear. Just don't read old news clips on Sheen, because you might discover he was a frequent client of notorious Hollywood Madam Heidi Fleiss's "dating service." I won't even touch Sheen's drug habits or Hornung's one-year suspension from football for gambling in this column. I will thank WNDU for deciding that "Coupling" is inappropriate for our community standards and replacing it with such great role models as Hornung and Sheen.

The University's General Counsel supports claims that the WNDU decision to black out "Coupling" is not censorship because "there are lots of ways to see it." However, just because I can drive to Chicago or have someone back home tape each episode and mail it to me does not change the nature of the Board of Directors' decision. Of course, if I can uncover an economical way to catch every NBC program without tuning into the censorship-crazy WNDU, I'll do it. Then I can finally catch "Coupling" at its regular time, and I won't have to watch that creepy brother-sister news team.

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

Corrections

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

Question of the Day: *Have you ever been to Boat Club?*

Molly Kealy
Freshman
Lyons Hall
"No, I don't have a fake ID."

Dan Moore
Freshman
Morrissey Hall
"No, but I've been in a canoe."

Pedro Engel
Freshman
Morrissey Hall
"No, I can't swim."

Shantha Ready
Junior
Lyons Hall
"I've never been inside, but it doesn't look too great in passing."

Jenna Linder
Junior
McGlinn Hall
"Yes, unfortunately on January 24."

Mike Ortiz
Freshman
O'Neill Hall
"No. Come sail away!"

ANDREW KENNA/The Observer

The post-graduate service fair introduced students to a range of volunteer options that they can pursue after graduation. Here, students receive information from a representative on their options after graduation.

In Brief

Cheer on the **men's soccer team** as they take on Bradley University today at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field.

The Snite Museum of Art is sponsoring **Freshman Night at the Snite** tonight at 7 p.m. Free foot and entertainment will be available, and a talk will be given by the museum director.

Bring some friends and play some **Drop-In Lacrosse** tonight at Rolfs. Play begins at 8:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. on Court 1.

SUB is sponsoring a showing of **"Anger Management"** tonight at 10 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. Tickets are $3.

The Class of 2006 is sponsoring a **Late Night Grill** on the Fieldhouse Mall from 10 until 11:30 p.m.

The **women's volleyball Team** takes on Villanova Friday night at 7 p.m. in the JACC.

Seamus Heaney, 1995 winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature will be giving a **poetry reading** cosponsored by the Keough Institute for Irish Studies and the Dever Program in Dante Studies. The reading takes place Friday at 8 p.m. in the McKenna Auditorium.

Brown Couch will be giving a concert at Legends Saturday night beginning at 9 p.m. Show up for great music and dancing.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.

Offbeat

Man Straps Eight Snakes to His Legs

SYDNEY, Australia — A Swedish man tried to smuggle eight dangerous snakes into Australia by strapping them to his legs, customs officials said Wednesday.

Justice Minister Chris Ellison said 28-year-old Per Johann Adolfsson arrived at Sydney airport from Thailand on Monday night. He was searched by customs officers who discovered the reptiles in packages strapped to his calves.

The snakes included four deadly King Cobras — which died during the nine-hour flight — and four non-venomous emerald tree boas. The surviving snakes were handed over to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.

Ellison said the man has been charged with illegally importing animals and was refused bail during an appearance at Sydney's Waverley Local Court on Tuesday.

Dog's 12-Inch Ears Are World's Largest

LONDON — They drag into his food. Sometimes, he even trips over them. Now they're getting an earful of attention.

A basset hound whose grandfather gained fame as Biggles, the face of Hush Puppies shoes, has hit the limelight himself, making it into the new 2004 Guinness Book of World Records as the dog with the longest ears.

Guinness, which will publish its new edition of the book Thursday, issued a photo of Mr. Jeffries, Biggles' grandson, on Wednesday, showing the dog standing there with a hangdog expression and raised ears that look like the wings a Boeing 747.

Local Weather

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH	64	48	65	56	52	52
LOW	42	40	51	46	44	39

Atlanta 84 / 63 **Boston** 73 / 58 **Chicago** 63 / 46 **Denver** 83 / 51 **Houston** 87 / 68 **Los Angeles** 77 / 62 **Minneapolis** 59 / 49
New York 76 / 59 **Philadelphia** 78 / 59 **Phoenix** 95 / 78 **Seattle** 72 / 53 **St. Louis** 70 / 45 **Tampa** 89 / 72 **Washington** 80 / 61

University denies it plans for a smoke-free campus

By JOE HETTLER
News Writer

Smokers across campus can breathe a sigh of relief.

According to Trudy Diamond, personal assistant to associate vice president for residence life Bill Kirk, the school does not have a smoke-free campus in its future plans, despite any indications of such a change in duLac.

duLac states that students are permitted to smoke anywhere on campus, but not inside any campus building. It also says students may smoke in their dorm rooms if all members of the room agree.

Diamond also said that, while duLac can be interpreted to lead people to believe that the campus could be smoke-free in the near future, those inferences would be unwarranted and incorrect.

Only 5.9 percent of students smoke three or more times a week at Notre Dame, which is significantly less than the national average of 24 percent at universities, according to the Office of Drug and Alcohol Education.

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

STUDENT SENATE

Council reps approved

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

The Student Senate unanimously approved three of four students Wednesday to represent the student body on the University's Academic Council this year.

The students were selected by the Deans of their respective colleges before being approved by the Senate. Meghan McCabe represents the College of Science, Willa Qian comes from the College of Business and Nicole Wykoff is a student in the College of Engineering.

The fourth student representative from the College of Arts and Letters was appointed earlier by the Office of the Student Body President and already sits on the Academic Council.

Senators questioned the students regarding their position on the issue of TCE publication before approving them. They all expressed their eagerness to work on the issue with faculty and administrators and to convey student opinion on the issue.

However, the representatives said they do not know when the issue will go before the Academic Council. The proposal must first be discussed by the Undergraduate Committee within the Academic Council before it can be put on the Council's agenda.

Wykoff also commented on the reservations of faculty members to have the TCE's published for student use. She said this reluctance was apparent when the three representatives met with Academic Council members.

"They realize that there definitely needs to be something there to help [students] choose classes," she said. "It seems like it could be much more viable that they come up with an alternative to publishing TCE's."

Senators also passed a resolution today requiring that the undergraduate representatives to the Academic Council submit a written report regarding the council's progress on the TCE issue, as well as other issues, within seven days of each Academic Council meeting. The purpose of this is to keep Senators abreast of proceedings within the Academic Council.

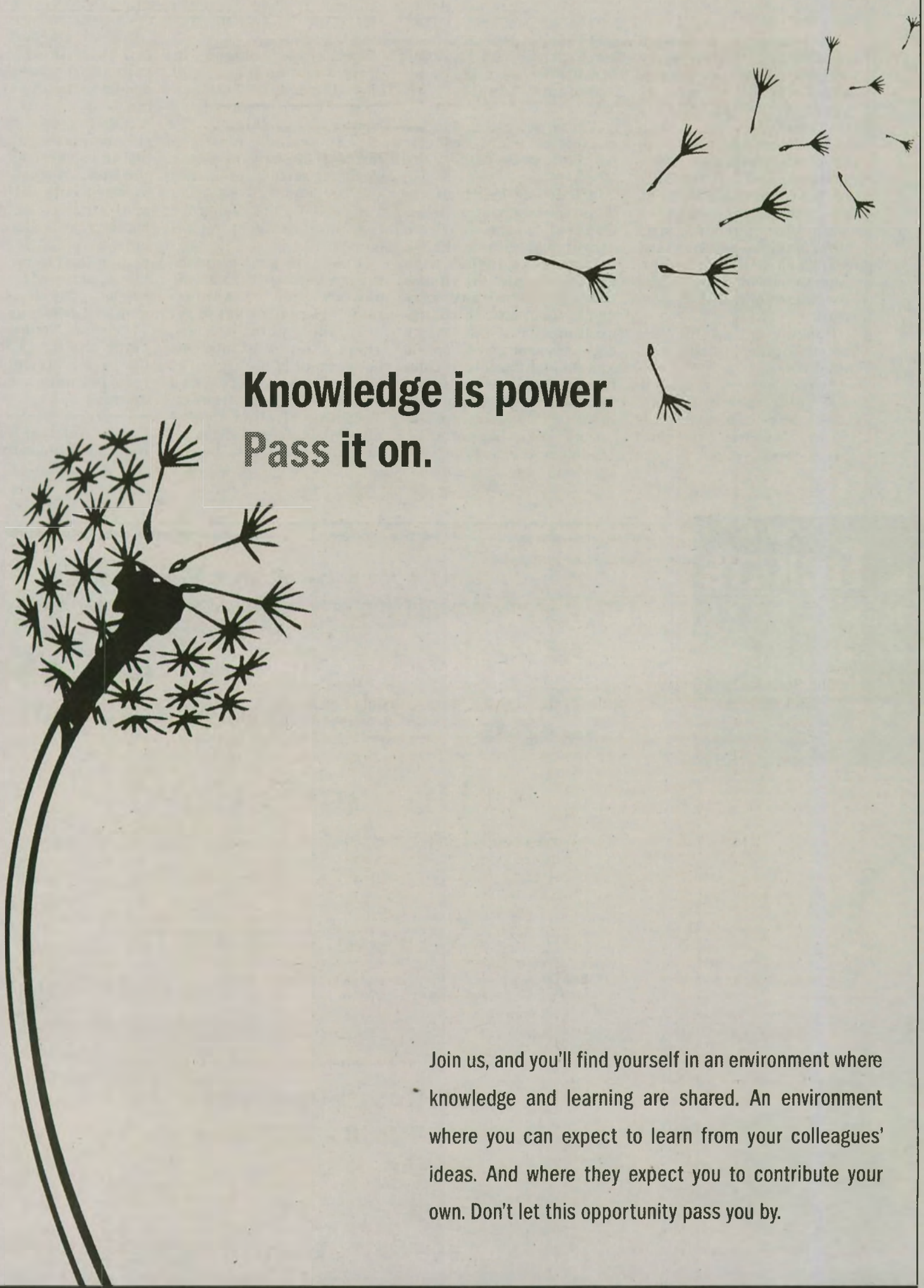
In other Senate news:

◆ The Senate unanimously approved two new Student Union Board members at their meeting today. Christian Palmer was approved as the new head operator for SUB, and Bridget Meecham assumes the role of concert programmer.

◆ Student Body President Pat Hallahan spoke on the Church in Africa Conference, which ended Wednesday and included a speech by Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo.

"It's these kind of issues that I think we should pay attention to. We have an obligation, I feel, to help those who don't have the opportunities that we have," Hallahan said.

Contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu



Join us, and you'll find yourself in an environment where knowledge and learning are shared. An environment where you can expect to learn from your colleagues' ideas. And where they expect you to contribute your own. Don't let this opportunity pass you by.

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Majors

continued from page 1

Students who believe that a second major will boost their chances of law school acceptance or an immediate post-graduation job offer may be in for a harsh awakening, Preacher said.

"I can definitively say that law schools are not very impressed by a student whose double major does not reflect a truly complementary curriculum," she said.

Preacher suggested that instead of looking at a minor or a double major as just another credential to list on an application, students should reexamine the idea of deeper intellectual development within their primary major.

"Majors should not be approached as markers that you complete after taking the minimum amount of courses for four years," she said. "The whole idea of a major is to deepen and expand the breadth of your knowledge of a subject that you are seriously thinking about going into."

For certain students genuinely interested in two subjects, a double major can make sense, Preacher said.

One such student is senior Linda Joseph, who supplemented her biology major with another in anthropology.

"Since I'm going into medicine, I am also really interested in cultural and evolutionary anthropology," Joseph said. "These disciplines have a definite connection to my primary biology major, and I would have graduated early without the anthropology courses."

Except for students like Joseph, Preacher maintained that in most cases, double majors serve as unnecessary padding.

"In truth, the same knowledge can be gained by taking courses across disciplines," she said.

The College of Arts and Letters did not offer double majors or even minors until recently, Preacher said.

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

SMC freshman elections held

By ANNELIESE WOOLFORD
Saint Mary's Editor

A week of campaigning and the result of Tuesday's primary election proved successful for Monica Lindblom/Kristen Bogdanowicz and Claudia Toth/Ashley Toth as the two tickets advance to a run-off election today for Saint Mary's freshman class president and vice president.

"We're very pleased with the voter turn out."

Nicole Haeberle elections commissioner

The tickets defeated four others in the primary election, with Lindblom/Bogdanowicz earning 24 percent of votes and Toth/Toth earning 21 percent. Other tickets included Susan McIlduff/Ashley Oberst with 19 percent of votes, Laela Tahmassebi/Caitlin Kelly with 16 percent, Amanda Shropshire/Irene Bayudah with 10 percent and Rosemary Walsh/Brittany Hartford with 8 percent. Abstained votes accounted for the remaining 3 percent.

Roughly half of the class voted Tuesday, totaling 195 total votes.

"We're very pleased with the voter turn out," said elections commissioner Nicole Haeberle. "It's similar to what we get for the other three classes, which made us happy because it's always a little harder getting first-years acquainted with the system."

Haeberle is hopeful for a similar turn out today, as students make their final choice between the two tickets.

Sharing the same last name, yet unrelated, Toth and Toth ask freshmen to "Vote TNT for dynamite representation." The running mates met earlier this year in their freshmen orientation group.

"One of our leaders told us to get involved in student government and we just thought it would be a good idea to run together because we have the same last name," Ashley Toth said.

"We're not doing this for ourselves; we're doing it for the Class of 2007," she stresses.

Included in their platform is the idea to open a Belles General store with a Starbucks, to establish a better relationship with Notre Dame freshmen through social and academic functions, to continue innovative and stylish class apparel and to create and maintain a line of communication between freshmen and student government.

Like their opponents, Lindblom and Bogdanowicz also see the importance of good class representation.

"At this point, we don't even care who they vote for, it's just the fact that they vote," Lindblom said. "We're in it to win, but that's not our main concern."

The two candidates attended high school together and were impressed by the friendly and welcoming atmosphere presented by the Saint Mary's Board of Governance at orientation. According to Lindblom, that is what attracted the two to running together.

"Our main goal is bonding and getting to know one another."

Monica Lindblom Saint Mary's freshman class president candidate

Seen around campus in their rain ponchos and hats, they tell the freshman class, "We're always here for you rain or shine."

Ideas on their platform range from organizing a freshman formal, to picnics and barbeques, to creating a themed T-shirt design for the class to carry on all four years.

"Our main goal is bonding and getting to know one another," Lindblom said. "We really want to get everyone's point of view. There are a lot of interests between all of us."

In addition to the two presidential tickets, Tuesday's election yielded nine students a position on the freshman class board. Appointments were given to Bridget Gorman, Kristi Sobhani, Kathleen Kindt, Katie White, Ashley Sanders, Chelsea Foote, Megan Sosnowski, Lauren Knisley and Katie Whalen. Each will serve on the board for the remainder of the 2003-2004 academic year.

With nine board positions filled, an additional four remain available. Typically, the president and vice president, once elected, take applications and conduct interviews for the open positions.

Overall, Haeberle is confident in the leadership capabilities she has seen displayed by the class thus far.

"All six cross officer tickets are extremely committed and energetic women," she said. "It was a pleasure to work with all of them, and the class of 2007 has many great leaders that we look forward to working with in the future."

The run-off election begins today at 12:01 a.m. and will continue through 11:59 p.m. Voting will take place online, as it did for the primary election, with results announced Friday morning.

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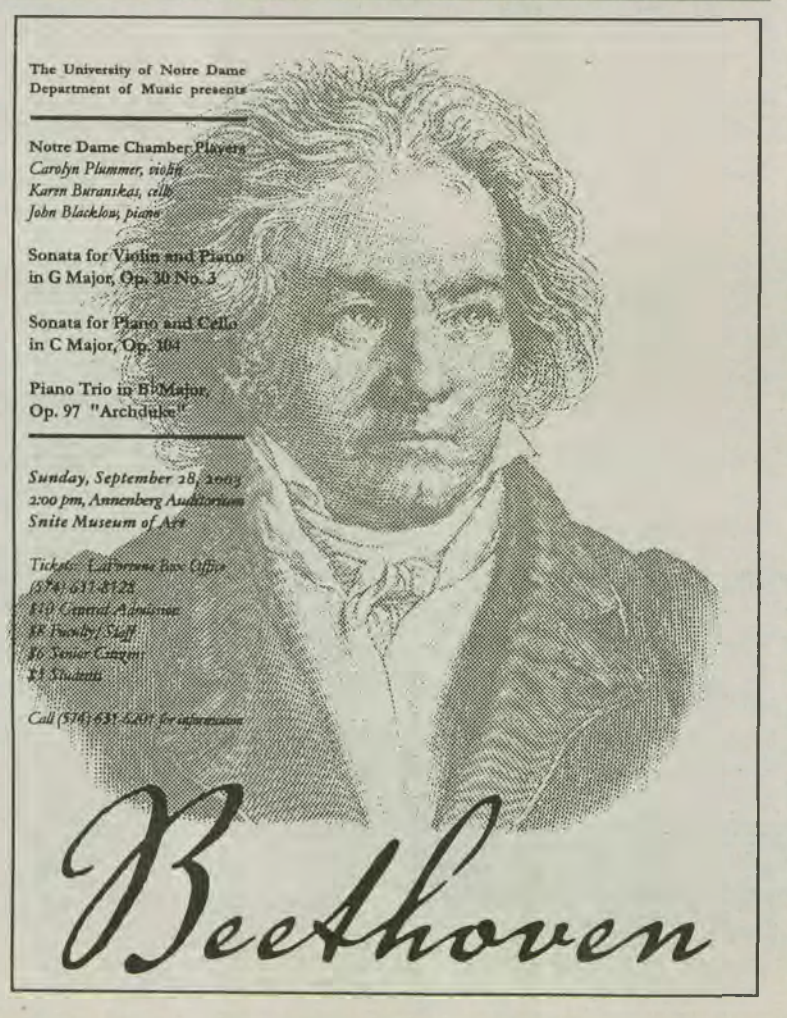

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Jordan Auditorium
Mendoza College of Business

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Briton escapes Colombian captors

SANTA MARTA, Colombia — A British tourist kidnapped 12 days ago in the mountains with seven other foreigners escaped by sliding down a precipice and was fed by Indians before an army patrol found him Wednesday.

Matthew Scott, 19, of London, evaded his captors during a forced walk through the thick jungles of the Sierra Nevada mountains, Gen. Carlos Alberto Ospina, commander of the Colombian army, told The Associated Press.

An exhausted Scott said from a hospital bed at a military base in Santa Maria, "I haven't eaten hardly anything for the last 12 days."

'Baghdad Bob' slams U.S. intel

CAIRO, Egypt — Iraq's former information minister told an Arab television station Wednesday that U.S. attempts to target ousted President Saddam Hussein during the war were far off target.

Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf became infamous during the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq for hurling anti-American insults and outlandish claims of Iraqi military victories over the coalition.

"All the bombing hit places where Saddam had never existed and their [U.S.] intelligence was a failure," al-Sahhaf said on Abu Dhabi Television, which was monitored in Cairo.

Asked whether the remaining leadership would have announced his death if Saddam had been killed, al-Sahhaf said: "I think they would hide it."

NATIONAL NEWS

Dean leads Dems in fundraising

WASHINGTON — Front-runner Howard Dean has broken former President Clinton's Democratic record for most money raised in a three-month burst, while new rival Wesley Clark is turning to some of Clinton's most loyal and effective fund-raisers to help him jump-start his presidential campaign.

No Democrat is coming close to President Bush's fund raising, however. Bush is expected to collect about $43 million by the time the third quarter ends next Tuesday, bringing his total this year to roughly $78 million, GOP officials said.

Dave Matthews plays Central Park

NEW YORK — Tens of thousands of fans danced to the Dave Matthews Band at a free concert Wednesday night in Central Park to raise money for music programs in city public schools.

The band opened with "Don't Drink the Water," a 10 top hit in 1998. The group has released a dozen albums and has had 10 top 10 singles.

"So nice to run into you in the park here, the greatest park in the world, and the greatest city in world," Matthews said to wild applause before the band launched into "Crush," leading the crowd in a sing-along.

LOCAL NEWS

Troubled cop commits suicide

VALPARAISO, Ind. — A police officer who was facing disciplinary action for giving rides to two people who had been drinking committed suicide, authorities said.

