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Senate to decide junior class officers

Scott, Flynn, Raaf, Boyd ticket elected officers for the 2005 senior class council

By CLAIRE HEININGER
Assistant News Editor

It felt like déjà vu all over again — one candidate received just over 48 percent, and the other received just under 44.

The election will be decided by a dorm vote in the Student Senate. But unlike the initial

dismay shown at the outcome of the student body presidential election, the candidates for the officers of the class of 2006 took the news in stride.

"We had a good laugh about it," said Vijay Ramanan, who will vie with Steve Miller for junior class president. He added that being familiar with the Senate process made the

announcement less of a shock.

"The worst thing is when you don't know what's going to happen, and you kind of know what's going to happen now," he said. "It could go either way, but I don't think I'll spend time worrying."

Miller said after a tightly contested primary race Monday, he and his running mates had been

prepared for the Senate scenario.

"In the back of my mind, I was afraid something like this would happen," he said. "It wasn't a pleasant surprise, but after the Ebersol-Istvan situation, it didn't catch me completely off guard."

see ELECTION/page 8

Mass forges friendships, community in halls

Editor's Note: This is the second of a two-part series exploring Mass at Notre Dame.

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

Father Paul Doyle likes milkshakes. He's so fond of them, in fact, that when he became rector of Dillon Hall in 1997, he bought a one-beater commercial "drink mixer" and began serving milkshakes to students who attended Father Mike Baxter's Thursday night mass in Dillon Chapel. Six years later, he's serving up 13 gallons of milk and ice cream to crowds that sometimes grow to 190 strong — almost unheard of for a weeknight liturgy.

Dillon's famous "Milkshake Mass" is just one of many stories in the long tradition that surrounds Notre Dame's unique dorm-worship system.

While priests-in-residence at other Catholic institutions, such as Boston College and Georgetown, occasionally hold Masses in their rooms, the concept of having an active chapel in each individual residence hall is distinctively Notre Dame's.

"Dorm Masses are a very special Notre Dame phenomenon," said Father Richard Warner, director of campus

see MASS/page 4

ND students observe leap year birthdays

20-year old sophomores Kathryn Lindsey, Mike Doversberger celebrate fifth birthday

By LAURA VILIM
News Writer

For people born on Feb. 29, yearly birthday celebrations are far from an easy annual routine.

Notre Dame sophomores Kathryn Lindsey and Mike Doversberger are two such leap year babies. They will both be celebrating their 20th birthday (or 5th in Leap Years) this Feb. 29. Despite the unorthodox nature of their birthdays, however, they do not feel as though they have missed out on years of celebrations. They said they consider themselves lucky to be among the estimated one out of 1,506 people around the world — approximately 200,000 in the United States — who were born on such a special day.

Although Doversberger cannot recall the specific date



DAVE ROONEY/The Observer

Sophomore Mike Doversberger, one of several leap year birthdays on campus, will celebrate his fifth actual birthday Sunday.

see LEAP YEAR/page 6

Fiestang celebrates Filipino culture

By DUSTIN VON HANDORF
News Writer

The Filipino American Student Organization (FASO) will be sponsoring Fiestang Saturday, showcasing Filipino culture, and including traditional dancing and dinner in Stepan Center.

Charlene Vinalon, co-president of FASO, said the event will include elements of both traditional and modern Filipino culture.

"Fiestang will share Filipino culture, traditional food and dance, with a modern twist," Vinalon said.

The evening will start with an authentic Filipino dinner, serving dishes such as adobo, a chicken dish, lumpia, which is a traditional wrap similar

to an egg roll, pancit, a noodle dish and a pork dish called lechon.

"Filipinos are very big on food, and it's a great time to share what we love," Vinalon said.

The evening will continue with a presentation of various traditional dance numbers.

Eileen Magno, also a FASO co-president, said the event will include numerous types of dances influenced by a variety of cultural groups.

"It will include Pinkling, our national dance, Maglalatik, an all-guys coconut dance, and the Binasuan, a candle dance," Magno said.

FASO has asked other stu-

see FIESTANG/page 6

Quill to design commemorative coins

By JOE TROMBELLO
Assistant News Editor

Senior marketing and art studio major Pat Quill picked the right day to read The Washington Post.

One day before the Jan. 9 deadline, Quill said he noticed an advertisement calling for student artists to apply for positions with the United States Mint to design some of the state quarters.

Quill joins five other student artists from around the nation as Associate Designers, who, along with 18 Master Designers — all professional — will develop future coin designs.

"I read the article, and it was emphasizing people who were focused on detailed work, and that's what I love to do," he said. "Drawing is my first love."



DAVE ROONEY/The Observer

Senior Pat Quill has been selected as one of six student artists to design future state commemorative quarters.

see QUILL/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

End of the road

I've been asked, over and over again, how The Observer comes out five days a week when we all have classes. I've also been asked why I traded most of my social life for endless hours in the basement of South Dining Hall. Each time, I give the same answer. I don't know. Somehow, every day a newspaper appears in bins across campus. The last 140 issues have happened to have my name at the top of the mast-head (today will be the last one), but The Observer is a product of over 100 students who give up some portion of their day to ensure that Notre Dame has a campus newspaper. Why they do it, I don't know, but I'm grateful that they do it nonetheless.



Andrew Soukup

Editor in chief

Directing The Observer over the last year has been a tremendous challenge. And I've been blessed to work with an incredibly talented staff who is just as devoted to their jobs as I am to mine.

But when I'm cursing out a printer that won't print at 5 a.m. or responding to deranged e-mails from angry readers, I sometimes scratch my head and wonder if it's worth it.

Then I walk into the dining hall to go to work, and I see the stacks of papers almost depleted. I sit down for lunch at the dining hall and see everyone reading the story that took three hours to edit. I walk down the halls in dorms and see articles taped up outside the doors. I listen to professors in class start discussions by holding up a copy of The Observer.

And that's when I remember why I love this job. And why I'm going to have a tough time saying good-bye.

Today is officially my last day at The Observer, but I've never been more proud of the product we turn out every day. I've had the pleasure of leading a talented staff that poured their hearts and souls into their jobs, of watching them mature, of seeing them grudgingly admit that the late nights in the office aren't that bad. And I've had one heck of a fun time working with them in the process.

When I was named editor in chief 13 months ago, one of my predecessors sent me an e-mail saying my final day on the job would be my toughest. I didn't know what he was trying to tell me, not on the days when I dealt with irate phone calls or fought losing battles with faulty computer systems. But tomorrow, somebody else gets the honor of leading The Observer's staff.

That's why, today, I understand what he meant.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu.

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: WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE DINING HALLS NOT SERVING MEAT ON FRIDAYS?



Chase Gund
Freshman O'Neill

"Only if they have corn dogs."



Chelsea Rush
Junior Lyons

"People should be able to choose whatever they like."



Megan Buller
Junior Lewis

"If people have a problem, they can go to Subway."



Mike Kalman
Sophomore O'Neill

"Eh, the chicken patties probably aren't real meat anyways."



Jason Bogovic
Sophomore O'Neill

"Whatever, there are still quarter dogs, right?"



DAVE ROONEY/The Observer

The Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra, featuring Rebecca Paul as soprano and Ricky Leal on oboe, performs its Winter Concert Thursday in Washington Hall. The program featured music by Mozart, Wager and Brahms.

IN BRIEF

The Gutherie Theatre of Minneapolis will perform its national touring production of Shakespeare's Othello from 7 to 10 p.m. tonight. The play will be held in the O'Laughlin Auditorium in Saint Mary's Moreau Center for the Performing Arts.

The first annual Shakespeare Scene Festival will occur in the LaFortune Ballroom tonight from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door.

Siegfried Hall is sponsoring an all-day, nine-hole putt-putt golf tournament with food, music and prizes, to benefit those suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease.

Student Government will sponsor a free performance of the comedy Sex Signals tonight in the Hesburgh Library's Carey Auditorium from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Flipside is sponsoring a Simpsons trivia contest from 10 to 11:30 p.m. tonight in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

Lace up your dancing shoes and join free dance lessons sponsored by Saint Mary's Student Activities Board. Hawaiian Dance lessons will occur tonight from 6 to 7 p.m., while Afro-Brazilian lessons will take place Saturday afternoon from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Regina Dance Studio.

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

OFFBEAT

Trash truck stopped with 2 tons of marijuana

SIERRA VISTA, Ariz. — A garbage truck was stopped carrying more than two tons of marijuana north of Huachuca City, a Department of Public Safety official said.

The truck had been driving erratically late Tuesday, said DPS Sgt. Steve Tritz.

"It got my attention," Tritz said. "He was driving slow and failing to signal."

The driver, who identified himself as 28-year-old Brian Rivera Martinez, said he didn't know how to drive the truck.

When a drug-sniffing dog arrived, it alerted authorities to possible narcotics. DPS officers found 4,112 pounds of marijuana bundled in the area where trash would be carried.

Martinez and passenger, Michael Trejo Duran Sr., 38, were arrested on suspicion of transporting and possessing marijuana for sale.

Driver calls 911 as cops chase him

MARYVILLE, Tenn. — It may be right to call 911 to report someone's chasing you on the highway — but not if it's a sheriff's deputy

in pursuit.