Robert Furst, 49, killed himself at his residence in Valparaiso. Authorities discovered his body shortly before dawn Tuesday after a member of the police department tried to call him, Police Chief Walt Lamberson said.

Furst, a 20-year veteran of the force, was found lying on his couch. Police found several open packages of anti-depressant medication nearby. They later found a suicide note in his squad car, but the contents of the letter were not made public.

Lamberson informed Furst on Monday that he faced disciplinary action in connection with a May 10, 2002, incident in which Valparaiso officer Charles Schlesinger drove drunk and collided with another vehicle.

IRAQ

Violence strikes Iraqi cities

Blasts rock Baghdad buses, Mosul sex theater; U.S. troops kill nine in raids

Associated Press

Reuters

A U.S. soldier runs past a Bradley armored vehicle during a Wednesday raid on a Tikrit-area farmhouse. The raid was one in a series of operations targeted at Iraqi resistance fighters.

BAGHDAD — Bombs rocked a teeming quarter of Baghdad and a sex-film theater in Mosul on Wednesday, reportedly killing at least three Iraqis and wounding dozens. In a string of ground clashes, the U.S. military said they killed nine Iraqis on one of the bloodiest days of combat in weeks.

The nine deaths were all in the region around Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown. U.S. troops aborted two ambushes by anti-American forces, killing five Iraqis, and came under fire elsewhere in exchanges that left at least four Iraqis dead.

The surge in attacks came as world leaders worked to find agreement in New York on how to restore stability to Iraq.

Early Thursday, two suspected Iraqi resistance leaders accused of organizing and financing attacks against U.S. soldiers in the vicinity of Saddam Hussein's birthplace were arrested in raids. Their identities were not released.

The arrests in Tikrit's affluent neighborhoods were part of an intensified campaign against people believed responsible for a series of deadly attacks against U.S. troops.

In Baghdad, communist leader Hamid Majid Moussa said he and other members of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council, want to move toward national sovereignty "as fast as we can." But council members refused to be drawn into the debate over a specific timetable.

"We don't want to become involved in fruitless discussions," said Moussa, one of four council representatives at a news conference.

The debate among the United States and other governments over Iraq's future moved this week to U.N. headquarters in New York, where the Bush administration seeks a Security Council resolution encouraging other nations to contribute troops to the Iraq security force.

In exchange, France and others, including Germany, want the resolution to give the United Nations a greater voice in the political transition in Iraq, and a speedy move, in "months, not years," to full Iraqi sovereignty — that is, to ending the American postwar occupation.

Bush met with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder on Wednesday in New York, and both said later they would work to resolve those differences. Schroeder renewed Germany's offer to help train Iraqi police, but reiterated that Germany would send no troops here.

More than five months after the ouster of Saddam's government, the troops who are here — almost all Americans — face a daily threat of homemade roadside bombs, mortar attacks and small-arms ambushes.

For the first time Wednesday, U.S. soldiers in central Baghdad were seen deploying bomb-disposal robots, to check a suspicious object in an underpass. That proved harmless, but at about the same time three miles to the northwest, a bomb meant to catch a passing U.S. motorized patrol exploded instead as two buses rolled by.

The blast, in the old Tigris riverside district of Azamiyah, sent shrapnel ripping through the buses and caused one to crash into a tree. At least one Iraqi was killed and 18 were wounded, police and hospital officials reported. Five of the injured were in critical condition, hospital officials said.

In the northern city of Mosul, a bomb exploded in a movie theater showing foreign sex films, and witnesses said two people were killed and seven wounded. Religious and political groups have warned cinema owners against showing such films after censorship ended following the collapse of Saddam's regime.

South of Tikrit, near the town of Balad, seven Iraqis attacked an oil pumping station guarded by troops of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division. The Americans called in an AC-130 gunship, whose heavy weapons fire killed at least three Iraqis, reported division spokeswoman Maj. Josslyn Aberle. A fourth was seriously wounded.

In a second clash near Balad, a U.S. patrol killed three Iraqis waiting in ambush with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades, the military said.

Another U.S. patrol in the same area opened fire on three men trying to bury a homemade bomb — a mortar shell that was probably to be triggered remotely — on a highway used by U.S. convoys. Two Iraqis were killed in the firefight, Aberle said.

In a fourth firefight south of Tikrit, American soldiers came under fire, pursued the attackers to a house and killed one Iraqi, the military said.

VATICAN

Pope skips audience due to illness

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — An increasingly frail Pope John Paul II missed his general audience Wednesday — a rare absence — because of a mild intestinal problem, raising fresh concerns about his health just weeks before he presides at ceremonies marking his 25th anniversary as pope.

The 83-year-old pontiff managed to address the crowd at the Vatican in an audio message, although he spoke with a weak voice and slurred his words — symptoms of the Parkinson's disease he has had for years.

"I am sorry for not being with you," John Paul said. "I carry you all in my heart and I bless you with affection."

The pontiff was to have traveled from his vacation home in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, to Vatican City to greet thousands of the faithful and tourists. But his doctors advised against the trip after he came down with a mild "intestinal indisposition" Tuesday afternoon, the Vatican said in a statement.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the Vatican secretary of state, spoke on his behalf at the audience, and clapped along with the crowd after John Paul delivered his brief remarks. Sodano asked people to pray that John Paul recovers quickly.

"Viva il papa!" or "Long live the pope!" people in the crowd shouted.

The Vatican said the disorder was "mild," and papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said John Paul would keep to his upcoming schedule. That includes moving back to the Vatican on Friday from Castel Gandolfo and meeting with the president of Philippines, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, on Saturday.

The crowd in the Vatican auditorium only heard the pope's remarks, but some satellite television stations broadcast his appearance. The pope — dressed in his usual white robe — sat in a small chapel at Castel Gandolfo and occasionally glanced up as he spoke.

Jeffferson

continued from page 1

A jury in the civil trial awarded $1 million in damages Tuesday to the former Saint Mary's student who alleged Jefferson raped her on March 22, 2001.

Anderson recognized that the burden of proof is much lower in a civil trial compared to a criminal trial. However, he intends to forward information he has gathered and testimony from the civil trial to the prosecutor's office in about two weeks, recommending that criminal felony rape charges be filed against Jefferson.

"[Dvorak] is a very fine prosecutor and whatever his determination is, I will respect it," Anderson said.

Dvorak's office did not return a phone call seeking comment.

At the time of the 2001 incident, Dvorak had not yet been elected prosecutor and former St. Joseph County Prosecutor Chris Toth was still in office.

The woman said Jefferson raped and sexually assaulted her in his car outside of her dorm while she was intoxicated as she passed in and out of consciousness. Jefferson had given the woman a ride back to the College after they talked at Benchwarmers Sports Lounge, a downtown South Bend bar.

Jefferson said the sexual activity was consensual.He could not be reached for comment.

The woman claimed she suffered emotional and psychological problems after the incident and has since transferred to a university closer to her Pittsburgh home.

During testimony, the woman said she did not press criminal charges at the time because she was traumatized when she went to Memorial Hospital. Evidence was not saved from her examination. She also said she feared losing her scholarship because she was drinking underage.

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COBA

continued from page 6

views of 2,191 MBA recruiters from November 2002 to March 2003. The Journal "focuses on the opinions of recruiters who hire full-time business school graduates," and dealt with 183 schools in the United States and 73 institutions abroad.

"[This poll] was tabulated from data which has a lot of noise," Woo said. "Recruiter polls, alumni responses, sample sizes, which particular person you're talking to ... this type of calibration is not very accurate, but gives a general sense of where the school fits."

Among rating criteria, most recruiters considered communication and interpersonal skills, teamwork, analytical and problem-solving skills, and ethics to be "very important," the Journal said.

In today's uncertain economy, a degree from a well-regarded business school gives graduates an advantage in the job hunt.

"To be ranked is better than not being ranked," Woo said. "It's a good thing, but recruiters' knowledge is so much deeper than the polls."

The Journal claims the poll is "the best objective source of information about U.S. business schools."

"We focus on the best educational experience," Woo said. "The curriculum is good, our teaching is excellent and there are three things we stand for: academic rigor, implementation skills and values. We know if we keep on doing a good job on those three things, the rest will follow."

Contact Katherine Gales at kgales@nd.edu

Fight

continued from page 1

"had a large bump on his forehead," Raih "had a busted lip and nose" and Krakowski "had been punched in the face and had some of his teeth busted out," Williams said.

Raih's injuries prevented him from marching with the Irish Guard Saturday.

University spokesman Matt Storin said the administration is "obviously concerned about the injuries to one of our students."

Band directors discussed the incident with Guard members Tuesday, but Storin said Notre Dame is not investigating the incident because it happened off campus and no criminal charges have been filed.

Band director Kenneth Dye addressed the marching band Wednesday night in what some band members described as an uncommon speech. Although Dye did not specifically mention the fight, he cautioned band members against being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

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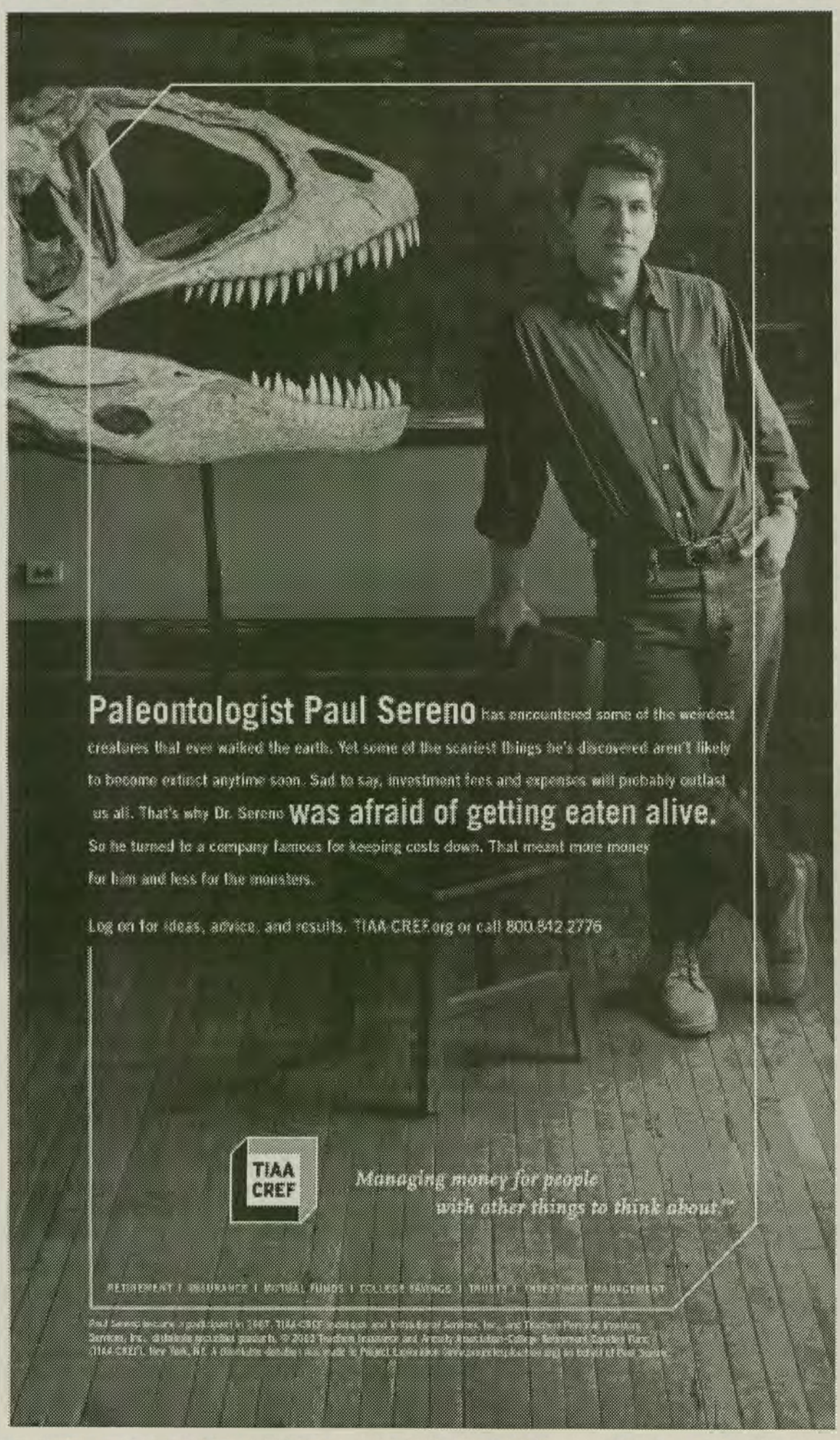

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- Ann E. Thompson, Health Services, 1-8286

South Bend Community Resources:

- Women's Care Center: 234-0363
- Catholic Charities: 234-3111

MARKET RECAP

Dow Jones	9,425.51	-150.53

Up: 1,102 Same: 158 Down: 2,169 Composite Volume: 1,543,315,968

AMEX	999.70	-1.07
NASDAQ	1,843.70	-58.02
NYSE	663.96	-9.66
S&P 500	1,009.38	-19.65

COMPANY	%CHANGE	$GAIN	PRICE
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-3.92	-0.83	20.32
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-3.57	-0.43	11.60
MICROSOFT CORP (MSFT)	-3.85	-1.14	28.46
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-4.00	-1.16	27.78
SIRIUS SAT RADIO (SIRI)	-3.77	-0.08	1.94

IN BRIEF

Credit card delinquencies fall

WASHINGTON — After going up for a year, late credit card payments edged down in the last quarter. Delinquency rates for some other types of consumer loans moved higher, however, offering a mixed picture of how Americans are handling their debt obligations.

The seasonally adjusted percentage of credit card accounts 30 or more days past due dropped in the April-to-June quarter to 4.04 percent, down from a record high of 4.07 percent in the first three months of this year, the American Bankers Association reported in its quarterly survey released Wednesday.

Tyson to ax 600 Ark. workers

HOPE, Ark. — Tyson Foods Inc., the world's largest meat company, will cut up to 600 jobs, or about one-third of the work force, at its chicken processing plant here, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

Between 500 and 600 employees will lose their jobs beginning Oct. 4, company spokesman Ed Nicholson said.

Tyson Foods will have other companies in Arkadelphia and Dardanelle do some of the labor-intensive operations that are now performed by workers at the Hope plant, Nicholson said.

Vivendi posts $723M loss

PARIS — Vivendi Universal reported a narrower loss for the first half of the year and stronger results in its media and telecommunications divisions Wednesday, in a sign of recovery after the French conglomerate came close to bankruptcy a year ago.

Vivendi lost 632 million euros ($723 million) in the January-June period, in contrast to a loss of 12.31 billion euros in the first half of 2002. Last year's figure included an 11 billion euro impairment charge. Vivendi reached a preliminary deal in early September to merge its Universal movie, cable and theme parks with General Electric Co.'s NBC as part of a complex deal in which Vivendi gets $3.8 billion cash and a debt reduction. Chairman Jean-Rene Fourtou said Wednesday he hoped the merger would be completed in the second quarter of 2004.

FAA bill stalls over tower spat

WASHINGTON — The revival of a two-decade dispute that air traffic controllers had with the Reagan administration is now stalling passage of a four-year, $60 billion aviation spending bill.

At issue today is the ability of the Federal Aviation Administration to let private operators take over at government-run air traffic control towers.

The Bush administration had threatened to veto the aviation bill if the measure does not explicitly give the FAA the power to convert 69 towers, mostly at smaller airports.

The FAA says current law already gives it that authority, a conclusion opposed by the air controllers. Their union sued the government in the mid-1990s, claiming the conversion of government-run control towers is illegal. The case is in federal court in Ohio.

OPEC cuts world oil output

Energy ministers surprise markets, order 900,000 barrel-per-day reduction

Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — The OPEC oil cartel made a pre-emptive cut of 900,000 barrels in its daily production target for crude Wednesday in an effort to bolster prices ahead of an expected decrease in demand early next year.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries decided to lower its output ceiling to 24.5 million barrels starting in November.

The 3.5 percent cut startled the market, where oil futures jumped more than $1 a barrel.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan, with President Bush in New York, would not comment directly on the OPEC move but said the economy depends on stable oil supplies and prices.

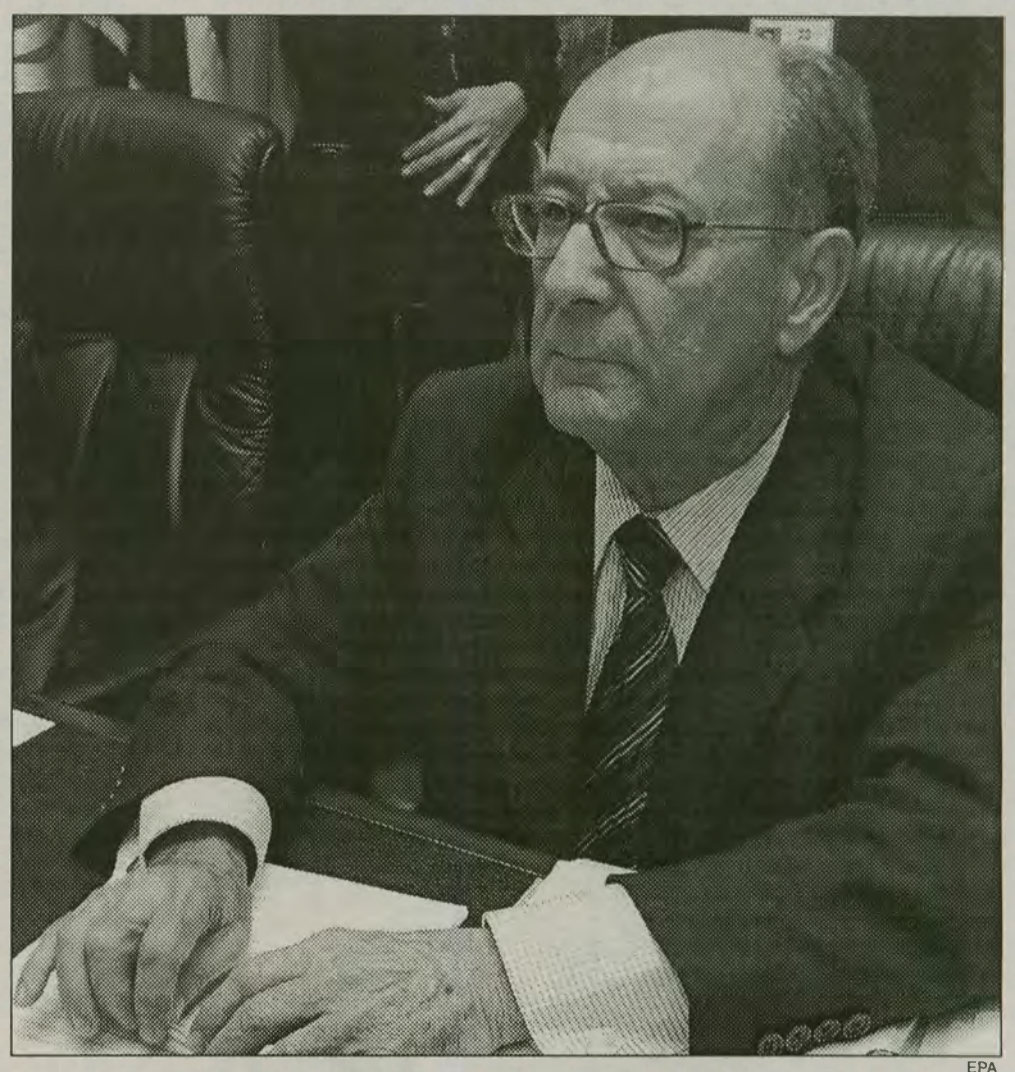
One analyst said he expected consumer prices for gasoline and heating oil to stay near current levels. OPEC pumps about a third of the world's crude.

The surprise decision came after a meeting that also saw Iraq's return to OPEC for the first time since the Saddam Hussein's ouster, despite earlier objections from Venezuela.

Although the market is currently "well supplied," OPEC is taking preventive action now to try to keep prices stable before an expected dip in seasonal demand in the first quarter of 2004, group spokesman Omar Ibrahim told a news conference at OPEC's Vienna headquarters.

At current output levels, OPEC predicts that the daily supply of crude will outstrip demand by 2.5 million barrels by April. Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, speaking earlier, called the cut a possible "first step" and did not rule out an additional reduction later in the year.

"It is better that we start before we witness a very bad situation in the market," he said before oil ministers met privately to approve the cut.



EPA

OPEC General President Alvaro Silva-Calderon attends a meeting of the oil cartel in Vienna. The organization announced a cut in oil production today, raising concerns that increased energy prices might stall the economic recovery.

OPEC wants independent, non-OPEC producers such as Russia to take "concrete measures" to restrain their own output, Ibrahim said, although the cartel is not making its cut conditional on that cooperation, as it did in December 2001.

OPEC was widely expected to keep its daily production ceiling at 25.4 million barrels. However, a recent slide in prices and OPEC's expectations of a surge in oil inventories among major importing countries have compounded its fears about a further softening of the market.

Iraq's gradual return to the market also was a factor. Zanganeh noted that a cut of 900,000 barrels would return OPEC's output target to what it was until April, when the war in Iraq removed that country temporarily from the market.

Iraq, a founding member of OPEC, participated in its policy discussions for the first time since the toppling of Saddam.

Iraq's new oil minister, Ibrahim Bahr al-Uloum, took his place between counterparts from Kuwait and Iran at the U-shaped table in the OPEC Secretariat.

Iraq was not seeking a production quota of its own. It now produces about 1.8 million barrels of oil a day — 700,000 barrels less than on the eve of the war. It exports some 900,000 barrels a day, the Iraqi oil minister said earlier.

"When Iraq returns to normal production, we will discuss with Iraq how to accommodate them. ... Give them time, and then we will discuss this," OPEC President Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah said.

OPEC wants to keep the price of its benchmark blend of crudes stable within a targeted range of $22-$28 a barrel. The benchmark price stood at $25.14 on Tuesday, the most recent day for which OPEC calculated it.

Crude oil futures soared on reports about OPEC's planned decision. Contracts of U.S. light, sweet crude for November delivery rose $1.11 to settle at $28.24 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Judge hangs up on do-not-call list

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hold the phone! Consumers who thought they would get a reprieve from telemarketing calls starting next week may have to wait longer for some peace and quiet.

A federal judge in Oklahoma City sided with telemarketers who sued to stop the Federal Trade Commission's "do-not-call" list. The FTC asked the court Wednesday to block the ruling and filed for an appeal.

More than 50 million phone numbers have been submitted to the FTC registry by people who don't want business solicitation calls. The list was to take effect next Wednesday, and regulators and telemarketers said they weren't sure whether the judge's order would stop that from happening.

The FTC said consumers can continue signing up for the free service. "It's business as usual," spokeswoman Cathy MacFarlane said.

Lawmakers from both parties quickly denounced the judge's decision and pledged to pass legislation to clarify any questions about FTC authority to implement the list.

"This is the goofiest decision that I've seen in a long time," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. "There is no question that Congress intended for the FTC to have this authority and will quickly make any correction that the court, in its arcane logic, deems necessary."

Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass., added, "If this decision is not reversed quickly, I suspect the courthouse in Oklahoma would want to add itself to the do-not-call database in order to protect itself from the millions of consumers who feel deeply about the right to be left alone."

After the ruling, angry consumers posted the judge's office and home phone numbers on Web sites and encouraged people to call and complain.

Telemarketers who say the list would devastate their industry convinced U.S. District Judge Lee West that the FTC had overstepped its authority.

SMC student involvement increases

By EMILIE DESJARDINS
News Writer

Student involvement on campus is constantly increasing at Saint Mary's College, said Georgeanna Rosenbush, director of student activities at the College.

The number of registered clubs and organizations has jumped from 11 in 1983 to 80 this year, Rosenbush said.

"Doing well in class is recognized as being very important here at SMC, but even higher regarded is the integrated learning experience that comes from being actively involved on campus," Student Body President Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl said.

Among the newest organizations are the Feminists United Club, God sisters, Campus Girl Scouts and the Bellezine, a magazine created last year.

"It is a forum of ideas and opinions of students," said Emily Ford, an editor of the magazine, which publishes twice each semester.

She said there was "a good turnout at the first meeting and a lot of interest."

Involvement is also growing in campus organizations that have been around longer, such as Friends with Sisters, a program that strategically pairs students with nuns.

"They can do a variety of activities together, including going for walks, attending Mass or performances on Saint Mary's campus or just sharing stories and experiences in their room," said student coordinator Sarah Brown.

Participation in athletics has also grown tremendously in the last few years.

"I believe that if your program is structured with positive reinforcement, good coaching, support from the top, success in the classroom, and you are recruiting with that same vision, then your programs will begin to improve," said Linda Timm, who became athletic director in 1999.

"Our team numbers are increasing, and we have taken huge strides in the last four years and we are now competitive across the board," Timm said.

Saint Mary's crossed a huge boundary last spring when the golf team took fourth in the NCAA Division III Golf National Championship and junior golfer Stefanie Simmerman won SMC's first individual NCAA Championship.

Intramural sports have also seen an increase from 50 to 800 participants since Timm's arrival four years ago and will be adding whiffle ball this spring. Although participation and ability are improving, Timm wants to go further.

"I have had a vision since I arrived here of packing our stands for home athletic events," Timm said. Some student-athletes think we are getting closer to this goal.

"I think school spirit has greatly increased over the past four years, and this translates to better support for athletics," said senior softball player Marnie Walsh. "You can always improve, but I feel the turnout has been better this year."

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Lecture examines Hispanic Catholicism

By NATALIE BAILEY
News Writer

Timothy Matovina, associate professor of theology at Notre Dame and director of the Cushwa Center for American Catholicism, spoke on the topic, "Guadalupe and the Crucified One: Hispanic Ways of Being Catholic," to continue Saint Mary's Center for Spirituality annual fall lecture series, "There is more than one way to be Catholic."

Matovina shared his experience of how the Hispanic culture practices the Catholic faith. He said he became aware of one difference in religious expectations just from delivering lectures.

"I got used to members of the audience coming up to me and telling me how I had a good insight or had made them look at something in a new way," he said. "Hispanic audiences tend to tell me that I have touched their heart."

Matovina noted the Hispanic emphasis on the crucifixion of Christ and the Virgin Mary, specifically Our Lady of Guadalupe. He also shared an observation that there is a difference in the focus of spirituality.

Matovina noticed this when he attended an English Mass and then a Spanish Mass in Texas on Easter Sunday. The difference became apparent when the English Mass closed with the song, "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," putting the emphasis on triumphant rejoicing. The Spanish Mass closed with the song, "We Are a People on the March," emphasizing that although Christ has risen and redemption is in sight, we are not there yet.

In his time spent in San Antonio, Matovina also witnessed firsthand the relational Christology of the Hispanic population. The community was not especially receptive to the Vatican II call to make the church more Christocentric by removing statues of saints. Parishioners asked, "When was Jesus by himself in the Bible?"

Since venerating saints on the same level as Jesus causes a theological problem, Matovina suggested this is perhaps an opportunity for evangelization.

"The purpose of this lecture series is not that there is one way [to worship], though," Matovina said. "The many ways of being Catholic are mutually enriching."

One particularly beautiful practice Matovina believes should be implemented into the English celebration is veneration as a grieving process on the evening of Good Friday.

"The people accompany Jesus and Mary on their day of great suffering with hope that Jesus and Mary will accompany them in their deepest suffering," he said.

This practice is indicative of Hispanics' pull toward sharing directly in the suffering of Christ.

"It is not about trying to deny suffering," Matovina said. "It is about trying to embrace life as it is and hope there is something more."

The concluding lecture of the series will be Tuesday, Sept. 30, with Rosemary Carbine, assistant professor of Religious Studies at Holy Cross College in Massachusetts. She will speak on the topic "Breathing Lessons: An Introduction to Eastern Catholic Churches."

Kathleen Dolphin, director of the Center for Spirituality, organized the lecture series.

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Oil industry wants changes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — While still pressing the need for more drilling, the oil industry is now saying that conservation and greater energy efficiency hold the biggest immediate potential for preventing natural gas prices from skyrocketing.

A report by a committee of oil and gas executives who advise the Energy Department says natural gas prices could average between $5 and $7 per 1,000 cubic feet for years to come without significant advances in energy efficiency.

The spot price for natural gas Wednesday was $4.58 per 1,000 cubic feet, about 50 percent higher than a year ago.

"There has been a fundamental shift in the natural gas supply-demand balance that has resulted in higher prices and volatility in recent years," the National Petroleum Council says in the report to be released Thursday by Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham.

"In the very near-term, reducing demand is the primary means to keep the market in balance because of the lead times required to bring new supply to market," according to an 89-page executive summary of the report obtained by The Associated Press.

To cut consumption, the council recommends updating building codes and equipment standards and implementing rules that would encourage power providers to use their most efficient plants.

Without significant advances in energy efficiency, the country's annual demand will rise above 30 trillion cubic feet by 2025, up from about 23 trillion cubic feet today, the council says. But it adds that even with advances in conservation, North America's natural gas resources will be insufficient to meet demand in the long term.

Production from traditional U.S. and Canadian basins has reached a plateau, the report says, noting that volume from North American natural gas fields is declining at an annual rate of more than 25 percent, requiring that many more wells to be drilled every year just to keep supplies steady.

To address supply problems, the council wants the Bush administration to relax onshore and offshore drilling restrictions, and to encourage natural gas imports.

The report comes when the nation's supply of natural gas is tight and the government is bracing consumers to expect higher home heating costs this winter. Many of the issues raised in the report are being debated by Congress as it attempts to pass broad energy legislation.

Abraham asked the council in March 2002 to advise him on what industry and the government could do to guarantee "adequate and reliable supplies" of natural gas. While a similar study was prepared in 1999, Abraham said substantial changes had occurred in natural gas markets since then and further analysis was needed.

The issue added attention last spring when natural gas in storage dropped to its lowest level since the government began keeping records in 1976 and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan warned that prolonged high prices would damage the economy, particularly the manufacturing sector.

More than 60 million Americans heat their homes with natural gas, up from about 48 million in 1987, and 90 percent of all new power plants use this fuel, which has been embraced because it burns cleaner than coal and can be found domestically in large quantities.

The report also argues that environmental laws requiring power companies to add expensive pollution controls when modernizing their plants only discourages investment in fuel-efficient technology.

Another solution, the report says, is improving access to a growing global market in natural gas through liquefied natural gas, or LNG.

It recommends a quicker permitting process for new LNG terminals, where tankers from around the world can bring the icy-cold fuel to be regasified and pumped into pipelines. There are just four such facilities nationwide.

The council also wants moratoriums lifted on drilling off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and more access to energy-rich lands in the Rocky Mountain region. It also endorses the proposal now before Congress, for a new natural gas pipeline from Alaska to the lower 48 states.

The report's authors included Burlington Resources Inc. CEO Bobby Shackouls, Energy Undersecretary Robert Card and Exxon Mobil Corp. CEO Lee Raymond.

Lecture criticizes IN environment

By MATT SMEDBURG
News Writer

Betty Balanoff addressed the topic of "Environmental Justice in Northern Indiana" Wednesday in the Hesburgh Center auditorium as part of a Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies lectures series entitled "Environmental Justice: Grassroots Voices.

Balanoff is a retired historian who has organized efforts to increase responsibility by industrial sites in the industry-heavy South Shore area. Her organization, the Coalition for a Clean Environment (CCE), is currently engaged in work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers, who are under contract to dredge the highly polluted Shipping Canal and manage the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), both in East Chicago, Ind.

The CCE aims to ensure that projects are planned and carried out with regard to good public health and sound policy for the future.

Balanoff said that four major industrial cities — Gary, East Chicago, Hammond and Whiting — span most of the pollution problem of northern Indiana. Each has its own particular challenges: Gary, for example, has a minority population of 95 percent which is suffering under the sharp decline in steel production, a historic staple of the Gary economy. Whiting, alternatively, is dominated by the BP-Amoco refinery. It has remained in better economic shape regarding pollution problems, which are primarily petroleum-related, as opposed to airborne toxins and sludge-dumping.

Much of the campaigning done by the CCE and similar groups centers around the human toll of carelessness and corner-cutting when toxic chemicals are involved.

Balanoff recounted her story of turning into a medical researcher when fighting to block the conversion of a sulphuric acid recycling plant within a few blocks of large numbers of low-income housing units into an incinerator for general toxic waste.

She knew that cancer-reporting methods were woefully inadequate in her area, and so she and her task force gathered data on cancer incidence in the population immediately surrounding the plant, in the end demonstrating an incidence of cancer more than three times the normal rate.

She also mentioned instances of prohibitively rare forms of cancer striking repeatedly in areas exposed to certain toxins; multiple cases of a form of juvenile brain cancer which has an incidence of only a few in the United States every year were reported subsequent to abuses by a chemical production plant.

"It is imperative that we find safe and useful ways to both protect them and the industries themselves."

Betty Balanoff
historian

Balanoff stressed the need for trained scientists to be involved in such "urban environmentalist" efforts.

She emphasized that "if the people who live in these areas, who depend upon this industry for their livelihood, are not to be destroyed by the waste which is being produced, it is imperative that we find safe and useful ways to both protect them and the industries themselves."

She called on engineers to develop safer equipment for hazardous purposes, on chemists to find ways to better monitor plant emissions, and on lawyers to help defend the workers and citizens often pitted against closely linked businesses and governments.

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Study Abroad Fair

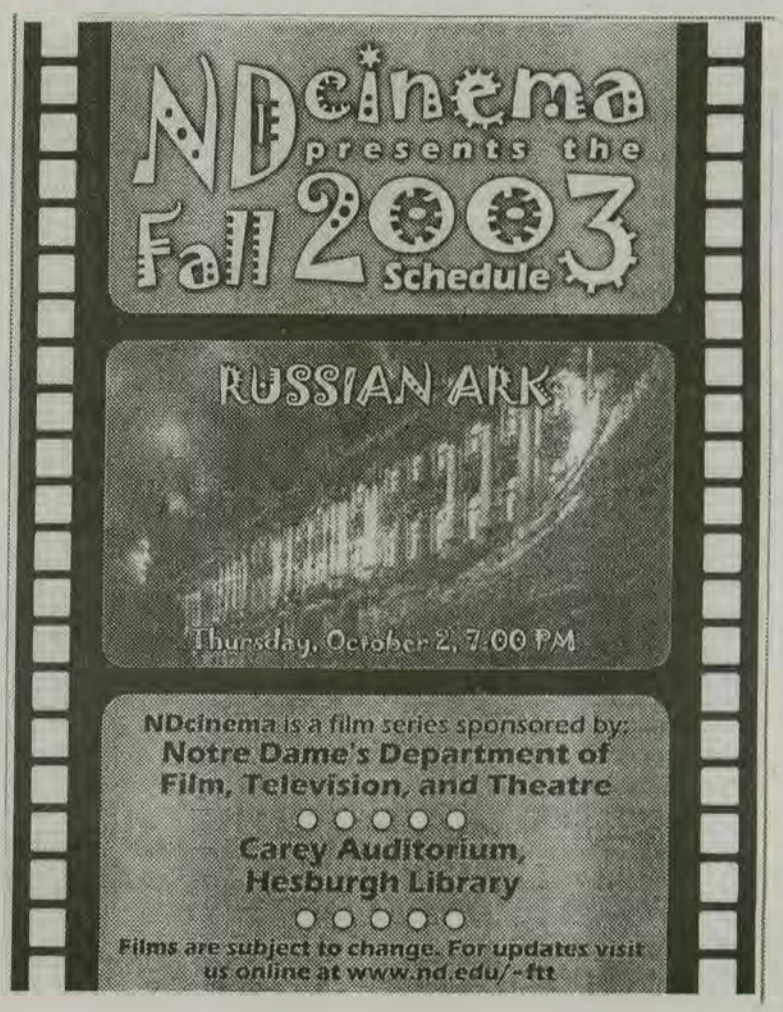
at Saint Mary's College
Presented by the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership,
and the Office of International and InterCultural Learning

Tuesday, September 30th, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall.

Learn about any and every abroad program currently offered at Saint Mary's College, including academic year and summer programs. Plus, learn about the new programs to be announced this year. Additionally, speak to students who have previously studied abroad and listen to their exciting stories.

Financial Aid will be available to answer questions regarding how to make the dream of studying abroad a reality!

Both Saint Mary's and Notre Dame students are welcome, especially the Class of 2006 & 2007.



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POLICIES

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Andrew Soukup.

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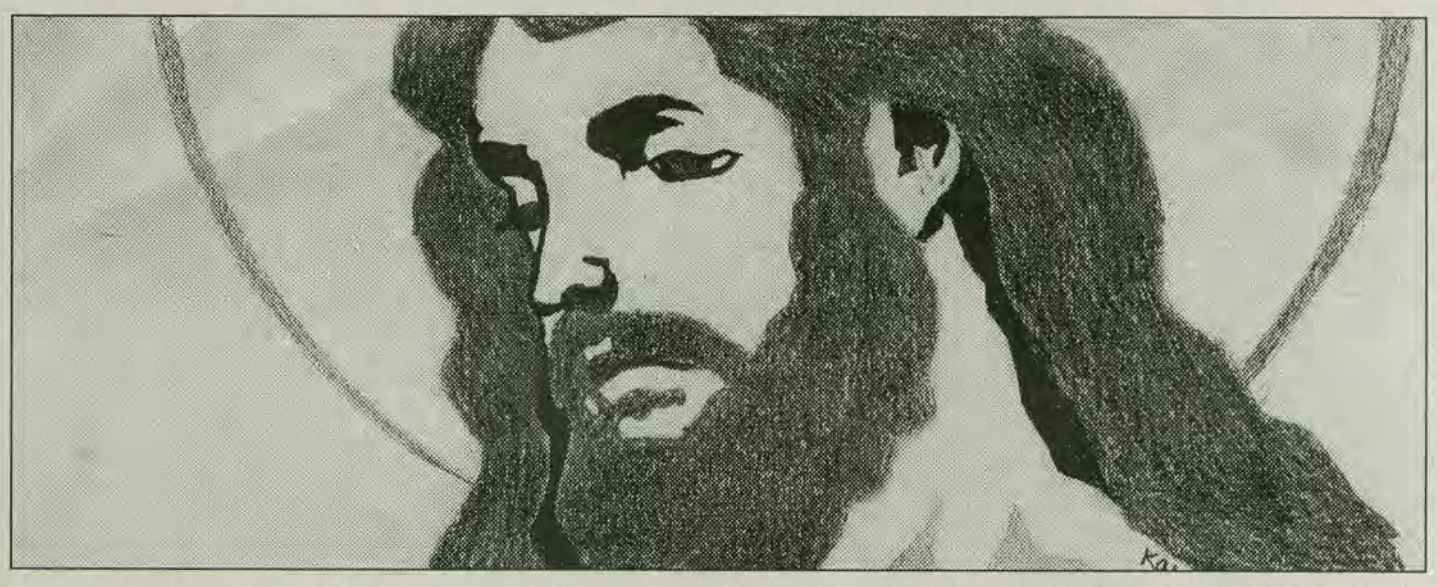


Jesus of the Quran

Andrew DeBerry

ND Changing Times

Pop quiz: How is Jesus depicted in the Quran?

(a) He is not mentioned at all.
(b) He is praised as a high prophet.
(c) He is criticized and Muhammad is lauded instead as being divine.
(d) He is hailed as the Son of God.

While many may think that the Quran bears no commonalities with Christianity and the Bible, we may be surprised to learn that the Quran not only discusses Jesus many times but also gives him a role of high honor, though only as a prophet. Who is the Islamic Jesus, and how are the Quran and the Bible related?

Jesus is one in a succession of highly revered prophets, including Abraham and Moses, in the Quran. The Quran, which is broken into 114 Surahs (chapters) and verses, describes Jesus, miracles (5:110) and his special relationship as "the word" and "the spirit of God" (4:171). Muslims believe Christ was taken alive into heaven and will return at Judgement Day (4:159).

The Quran also tells how the Lord silenced Zechariah as a sign that his wife would have a son even in their old age (19:2). The son's name in the Quran is Yahya; in the Gospel it is John the Baptist (Luke 1:5).

Maryam (Mary) also has a special role in Islam. The Nineteenth Surah bears her name and describes how the Angel Gabriel announced her virgin birth of Jesus (19:16).

While there are some initially striking similarities between the Quran and the Bible, they are followed by some stark differences. The main difference between Christianity and Islam is the belief in Jesus' divinity. Islamic belief is that God would never take a son (19;35). The Quran states explicitly that Jesus was not the Son of God and calls against the idea of Trinity (4:171). Also significant is the Quranic claim that Jesus was not crucified and that it was only made to appear so (4:157).

The Quran also says that during his birth, Jesus talked to Mary to encourage her through the labor pains and told her to shake a palm tree to get dates for eating (19:22).