Kevin Richard Vowell, 31, of Maryville placed such a call to emergency dispatchers during a high speed chase on U.S. 411 early Sunday morning, Blount County sheriff's spokeswoman Marian O'Briant said.

The incident began when a deputy noticed Vowell driving erratically and signaled for him to stop. Vowell pulled over but then spun his pickup truck around and fled down the highway, with three patrol cars in pursuit.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 44 LOW 34	HIGH 34 LOW 27	HIGH 50 LOW 37	HIGH 56 LOW 42	HIGH 49 LOW 35	HIGH 43 LOW 33

Atlanta 34 / 25 Boston 33 / 24 Chicago 47 / 32 Denver 55 / 34 Houston 64 / 47 Los Angeles 61 / 45 Minneapolis 42 / 30 New York 43 / 30 Philadelphia 46 / 29 Phoenix 64 / 46 Seattle 51 / 42 St. Louis 55 / 32 Tampa 60 / 45 Washington 47 / 28

Dining halls go meatless for Lenten season

By JEN ROWLING
News Writer

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of Lent and the end of meat on Fridays, as the University's dining halls replaced sautéed meat, stir-fry and rotisserie chicken with items such as eggs, fish and grilled vegetables.

Notre Dame's staff began preparation for the Lenten Season in October. Tony Williams, South Dining Hall unit chef, attended a culinary academy in New York, where he learned preparation for various vegetable medleys, corn-breads and tofu. These new platters are being prepared and will be served in the dining halls to replace meat dishes.

Williams said the meals being served will include cheese dishes, fish, vegetables, grilled pizzas and breakfast items such as eggs and hash browns. In addition, the popular mozzarella breadsticks will be seen more often.

Williams said students should be creative with their food selections, suggesting stir-fry, a collection of vegetables or tofu and saying that chefs are willing to fry or help with any new platter creations.

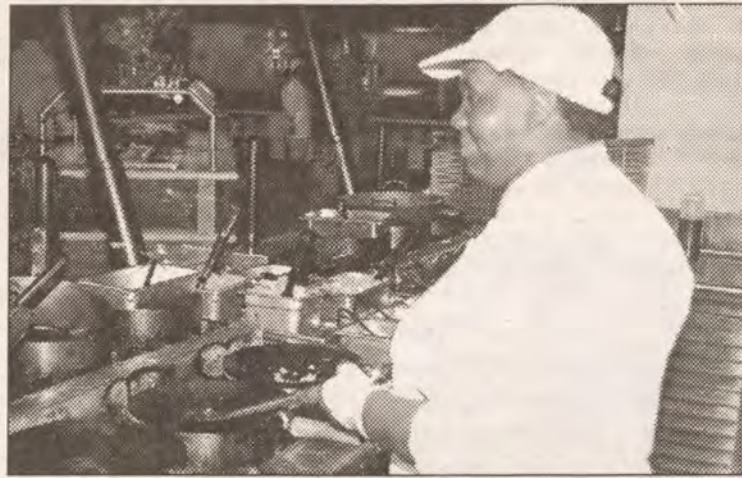
"By the third meal, you're grumpy," he said. "People will go off campus."

Williams suggested that students give the dining hall staff feedback on meals they enjoyed by filling out surveys. He said student input is valued and shared at weekly Food Services meetings.

While students will face a more limited food selection during Lenten Fridays, Williams said they can look forward to Easter dinner at South Dining Hall, which will feature lamb, chicken, fish, baked ham, rice pilaf and vegetable medley.

While the dining halls will be meatless, Reckers and Lafortune will continue to carry their regular products.

Notre Dame's close adherence to the Catholic Church



DAVE ROONEY/The Observer

A dining hall chef prepares a meal Thursday. Both dining halls will prepare only meatless dishes on Fridays in Lent.

policies has created divergent viewpoints within the student body.

"If you are Catholic, you can choose not to eat meat; they can at least put smaller portions of meat out for those who do not choose to fast," sophomore Kate Lorenz said.

Sophomore Craig Brede said

he supports the Notre Dame food policy of not serving meat.

"People choose to come here, so when you choose this school, you're pretty much choosing to accept some Catholic practices," Brede said.

Contact Jen Rowling
at jrowling@nd.edu

SMC holds Sophomore Parents Weekend

By EMILIE DESJARDINES
News Writer

The Saint Mary's campus will host 360 parents this weekend for Sophomore Parents Weekend.

The theme for this year's event, "Like You Forever, Love You For Always," was inspired by the children's book with the same title.

"It appealed to us because the book is about the relationship between parents and children," said Jessica Eaton, a Sophomore Parents Weekend committee member.

Although many of the scheduled activities are similar to those of Notre Dame's Junior Parents Weekend, the Saint Mary's event is somewhat smaller, confined mostly to Saturday. Saint Mary's combines the Presidential Dinner with a dance and does not have a closing brunch on Sunday. However, Saint Mary's students "also have Junior Mom's Weekend and Senior Dad's Weekend, which are both three-day events," said Kristin Palombo, the committee's chairwoman.

"I think this weekend will be fun," Palombo said. "It's a great way to involve families and an opportunity for parents to see what your life is like away from home."

The three-member committee has been working hard since last fall to ensure a successful event. The activities will commence today, when students are encouraged to take their parents to Dalloway's, an on-campus cafe, for dinner with the "Dalloway's Dollars" they will receive.

Saturday morning will begin with an academic open house in the Noble Family Dining Hall where students will have the opportunity to introduce their parents to professors.

During the afternoon, the South Bend Chocolate Factory, which usually closes by 2 p.m., is staying open for tours.

"I think it will be fun," Palombo said. "The assembly lines will be open, and there will be samples of chocolate."

At 4:30 p.m., parents and their daughters can celebrate Mass in the Church of Loretto.

Saturday evening is the Dinner/Dance, held at the Palais Royale. It will start with a presidential welcome followed by a slideshow. The slides, arranged by Maureen Zimmer, "include pictures of life at Saint Mary's and pictures with parents," Zimmer said, "in order to show a little about their lives over the past two years and include their lives at home."

The weekend will culminate with a night of dinner and dancing, an event about which Eaton said she is very enthusiastic.

"We picked out the menu, and I think it will be delicious," she said. "I'm looking forward to spending time with my parents and letting them meet my friends."

Contact Emilie Desjardines at
desj4986@saintmarys.edu

Collegiate Jazz Festival

February 25th, 27th, & 28th 2004

Contact Jen Rowling at
jrowling@nd.edu

9 College Jazz Bands will perform while being judged by 5 highly acclaimed jazz artists. all events are free

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

8:00 PM PREVIEW NIGHT-LAFORTUNE BALLROOM

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME JAZZ BAND II AND COMBO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

EVENING CONCERT BLOCK- WASHINGTON HALL

6:45 PM MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY JAZZ BAND I

RODNEY WHITAKER, DIRECTOR

7:30 PM WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AP QUINTET

TRENT KYNASTON, DIRECTOR

8:15 PM MICHIGAN STATE OCTET I

RODNEY WHITAKER, DIRECTOR

9:00 PM WESTERN MICHIGAN JAZZ ORCHESTRA

SCOTT COWAN, DIRECTOR

9:45 PM JUDGES' JAM

JEFF CLAYTON (SAXOPHONE)

JOHN FADDIS (TRUMPET)

ALAN PASQUA (PIANO)

DAVE CARPENTER (BASS)

PETER ERSKINE (PERCUSSION)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

2:00 PM JUDGES' CLINIC-BAND BUILDING

EVENING CONCERT BLOCK-WASHINGTON HALL

6:45 PM UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME JAZZ BAND I

LARRY DWYER, DIRECTOR

7:30 PM MARSHALL UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

MARTIN W. SAUNDERS, DIRECTOR

8:15 PM TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY JAZZ BAND

FREDDIE MENDOZA, DIRECTOR

9:00 PM INDIANA UNIVERSITY JOEL KELSEY COMBO

9:45 PM TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SALSA DEL RIO

JOHN LOPEZ, DIRECTOR



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Officials say Britain spied on U.N.

Britain spied on U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan in the build up to the Iraq war, a former Cabinet minister said Thursday, triggering yet another postwar crisis for Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Blair refused to confirm or deny the accusation and branded his former international development secretary, Clare Short, "deeply irresponsible" for commenting on the issues.

For Blair, the allegation is another potentially damaging aftershock of the Iraq invasion, following controversies over Britain's prewar intelligence dossiers, the death of a weapons scientist, the coalition's failure to find weapons of mass destruction and the collapse of a court case on alleged U.S.-British bugging of the United Nations.

Macedonian president missing

BITONJA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Macedonia state radio switched to classical music and the government declared a day of mourning after President Boris Trajkovski was missing and presumed dead in a plane crash Thursday.

Mourners lit candles in front of Trajkovski's office in the capital. Skopje, and condolences poured in from world leaders. Secretaries of State Colin Powell called the moderate Trajkovski "a great friend of the United States" who helped put his ethnically divided nation on "a stable footing."

The president's party initially said he died in the crash, which happened in a remote, rocky area of mountainous southern Bosnia — treacherous in the bad weather and heavily mined from Bosnia's 1992-1995 war.