Muslims believe that God's word was given intact to Jesus and the other prophets but that the Bible has been corrupted over time, whereas the Quran has remained the true word of God.

The Quran itself was revealed through Muhammad. He was known as a very kind man who did not practice idolatry like those in his city of Mecca. When reflecting one night in a cave at the age of 30, the Angel Gabriel appeared and commanded Muhammad, who was illiterate, to speak, saying "Recite in the name of your Lord who created mankind out of a mere bloodclot" (96:1). This was the first of many verses that were revealed to Muhammad until his death at age 63 in 632.

The Quran actually seldom mentions Muhammad. Most knowledge about Muhammad has been passed through Hadith, traditions or sayings of Muhammad that are received as religious law and moral guidance. Muhammad is not attributed with divinity but is regarded as the seal of prophets, the last one to come until Resurrection Day (33:40).

The conflict in the Middle East will end only when we bring our political interactions to the personal, human level

In this discussion, one must be sure to include Judaism. Judaism, Christianity and Islam are regarded together as "the religions of the book." Despite their differences, the three faiths share many common virtues.

Followers are to extend this compassion to others. The 106th Surah directs believers to show neighborly charity, to care for the needy, and to feed the hungry.

Islam places a special exclusivity on God, praising his oneness and power, and declaring His worthiness of believers and unhindered, peaceful submission. Believers are to have an intimate relationship with God in their heart.

The Quran continuously praises God's compassion: "[with your spouses] you may find serenity and dwell in tranquility, and He has set love and mercy between your hearts. Surely in this are signs for people who think and contemplate" (30:21). The 114 Surahs each open with, "In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate."

The recent academic convocation raised intellectual discussion about Middle Eastern and U.S. cultures. Our understanding of Islam is particularly key as the world's second-largest faith with 1.5 billion, or 19.6 percent, of the world's population as followers. Search through an online Quran at http://www.princeton.edu./%7Ehumcomp/qurans.html.

Samuel Huntington, author of "The Clash of Civilizations?", suggests that conflict with the Middle East will end only when we bring our political interactions to the personal, human level. Our fear and ignorance cannot extinguish the hope to be found in building relationships. Professor Joseph Amar noted that there are many cultures where Muslims and Christians have lived together in harmony. Ours should be no exception.

Class of 2007, you in particular are in a special position to change our times. As a whole, your class is more knowledgeable about these issues than any in our school's history.

Our generation is inheriting a world where globalization must be renewed by the touch of humanity. We must be daring enough in our faith to embrace relationships in a new, transforming way and to find the God that only others can show us.

Andrew DeBerry is a fifth-year senior studying aerospace engineering and minoring in Middle Eastern Studies. He can be reached at adeberry@nd.edu.

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

OBSERVER POLL

Are you in favor of a smoke-free campus, including outside buildings and on the quads?

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Civilization is built on a number of ultimate principles ... respect for human life, the punishment of crimes against property and persons, the equality of all good citizens before the law ... or, in a word, justice."

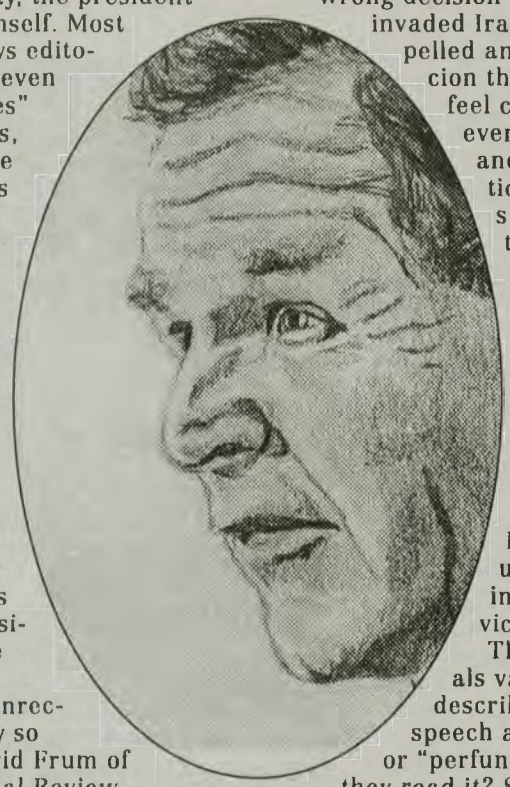
Max Nordau
Zionist statesman

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Debating president's speech

Last year at this time, President George Bush delivered a speech acclaimed even by the amnesic media as a powerful indictment of Iraq, and of the United Nations itself.

Yesterday, the president outdid himself. Most major news editorials, and even the "stories" themselves, portray the president's speech as something ranging from "puzzling" to outright "failure."



It is difficult to comprehend how such important statements as the president made yesterday, could go unrecognized by so many. David Frum of the National Review probably provides the best answer: The press is "disappointed because Bush neither apologized to the United Nations ... nor pleaded for its support."

Prejudiced disppointment is seemingly the only way the talking heads could have so spectacularly failed to grasp the import of Bush's words. David Frum got it: The president rejected outright any notion that he made the wrong decision when he invaded Iraq. He dispelled any suspicion that he may feel chided by events in Iraq and international opposition, or that his willingness to carry on the war might be faltering. The war on terrorism continues. Bush is undeterred in that conviction.

The editorials variously describe the speech as "mild" or "perfunctory." Did they read it? Speaking of terrorists and suicide bombers who target relief workers and innocents, "have no place in any religious faith ... and they should have no friends in this chamber." He looked the General Assembly in the eye when he said that.

"Between those who seek order and those who spread chaos ... there is no neutral ground. All governments that support terror are complicit in a war against civilization." He looked Syria, Iran, North Korea and France in the eyes when he said that. The president repeated almost verbatim the words from his first war speech and his first State of the Union Address. You are either with us or against us. We have not wavered from the determination, to enforce the line which we have consciously drawn in the sand.

The fact that most nations in the world, and all nations in the Middle East, refuse to stand squarely on our side or either side, only reinforces our determination to exact from them the consequences of their choices. "The former regimes of Afghanistan and Iraq knew these alternatives, and made their choices." Don't tell me that didn't stiffen a few spines, or for those lacking, cause a distinct tingling.

Despite all the criticism, all the opposition, the president remains resolute. Like it or no, that was a rousing speech.

Padraic McDermott
senior
off campus
Sept. 24

EDITORIAL CARTOON

U-WIRE

Conservatism growing on campuses

Nicole Marklein
The Wisconsin Badger Herald

At long last: Liberals and conservatives achieving something together. While going about it in two entirely different manners, conservatives and liberals alike are working to nurture conservatism on college campuses nationwide.

Most people agree that universities are notoriously liberal. However, there are many campuses with such left-wing political cultures that they actually may be hurting their cause. Students who once thought that they were liberal before coming to school find themselves appearing to be rather conservative in comparison to the other so-called liberals on campus.

As one of my left-of-left friends said, "I consider myself pretty damn liberal, but the people on this campus are just fanatical."

And so the backlash ensues.

When moderate liberals come to campus, it may be hard for them to identify with supposedly like-minded classmates who have become extreme in their liberal views. It makes finding a niche in the campus political culture more difficult for these students. If they can't identify with other liberals, whom can they identify with? As a result, these students may begin to gravitate toward more conservative groups, sometimes even outright Republican organizations.

However, these conservative groups have gone through a notable image transformation.

College Republicans are no longer the loafer-wearing fraternity jerks that they were once stereotyped to be. And, speaking for myself, I don't own a single string of pearls.

More interestingly, campus conservatives have, overall, become more moderate. Almost any of these students would bristle at the stigmas of racism and homophobia that many liberals use to describe them. Their role models have changed from such extreme right wingers as Pat Buchanan to the more moderate conservatives like Dinesh D'Souza. In fact, this is one aspect that greatly attributes to the growth of groups like College Republicans, Young Americans for Freedom and Young Republican Professionals.

Members of these groups, united in their opposition to the extreme liberals on their campuses, can be found on the entire conservative spectrum.

Significantly, such clubs now include a strong delegation of women and pull most of their intense conservative support from the working class.

For this reason, college conservatism is making a big appearance across the nation, even at such liberal strongholds as Berkeley and our own alma mater.

The conservative voice is starting to be heard ever more loudly as students start their own conservative newspapers and organize rallies and demonstrations on campuses.

For instance, the conservative voice on the liberal campus of Bucknell University in Pennsylvania has gone from being non-existent to being heard loud and clear every day in the school's conservative paper, The Counterweight. What remains most important is attracting students that are willing to put the time and effort into getting their voice to be heard on campus, and an overwhelming number of students are saying that they are ready for the challenge.

Take, for instance, our own UW-Madison College Republicans, which has consistently drawn 90-plus students to its meetings this year. One just doesn't see that happening in political clubs of other ideologies here.

Likewise, the Berkeley College Republicans are enjoying a membership of 500 students.

However, this increase in conservatism doesn't mean that students are necessarily calling themselves right wing or Republican. While college students are keeping a "liberal" or "Democrat" label, conservative ideas and policies are becoming increasingly popular among them. Many students' views on issues like taxes and affirmative action give them a more conservative identity. The fight for campus conservatives is not in convincing their peers to share their ideology, but rather to help them realize the fact that they already personify it.

No matter how you feel about it, the fact is that conservatism is growing and becoming much more visible on campuses nationwide. So, yes, you will still hear conservatives grumbling about the liberal universities that they attend. However, you are more likely to also see these students working hard to demonstrate that there are, believe it or not, two sides to campus political culture.

This column first appeared Sept. 24 in The Wisconsin Badger Herald and appears here courtesy of U-Wire.

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

Late-night heavyweights sc

From Letterman to Leno, Scene offers the insomniacs

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

The college circadian rhythm tends to be a bit out of whack, meaning that night no longer carries with it a responsibility of sleep. Without parental constraints or curfews constantly looming, students tend to return to their inherent animal instincts and become nocturnal. Suddenly, 2 a.m. seems like a reasonable, if not early, bedtime and pulling all-nighters is a badge of honor. Rarely does the real world acknowledge college sleeping patterns, and this means that your vampiric ability to stay awake all night and sleep all day will be useless when you don't have finals to cram for or parties to attend. What is there to do when the world sleeps? Aside from returning to the drudgery of study, not much.

Fortunately, television has heard the cries of disgruntled college students and insomniacs everywhere and answered with quality, late-night programming and an increase in the number of witching-hour talk shows. No longer is midnight the entertainment monopoly of Johnny Carson; it has grown into a full-fledged comedy democracy composed of comic hosts such as Jay Leno, David Letterman, Jon Stewart, Conan O'Brien and Craig Kilborn. Considering this newfound variety of late-night entertainment, the fact that the human body does need a minimal amount of sleep to survive, and the unfortunate fact that most of these shows are on at the same time, it can be difficult to experience all of these late-night personalities, their special guests and their unique brand of risqué late-night comedy.

This article is a condensation of hours and hours of television, making it convenient for the average watcher to either choose which late-night show to spend their precious time watching or be well-informed enough to pretend to be one of the other bleary-eyed, borderline insomniac college students when, in reality, you go to bed peacefully at 9 p.m. every night.

So where does one begin the journey into late-night talk shows? Is it really as simple as picking up the channel changer and proceeding to flip mindlessly? Well, only if someone has a great deal of time and patience. Late-night is no longer the simple, friendly landscape it once was; there is now a plethora of shows, on multiple channels, with endless gimmicks, sidekicks and all sorts of flashy tricks to win Nielson ratings.

Late-night talk shows have a long and sordid history, beginning with programs that were not much more than televised vaudeville routines. Steve Allen first used the format that is seen today, but the most famous innovator of night television was, of course, Johnny Carson. Whether the quality has gone up or down from the era of Carson is something few college students could really debate; most weren't alive during many of his broadcast years. It is very clear, though, that the late-night playing field has expanded greatly.

Now it seems that anyone who's anyone either has a talk show on the air or has a cancelled one in his or her past. The typical format of Monologue, First Guest, Skit, Second Guest, Band, Finale is still used by most shows, but a few have worked to change it or have chosen an entirely new means of presenting entertainment.

The best way to evaluate the merit of these shows may be every college student's old friend, the frequent savior of essays, Compare-and-Contrast. For the sake of simplicity, and because there is only so long one can read about talk shows, we won't look at every late-night show. Only the biggest, best or at least most notorious makes the list: **"The Tonight Show with Jay Leno"** on NBC, **"Late Night with David Letterman"** on CBS, **"The Daily Show with Jon Stewart"** on Comedy Central, **"The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn"** on CBS, and **"Late Night with Conan O'Brien"** on NBC. Tom Green was considered in this array of hosts, but his talk show, like so many before him, was cancelled. Jimmy Kimmel and Carson Daly both have their own late night shows as well, but they, like Tom Green, have yet to show their ability to survive in this cutthroat time slot.

Before we start, here's a very brief description of each show/personality for those readers who may not have ever stayed up that late before. Jay Leno took over for Johnny Carson and has an impressive car collection and is famous for his large chin. David Letterman was unhappy that Leno got Johnny's old job, had a heart attack and is from Indianapolis, Ind. Jon Stewart, former stand-up comic who took over "The Daily Show" from Craig Kilborn, was a professional tap dancer with the New Jersey Soft Shoe Club. Craig Kilborn left "The Daily Show" for his own eponymous late-night show, played college basketball and was in the movie *Old School*. Conan O'Brien went to Harvard and wrote for both "Saturday Night Live" and "The Simpsons." Now that we know who these hosts are, we can begin to compare.

The natural place to start the comparisons may be at the beginning of each show: the opening monologue. This segment lets the host make a few jokes, introduce his band and/or sidekick, mention the guests are for the evening, and then make a few more jokes. This round has to go to the heavyweights of late-night: Leno and Letterman. They have plenty of experience under their belts, and both have almost perfected the monologue format. They rarely deviate from the jokes-introductions-"go to commercial" format, but it works for them. The other hosts aren't quite in the same league, but they are by no means all failures. Conan doesn't quite have the ease of the other hosts, but he does win points for creativity and a likeable nature. Jon Stewart has the impediment of not really doing an "opening monologue" in the strictest sense, but instead presents the day's headlines, so he is, in a way, disqualified. Craig Kilborn is the late night greenhorn, so he hasn't quite mastered the subtle intricacies that differentiate the good opening monologue from, well, his own introductory speeches.

Bandleaders are key for a late-night talk show because the host has to have an actual person to tell jokes to, and this person must be someone who is required to laugh at said jokes. Paul Shaffer, David Letterman's band leader, is possibly the most famous of the talk show musicians, but famous doesn't always equal the best. He causes very polar reactions in viewers; either you love him or you hate him. Leno's band leader, Kevin Eubanks, isn't particularly memorable, but he does fulfill the duties of the bandleader and that's all he really has to do. Conan O'Brien emerges as a player in this competition by virtue of the fact that his band leader, Max Weinberg, is a member of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band. Conan is the only host with some band street credit in his corner, and he gets an added bonus in the fact that Max is funny. Jon Stewart and "The Daily Show" are, once again, left out from the

Late Night

6:00-6:30	The Da with Jo
10:30-11:30	The To with Ja
	Late Sh David
11:30-12:30	Late La with C
12:30-1:30	Late N Conan

Courtesy of www.cbs.com

"Late Night" show host, David Letterman, often bounces his jokes off of the leader of the Late Night band, Paul Shaffer, and boasts the popular "Top Ten" lists.

Courtest of www.nbc.com

Jay Leno, who took over for Johnny Carson on "The Tonight Show" has had a range of guests that include President George W. Bush.

uared off to find best host

compare-and-contrast guide to after-hour talk shows

TV Shows	
ily Show n Stewart	Comedy Central
night Show y Leno	NBC
how with Letterman	CBS
ate Show raig Kilborn	CBS
ight with O'Brien	NBC

competition because the show has no band. Some credit must be given to the program, though, because it has a cool theme song. It isn't a good sign when the leader of the band is not only not memorable but is not to be found on the Internet as well, so Craig Kilborn is not doing too well in the bandleader category. In the case of the band leaders, it comes down to David Letterman and Conan O'Brien, with Letterman winning the most recognizable and O'Brien taking the prize for best overall band leader.

Special segments are the meat and potatoes of the late-night talk show, as there has to be something slightly interesting to fill the gaps between the celebrity guests. Leno requests that viewers send in humorous news clippings, which he presents on the show. This works well, because the jokes basically tell themselves, so everyone wins. Jay also has a segment where he asks simplistic, obvious questions and records the answers people on the street give. Funny, yes, but it is also a sad commentary on America's education system and the basic knowledge that the general population possesses.

Letterman may possess one of the most notorious segments, his infamous Top Ten List, but he also has his weekly clips roasting daytime talk show therapist Dr. Phil and stupid human and pet tricks. Conan O'Brien has a surprising array of stupid, yet brilliant, segments, including Triumph the Comic Insult Dog, In the Year 2000, If They Mated, Clutch Cargo and Pimpbot 5000. Jon Stewart only really has news segments on "The Daily Show," but with the distinct difference marking it from real news of being intentionally funny. The news segments usually focus on some strange and obscure situation or individual and making their story sound eerily like the real news, and there are also daily segments like Lewis Black's "Back on Black" or the "Moment of Zen." Kilborn's show has a segment entitled "5 Questions," which originated during his stint on "The Daily Show" in which he asks five random questions to his guests. He also reviews movie posters, and has a troupe of actors for skits that act as filler between guests. Looking at the shows in terms of their random skits, Leno and Letterman both have a solid repertoire, but Conan wins this round by virtue of the sheer number of memorable skits and because he is not afraid to do stupid and juvenile things to himself or others on his show. Maybe that's what they teach you at Harvard.

The final factor we'll look at is the guests on each show. It isn't really effective to look at who has "better" guests, as celebrities are by their very nature media hounds and will go on anything if they have a movie to promote, so instead we'll focus on the interview style of each host. Leno plays the personable, clean-cut host who shies away from really controversial questions, but in a way that means the celebrities feel comfortable on the show. Letterman is equally personable, but has a little more edge, so his questions are a little hit-and-miss. He has some truly memorable moments with guests, including Madonna swearing on air, Drew Barrymore stripping and Farrah Fawcett rambling incoherently. In this respect, he has a huge advantage. Conan will do anything for a laugh, including trading clothes with a much smaller Roberto Begnini, but this can in a way distract from the guests themselves. Conan is the focus of his show, not his guests. Jon Stewart's interviews are smart and funny and are elevated from the typical banter of Hollywood in that he gets to talk about politics and gets actual politicians on the show. This may not always guarantee a laugh, but it is always fascinating and proves that some people who may appear to have no sense of humor are hilarious, like Former Senator Bob Dole. Craig Kilborn uses his "5 Questions" segment to his advantage, but his lower position on the late-night totem pole does limit his roster of big name stars, so he simply can't compete with the other hosts. Letterman and Stewart take the cake as far as guests, though; Letterman for his memorable past incidents and Stewart for the sheer variety of guests that differentiates his show from the others.

In looking over this analysis, it becomes clear that Leno and Letterman are still at the top of the talk show food chain, but they have a few new boys, namely Conan O'Brien and Jon Stewart, nipping at their heels. Craig Kilborn must pay his dues in the late, late time slot before he can really be a competitor for the big-time ratings. Ultimately, though, the real choice is much simpler than picking between shows. It really boils down to: Is this worth missing sleep over? I only hope this analysis can help lead you to the right choice. Good luck, and good night.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

Courtesy of www.simpsonarchive.com

Conan O'Brien has had a number of famous guests, including the "I-didn't-do-it" Boy, Bart Simpson. This interview showed off Conan's talent and grace, as well as his animated nature.

Courtesy of www.cbs.com

Craig Kilborn, formerly of "The Daily Show," left Comedy Central to seek his fortune as a late-late-night talk show host. His most famous bit is "5 Questions."

Courtesy of www.centralcomedy.com

Jon Stewart, host of "The Daily Show," was recently honored at the Emmy awards as the host of the best "Variety, Music or Comedy Show."

MLB

Cubs maintain Central lead with 8-0 drubbing of Reds

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Sammy Sosa, Shawn Estes and the Chicago Cubs turned off the television and kept themselves in control of the NL Central.

Sosa tied Mickey Mantle for 10th place on the career home run list, Estes pitched a shutout and the Cubs rolled past the Reds 8-0 Wednesday night to preserve their one-game division lead.