NATIONAL NEWS

Supermarkets, clerks reach contract

LOS ANGELES — Negotiators for grocery clerks and three supermarket chains reached a tentative contract agreement Thursday that could bring an end to the longest supermarket strike in U.S. history and send 70,000 cash-strapped employees back to work.

Greg Denier, a spokesman for the United Food and Commercial Workers union, declined to disclose details of the agreement.

The 4 1/2-month strike has inconvenienced millions of shoppers in Southern California and led to hundreds of millions of dollars in losses for the three grocery chains, which had taken a stand against rising employee health costs.

Winter storm hits Southeast

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A storm brought snow, sleet and freezing rain to the Southeast on Thursday, shutting down schools and government offices and forcing the cancellation of a visit here by President Bush.

The unsettled weather in the Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky left up to 6 inches of snow in some places, with a second wave in the forecast that could add several inches overnight. In Georgia, which got up to 4 inches in northern counties, high winds brought down trees and power lines, knocking out electricity to as many as 61,000 homes.

LOCAL NEWS

No suspects in killing of mother

LAPEL — Madison County authorities conducted autopsies Thursday on the bodies of a mother and her 4-year-old daughter who were found dead with their throats cut.

Results of the autopsies were not yet available, Coroner Marian Dunnichay said.

Investigators had no suspects in Wednesday's slayings of Cory Clark, 26, and her daughter Jenna, sheriff's Capt. Rick Garrett said. However, detectives concluded the deaths were not the result of a homicide-suicide, he said.

HAITI

Rebels say they are preparing new attack

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE — Haiti's rebel leader said his fighters were advancing on the capital Thursday and awaited an order to attack unless President Jean-Bertrand Aristide resigns. The United States questioned whether Aristide could "effectively continue" in office.

With Haiti's ill-equipped police force not expected to put up much resistance against a rebel assault, government loyalists threatening death and torchings began building defenses in front of the National Palace in Port-au-Prince.

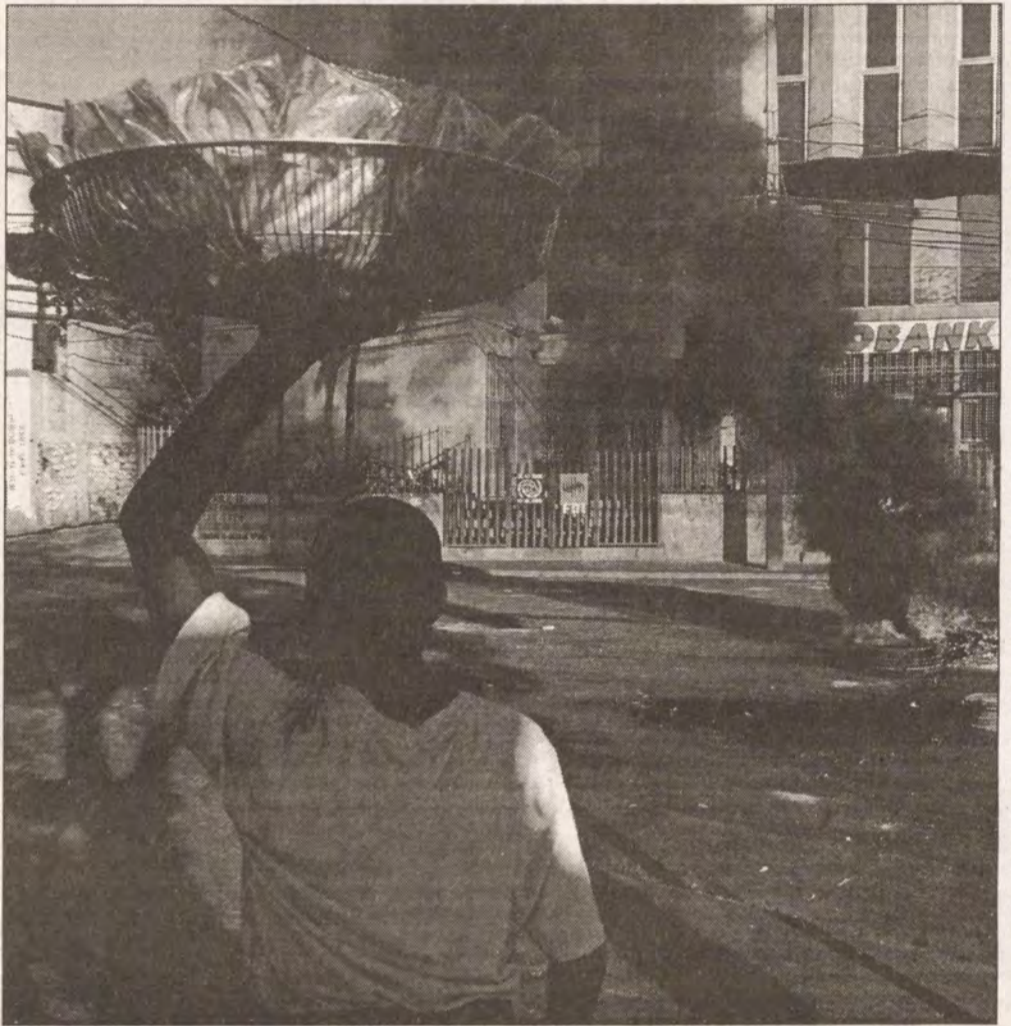
At a U.N. Security Council meeting on Haiti, Caribbean nations urged the immediate authorization of a multinational force to end the violence and restore law and order. But key council members the United States and France said they want a political settlement first.

In Washington, Secretary of State Colin Powell openly questioned whether Aristide can continue to serve effectively as Haiti's leader — the closest Powell has come to suggesting that Aristide bow out as president before his elected term ends in February 2006.

"Whether or not he is able to effectively continue as president is something he will have to examine carefully in the interests of the Haitian people," Powell told reporters.

Powell's comments came a day after French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin condemned Aristide for Haiti's crisis and called for him to resign.

Earlier Thursday, Aristide told CNN he would not resign. He said a small international force — "a couple of dozen" soldiers or police — could prompt the rebels to stand down. Referring to the rebels, he said: "At any time those terrorists may come to Port-au-Prince and kill thousands of people."



A street vendor passes as tires are set on fire as barricades by pro-Aristide supporters near the National Palace after rumors spread through the city about Aristide's resignation in Port Au Prince, Haiti on Thursday.

The insurgents have overrun half of the country since the rebellion began three weeks ago.

Hundreds of Aristide supporters, some armed with machetes and pistols, gathered Thursday in front of the National Palace and, with teenagers driving bulldozers and forklifts, started building a defensive rampart.

"If Aristide goes, cut off their heads and burn down their houses!" they shouted, echoing the war cry of Jean-Jacques Dessalines, the Haitian general who ousted French colonizers from Haiti to end slavery 200 years ago. The Aristide loyalists shouted epithets against France.

As rumors spread that the rebels were arriving by boat, truckloads of Aristide

supporters armed with old pistols were seen heading toward the seaside Carrefour neighborhood.

In Carrefour, gunmen fired shots at the home of Haiti's most prominent architect,

Albert Mangones, and wounded a security guard, a family member said. The French Embassy was calling the police to try to evacuate Mangones' widow, an elderly French citizen, and their daughter.

Rebel leader Guy Philippe said the pro-Aristide militants, called chimeres or angry young men, were not his enemies.

"We are calling for everybody to stay home, not to fight against us because we are fighting for them," Philippe said in an interview with The Associated

Press in the northern city of Cap-Haitien.

"All those chimeres, we have nothing against them," he said. "We know Mr. Aristide gave them some money and we know how poor they are."

Some 90 miles to the south, Port-au-Prince was a city on edge.

Americans with M-16s guarded U.N. workers and their families on the way to the airport, passing street barricades of wrecked, abandoned cars, rock and tires built by Aristide supporters to block the city from an assault.

Military helicopters of the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, were ferrying people from the Dominican Embassy to the airport.

Senate approves handgun safety lock

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Senate agreement requiring child safety locks on U.S. handguns gave Democrats encouragement Thursday that renewing an assault weapons ban might also become part of a package to protect gun makers and sellers from gun crime lawsuits.

The GOP-controlled Senate voted 70-27 to require all handguns sold in the United States to have child safety locks, adding the measure to the legislation providing the gun industry immunity from suits when a legally sold gun is subsequently used in a crime.

Democratic Sens. Barbara Boxer of California and Herb Kohl of Wisconsin argued that requiring child safety locks on newly purchased handguns would help reduce the number of children accidentally killed by handguns in the home. Every 48 hours, a child is killed through an accidental shooting, Boxer said.

"If we were to pass this legislation and it became the law of the land, the number of children involved in the number of accidental shootings would go way down," she said.

Kohl said the bill "is not a panacea. It will not prevent every single avoidable firearm-related accident. But

the fact is that all parents want to protect their children. This legislation will ensure that people purchase child-safety locks when they buy guns. Those who buy locks are more likely to use them. That much we know is certain."

The Senate in 1999 passed similar legislation but the House refused to approve the measure.

Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, the sponsor of the gunmaker immunity legislation, argued against the measure, saying gun manufacturers already are working on the problem. Craig said the amendment would be an intrusion of the federal government into people's private homes.

Debate team encourages support at weekend tournament

By K. AARON VAN OOSTERHOUT
News Writer

The Notre Dame debate team is inviting any and all students to heckle, cheer or simply observe the upcoming "Irish Invitational" this weekend.

Starting Saturday at noon and continuing until Sunday afternoon, the team is hosting the largest Midwest invitational of the spring semester, bringing 16 schools to engage in parliamentary-style debate at DeBartolo

Hall.

"Crowds are definitely encouraged," team president Meghan Callahan-Peters. "There's heckling involved, and you can shame people."

This is the second invitational in as many years Notre Dame has hosted. The number of schools attending has doubled, this year including such institutions as Indiana University, Hillsdale College, Purdue University and the University of South Carolina.

"[Hosting] elevates a school's prestige. The program as a

whole gets a boost," Callahan said. "It brings more involvement from the Notre Dame community."

As tournament director, team coach Kate Huetteman sent out invitations to each school, petitioned alumni to judge for the tournament and selected the "resolutions" for the debates.

Resolutions, or debate topics, come primarily from the political realm, ranging from international relations to domestic politics. Past topics include Bush's policy on Iraq both before and after the war.

"You usually have to be more up to date as well as just have a wider knowledge base, because you never know what the topic is going to be," Callahan said.

On the other hand, policy debate demands more facts and evidence to be successful.

"[Parliamentary debate] definitely teaches you how to think on your feet," Callahan said. "Even if you don't know an exact fact about a topic, you can come up with a logical problem with it."

Already a formidable opponent in debate circles, the team fin-

ished eighth last year in the National Parliamentary Debate Association's season-long sweepstakes. "Sweepstakes awards" are given only to the top schools at any particular tournament.

According to Callahan, the Notre Dame team is one of the best in the nation. This coming weekend still looms large, however, and "there's definitely more pressure" to perform well at home, Callahan said. "It should be a good tournament."

Contact K. Aaron Van Oosterhout at kvanoost@nd.edu

Leap year

continued from page 1

when he realized his birthday was celebrated differently from his friends, he has been aware of the uniqueness of his leap year birthday for as long as he can remember. Rather than believing his birthday loses significance as because he can only celebrate it on its exact day once every four years, Doversberger thinks that it becomes more special because of its rareness.

"Unlike a typical yearly birthday, when I explain to people when I was born and how I go about celebrating my birthday, they remember it. As a result, I think it gains significance because it is unique," he said.

Lindsey agreed with Doversberger, saying that leap year birthdays are more exciting to celebrate because they happen so infrequently. She first learned that her Feb. 29 birthday was special when she and her family celebrated her first "real" birthday when she turned four. Instead of being disappointed in what appeared to be a lack of actual birthdays, Lindsey found humor in her situation.

"I thought it was funny," Lindsey said. "Of all the years, months, days and times to be born, I was born on a leap year. [It's] the story of my life."

In non-leap years, both Doversberger and Lindsey celebrate their birthday on March 1, as they were born on the

60th day of the year. While neither one has specific traditions for the day, each one celebrates with a little more fanfare when Feb. 29 rolls around every four years.

"Someone usually gives me a 'you're turning three, four or five years old' card," Lindsey said. "They also [jokingly] tell me I'm tall or smart for my age."

Over the years, both students have also found other perks to being a birthday-celebrity of sorts. Doversberger has appeared in a local newspaper or on television every real birthday of his life and has received free \$25 gift certificates from the University Park Mall in Mishawaka.

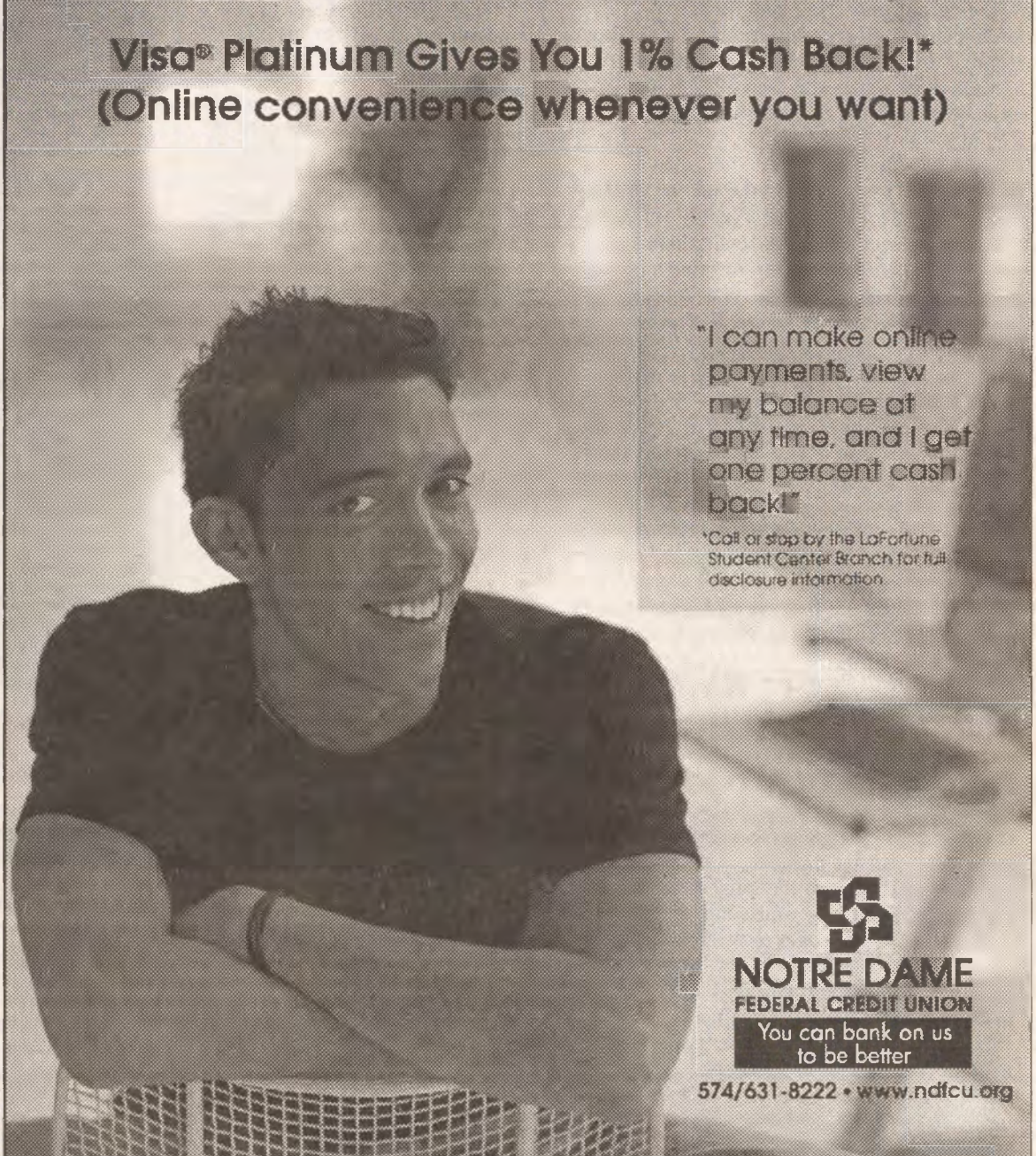
Although Lindsey has not received any special treatment as of late, when she was younger she often won extra prizes at fairs or in games. Recently, her birthday has been of more use to friends and family who have tried to utilize it to win free items of their own.

Perhaps one of the greatest benefits Doversberger and Lindsey gained due to their leap year birthdays is the fact that it sets them apart from the multitude of other students at Notre Dame.

"[Another] great thing about being born on a leap year is that I will always be able to tell people I was a student at the University of Notre Dame before my fifth birthday," said Doversberger.


Contact Laura Vilim at lvilim@nd.edu

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Fiestang

continued from page 1

dent clubs on campus to perform, including the First Class Steppers and the Ballet Folklórico.

"We are aiming to showcase Filipino culture and celebrate it with the Notre Dame and South Bend communities," Magno said.

Vinalo said FASO, a student organization that is dedicated to "sharing culture and building a Filipino community on campus," hopes to raise awareness of the Filipino culture by hosting the event.

The event will take begin at 6 p.m. Saturday. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., and the dance show will start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the door, costing \$5 for faculty and students, and \$7 for general admission.

Contact Dustin Van Handorf at dvanhand@nd.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,580.14	-21.48	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume
2,071	179	1,209	1,375,480,320

AMEX	1,245.14	+8.04
NASDAQ	2,032.57	+9.59
NYSE	6,677.66	+7.39
S&P 500	1,144.91	+4.58
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,815.29	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	4,515.90	+8.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SIRIUS SAT RADIO (SIRI)	+0.67	+0.02	3.00
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.75	-0.20	26.50
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-0.98	-0.23	23.35
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	+0.68	+0.09	13.28
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-0.41	-0.12	29.50

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+0.57	+0.28	49.21
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.77	+0.31	40.46
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.91	+0.27	30.00
3-MONTH BILL	-0.64	-0.06	9.32

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.17	35.51	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-0.60	395.50	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.925	96.20	

Exchange Rates			
YEN			109.6
EURO			0.8045
POUND			0.5373

IN BRIEF

Justice Dept. blocks Oracle takeover
SAN FRANCISCO — The U.S. Justice Department sued Thursday to block Oracle Corp.'s hostile \$9.4 billion bid for rival business software maker PeopleSoft Inc., raising the likelihood the proposed shotgun marriage won't happen.

Seven states joined the Justice Department in a lawsuit that contends a combination between Oracle and PeopleSoft would stifle competition in the \$20 billion market for business applications software — the computer coding that automates a wide range of administrative tasks.

The antitrust challenge represents a major blow to Oracle, which has been stalking its rival for nearly nine months, and a coup for PeopleSoft, which rallied its customers to help persuade the Justice Department to derail the deal.

Redwood Shores-based Oracle could still win the antitrust battle in court, but that fight could last for months, and time isn't on Oracle's side. Oracle is trying to seize control of PeopleSoft's board of directors in a shareholder vote scheduled March 25.

Wall Street remains unchanged

NEW YORK — Wall Street stumbled through a mostly lifeless session Thursday as bargain hunters gave technology stocks a moderate lift but struggling defense contractors kept blue chips under pressure.

A Commerce Department report that orders for big-ticket items from factories fell by 1.8 percent in January limited investors' enthusiasm, but analysts were not concerned that this presaged a steeper decline. While the indexes have registered losses in five of the last six sessions, the market has shown great resiliency.

"I don't think the numbers are so out of whack. But it's giving more cause to take some profits," Carl said.

"We've had a fine run-up, we're not seeing crazy swings, so [the market's] handling everything well. I don't see anything horrible on the horizon now." The Dow Jones industrial average lost 21.48, or 0.2 percent, to 10,580.14, after advancing 35.25 Wednesday.

Gasoline at six-month high

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gasoline futures closed at a new six-month high Thursday in New York as analysts said a "squeeze" appeared to be developing ahead of the front-month contract's expiration.

March petroleum products futures contracts expire at the end of open outcry trading Friday on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Futures traders occasionally try to get buyers with a need for prompt, physical delivery of crude oil to pay a premium on the futures contract on or near expiration, said Phil Flynn, an analyst who trades with Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago.

Such a move becomes more evident when the next contract month — in this case, April — doesn't rise by nearly as much, he said.

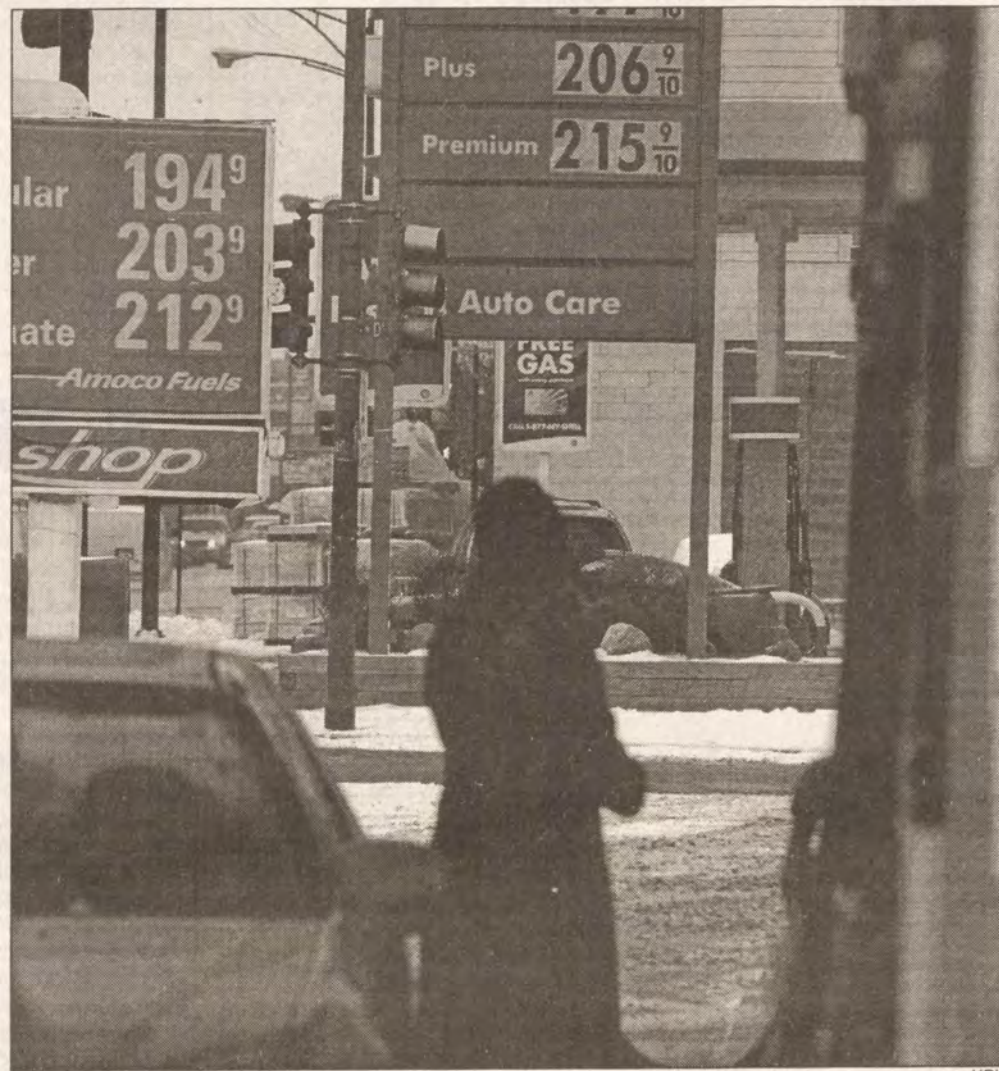
March gasoline futures settled up 1.84 cents at \$1.0773 a gallon — a six-month high — after trading between \$1.051 and \$1.08 during the session.

The front-month March contract traded at the highest level for a front month since Aug. 29, when the September contract settled at \$1.093 a gallon on the day that contract expired.

But Nymex crude oil futures closed lower Thursday as enthusiastic buying on concerns about tight supply gave way to profit-taking on those gains.

Light, sweet April crude oil futures settled down 17 cents at \$35.51 a barrel after touching a low of \$35.15.

On London's



A customer purchases gasoline at a station near downtown Chicago. Prices of gasoline have risen nearly 7 cents per gallon over the past two weeks.

International Petroleum Exchange, April Brent blend crude oil futures settled unchanged on the day at \$31.57 a barrel after touching a low of \$31.30.

March heating oil futures settled up .93 cent at 94.32 cents a gallon on the Nymex after touching a high of 94.50 cents.

Natural gas futures for March delivery rose 1.7 cents to settle at \$5.39 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Natural gas futures trading influenced heating oil and the rest of the petroleum complex Thursday following the release of bullish weekly natural gas storage data, analysts said.

Natural gas and petroleum markets trade on somewhat different fundamentals, though they influence each other as some users have the ability to switch between heating oil and natural gas.

"It's just profit — taking, nothing more than that," said Scott Meyers, an analyst who trades with Pioneer Futures Inc. in New York. "It's had a huge run. The market just ran a little bit ahead of itself. A little bit of the excess has come off the top."

But Meyers predicted April crude futures will test \$36 a barrel again, perhaps Friday.

"Definitely," he said. "the bull run is not over."

Dollar pushes higher against euro

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The dollar extended its broad-based gains Thursday amid growing concern that the European Central Bank may lower interest rates to subvert the strength of the euro.

The dollar rose to its highest level in nearly three months at 109.82 yen and a one-month peak against the Swiss franc of 1.2711 francs. The euro also sank as far as \$1.2386, a level not seen since the beginning of January.

Investor uncertainty about official European resolve to keep the euro from renewing a push toward all-time highs reached last week above \$1.29 has led to increasingly volatile swings in the foreign-exchange market.

Disappointing January durable goods and weekly initial claims for unemployment benefits data out of the U.S. resulted in a swing of nearly a cent in the euro against the dollar before the market settled back into the middle of its overnight ranges.

In late New York trading, the euro was quoted at \$1.2439 cents, down from \$1.2495 late Wednesday. The dollar was quoted at 109.63 yen, up from 109.02 yen late Wednesday. It was also quoted at 1.2677 Swiss francs, up from 1.2600, and 1.3416 Canadian dollars, up from 1.3345. The British pound fell to \$1.8608 from \$1.8713.

The dollar has surged about 4 percent against the euro and yen over the past week, sending many investors to the sidelines ahead of the ECB's monetary policy meeting next Thursday.

Most economists expect ECB to keep its main target rate at the current 2 percent level at its policy meeting next week, but European leaders have increased pressure on the central bank to act on the euro, saying the currency's strength is hurting exports from the region.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who is expected to bring up foreign-exchange policy when he visits with President Bush on Friday, has urged the ECB to consider using monetary policy as

a tool against the currency.