A few hours before the first pitch, Cubs players were engrossed in the bank of TV sets in the visitors' clubhouse. They muttered curses when second-place Houston rallied for a 2-1 victory over San Francisco, meaning Chicago would have to win again to remain one game ahead.

Pressure? Not with thousands of Cubs fans in the stands and the major leagues' most generous defense on the field.

Chicago took advantage of three errors by the majors' worst defense, fulfilling the first requirement for a playoff contender — beat up on the downtrodden. The Cubs finish with one more game in Cincinnati, and three at Wrigley Field against the lowly Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Cubs haven't been alone in first place this late in the season since 1989, the last time they won a division title. They haven't been to the playoffs since they went as the NL wild card in 1998.

Florida 6, Philadelphia 5

The Florida Marlins kept swinging, and by the middle of the game the Philadelphia Phillies were literally ducking out of the way.

All that's left is the knockout punch from the Marlins, who held on during a harrowing eighth inning and beat slumping Philadelphia 6-5 Wednesday night to take a three-game lead in the NL wild-card race with only four games to go.

Phillies third baseman Placido Polanco scrambled to avoid being beaned by a broken bat on a run-scoring single. Florida's Jeff Conine homered for the second night in a row, Juan Encarnacion also homered and Josh Beckett took a two-hit shutout into the eighth inning.

Houston 2, San Francisco 1

The Houston Astros were on the brink and they knew it. Then Jose Vizcaino came up with a big hit that kept them from dropping even farther back in the NL Central.

Vizcaino pinch hit in the seventh inning and singled home two runs to lead Houston over a lineup of San Francisco substitutes 2-1 Wednesday.

"If we lost today, we were in serious trouble, but we live to fight another day," Craig Biggio said. "Obviously, that was a huge hit."

Houston, which remained one game behind the division-leading Chicago Cubs, stopped a four-game losing streak, which had tied a season high. A defeat would have dropped the Astros two games back with four to play.

"This was huge for us. It was make or break for us," said Billy Wagner, who closed with a perfect ninth for his 44th save in 47 chances.

Atlanta 9, Montreal 1

Russ Ortiz allowed three hits in five scoreless innings to win his 21st game and Atlanta beat the Montreal Expos 9-1 Wednesday night in the Braves' final home game of the regular season.

Ortiz (21-7), who will be the Braves' starter Tuesday when Atlanta opens its first-round NL playoff series, ran his scoreless innings streak to 14.

In his previous start, the right-hander pitched a three-hit shutout to beat Florida on Sept. 19.

Ortiz, who leads the NL in wins, walked four and struck out two. He also singled, drove in a run and scored another.

Atlanta's Rafael Furcal went 3-for-4. He had an RBI single and scored twice. Gary Sheffield, Andruw Jones and Robert Fick each drove in two runs.

NY Mets 5, Pittsburgh 3

Steve Trachsel won his career-high 16th game, helped by Timo Perez's three hits and two RBIs, as the New York Mets beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-3 on Wednesday night.

Trachsel (16-10) pitched six solid innings, allowing two runs and six hits as the Mets won consecutive games for the first time since completing a three-game sweep of Atlanta on Sept. 3.

Trachsel, who lost to Montreal 1-0 in his previous start, struck out four and walked two in front of 22,134 at Shea Stadium, which appeared to be half that full.

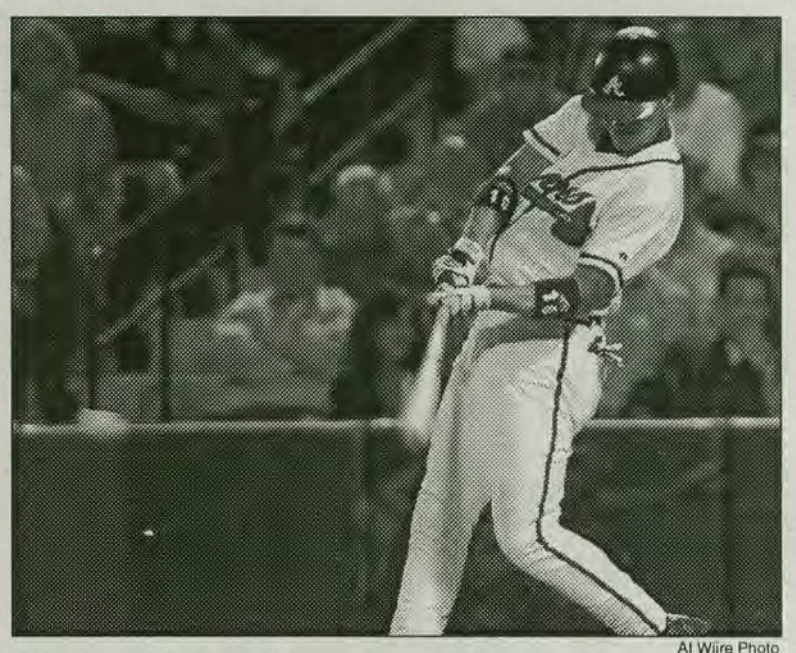
Mike Stanton pitched the ninth for his fifth save in seven chances.

Perez went 3-for-4 with two doubles for the Mets, who snapped an eight-game losing streak with a 1-0 win Tuesday night and have won just three times in their last 11 games.

New York got to Jeff D'Amico (9-16) right away, taking a 1-0 lead in the first on Mike Piazza's run-scoring groundout. Roger Cedeno hit a leadoff double and went to third on Jay Bell's flyout to center. Piazza followed with a grounder to short that scored Cedeno.

St. Louis 8, Milwaukee 4

J.D. Drew homered, Matt Morris pitched seven solid innings and the St. Louis Cardinals staved off elimination with an 8-4 victory over Milwaukee on Wednesday night.



Al Wiire Photo

Atlanta outfielder Chipper Jones hits a double against the Montreal Expos Thursday night. The Braves won 9-1.

The Cardinals stayed 3 1/2 games behind Chicago in the NL Central race with three games to go. The Cubs, who have four games left, beat Cincinnati 8-0.

St. Louis won for the seventh time in eight games. Milwaukee finished 31-50 at Miller Park, tying last season's mark for the worst home record in team history.

Fernando Vina was ejected for arguing a called third strike in the eighth inning. Cardinals manager Tony La Russa, who starts a two-game suspension Friday for recent remarks about umpire Jerry Crawford, came out to get Vina away from plate umpire Matt Hollowell.

Morris (11-8) has dominated the Brewers throughout his career, going 10-2 with a 2.37 ERA against them. In three starts against Milwaukee this season, he was 2-0.

Morris allowed three runs on seven hits in seven innings. He struck out three, helping the Cardinals go 13-3 against Milwaukee this season.

Jason Isringhausen got five outs for his 20th save.

Scott Podsednik hit a solo homer off St. Louis reliever Mike DeJean in the eighth, making it 6-4.

Drew, who had three hits and scored three times, hit an RBI double during a two-run ninth.

Matt Kinney (10-13) allowed five runs on seven hits in five innings. He walked four and struck out two.

Kinney is 0-4 in four career starts against the Cardinals. Last Thursday, he lost 13-0 when St. Louis scored seven runs on 10 hits in 4 2-3 innings.

Drew gave the Cardinals a 5-3 lead with a two-run homer in the fifth. Orlando Palmeiro walked and one out later, Drew hit his 15th home run.

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events calendar • daily reflections • retreat applications • mass schedules

what's happening

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
CM WELCOME CENTER (room 111): Sunday through Thursday 4 p.m. to Midnight.

friday 9.26

Freshman Retreat #48
Sacred Heart Parish Center

NDE Retreat #77
Fatima Retreat Center

Sophomore Road Trip
Destination: Unknown

sunday 9.28

RCIA-Session
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
330 Coleman-Morse

monday 9.29

Reflections on Asian American Catholicism by the Most Reverend Bishop Ignatius Wang
4:00 p.m.
Jordan Auditorium
5:15 p.m. Mass
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

tuesday 9.30

Catechist Formation Class
5:00 p.m.
330 Coleman-Morse

Campus Bible Study
7:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
114 Coleman-Morse Center

Confirmation Session #2
7:00 p.m. -8:45 p.m.
Siegfried Hall Chapel

Weekly Spanish Mass
10:30 p.m.
St. Edward's Hall

wednesday 10.01

Graduate Student Christian Fellowship
8:00 p.m.
Wilson Commons

Interfaith Christian Night Prayer
10:00 p.m.
Coleman-Morse Lounge

notre dame welcomes

First Asian American Catholic Bishop

The Most Reverend Bishop Ignatius Wang

Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

Monday, September 29
Reflections on His Personal Journey and Asian American Catholicism
4:00 p.m. Jordan Auditorium
followed by Mass in the Basilica at 5:15 p.m.

mass schedule

Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

basilica of the sacred heart

Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00 p.m.
Rev. John E. Conley, c.s.c.

Sunday
10:00 a.m. (Red Mass)
Most Rev. John M. D'Arcy,
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

11:45 a.m.
Rev. Richard V. Warner, c.s.c.

around campus (every Sunday)

1:30 p.m.
Spanish Mass
St. Edward's Hall Chapel

5:00 p.m.
Law School Mass
Law School Chapel

7:00 p.m.
MBA Mass
Mendoza COB
Faculty Lounge

considerations...

Theology on Tap

A Priest, a Prof and a Student walk into a bar...

by Lauren Willoughby
Intern, Campus Ministry

Everyone on this campus has questions. We have questions about our futures, about issues affecting our world, and about our faith. We want to know about God, about what our Church teaches, and about how we can incorporate that into our lives. There are many places we can look for answers, but sometimes this isn't easy. In class, it can be difficult to bring up issues that have a personal significance for us. We can be intimidated by the formal setting, by others in the class, or by the pressure to meet a professors' expectations. Sometimes class lessons don't get "off track" enough to address the things that we really want to know.

Now there is something new, something different—a chance to ask the questions that we want to ask in a comfortable environment. How many deep and meaningful conversations have we had while simply relaxing with friends? It is in these personal chats that we get to talk about what it is that is important to us and ask the questions we really want to know. This is the basis for Theology on Tap.

Theology on Tap is the chance to bring together students to address the important questions in our lives. It takes theology out of the classrooms and brings it to a more casual environment (Legends!). It is an opportunity to hear about issues that are relevant to young adults' lives and talk about them from a Catholic perspective. The format is simple—some time for socializing, a short talk by a dynamic speaker, and some discussion and good conversation afterwards. It's a place to find "straight talk, hard facts, and real answers" to the questions that are on our minds.

Theology on Tap
begins Wednesday, October 1 @ 10 p.m.
Topic: Relationships at Notre Dame
Location: Legends

Starting next Wednesday, Theology on Tap will come to Legends. We'll bring in speakers who are passionate and knowledgeable about meaningful topics. They will give a short talk and then open it up for questions. This is the chance to ask the hard questions that we have. It's not a classroom or lecture so there isn't any pressure to have the right answers. We can just ask whatever it is that is on our minds. Nobody is keeping track of grades or comments; it's just an opportunity to talk about important issues.

At the end of the evening, the discussions continue among everyone there. The speaker's topic is a built-in conversation starter for talking to new people and learning from each other. There is no way that the subjects can be exhausted in an hour so the conversations can and should continue long after the speaker's microphone turns off. Theology on Tap provides the tools and foundation to think about important issues. It is up to each of us to continue to think about and discuss the questions that we have about our Church, our faith, and our lives.

Theology on Tap kicks off next **Wednesday, October 1, in the club side of Legends. Come join us for free soda and appetizers** as we have an open and honest discussion about relationships. Meet fellow students in a relaxed setting as we talk about those issues that are important to us and together find the answers that we are looking for.

Sunday's Scripture Readings **1st:** Nm 11:25 – 29 **2nd:** Jas 5:1 – 6 **Gospel:** Mk 9:39 – 43, 45, 47–48

NFL

Holcomb's status uncertain, Couch is ready to go

Icon Sports

Browns quarterback Kelly Holcomb is questionable for Sunday.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Kelly Holcomb shuffled along like an old man, not an NFL starter.

Wearing protective braces on both ankles, bound by yards of tape for support, Cleveland's quarterback walked slowly onto the practice field Wednesday.

He didn't appear ready to play Sunday against Cincinnati, but after waiting seven years for a starting gig, Holcomb's not about to let a broken right leg and sprained left ankle stop him.

"I'm playing," Holcomb said before practice. "I mean, you have to think that way."

Last Sunday, Holcomb refused to give in to the pain and rallied the Browns to a 13-12 win at San Francisco while playing with a hairline fracture in lower leg.

"It feels a lot better than I thought it would," Holcomb said before practice. "But I've still got a lot of healing to do."

Escorted by two trainers, Holcomb was the final player to emerge from the locker room for Wednesday's workout. He began jogging but stopped after a few strides.

After sitting on the bench for almost an entire career, he doesn't want any time off.

"I'm a firm believer that if you start something, you finish it," said Holcomb, who was 12-of-14 on Cleveland's game-winning, 91-yard drive to beat the 49ers. "If I get out there, I'm going to do my darndest."

Holcomb is listed as questionable, but coach Butch Davis hasn't ruled him out, saying: "Let's wait and see."

Holcomb won Cleveland's starting job over Tim Couch this summer after seven pro seasons as a backup, and he's not about to switch roles again unless he has to.

If Holcomb can play this week, he knows the Bengals (0-3) won't take it easy on him just because he's hurt.

"This is a collision sport," he said. "It's like chumming the water, when sharks get around it, they're going to go after it. You're going to take some licks, you just want it to hold up. If it does get hit, you want it to be healed enough that it can take some punishment."

The Browns didn't ask Holcomb to do any running in Wednesday's practice. During the first 20 minutes when reporters are permitted to watch, Holcomb stood to the side and played catch.

Couch, Cleveland's four-year starter who led the Browns to eight wins last season, took the majority of snaps with the first-team offense.

Davis wants to see how Holcomb responds to treatment over the next few days before deciding on a starter. It's possible he may not know until after pregame warmups Sunday.

"I think it's important for him to go out and be able to move around, throw and plant and see if he has velocity on the ball," Davis said. "He has to be able to execute. Kelly is no different than anyone else. They have to be able to perform the duties on Sunday."

There are already signs of change at quarterback.

While Holcomb was the last player on the field before practice, Couch was the last one off it after. As Davis spoke to the media about Holcomb's status, Couch stayed late and worked on passing drills.

Following his performance Sunday, Holcomb was asked to rate his pain on a scale of 1 to 10 and gave it a 15. After two and a half days of treatment, Holcomb said the pain had subsided.

Holcomb acknowledged that he was hurting badly at halftime Sunday when the Browns told Couch to get ready. So how was he was able to manage the pain?

"Adrenaline, tape and prayer," he said. "It's one of those things you've got to block it out. You just got to tape it up, tape it tighter and go."

Holcomb promises he won't take any unnecessary risks and play Sunday if he's not completely ready. That wouldn't be fair to his coaches or teammates, he said.

Holcomb has already shown his toughness. So why would he risk further injury by taking the field?

"To play," he said. "I just want to play."

Couch, who has remained supportive, is certain Holcomb will do the right thing.

"Kelly will do what's best for the team," Couch said.

"If he can't go out there and play the way he's capable of, then I'm sure he won't go. He's a tough guy. He has proved that and if there's a chance he can go out there and be effective then he'll go out and do that."

OLYMPICS

USOC faces changes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate has agreed to streamline the U.S. Olympic Committee in hopes of bringing more accountability to the scandal-ridden organization.

Legislation, approved by voice vote Tuesday night, would dramatically scale back the USOC's governing structure and provides more congressional oversight.

Instead of 124 members, the new USOC board of directors would have nine members, plus the U.S. delegates to the International Olympic Committee and a representative from the Olympic Assembly.

"I believe the reforms in our bill today are necessary adjustments that will return the focus of the United States Olympic Committee to our original intent, our American athletes," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska.

Since the 2000 Games in Sydney, the Olympic committee has had four chief executives and three presidents and endured a bribery scandal involving Salt Lake City's 2002 Winter Olympics bid.

Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., had been holding up the legislation to get assurances that the USOC would keep its headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo. The legislation now requires the USOC to remain in Colorado Springs until the full board.

A House subcommittee, meanwhile, approved a similar bill Wednesday. Like the Senate measure, the bill advanced by the House Energy and Commerce Committee's trade and consumer protection subcommittee would cut the USOC board of directors to nine members plus the U.S. delegates to the IOC.

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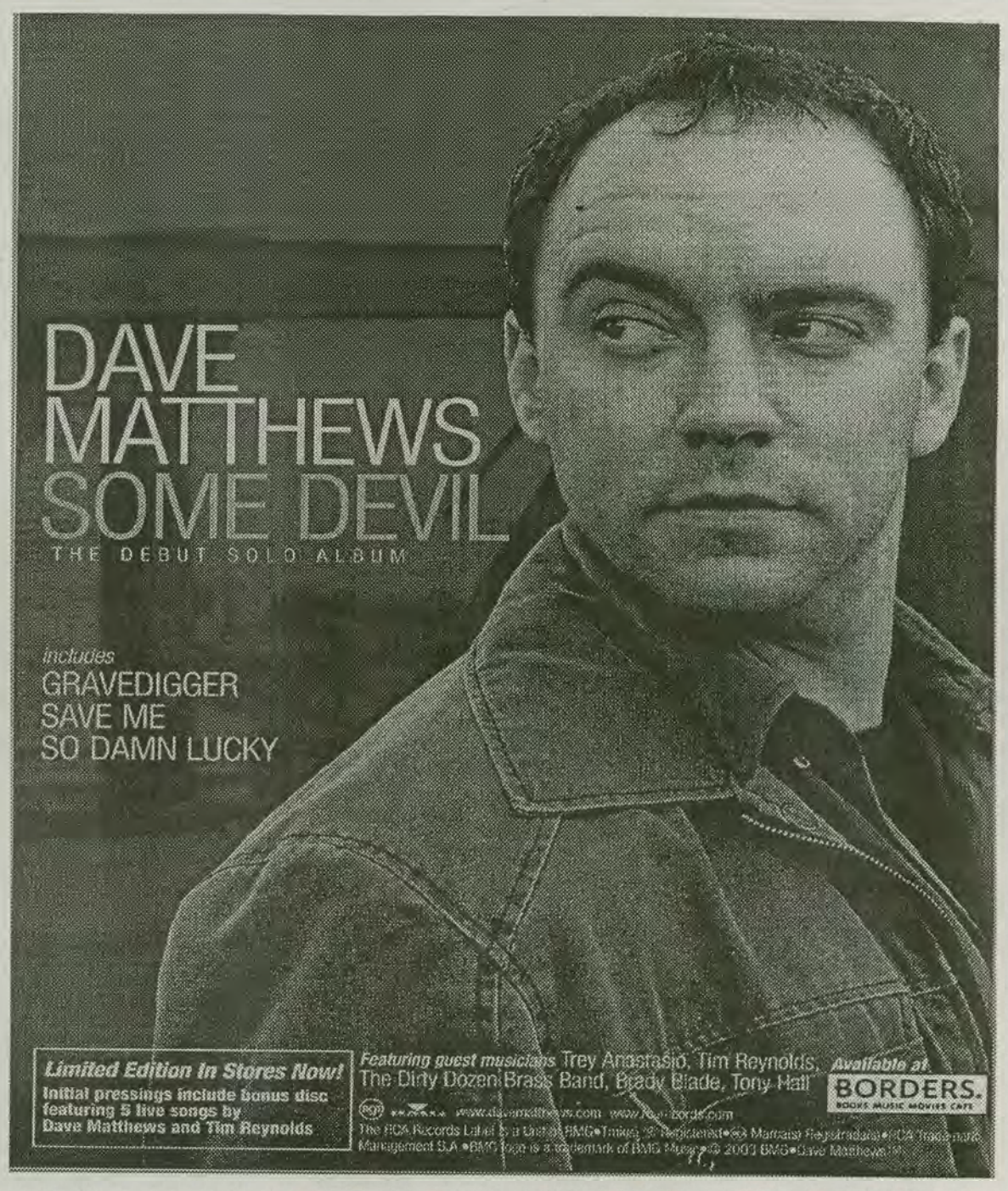


MLB

Poor second half dooms Mariners once again

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Another poor second half is likely to leave the Seattle Mariners out of the playoffs.

John Lackey pitched a five-hitter and rookie Tom Gregorio had a two-run single as the Anaheim Angels beat Seattle 4-0, pushing the Mariners to the brink of postseason elimination.

"We didn't play well coming down the stretch, and we didn't play well in the second half at all," Seattle's John Olerud said.