"Major imbalances in the global economy and fluctuations in exchange rates give us cause for serious concerns," Schroeder said Thursday in a speech to the Council on Foreign Relations in Chicago.

French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin said he shared Schroeder's view on rates, citing the "brutal nature" of the euro's rise.

"This indicates that there is some consensus between not only the ECB but also finance ministers that verbal intervention is the first line of defense," said Michael Woolfolk, senior currency strategist at Bank of New York.

"I expect the Europeans to follow through with continued verbal intervention, as it appears to be working for the time being."

Euro-zone data on inflation and economic sentiment due out Friday could shed some light on whether the ECB will consider a rate cut, and some market participants are expecting the numbers to disappoint.

Panelists discuss Patriot Act at SMC

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

The atmosphere was thick Thursday night at the panel discussion of the 2001 U.S. Patriot Act, held at the Stapleton Lounge in Saint Mary's LeMans Hall.

That was just the way the four panelists wanted it to be.

"It does affect normal, everyday people when the atmosphere [allows for] giving up civil liberties for safety," speaker Anita Morse said.

Panelist Doug Archer concurred.

"It chills the air in which we exercise our first amendment rights," Archer said. "It's a

chilling of the atmosphere that allows for mutual understanding."

Morse, a lawyer, librarian and research analyst for Saint Mary's, and Archer, a reference and peace studies librarian at the Hesburgh Library, were joined by South Bend lawyer William L. Wilson and Isis Nusair, a Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership fellow.

Wilson, who is the previous president of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, gave an abbreviated history of the groundwork behind the Patriot Act. He labeled it "a misnomer, if there ever was one."

The Patriot Act (or Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism) was developed after Sept. 11 to enhance domestic security and surveillance, protect the borders better and remove barriers to investigate

terrorism, among other things.

Now, however, it can be used to enter the lives of everyday Americans.

Under the act, government officials may search homes and obtain lists of purchases, communications, financial and medical records and even library records without informing the person they are investigating.

"It made all of your electronic communications available to the government on the same level that they can get a pen register or a track and trace," Morse said.

"If I can track and trace all of your Internet information, I have access to everything you have looked at."

This includes records for all foreign students, Nusair said. A Palestinian citizen of Israel, she gave an outside view of the act.

"It's the step by step process that encroaches on your private and your public life," she said.

The panelists agreed that the act has positive attributes, in its ability to better protect against money laundering and the implemented information sharing

between branches of investigation such as the FBI and CIA.

Also, Wilson said discussion of civil liberties is always positive.

"We all ought to be talking about it, in the dining hall, around the dinner table," he said. "Where do we draw the line?"

"It does affect normal, everyday people when the atmosphere [allows for] giving up civil liberties for safety."

Anita Morse
SMC research analyst

"We all ought to be talking about it, in the dining hall, around the dinner table."

William Wilson
attorney

Contact Nicole Zook
zook8928at@nd.edu

Election

continued from page 1

Judicial Council president Elliot Poindexter, who informed the Miller-Ben Zerante-Patricia Adams-Erika D'Addabbo (48.2 percent) and the Ramanan-Lauren Mullins-Lauren Hallemann-Emily Short (43.8 percent) tickets of the results Thursday night, agreed observing a similarly close race unfold just two weeks before was a definite advantage for the candidates.

"Because [a Senate decision] already happened, I thought they handled themselves a lot more respectfully than Ebersol

and Istvan did," Poindexter said.

He said the winner would be decided at Wednesday's regularly scheduled Student Senate meeting, and declined to release dorm vote totals to The Observer.

Of a total of 966 votes, Miller's ticket received 466 and Ramanan's ticket received 423, with the remaining 77 accounting for abstentions. The decreased participation meant that every vote carried a greater weight, Poindexter said.

"Traditionally the numbers go down from a primary to a runoff anyway," he said. "It's a lot closer because there are a lot fewer votes."

The class of 2005 race was nearly as close, with the Darrell Scott-Lauren Flynn-Tom Raaf-Kristin Boyd ticket beating the Katie Boyle-Brian Agganis-Sarah Bates-Stephanie Aberger ticket by 50 votes, 515 to 465. The Scott ticket earned 59.9 percent to Boyd's 45.9 percent with 3.2 percent abstaining.

Scott praised his opposition, saying Boyle had been "great competition" and that he looked forward to working closely with her and her running mates during the year ahead. Boyle could not be reached for comment.

Contact Claire Heining at
cheining@nd.edu

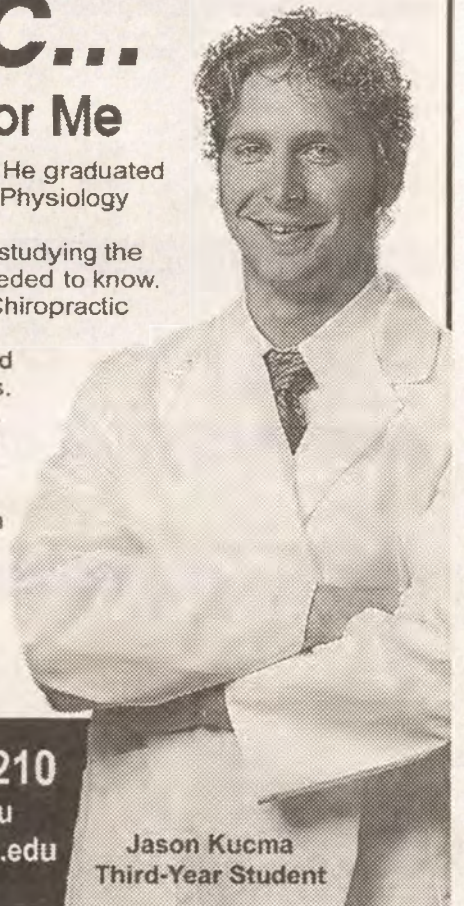
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Abuse study concludes 4 percent of priests accused

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A national, church-sanctioned study documenting sex abuse by U.S. Roman Catholic clergy found that about 4 percent of clerics have been accused of molesting minors since 1950, a diocese said Thursday.

The Diocese of Yakima, Wash., said in a news release that the survey compiled by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice found 4,392 of the 109,694 clergy who served over that five-decade period faced allegations of abuse.

The survey was overseen by the National Review Board, a lay watchdog panel the bishops formed at the height of the abuse crisis. The review board had a Friday morning news conference scheduled in Washington to discuss the report and a companion study on how the abuse crisis developed.

Dioceses nationwide received 10,667 abuse claims since 1950, according to the news release. Of those, claims by 6,700 were substantiated. About 3,300 were not investigated because the accused clergymen were dead.

Another 1,000 or so claims proved to be unsubstantiated, the diocese said.

The national report also tallied abuse-related costs at \$533.4 million.

A source who has read both the John Jay tally of abuse cases and the report on causes provided some other findings to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The causes report places much of the blame on bishops, saying "moral laxity" in disciplining offenders created an atmosphere that allowed the crisis to occur.

The report acknowledges that some bishops recognized the gravity of the problem early on

and spent years lobbying the Vatican to change church law so they could move faster against abusers.

The study also said the bishops were sometimes ill-served by the therapists and lawyers they sought out for guidance.

Still, there have been widespread reports of bishops who sheltered abusers and the review board used harsh language to criticize churchmen who failed to act. It said these bishops were guilty of "neglect" and insensitivity toward victims that allowed the "smoke of Satan" to enter the church, the source said.

The raw numbers of abuse claims and accused clergy are higher than previously estimated by the media, victims groups and church officials.

Estimates of the number of guilty clerics have varied dramatically. Church officials have said anywhere between 1 percent and 3 percent of clergy

abused minors.

The Rev. Andrew Greeley, a sociologist at the University of Chicago, put the number at 4 percent. Psychologist Richard Sipe, a former monk who researches sexuality in the priesthood, said it could be as high as 5 percent.

The bishops have apologized repeatedly for any wrongdoing and have enacted several reforms to protect children since the long-simmering abuse problem erupted more than two years ago in Boston. The discipline policy they adopted in June 2002 bars sex offenders from all public ministry.

The bishops authorized the new, landmark studies to restore trust in their leadership. No other profession or religious group has exposed itself to such scrutiny on the abuse issue, even though molestation is an acknowledged problem among coaches, teachers and clergy of other faiths.

The prelates said they wanted to undertake the investigation to demonstrate their willingness to confront abuse in the church.

Victims, however, say the bishops acted only under intense public pressure and said any study by the church is bound to underestimate the number of abuse cases.

In Boston, where the national crisis began with the case of rogue priest John Geoghan, officials said Thursday that 162 archdiocesan priests — about 7 percent of those who served over the last half-century — had been accused of abuse.

But plaintiffs' attorney Mitchell Garabedian scoffed at the count.

"We have an entity here that has allowed the wholesale sexual abuse of children by clergy, and to allow them to count the numbers just doesn't make any sense," he said. "There is a huge credibility problem here."

Bush administration to end U.S. use of land mines

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration intends to end the U.S. military's use of land mines that are not timed to self-destruct but will not sign a 150-nation anti-land mine treaty, a senior administration official said Thursday.

The new policy also will double, to \$70 million, what the United States spends annually to locate and remove mines considered hazards to people and serving no deterrent purpose, the official said, speak-

ing on condition of anonymity.