Seattle's seventh loss in 11 games meant Boston clinched no worse than a tie for the AL wild-card berth.

For the Mariners to tie the Red Sox, they would have to sweep a three game series from Oakland, and Boston would have to lose its final five games.

The Mariners led Oakland by eight games in the AL West on June 13.

Lackey (10-16) struck out four and walked two.

Seattle's Gil Meche (15-13) pitched because Ryan Franklin had a stiff neck Wednesday morning. Meche allowed three runs and six hits in five innings. He had pitched on Sunday, but threw only 45 pitches.

"When I came in yesterday, Frankie said, 'You know, you might have to pitch tomorrow.' And I'm like, 'Oh, really? I've had one day off,'" Meche said.

Gregorio singled with one out in the fourth after Scott Spiezio reached on a fielder's choice, Adam Kennedy doubled and Wilson Delgado loaded the bases with a walk. They were the first RBIs of Gregorio's major league career.

Oakland 5, Texas 3

Before this homestand began, outfielder Chris Singleton offered Jose Guillen a $100 bet: Who would get back onto the field first?

Guillen didn't take it, but he should have.

Playing with a broken bone in his left hand, Guillen hit a two-run homer and bunted home the go-ahead run in his second start back from the injury to lead the Oakland Athletics over the Texas Rangers 5-3 Wednesday.

"He doesn't owe me anything," Guillen said, smiling as usual. "I think the bet was forgotten. I got onto the field first. I win the battle."

Singleton also was in there Wednesday, getting two hits to break an 0-for-14 slump.

Tim Hudson pitched seven solid innings as A's manager Ken Macha rested most of his regulars, a day after Oakland clinched its second straight AL West title. Chad Harville pitched the ninth for his first major league save.

The A's are headed to the playoffs for the fourth straight season.

Chicago 9, New York 4

When the last of the New York Yankees went down swinging, Esteban Loaiza walked out of the dugout to a standing ovation, his teammates waiting on the mound to congratulate him.

Seven months ago he was just trying to land a job, a non-roster invitee to spring training. Now he's a 20-game winner, a milestone even some of the best pitchers never reach.

"It's really great," said Loaiza, who became the fifth 20-game winner in the major leagues.

While Loaiza savors his landmark victory, Mike Mussina will have to wait until next year for another shot at his. The White Sox got to Mussina for eight runs in the sixth inning, spoiling his second bid for his 200th career victory.

Jason Giambi and Bernie Williams homered in the second to give Mussina a 3-0 lead, and it looked as if that might be enough.

Frank Thomas and Carl Everett hit RBI doubles off Mussina in the sixth before there was even an out.

Mussina gave up a season-high eight runs and 11 hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Baltimore 7, Boston 3

The Boston Red Sox wasted no time squandering their first chance to clinch an AL playoff berth.

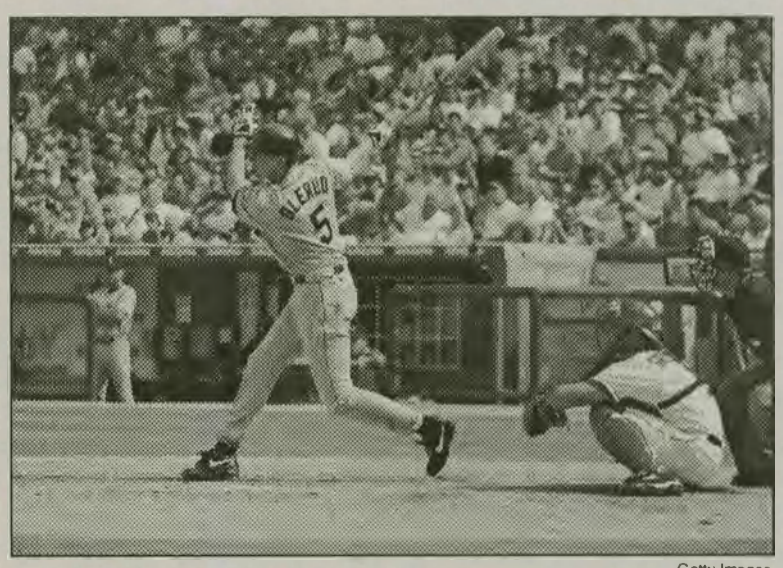
Tony Batista hit a grand slam in a seven-run first inning, and Pat Hentgen pitched six strong innings as the Baltimore Orioles won Wednesday night.

Boston, which missed the playoffs the last three years, clinched at least a tie for the wild card.

For the Red Sox to miss the playoffs, they would have lose their final four games, and Seattle would have to sweep a three-game series against Oakland, then beat Boston in a tiebreaker playoff.

The Red Sox get another chance to clinch Thursday night.

Boston's David Ortiz continued his slugging with two homers, giving him three homers in 10 pitches and 31 for the season.



Getty Images

John Olerud pops out in the seventh inning against the Angels. The Mariners lost 4-0, their seventh loss in 11 games.

His solo homer in the 10th inning Tuesday night gave Boston a 6-5 win.

Hentgen (7-8) allowed three runs and six hits.

Baltimore pounced on John Burkett (11-9) for seven hits and seven runs — six of them earned. He left after retiring just one batter, the shortest start of his 14 major league seasons.

Toronto 5, Tampa Bay 3

Kelvim Escobar tied a career-high with 10 strikeouts in what might have been his last start for Toronto, leading the Blue Jays over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 5-3 Wednesday night.

Escobar (13-9), eligible for free agency after this season, allowed two runs, eight hits and five walks in seven innings, reaching double digits in strikeouts for the fifth time this season.

The 27-year-old right-hander, who has been in the Toronto organization since he was 16, struck out seven in the first three innings.

Josh Phelps hit a go-ahead two-run double in the sixth inning for the Blue Jays.

Doug Waechter (3-2) allowed five runs and five hits in six-plus innings.

Mike Bordick's RBI single in the second tied it at 1.

Tampa Bay's Toby Hall doubled in the sixth and came home on Crawford's run-scoring double play.

Aquilino Lopez pitched three innings for his 14th save in 16 chances, allowing a ninth-inning homer to Huff.

Minnesota 3, Cleveland 2

Michael Cuddyer hit a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning and the AL Central champion Minnesota Twins won their 11th straight game, beating the Cleveland Indians 3-2 Wednesday night.

A day after clinching the division title, Minnesota won its team-record 13th in a row at home.

Lew Ford, one of 14 rookies who started in this game, homered and hit an RBI triple for Minnesota.

Ben Broussard homered for Cleveland, which has lost 16 of 21 games.

Jesse Orosco (1-0) pitched one-third of an inning for the victory. Eddie Guardado pitched the ninth for his 41st save in 44 chances.

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Big East will add four teams in 2005

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE — The Big East plans to invite four Conference USA teams to join the league in 2005, keeping the conference intact after defections of its two biggest football programs threatened to split it in two.

Cincinnati, DePaul, Louisville and Marquette will be invited in November, a source close to the expansion plans told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Wednesday.

The additions of Cincinnati and Louisville would give the Big East the eight football teams it needs to keep its NCAA certification in 2005. Marquette and DePaul will join for basketball and other sports.

"We're being talked about," Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich said. "Is anything finalized? Absolutely not. If we do have the opportunity, it is something to look forward to. We have the utmost respect for the Big East."

After Miami and Virginia Tech defected for the ACC in June, the Big East schools considered splitting into two conferences — one that plays football and one that doesn't.

The next big question for the Big East is whether it will keep its automatic spot in the Bowl Championship Series.

The Big East wanted to clear up its expansion plans before those talks begin so other conferences, bowls and television executives would know what teams would be involved.

Along with the expansion, the Big East is expected to increase the exit fees for schools so the conference isn't as threatened by expansion again.

Conference USA will have to regroup after losing two more football schools. Army is also planning to depart, which would leave the conference with eight teams.

"We have had numerous healthy discussions over the last 10 days about the future of our conference and have been developing contingency plans," Conference USA commissioner Britton Banowsky said. Boston College, Connecticut, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Syracuse and West Virginia will be the other football-playing Big East schools. UConn joins the conference for football next season, which is also Temple's last in the league.

There has been no decision on how the conference will be aligned for basketball. Georgetown, Notre Dame, Providence, St. John's, Seton Hall and Villanova are the Big East basketball schools. The Irish are an independent in football.

NFL

Boston sent home before practice

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Chargers sent wide receiver David Boston home before practice on Wednesday as a disciplinary measure.

Boston was sent home after a morning meeting with coach Marty Schottenheimer.

Schottenheimer was guarded in his comments about Boston, who signed a $47 million contract as a free agent in March.

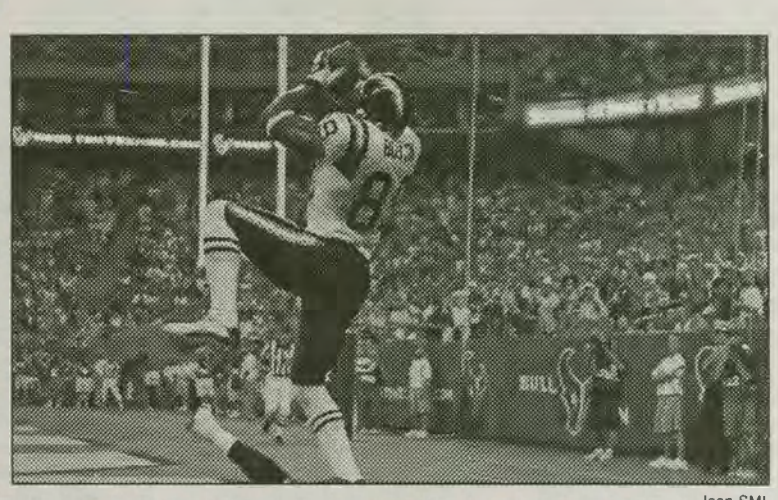
"David and I had a discussion and in the course of the discussion, thought we ought to have this day [off], and he's been excused for a matter that is not related to the medical part of it," Schottenheimer said.

General manager A.J. Smith wouldn't be more specific, but did say that it wasn't one incident that led to Boston being sent home, but rather, "it's several things."

"Let's just say we've got some guidelines here to adhere to," Smith said. "And David wasn't meeting them to our expectations."

Club officials planned to discuss Boston's situations in meetings Wednesday night.

"There is no suspension yet," said Smith, who expected Boston back on Thursday.



Icon SMI

Chargers wide receiver David Boston missed a practice as a disciplinary measure. Boston expects to play Sunday.

Mitch Frankel, Boston's agent, did not return phone messages Wednesday.

Boston, a Pro Bowl selection with Arizona in 2001, has made nearly as much news off the field as on it since joining the Chargers.

He raised eyebrows when skipping the Chargers' second game with a bruised heel, then was caught leaving the bench area before the end of the 37-13 loss to Denver. He also declined to join his teammates in the locker room.

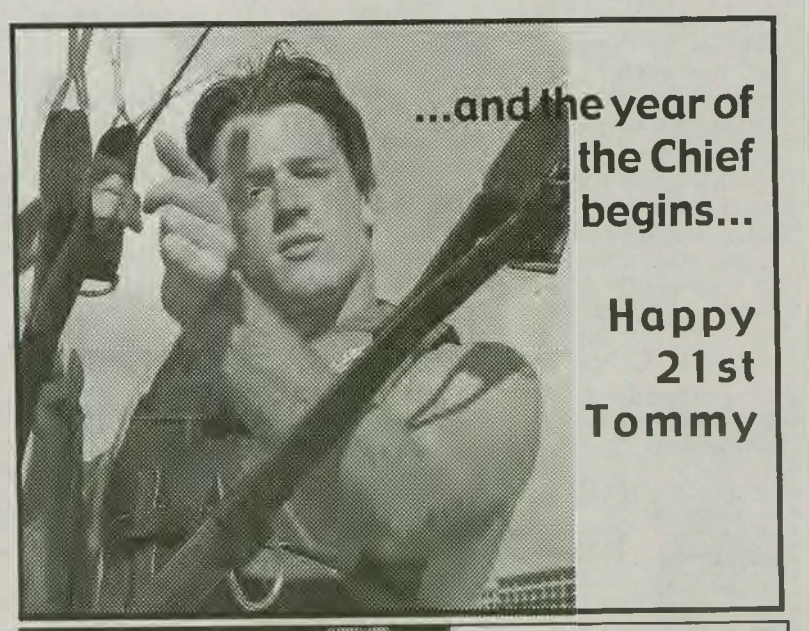
Last Sunday he returned to action and caught six passes for 91 yards. But before the Chargers' 24-10 loss to Baltimore, he was involved in a shouting incident with injured wide receiver Reche Caldwell.

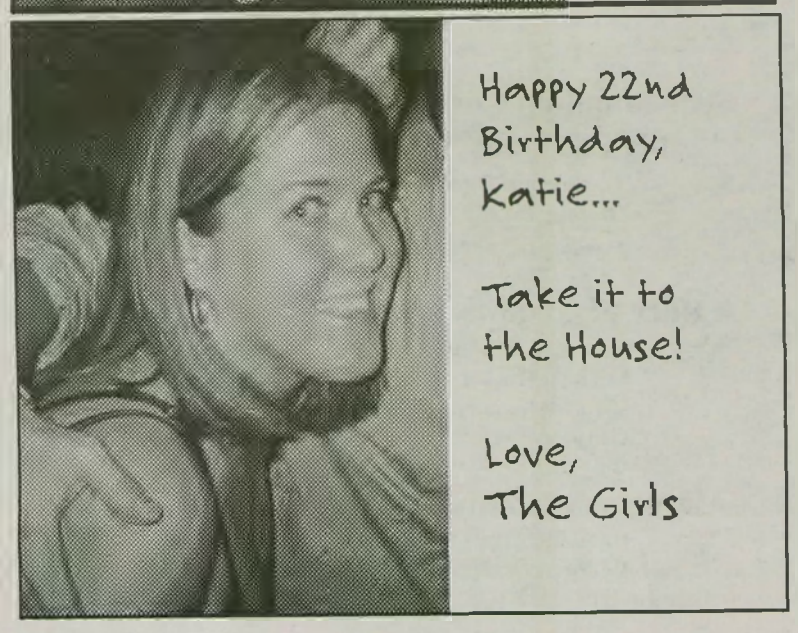
Following that game, he declined to speak to reporters.

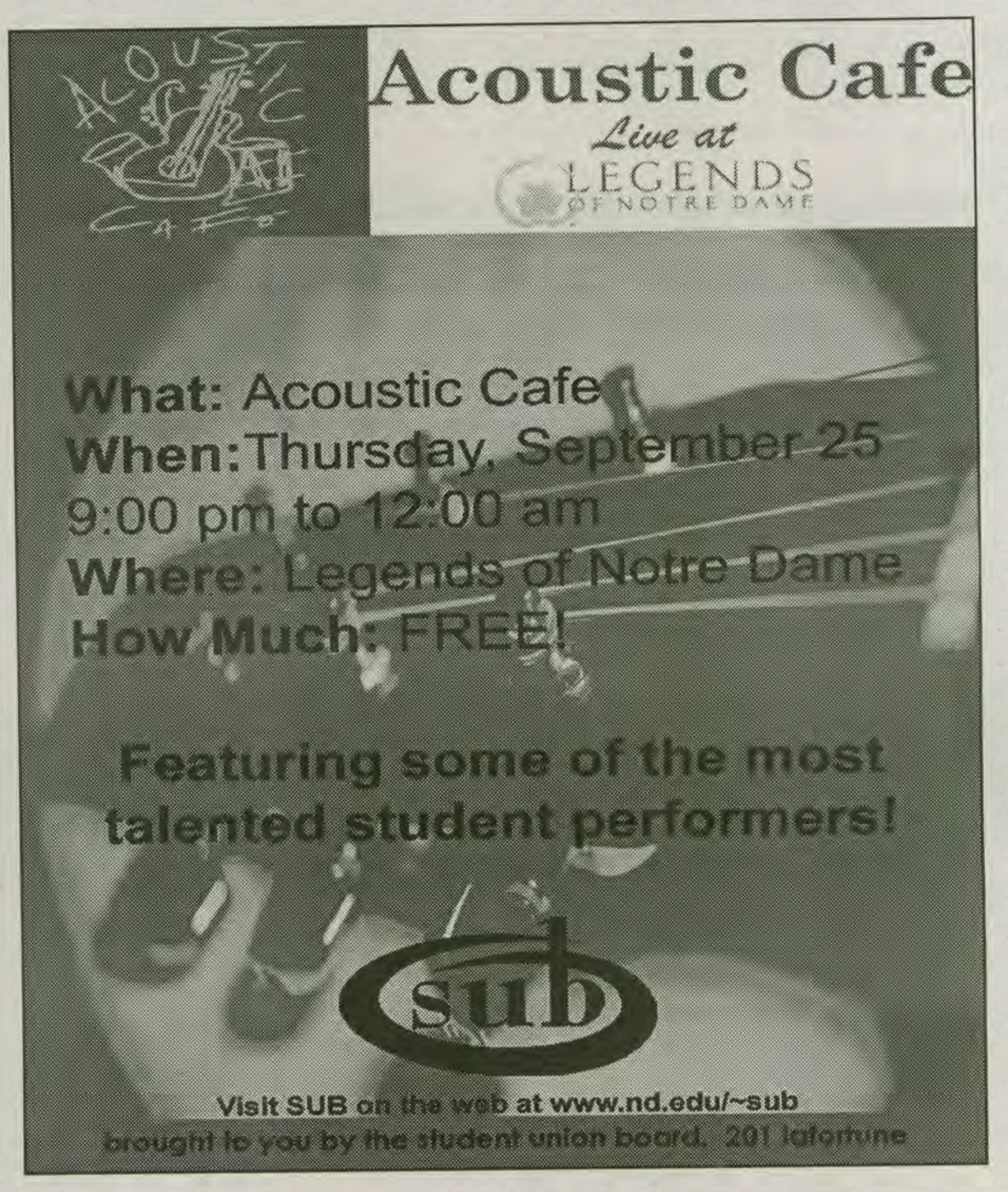
It was Smith who signed Boston to a seven-year contract, which included a $4.55 million signing bonus and $550,000 in base salary this year.

While with the Cardinals, Boston pleaded no contest to a charge of driving under the influence of drugs. Police said he tested positive for cocaine and marijuana.

Schottenheimer expects Boston to play Sunday in Oakland.