Lincoln Bloomfield, an assistant secretary of state who is President Bush's special adviser on land mines, was expected to announce the new policy at the State Department on Friday.

From now on, all new U.S. land mines will be detectable to U.S. authorities and geared to become inert. But those considered to be part of deterring attacks, such as in Korea, will remain in use. Those mines will be timed to self-destruct, but they can be reset

to remain operable.

In Afghanistan and Cambodia, among other countries, the buried land mines serve no military purpose and are a menace to farmers, children and other people who accidentally trip over them. The mines maim or kill.

Stephen Goose, executive director of the arms control division of Human Rights Watch, praised the plan to increase spending for mine clearance projects. But he said the United States is isolated by its insistence on using land

mines in its defense programs.

"We have a great deal of momentum everywhere else around the world. The U.S. is the only country in NATO that hasn't banned this weapon. We have a situation where the U.S. is undermining the international norm against this weapon," said Goose, who said he was informed by the State Department on Thursday about the new policy.

Goose said that the U.S. goal, for a decade, has been to move toward the point where it could eliminate all anti-personnel mines.

"This is a goal that has been embraced by the entire world. But it's a goal that the United States has now given up on. They now say they want to use some types of anti-personnel mines, the so-called smart mines that self-destruct, anywhere in the world in perpetuity," he said.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., a leading opponent of land mines, said although there are some positive aspects of the

policy, "on the whole it is a deeply disappointing step backward."

"This is another squandered opportunity for U.S. leadership on a crucial arms control and humanitarian issue," he said. "Worst of all, in a sharp departure from past policy, it says the United States will continue using land mines indefinitely."

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines, which won the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts in getting the treaty approved in Ottawa, Canada, said 150 countries have signed on. They included Afghanistan, Canada, Germany, Italy and Britain. Among the 44 nations that had not done so, as of October, were the United States, China, Iran, North Korea, South Korea, Pakistan and Russia, according to the group.

The 1997 pact went into force on March 1, 1999, and bans the stockpile of mines and requires each nation to destroy its stock within four years.

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ADVERTISING

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR & ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

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

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Nicole Clery

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Graham Ebestch

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KC Kenney

Illustrator

Katie Knorr

Why the delay?

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. This old adage can be applied to modern situations, even of a technical nature, such as the Office of Information Technologies' two failed attempts to install a new Internet connection.

Early Sunday morning, OIT activated this new connection only to have it fail three hours later; the backup connection used slowed Internet on campus to a crawl. Tuesday morning, OIT tried again to activate the connection and it failed two hours later.

While OIT and the University should be commended for their attempts to increase the University's Internet bandwidth, the failures encountered exhibit a lack of necessary testing and preparation for the switchover. And OIT's blind faith in the Internet vendor's promise that they had fixed the problem when they attempted to acti-

vate the connection a second time 48 hours later is unacceptable.

Seniors, faculty and anyone else who has been on campus for at least four years painfully remember the 2000-01 academic year that was marred by multiple, long-lasting Internet outages that crippled campus computing. Since then, Internet outages have been few and far between.

But the University's decision to install a new connection that has failed twice in the five hours it was active raises questions about whether Internet reliability is returning to the days of old.

OIT is now carefully reviewing its plans and meeting with the Internet vendor to ensure that the next upgrade will be a success. But one has to wonder why it took two failures to cause this review.

The Observer Editorial

Critiquing the Notre Dame student election

I do not personally know Charlie Ebersol, but from what I read in The Observer, it seems that many coordinated opposition to his bid for student body president despite his extensive experience. His opponents claim that he drives a gas guzzling, environment-choking Hummer and may even torture small animals in the back seat. In essence, they suggest that Ebersol lacks the testosterone to become student body president.

In the rough and tumble unreal world of academia, election campaigns can become far worse an experience than any national effort. I should know. Thirty-three years ago I ran for student body president, losing to a guy dressed in a Burger King crown with his kitten as his running mate. My campaign offered many sound, sensible and realistic solutions to the campus problems of parking, dining, bookstore prices and social life. But students saw no relevance in our sitting student body president who, in exchange for a letter of recommendation to Yale law school, ignored a turnout of nearly 2,000 students and caved to the administration's proposed ban of beer kegs on campus.

Why should a contemporary campus electorate, like Americans in 2000, vote for the most experienced candidate when the issues of the day do not seem as pressing as they might some day become? Nobody really cares about what may lurk beyond the horizon. All of us vote our immediate interests. Many of us vote our greed and fears.

It is ironic that the 2004 Notre Dame student election in many ways mirrors the 2000 presidential race, replete with similar voting trends, an uncer-

tain outcome and Elliott Poindexter playing the vote keeper role of Katherine Harris. Unfortunately, Ebersol must endure a loss in part because of an archaic runoff election system and in part as a hostage of his own public persona.

While Ebersol swept nearly all of the women's dormitories, he nearly lost all of the men's dormitories. His strengths were women, freshmen and sophomores. Obviously such elitist characteristics as sensitivity and idealism alone could not carry Ebersol to victory. He lost the vote of off-campus students like Gore lost the Christian coalition. Upperclassmen in 2004 rejected Ebersol like the angry, gun-toting NASCAR Bubba voters who could not relate to Gore's 2000 effort.

Gore's losses in Tennessee and West Virginia equated to Ebersol's loss of campus men. The male voting block yearned for an important reason to better identify with Ebersol. He could have better related by going duck hunting like Dick Cheney or at least publicly quoting Digger's basketball record when leading at half-time.

Ebersol's campaign on the final ballot further parallels 2000 in that he faced his own version of Ralph Nader as a third option. What student government academic imbecile included an option to abstain on the run-off ballot? Maybe the initial ballot should include an area for "none of the above," but never on a final ballot when only two tickets have qualified and successfully advanced. That ballot flaw is like allowing Howard Dean to appear again in November.

I personally oppose any form of runoff in our public election system, opting for one ballot listing all opponents where the winner takes all. This applies to party primary elections where a party nominee is selected as well as in the general election where all party nominees and independents

compete. However, for campus elections, I might be persuaded to accept some form of a primary style effort other than a runoff format.

Runoff systems are post-Civil War concoctions, originally established to prevent a substantial block of minority voters, in some cases the largest segment of the voting electorate, from electing one of their own. Since alone minorities rarely can muster more than 50 percent of the electorate, bigots rigged the electoral system so that "like-minded folk" could gang up against such minority efforts when they qualified for a runoff. Regrettably, the runoff system still exists today, primarily in regions of this nation where the electorate pronounces all six syllables in the word "school."

Despite the drama of this year's student election, Ebersol's legacy on campus will not be completely written until next school year, when Americans vote for a new president. Like many students who ganged up against Ebersol in favor of Istvan in the runoff election, Democrats will ignore Nader to defeat Bush this November. Only then will Ebersol's legacy be written. He will have been the campus version of both Al Gore in 2000 and George Bush in 2004.

Legacies have a way of changing over time. As alumni, we who endured the betrayal of our student body president defeated him twice on the national alumni ballot. Funny how politics brings out the worst in everyone.

Gary Caruso, class of 1973, served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hotline@aol.com.

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

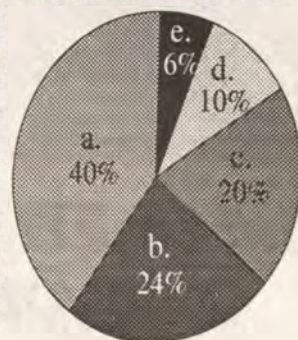
Gary Caruso

Capitol
Comments

OBSERVER POLL

Where do you attend Mass?

- a. My dorm 40%
- b. Do not attend mass 24%
- c. Basillica 20%
- d. Another dorm 10%
- e. Off campus/ other service 6%



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 260 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored."

Aldous Huxley
writer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Community responds to comments about Lenten food options



Meat-free dining halls not 'fascist'

I am writing in response to the Feb. 26 article submitted by Chris Vierig. I was a student at Saint Mary's from 1995 to 1997 and graduated from Notre Dame in 1999. In 2002, I received my J.D. from the law school. Each year over that span of time, someone lodged a complaint in some manner about not serving meat in the dining halls during Lent. Mr. Vierig suggests that this is the University's "fascist" way of imposing Catholicism on non-Catholic students. He has, of course, also suggested some other ways in which the University is oppressing him because he is not Catholic. The last time I checked, Notre Dame is a private, Catholic institution; therefore, it is the school's prerogative to follow the traditions of the Catholic faith in whatever manner it deems appropriate.

Mr. Vierig indicates that he was equally aware of Notre Dame's Catholic affiliation when he accepted the University's invitation to enter the class of 2007.

The dining hall staff is not forcing stu-

dents to pray before their meals; students are not directed to fast during Lent; Burger King is not shut down for 40 days; and the University does not require attendance at Sunday Mass. It has bothered me for some years to hear students complain about the religious values that Notre Dame has so wrongly thrust upon them. The University does not force students to do anything in contravention of their own religious beliefs. However, the University merely asks you to respect the traditions of the faith upon which Notre Dame was founded. Limiting the students' selection of food one day a week for 40 days hardly seems like religious persecution. I would suggest that Mr. Vierig's outrage might be better directed at something more meaningful than missing dining hall meatloaf.