Women's Soccer NSCAA Poll

	team	record	prev. rank
1	North Carolina	9-0-0	1
2	NOTRE DAME	6-0-1	2
3	Texas A&M	6-1-0	4
4	UCLA	5-1-2	2
5	Florida	7-0-0	5
6	Washington	5-1-2	14
7	Virginia	6-1-1	8
8	Pepperdine	7-1-0	6
9	West Virginia	7-1-0	15
10	Connecticut	4-1-2	7
11	Ohio State	6-0-1	12
12	Cal	3-0-3	10
13	Penn State	6-1-2	11
14	Portland	6-2-0	20
15	Duke	5-2-1	17
16	Texas	4-4-0	9
17	Colorado	6-1-0	16
18	Santa Clara	3-2-3	18
19	Boston College	8-0-0	20
20	Princeton	4-0-1	25
21	Stanford	3-3-1	24
22	Auburn	5-1-1	--
23	Denver	6-1-0	19
24	Purdue	6-1-1	--
25	California Polytechnic	8-0-0	--

Men's Soccer NSCAA Poll

	team	record	prev. rank
1	Maryland	7-0-0	1
2	UCLA	5-1-0	2
3	Saint Louis	6-0-0	3
4	Old Dominion	6-0-0	6
5	Santa Clara	6-0-2	7
6	St. John's	5-2-0	9
7	Alabama-Birmingham	5-0-2	11
8	North Carolina	5-1-1	4
9	Southern Methodist	5-1-1	8
10	Rutgers	5-1-0	16
11	South Carolina	7-0-0	16
12	Oakland	4-0-2	--
13	Brown	3-1-0	17
14	Santa Barbara	5-0-1	14
15	NOTRE DAME	4-1-2	18
16	Wake Forest	4-2-0	5
17	Seton hall	3-1-2	23
18	Virginia	4-3-0	--
19	Tulsa	6-2-0	20
20	Hartwick	5-1-0	19
21	Coastal Carolina	5-1-0	21
22	Washington	4-0-1	--
23	Akron	4-2-1	10
24	Fairleigh Dickinson	3-1-1	--
25	Boston	3-3-0	--

Eye on Irish Opponents

Saturday, Sept. 7, 200

NOTRE DAME (1-2) at PURDUE (2-1)
WASHINGTON STATE (3-1) at Oregon
Indiana at MICHIGAN (3-1)
Iowa at MICHIGAN STATE (3-1)
PITTSBURGH (2-1) at Texas A&M
USC (3-0) at California
Ball State at BOSTON COLLEGE (2-2)
FLORIDA STATE (4-0) at Duke
NAVY (2-1) at Rutgers
Air Force at BRIGHAM YOUNG (2-2)
STANFORD (2-0) at Washington
Toledo at SYRACUSE (2-1)

around the dial

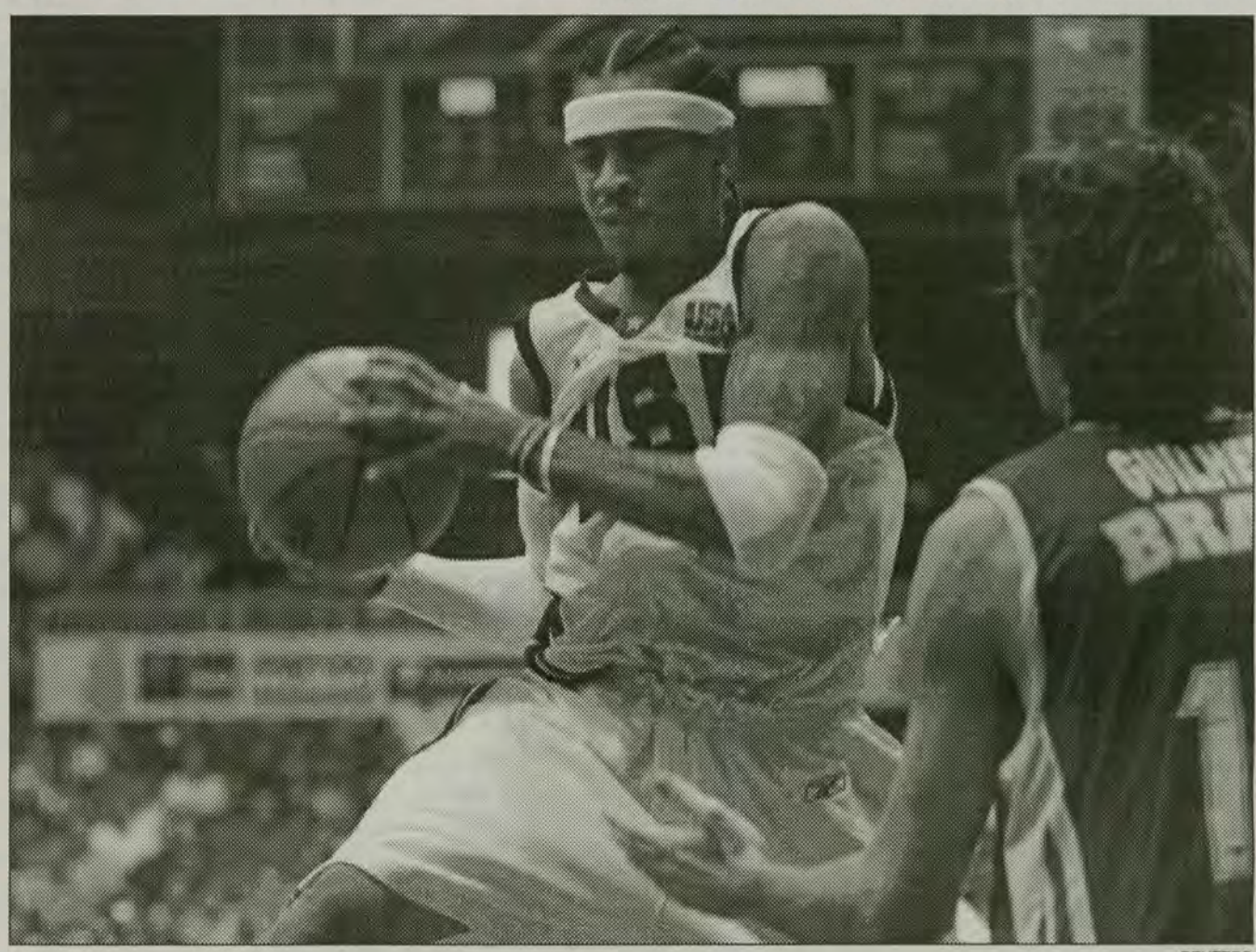
MAJOR LEAGUE
Cubs at Reds 1 p.m., FSN
White Sox at Royals 8 p.m., FSN

GOLF
Texas Open 5 p.m., ESPN

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
Nebraska at Southern Miss. 7:30 p.m., ESPN

WOMEN'S SOCCER
U.S. vs. Nigeria 8 p.m., ESPN2

NBA



REUTERS

Allen Iverson, playing for Team USA above, recently signed a contract extension keeping him with the Sixers through the 2008-09 season, paying Iverson $76.7 million over four years. "I always wanted to be a Sixer," Iverson said.

Iverson signs four-year deal extension

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The lights dimmed as the video scoreboard started playing Allen Iverson's career highlights.

There he was being announced as Philadelphia's No. 1 draft pick, and later holding his MVP award. There he was celebrating victories, acting silly off the court and hugging former coach Larry Brown.

The memories showed what makes Iverson so valuable and why the Sixers couldn't afford to lose him. Now, they won't have to worry about that.

Iverson signed a four-year contract extension with the 76ers on Wednesday that will keep the three-time NBA scoring champion with them through the 2008-09 season.

"I always wanted to be a Sixer. I always wanted to finish my career as a Sixer," Iverson said as the deal was announced at a special event for season ticket-holders at the Wachovia Center.

Terms were not announced, but a team source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday the extension would pay Iverson $76.7 million over the four years.

"Allen said he always wanted to be a Philadelphia 76er and, with this contract, we're telling him we always want him here as well," team president Billy King said.

Iverson has one year plus an option remaining on his current deal, which will pay him more than $28 million over the next two years. The extension begins in 2005-06.

Iverson and King signed the contract in front of nearly 200 wildly cheering fans. Iverson will be 33 when the deal expires and it means he will be the longest-tenured Sixer in team history.

Iverson said he never thought about exploring free agency and wanted the deal done now so it wouldn't be a distraction during the season.

"You all didn't have a chance to make a big circus about it," Iverson joked with reporters.

Iverson repeatedly credited the fans for making him feel comfortable in Philadelphia.

"You've always embraced me through my ups and downs," he said.

Now Iverson wants to add the one thing missing in that highlight reel — a championship.

"I want to be in those rafters one day," he said.

IN BRIEF

Cardinals manager, coach, catcher suspended after conflict with umpire at Houston last weekend

NEW YORK — St. Louis Cardinals catcher Mike Matheny, manager Tony La Russa and pitching coach Dave Duncan were suspended and fined Wednesday for their conflict with an umpire last weekend during a game against the Astros.

Bob Watson, baseball's vice president for discipline, gave Matheny a three-game penalty starting Friday for making contact with umpire Jerry Crawford and for remarks he made to the umpire.

Matheny was ejected in the third inning of the Cardinals' 2-0 loss at Houston on Saturday. Moments later, Crawford pointed to the Cardinals' dugout and ejected Duncan. The coach was suspended for one game, next Sunday.

La Russa was suspended for two games, starting Friday, for postgame comments about Crawford.

Matheny said Crawford was crowding and pushing him as he took his position to take pitches.

"I was trying to make some catches on breaking balls, and as the ball was coming in I was getting shoved forward," Matheny said.

La Russa said last weekend that Crawford "made it a point to get us."

"We've had problems with that umpire for how many years now?" La Russa said. "We had one incident at home where he disrespected our coaches. He's made it a point to get us. It's tough enough to win in this league.

"Who knows if we would have won, but when you keep getting kicked in the guts like this guy did. ... He's going to get us worse the next time."

Yankees secretary arrested after incident with clubhouse security guard

CHICAGO — New York Yankees traveling secretary David Szen was charged with misdemeanor battery Tuesday night as the team celebrated its AL East title.

Szen was arrested in the visiting clubhouse at U.S. Cellular Field for pushing a security guard, police spokeswoman Alice Casanova said early Wednesday.

"During a verbal altercation the victim was pushed several times," Casanova said.

Casanova said she didn't know what caused the dispute. Yankees spokesman Rick Cerrone declined comment. Szen, 51, was released on a personal recognizance bond.

The Yankees beat the Chicago White Sox 7-0 Tuesday night, clinching their sixth straight AL East title.

WOMEN'S INTERHALL GOLD LEAGUE

Badin set to face defending champion Pasquerilla East

By ANDREW KIRKSEY, ANN LOUGHERY AND KATHERINE GALES
Sports Writers

The girls of Badin are looking for the 'W' over Pasquerilla East this Thursday as they enter into their third game of the football season.

Badin's chances of coming out on top are complicated by the experience and reputation of defending champion Pasquerilla East.

"[Pasquerilla East] is always a strong team," said quarterback Bridgett Meacham of the McGlinn Shamrocks. The Shamrocks upset Pasquerilla East last week, 21-20.

Badin captain Jennifer Carter is looking forward to the game; she is confident in her team's ability to dominate PE defensively.

Badin's defense held last week against two risky situations where their opponent Lyons started their drives inside of the red zone. Carter had three picks in that game.

"This year has been one of the best for us," Carter said.

In the midst of Badin's 1-1 record, Kortny Hall, second year grad student and one of the coaches for the team, is encouraged by the solid defense that proved reliable in stopping Lyon's last week.

"Jen Carter has been a stand out on defense," Hall said. "She made a lot of plays against Lewis and a lot of picks in the second game [Lyons]."

Weakened only by an inconsistent offence, Hall believes that they're going to become more and more effective in the games to come.

"We really want to get sustained drives," said Badin quarterback Steph Heath.

Heath believes that Badin's offensive advantage over PE is their player depth.

Disappointed by their loss, but not deterred, PE captain Laura Wolohan is confident that her team can bring it together tomorrow.

Although confident in her team's ability to mix things up on offense, and their show of defensive strength in their first game, she isn't making any predictions.

"Most people you'd talk to would say that we'd win, but I'd rather show it then say it," said Wolohan.

The game is being held at Riehle West field at 9 p.m.

Howard vs. McGlinn

Both teams have met adversity this season.

The Howard Ducks are yet to win a game with an 0-2 record, while the McGlinn Shamrocks (2-1) suffered their first loss this season to the Lewis Chicks. Players from both teams anticipate an intense game Thursday.

"I'm sure they put up a fight," said McGlinn running back Raquel Ferrer. "It's just about us starting out strong. We tend to come out scared and a little hesitant at the beginning."

Ferrer cites a lack of intensity as one of the key obstacles the Shamrocks encountered in the game against Lewis Sunday. The game ended early under the mercy rule in a 19-0 win for the Chickens. However, Wednesday's practice in the rain should be the source of the Shamrocks' energy tomorrow, she said.

The Ducks are also rebounding from a 6-0 loss to Pasquerilla East and looking to score their first touchdown this season. Howard co-captain Brin Anderson attributes this close game to a slight change in defensive strategy.

"And once we put some points on the board, I feel that will give our team the motivation to come out on top," said Anderson.

The Shamrock defense should expect to meet opposition from Ducks freshman safety Megan Marshall, who had multiple interceptions against the Pasquerilla East Pyros on Sunday.

Offensively, Callie Whalen, Renee Alessi and quarterback Sheena Ketchum should make significant contributions.

"Our offense just needs to calm down and run the plays," she said. "It's all about getting it done. We have a lot of talent, we just need to do what we're told and be strong.

"The defense has been good at putting the pressure on the other team's offense. It should be an interesting game."

McGlinn and Howard will square off Thursday at Riehle West field at 7 p.m.

Lewis vs. Lyons

This week's rain has not diminished the Lewis Chicks' anticipation for their game against rival Lyons on Thursday evening.

The Chicks enter the game at an undefeated 3-0, hoping to extend their winning streak to four games. Lyons, looking to post its first victory of the season, is prepared for the challenge.

"It's been really tough for us because we started practicing really late in the season," said Lyons captain Lauren White. "With the weather lately, it's been really hard to get any practice in."

The Chicks are fresh off a decisive Sunday victory against McGlinn. Despite the quick turnaround, sophomore defender Julia Burke said that "we use games as a learning experience."

Lewis junior player Sheila Dawes concurred. "We make mistakes, but learn from them," she said.

Not many mistakes. Badin posted six points against Lewis early in the season — the only six points scored on a solid defense.

This defense looks to challenge a Lyons quarterback back from studying abroad, as well as Megan Regan, a transfer from Dayton who White said is one of the team's best receivers.

"We want to limit first downs and yards allowed," Dawes said.

Lewis also boasts an explosive offense. Mimi Lundgren, Lynne McChrystal and Katy Clune are prime targets for standout quarterback Erin Nasrallah.

Lyons' two losses are to Badin and McGlinn in close games. Although the Chicks have beaten both opponents, they take nothing for granted.

"As the season progresses, our team has improved," said Dawes. "We need to assume every other team improves also, or we're going to get beaten."

Last year, Lyons and Lewis faced off in a close contest in the regular season's last game. Lyons got the playoff spot — Lewis was forced to wait for the next season.

The game will be played this evening at 8 pm at Riehle West field.

Contact Andrew Kirksey, Ann Loughery and Katherine Gales at akirksey@hcc-nd.edu, alougher@nd.edu and kgales@nd.edu

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• *First 250 Fans Receive a Drive & Shine T-Shirt*
• *Get Your Picture Taken With SpongeBob*

Sat. Sept. 27th at 12:30 pm
Women's Golf Notre Dame Invitational
Gold Game 2003
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Sun. Sept. 28th at 2:00pm
Volleyball vs. Georgetown
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Post Game Irish Spikers Clinic with theTeam

Sun. Sept. 28th at 11:30 am
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• *Get Your Picture Taken with SpongeBob*

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Former Irish star Riley shines on the big stage

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sportss Writer

Ruth Riley is in a league of her own at Notre Dame.

With her WNBA Finals MVP award, she became the first former Notre Dame student-athlete to be named a Finals MVP at both the college and professional levels. She won the 2001 NCAA Finals MVP when the Irish won the national championship. Not even former Irish quarterback and three-time Super Bowl MVP Joe Montana won both. He was not named MVP in the 1977 Irish national championship victory in the Cotton Bowl.

Riley won the WNBA finals MVP award after scoring a career-high 27 points in the Detroit Shock's 83-78 over the Los Angeles Sparks. She stepped up in the big game, hitting 15-foot jump shots consistently and playing exceptional defense on Sparks star Lisa Leslie.

"It was a shock," Riley said. "I'm on a team with three all-stars, and what makes us so good is that we are so balanced. They could have given the award to anybody."

However, it was Riley who won the MVP, becoming the first woman to be named Finals MVP in both college and the WNBA. Hailing from the small town of Macy, Ind., Riley has made it big both in college and now in her third year in the WNBA.

"I love coming back to campus...it's like my second home"

Ruth Riley
WNBA star

Riley was coached by the former Detroit Piston and Irish forward Bill Laimbeer. Laimbeer won two NBA Championships with the Pistons and took Notre Dame to the Final Four and Elite Eight in 1978 and 1979, respectively.

"Bill's great," Riley said. "I get to throw him being a Domer in there to all my teammates, especially those from Connecticut and other rival schools."

Laimbeer can also be credited for his determination in bringing a WNBA franchise to the city of Detroit. However, his efforts didn't end there, as he led the Shock to a title, after finishing with the worst record in the league last year. He revamped the lineup, and got the players that he wanted to win with — and win, he did.

"I love playing for Coach Laimbeer and you couldn't ask for a better season than the way we ended up."

Riley led a team with an average age of just under 25 years old, with the oldest player being 29. Riley attributed their success to new players that created a fresh look for the Shock.

"It's an amazing feeling to be on the team that's considered the best in the world," Riley said. "We had a lot of young players that were thrown together this year, and it's truly a great accomplishment for us."

Riley once again stepped up when it counted, as her performance mirrored that of the 2001 NCAA Championship game, when she scored 28 points, missing only four shots, and pulled down 13 rebounds. In that game, she was head and shoulders above Purdue.

However, she can't decide which championship trophy means more to her.

"They're the same, but different," Riley said. "At Notre Dame, you work with the same group of girls for four years, and it was such an amazing way to end your collegiate career. But, on the professional level, this was a new team and so it's an amazing accomplishment to be the best team in the world."

So, what does Ruth Riley do now?

"I'm running around — everywhere," she said.

For now, she is in South Bend. Yesterday, she spoke to current Notre Dame student-athletes at the Academic Honors Banquet.

"I love coming back to campus," Riley said. "It's like my second home."

She maintains her Notre Dame ties with head coach Muffet McGraw. McGraw called Riley just before she stepped up on the podium to accept the MVP. Riley was sure to e-mail her former coach later that evening.

"[Coach McGraw] is great," Riley said. She's a great resource basketball-wise, and I think that our relationship grew even more after I graduated."

Next stop for Riley is Russia, where she will play for the WNBA Select team to take on different European countries in the Women's Basketball World Cup from Oct. 14-19.

After that, who knows, as the tryouts for the USA women's national team will be in the winter.

For Riley, it is just another opportunity to excel in the game at with she has worked so hard.

"I'm truly blessed," Riley said. "The success I've had here at Notre Dame and then to go on and do it at the professional level is a great accomplishment."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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FOOTBALL

Giving back to fellow students

Offensive lineman Bob Morton volunteers as designated driver for students

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Bob Morton is well known on the Notre Dame football team for his bright personality and friendliness. Now, he wants the rest of the Notre Dame students to know how much he cares about them.

Morton lay awake one night thinking about something he could do to make sure every student that went out partying made it home at night. Eventually, he started giving out his phone number to people he had talked to three or four times, telling them to call him if they ever needed a ride back to campus.

"Notre Dame is a family," he said, "and I don't want anyone to not make it home at the end of the night."

Morton, who said the death of Chad Sharon last academic year had nothing to do with his plan, isn't quite sure what to do now, though. He thinks he'll take his proposal to PILLARS, a Notre Dame organization devoted to curbing alcohol abuse, and hopes it will expand to include several drivers.

"When Chad Sharon died, I felt such a loss, and I didn't even know him," he said. "I don't ever want that to happen again."

"Notre Dame is a family."

Bob Morton
Irish offensive lineman

Safety switch

Quentin Burrell made a big impact in his first career college start at free safety Saturday, intercepting a pass in the Notre Dame end zone and returning it 18 yards.

The move shifted incumbent Glenn Earl to strong safety and sent Garron Bible to the bench.

A slew of injuries in fall camp forced Irish coaches to shuffle players around, and one of the players affected was Earl, who then learned how to play both free and strong safety. The injuries also gave the coaching staff a chance to see Burrell in action, and the Irish liked what they saw.

"We're trying to strengthen our team, and there are a few things Quentin does very well," Willingham said. "He has excellent range. It's something he does very well that we need in the lineup. You're always trying to utilize your strengths and make yourself better."

Quarterback won't change blockers

Regardless of who starts at quarterback for Notre Dame Saturday, Zach Giles said the style of quarterback doesn't change how the linemen block.

The linemen block the same for the more agile Carlyle Holiday as they do for Brady Quinn, a traditional pocket passer. All that matters is that the quarterback has enough time to throw the ball.

"You have to give the quarterback as much time as he needs," he said. "You fight to get the ball off. He should have more than enough time no matter [what quarterback is in there]."

Fresh impact

Five Notre Dame freshmen have seen playing time this year — defensive end Victor Abiamiri, wide receivers Chinedum Ndukwe and Jeff Samardzija, defensive back Freddie Parrish and quarterback Brady Quinn. Last year, only two true freshmen — wide receivers Maurice Stovall and Rhema McKnight — logged significant playing time.

When the quintet all played in Notre Dame's home opener at Washington State, it marked the first time since 1999 when five freshmen played in a season opener.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

MEN'S SOCCER

Irish getting ready to face Bradley

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's soccer team continues its seven-game, September home stand with a non-league match versus Bradley this Thursday at Alumni Field.

The Braves (4-4-0) have a 2-1 all-time series lead on the Irish, including a 3-2 victory over Notre Dame in Peoria, Ill. last season.

The Irish have scored four goals in their last five games, including two in a 2-1 overtime victory over Fresno State. Notre Dame is 3-1-1 on the home stand, losing to Big East opponent St. John's 3-0 and tying non-conference but perennial foe Akron, 0-0. The other two victories came in two 1-0 wins over Indiana and West Virginia.

Entering Thursday's game with a non-ranked opponent, coach Bobby Clark is confident his team will remain focused and play its own game.

"This is a test. It's a mental test," Clark said. "None of the boys will underestimate that. We've played the last two years and they've been very hard games. Last year [Bradley] beat us, so I don't think anyone in our camp will be vaguely thinking it's going to be an easy game."

Notre Dame climbed slightly in the polls following back-to-back victories, coming in at No. 8 in Soccer America and No. 15 in the NSCAA poll rankings.

The move up still does not mean a relaxing in tempo or style, as the Irish have a hard road ahead of them.

"We watched some tape and we were very impressed with them," Clark said. "It'll be a tough one. They're good, but if we do things right, we can play with anyone in the country."

TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer
Irish midfielder Chad Riley brings the ball upfield against West Virginia in a game this Sunday. The Irish face Bradley Thursday.

The potential of Notre Dame starters is starting to receive national recognition.

After scoring the game-winning goal against Indiana and all but shutting off the left side of the field for opposing forwards, junior defender Kevin Goldthwaite earned Big East defensive player of the week honors as well as a nomination to the College Soccer News team of the week. Clark, however, prefers to view awards as team accomplishments.

"Soccer is a team sport," he said. "Goldie got the award, but he got that award not just for what he did but for what his buddies have done as well. That award goes to all the boys in the back: to Kevin [Richards], to Jack [Stewart], to Greg Dalby and Chris Sawyer. I think Kevin would be the first to second that."

Notes

Freshman midfielder Ryan Miller is in the infirmary with a torn ACL and could be out for the season.

"He played against UAB and against Cal," Clark said. "The week before practice for St. John's he got hurt and we didn't know what it was. Then we found out later it was a torn ACL. He could be out for the season. That's the way it goes sometimes."

Clark says that because Miller only played two games, he still has four years left of eligibility, including a "medical year of eligibility" due to the injury. A player must play three or four games, Clark says, before counting as an official member of that season's roster.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Abiamiri

continued from page 24

knew I had potential, but I didn't really know how I stacked up against the other players," Abiamiri said. "If I came in and played my best, I knew I would have a chance."

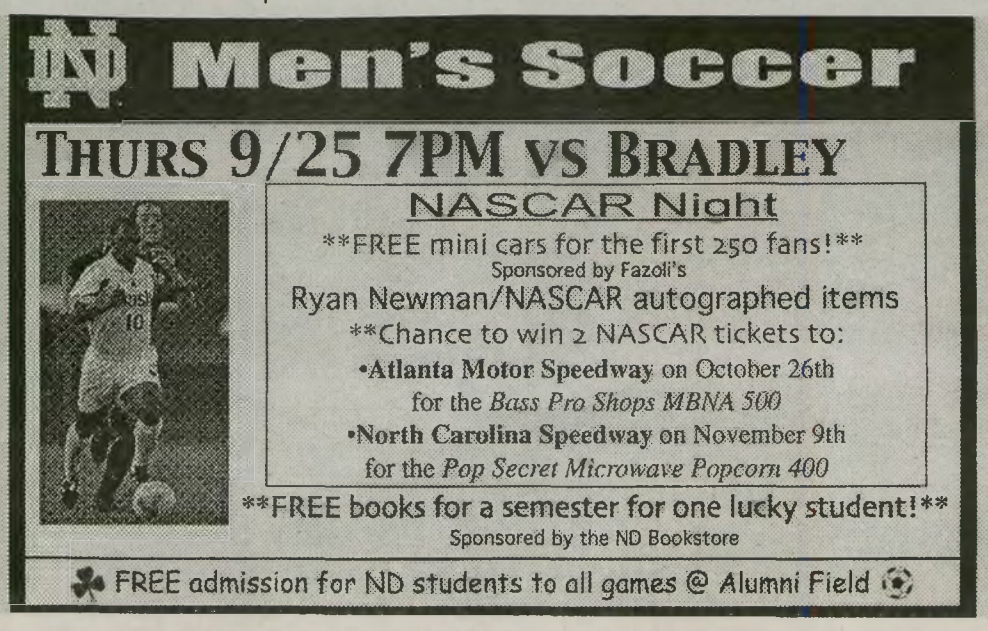
That's what he did. After struggling through fall camp and impressing coaches with his solid technique and willingness to learn, Abiamiri made his way onto the two-deep depth chart and started earning more repetitions in practice. He saw playing time in Notre Dame's first two games, but admitted to a case of the butterflies when he found out he would be starting in place of a banged-up Tuck.

"Victor's appearance is not just based on injury," Willingham said. "Victor has played very well when he arrived in our camp. He's shown himself to be a physical player, he's shown himself to be an intelligent player, and he's adapted very well to college football."

Although Abiamiri initially cracked the starting lineup because of an injury, Willingham said that wouldn't be the last time he made a significant contribution for the Irish this season. The plan now is to rotate Abiamiri and Tuck in and out of the game as the season wears on.

"You'll see Victor on the football field a lot the next few years," defensive line coach Greg Mattison said, "as long as he continues doing what he's doing."

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu



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Student Schedule

23-SEP-03 at 23:47

Term: FA2003 Enrolled: ?
Class Level: Senior
School: Undergraduate School
Major(s): Underwater Basketweaving Degree: Bachelor of Fermentation

Call #	Course	Sec	Title	Cr	Where	When		Final
1246	MUS545	01	Karaoke Perf.	3.0	Club 23	M	11:00-CloseA	
6969	FTT420	03	Theatre, Beer, & Society	3.0	The State	W	12:00-whenever	
2003	BIO120	00	Altered Neuro. States	3.0	Corby's	T	10:00-2:00A	
9090	PHY345	01	Human Compression Physics	4.0	The Backer	F5	11:00-1:00A	
1234	DRK900	00	Boozin'	0.5	Heartland	H	11:30-Floor	

Jumble

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MONED

BOTOR

DACROW

TIPOLE

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www.jumble.com

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A: A "_____" _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BATON WOMEN MOSQUE OBJECT
Answer: What Junior's promise turned out to be when the driveway wasn't cleared — A "SNOW" JOB

Crossword

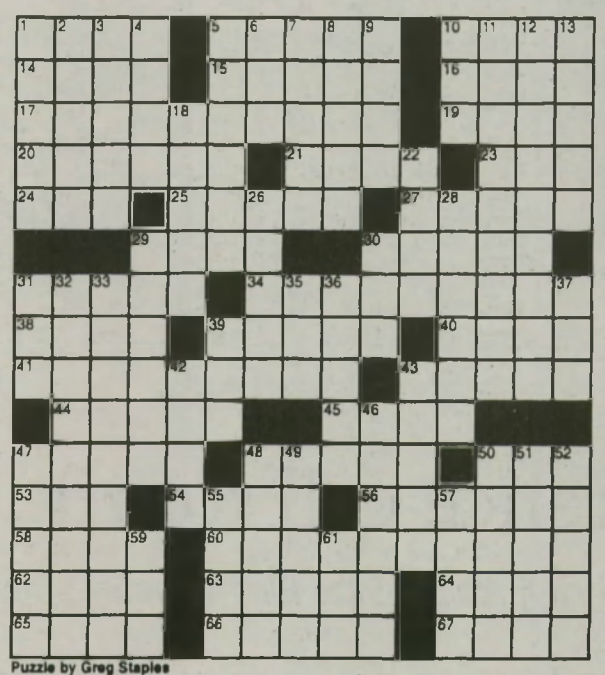
WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Duck with a large white crest
5 Atkins diet count, briefly
10 Gillette product
14 ___ Alto
15 "I Could Write ___" (Rodgers and Hart song)
16 Jacob who wrote "How the Other Half Lives"
17 Not be childish
19 Private dining room?
20 Greek island or its capital
21 Wraps (up)
23 Prussian pronoun
24 Burn preventer
25 Neighborhood shindig
27 Folders, wastebaskets and such
29 Adriatic seaport
30 No longer young
31 "Forever Your Girl" hitmaker, 1989
34 It may get you slapped
38 Very, affectedly
39 Literal element of eight answers in this puzzle
40 Arrange, as hair
41 Cheerleader's maneuver
43 1974 title role for Dustin Hoffman
44 October 31 option
45 Super server
47 Revolution
48 For sale
50 Line of defense
53 Old-time marauder
54 Timber wolf
56 Orangish hues
58 Wild goings-on
60 Becomes discouraged
62 Stamp of approval?
63 Mower maker
64 Top spot
65 Train station
66 City near Oberhausen
67 Sweetie

DOWN

1 Knocks heads (with)
2 ___ Picchu (Incan site)
3 John with a wild wardrobe
4 Percussion instrument struck with a mallet
5 Olive oil dressing
6 ___ of Steel (video classic)
7 Swelter
8 One over
9 Twist
10 It may be twisted
11 Paints the town red
12 Symbol of Japan
13 Burden carriers
18 Sherpa's land
22 Charlie Brown utterance
26 Winchester, e.g.
28 Basic building unit
29 Huge success
30 "Shoot!"
31 Flight coordinators: Abbr.
32 It may be on a roll
33 Heroic action
35 Unnamed litigant
36 Showy display
37 Bug someone, e.g.
39 All-natural food no-no
42 Rampart
43 Hanger-on
46 Elect
47 G's
48 They're found among the reeds
49 What counters may count
50 "It's ___ against time"
51 Skin layer
52 Aromatic compound
55 Part of many an antique shop name
57 Nincompoop
59 Chatter
61 It comes before long



Puzzle by Greg Staples

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, $1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.
Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords ($34.95 a year).
Crosswords for young solvers: The Learning Network, nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

Sharing this birthday: Will Smith, Heather Locklear, Barbara Walters, Michael Douglas, Juliet Prowse, Anson Williams

Happy Birthday: Follow your intuition this year, and it will lead you in the right direction. Your creative search will bring enlightenment and satisfaction. Your passion to make your life better and to expand on your recent ideas and aspirations will bring you entertaining results. Your numbers: 5, 8, 18, 25, 30, 35

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Ignore colleagues who appear to be running in circles. You have more than enough on your plate already. Don't make large purchases unless you have discussed your choice with your mate. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Start making plans to go after your goals. You may want to look into travel destinations or courses that will give you knowledge regarding your professional direction. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Health problems will flare up if you haven't been taking proper care of yourself. Put some time aside to regenerate. You need some time to think before you tackle the problems that are causing stress. ★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your mood swings will push family members to a point of no return. Control your actions. Keep active by doing something you enjoy. You need a creative outlet. Sign up for interesting courses. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can inspire confidence in others and get them to help you accomplish your goals. Your charming manner will entice your mate and stabilize your relationship. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You need an outlet for your frustrations. Children will push you to the limit. Keep everyone busy so that they don't get in your way. You need some time to yourself. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get into heated discussions. Controversial subjects should be avoided at all costs. Bring work home if it will help you get caught up. Pay attention to small but important details. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a situation facing the family. Use your perception and ability to ferret out secret information to get to the bottom of things. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You should have saved a little cash for an unexpected emergency. Don't donate money, even if you believe in the organization in need. You have to take care of yourself first. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have trouble understanding your partner's actions. Go over the events that led to your present situation. Misunderstandings have made matters much worse than necessary. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be in the mood to enjoy all that life has to offer. Your positive attitude will draw others to your side. Don't move too quickly; savor the moment. ★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Mingle with those in high positions, and you will move up the career ladder much quicker. Your ideas are good, and if you present them to the right people, you can expect to get support. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are dependable, hard-working and will struggle to achieve your goals. You have strong convictions and will stand firm if anyone tries to force you to follow another set of rules.

Need advice? Try Eugenia's Web site at www.eugenialast.com

Visit The Observer on the Web at *www.ndsmcobserver.com*

The Observer

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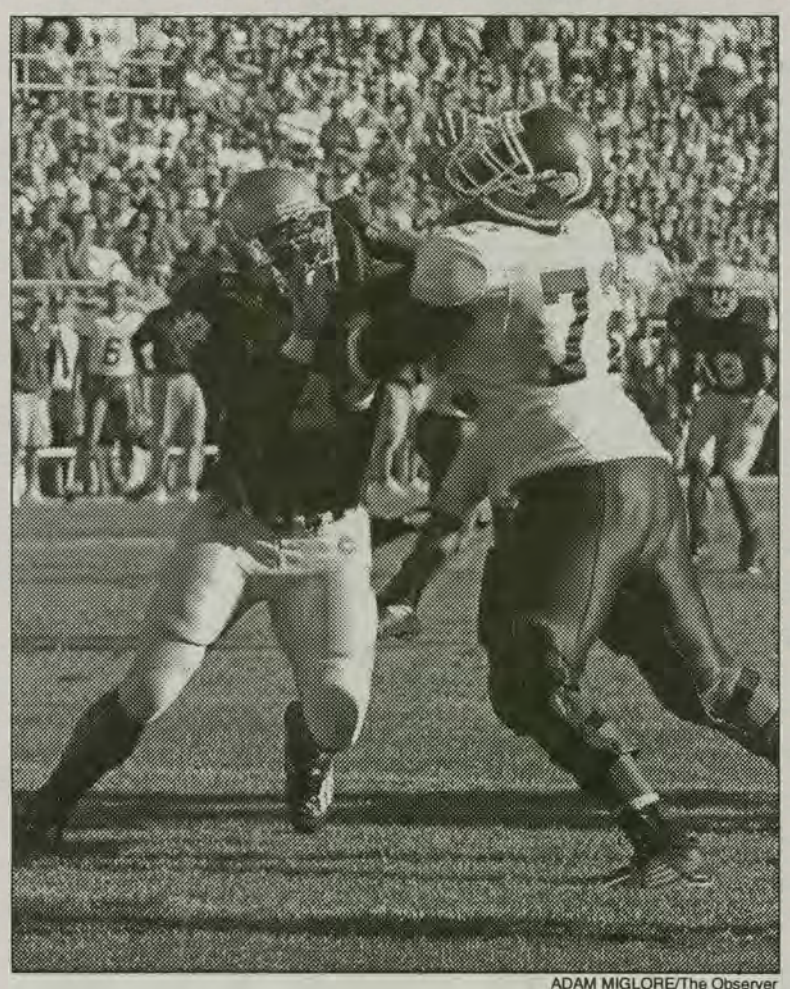
FOOTBALL

To Victor go the spoils



ADAM MIGLORE/The Observer

Irish defensive lineman Victor Abiamiri fights to get to the Spartan quarterback in Notre Dame's game against Michigan State.

Freshman defensive lineman Abiamiri has provided an instant spark for the Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

What does Victor Abiamiri have in common with former Irish players Anthony Weaver, Renaldo Wynn and Bryant Young?

All are defensive linemen. All started as true freshmen. And Weaver, Wynn and Young, who went on to start four years, all were NFL first- or second-round draft picks.

It's a standard Abiamiri hopes to live up to.

"Notre Dame has had a wonderful tradition of making good players," he said. "I'm still young. I hope I can listen to the older players and I hope it can happen. The rest is in God's hands."

With the way Abiamiri has been playing lately, though, teams are going to take notice of him sooner rather than later.

Making his first collegiate start against Michigan State in place of injured Justin Tuck, Abiamiri recorded eight tackles — the second-most on the team, behind human tackle-eating linebacker Courtney Watson. Although Notre Dame lost, the Irish were impressed by Abiamiri's play at defensive end.

"When he came out and played as well as he did," Tuck said, "he made plays that normal freshmen don't make."

Were it not for a recruiting violation, though, Abiamiri might have followed his two older brothers to Maryland. But on the eve of national signing day last February, reports surfaced that a Maryland assistant coach had given Abiamiri $300. The secondary violation cost the coach his job and Maryland its chance at landing the 6-foot-6, 245-pound lineman.

Abiamiri went to Notre Dame believing Tyrone Willingham's philosophy that the best players would play, regardless of year. But he had no idea if he'd even crack the playing field.

"I knew I could be good, I

see ABIAMIRI/page 22

NCAA

Irish grad. rates among Div.-I best

Special to the Observer

Notre Dame ranks among the top 10 Division I-A institutions in five major student-athlete graduate rate categories — overall, football, men, women and African-American — according to statistics released this month by the NCAA.

The federally mandated 2003 NCAA Graduation Rates Report, the 13th such survey issued by the association, covers students who enrolled between 1993 and 1996 at Division I institutions, including 117 in Division I-A. The NCAA bases graduation rates on the raw percentage of student-athletes who entered an institution and graduated within six years. Students who leave or transfer, regardless of academic standing, are considered non-graduates.

Using the NCAA formula, Notre Dame graduated a four-year average of 87 percent of its student-athletes, third only to Duke and Northwestern Universities, both at 89 percent. The national average for Division I-A schools is 60 percent.

Among student-athletes who completed all four years of athletic eligibility at Notre Dame, 99 percent earned their degrees. The national average was 83 percent.

Notre Dame graduated 92 percent of all women competing in varsity athletics, to rank second among peer institutions behind Northwestern at 98 percent. Among men, Notre Dame's 85 percent rate was second only to Duke at 88 percent.

Notre Dame graduated 78 percent of its African-American student-athletes, ranking behind Rice, Stanford, Vanderbilt, Northwestern and Duke.

Notre Dame football players graduated at an 81 percent rate to rank seventh nationally behind Vanderbilt, Duke, Northwestern, Syracuse, Rice and Stanford.

The NCAA recently presented an Academic Achievement Award to Notre Dame for its best-in-the-nation one-year graduation rate of 92 percent for all student-athletes who enrolled in 1996.

NCAA

Is this a major conference call for the Irish?

Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten reportedly approach Notre Dame about conference switch

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

The ACC and Big Ten are talking with Notre Dame to gauge the school's interest in becoming the 12th member of each conference, according to a report published Wednesday in the Charlotte Observer.

The article, which attributed all information exclusively to unnamed sources, said ACC commissioner John Swofford has expressed a willingness to let the Irish join the league as a partial member within the next year or two.

Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White has remained silent on the issue of Notre Dame's conference future since Miami and Virginia Tech announced it would join the Big East by June 2004, throwing the collegiate sports world into turmoil.

Notre Dame is currently a member of the Big East in most sports with the notable exception of football. Although the Irish are one of only four Division I-A independent football teams, they play a limited schedule against Big East teams each year.

But Notre Dame associate athletic director for media relations John Heisler said he had "no idea" if Notre Dame had been negotiating with the ACC.

"Every day there's another speculative story written, and given our relationship with the Big East, I think [White] has felt it's not appropriate or fair to guess or suggest or predict what's going to happen with any of this until we get to the point where something does happen," Heisler said.

According to the sources cited in the Charlotte Observer, two different options are under discussion, which involve Notre Dame becoming a member of the ACC in all sports except football. One plan under discussion, The Observer's sources say, is that the league wants Notre Dame to schedule a limited number of games against ACC schools each year. The other option involves Notre Dame becoming a full-fledged football member.

The Observer cited sources that said Notre Dame has also held talks with the 11-team Big Ten, a conference whose invitation the Irish rejected in Feb. 1999. But those sources said the Big Ten has not been pushing the football angle as much as the ACC.

It is advantageous for conferences to have 12 football teams because then they become eligible under NCAA legislation to hold a conference championship game, which can generate over $10 million in revenue. Ten- or 11- team conferences cannot hold championship games, although the ACC has petitioned the NCAA to overturn the rule.

"This probably fuels a lot of the speculation, but Kevin spends a lot of time with all of these commissioners" because they are part of the BCS, Heisler said.

Heisler maintained that Notre Dame hadn't de-valued the importance of football independence.

"I don't sense there's been any suggestion that we're prepared to do an about-face," he said.

Notre Dame's television deal with NBC expires in 2005, the same year as the expiration of the Bowl Championship Series contract. Notre Dame is the only school outside the six major BCS conferences to have a separate agreement with the BCS, enabling Notre Dame's at-large selection.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

MEN'S SOCCER

Bradley at Notre Dame

Thursday, 7 p.m.
The Irish look to keep their win streak going.

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WOMEN'S HOOPS

Ruth Riley wins WNBA Finals MVP, but still remembers her alma mater.

page 21

INTERHALL

PE vs. Badin, Howard vs. McGlinn, Lewis vs. Lyons

page 20

NFL

David Boston sent home as a disciplinary action for breaking team rules.

page 18

MLB

Seattle loses again to Anaheim, shrinking their playoff hopes.

page 17

Chicago wins 8-0 over Cincinnati to maintain a slim lead in NL Central.

page 14