Nicole Borda
 alumni
 Class of 1999, 2002
 Feb. 26

Freshman determination commendable, but point is lost

According to Chris Vierig's letter in yesterday's Viewpoint, "the Notre Dame administration has crossed the line into fascism by forcing their views upon us." You're kidding? It took you a semester and a half of college to figure that out? I definitely applaud your freshman-like determination to speak out and express your differing opinions, but you are just wasting your time — I realize the irony in saying that you are "wasting your time" when, in fact, I am also wasting my time by responding to your letter. However, you probably should take some time and talk to an upperclassman and discover that the University has not just recently "been going down a slippery slope by forcefully exercising its iron fist more and more."

During my freshman year, five years ago, hundreds of dorm parties used to radiate through campus every weekend. Dorms thumped with bass as strobe lights from cleared-out rooms flashed into the quads. If you even talk to someone that went here 15 years ago, he or she will tell you crazy keg-tossing stories on North Quad during AnTostal. Granted, the annihilation of the O'Neill Mardi Gras is unfor-

fortunate, but it was only a tiny obstacle in the way of the administration, as are you and I.

You expressed your "right to choose" in your article as well, but you chose to come to Notre Dame, and consequently relinquished said rights. However, I will give you some real choices. If you want to eat meat on Fridays, walk to McDonalds. If you want to get away from the administration's "iron fist," move off campus. If you want hard liquor and excitement in South Bend, go to Boat Club. While the administration holds all the cards at Notre Dame, you still do have choices. Before you can be happy here, you have to understand that and respect it.

My suggestion to you, Mr. Vierig, is to try and understand that some things at Notre Dame are always changing while others never will, but either way there isn't a thing you can do about it — unless you have a lot of money.

Michael Kinder
 senior
 off-campus
 Feb. 26

Stop being offended by Catholic traditions

After nearly four years of dining hall food, I am often disappointed at what I see when I enter the food lines. I must, however, give the dining hall credit for not serving meat on Lenten Fridays and Ash Wednesday. As a practicing Catholic, I am also a practicing student who keeps quite busy and has a lot of work to do on a daily basis. Often the first thing on my mind is not "Oh shoot! I cannot have meat today." I'd like to thank the dining hall for reminding me that it is, in fact, the season of Lent. Yes, I know that eating meat on a Friday will not kill me or condemn me to eternal damnation, but I do remember that Lent is a time in which we remember Christ's sacrifice. For the majority of students here who practice the faith that this University builds itself on, I see the dining hall's no meat policy as helpful, and I extend my gratitude to food services for upholding the beliefs our university is founded upon.

Another student wrote on Feb. 26 that he was "offended and angry" at

the dining hall for not serving meat. He accused our administration of fascism for not offering meat in the dining hall. To him I say, if you are offended by a religion that preaches salvation and forgiveness for all — which last time I checked weren't major tenets of fascism — then perhaps you should be more accepting of the environment that you are in. Next time my Jewish friends at home invite me to a Seder meal, I won't get offended that I have to eat bitter herbs and unleavened bread rather than prime rib and a baked potato. I will be mindful of the sacrifices that their ancestors made thousands of years ago and the traditions that their religion carries today.

Stop being so "offended" by Catholic traditions. If you must eat meat, go to Burger King. A cheeseburger costs less than \$1 there, so it won't destroy your flex points either.

Chris Baughman
 senior
 Keenan Hall
 Feb. 25

Lent equals sacrifice, not fascism

They even took the bacon bits? Those fascist pigs. How dare they try to impose a belief system that only 85 percent of the student population believes in? How dare those who claim to run the University in the best interests of the students deny their Atkins-happy charges of all that protein in favor of promoting the very values upon which the University was founded? It's forced religion, oppression and the beginning of a neo-fascist movement spearheaded by the Pope himself — or maybe just Bill Kirk.

Or maybe it's Lent and another freshman class got the surprise of their college careers when they walked into the dining halls on Wednesday. First of all, Notre Dame didn't continue down any slippery slope or cross any line by removing meat from the dining halls in observance of the Lenten season — this isn't a new tactic they're using to ruin the best four years of your life. And second, they're not forcing anyone to practice Catholicism — if they wanted to do that they would drag you to Mass, kicking and screaming, and shove the Eucharist down your throat.

The Lenten season was not created to promote a vegetarian lifestyle. Nor was it conceived to force Catholic beliefs upon unsuspecting freshmen. Most people associate the words reflection, penance, prayer, preparation, humility and sacrifice with Lent, not fascism. Notre Dame is a highly

spiritual community. Over 150 Masses a week, chapels in every dorm and a tradition rooted in the Christian faith. You knew that coming in. Accepting the invitation to attend Notre Dame is accepting an education that stems from that faith. And that doesn't stay in the classroom.

Chris Vierig "was offended and angry" when he walked into the dining hall on Ash Wednesday. I was offended and angry when I read his letter on Thursday because I don't know if he appreciates where he is. Whether you're a Catholic who doesn't like sacrificing your chicken patties or a non-Catholic student, please realize that the University does what it does to promote its values and teachings, and in this case, try and remind you what sacrifice truly means. If you're not up for all that, fine. No one is going to force you. Go over to LaFortune and partake of the many fine eateries that will gladly serve you all the meat you want on any given Friday between now and Easter. But don't write letters criticizing Notre Dame administrators. Instead of complaining about what the University is taking away from you this Lenten season, look around and realize what they're giving you.

Jeremy Sony
 alumni
 Class of 2001
 Feb. 25

Fine dining for the Oscars

Be the host of a memorable themed Oscar party with these fun recipes

What better way to celebrate the glitz and glamour of the Academy Awards than with a themed cocktail party? Toss aside the unfinished homework, dress yourself up and gather all your movie-loving friends for a night of celebrities and these fun hors d'ouvres that celebrate this year's best movie nominees.

Lord of the Pineapple Rings Mini Pizzas

Layer-halved English muffins with tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, ham slices and pineapple rings. Add spices to your taste and bake on 350°F for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the cheese is melted and slightly browned.

Maureen Malloy

Scene Writer

Master and Commander – Salmon Spread

Make this yummy appetizer to pay homage to this Russell Crowe sea adventure. Pair with toasted pita chips or crackers.

- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 ounces flaked or chopped smoked salmon (try to snag some from the dining hall!)
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/4 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/4 teaspoon seafood seasoning
- 1 dash ground black pepper

In a medium bowl, mix together cream cheese, salmon, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, garlic, onion powder, seafood seasoning and ground black pepper. Chill in the refrigerator until serving.

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Chocolate Cinnamon "Sea" Biscuit Bites

Separatecan Pillsbury® Golden Layers® Refrigerated cinnamon and sugar biscuits dough into eight biscuits and then further separate each biscuit into quarters. Lightly brush biscuits with melted butter and bake for seven to nine minutes at 400°F. Drizzle melted chocolate on top and serve warm.

Lost in Translation

Serve some sushi (you can get it at the Huddle now!) to celebrate this Bill Murray drama set in Tokyo.

Mystic River — Boston Creme Cupcakes

Whip up these tasty treats named after the setting of this thriller featuring Sean Penn and Kevin Bacon.

- 1 1/4 cups cold whole milk
- 1 (3.4-ounce) box vanilla instant pudding and pie filling mix
- 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
- 12 pre-made cupcakes baked from a cake mix
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 (12-ounce) package semisweet chocolate morsels
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar, sifted

Combine milk, instant pudding mix and vanilla extract in a large bowl. Beat mixture with a hand mixer for two minutes, or until it thickens. Place mixture in refrigerator for 15 minutes. Spoon filling into a pastry bag fitted with a medium-size plain tip. Fill cupcakes with vanilla pudding filling by inserting tip into top of cupcake and squeezing a couple of tablespoons of filling into each cupcake. Heat cream in a small heavy saucepan over medium heat until bubbles appear around the edges. Remove from heat. Add chocolate morsels to pan, and whisk until smooth. Spoon or drizzle glaze over cupcakes, or dunk the tops into the glaze. Refrigerate until set, at least 1 hour, before serving. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

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Contact Maureen Malloy at mmalloy1@nd.edu.



Tragedy showing Saint Mary's

Shakespeare's Othello is brought to O'Laughlin Auditori

By JONATHAN RETARTHA

Scene Writer

The tragic story of "Othello" comes to Saint Mary's this weekend as the Guthrie Theater presents its production of one of Shakespeare's most well-known plays. "Othello" tells the story of a Venetian general who has just wed the daughter of a wealthy senator, Barbantio. Barbantio strongly objects to his daughter Desdemona's marriage to a minority. War calls Othello away to the island of Cyprus to battle the Turks forcing Othello and Desdemona leave. One of Othello's soldiers, Iago, is bitterly angry with Othello for naming another soldier, Cassio, to the position of lieutenant instead of him. He devises a plan to get Cassio fired and to have Desdemona plead for his job. In the process, Iago plants the seed of jealousy in Othello's mind and the moor brings a vengeful tirade to uncover the truth.

The feature role of the play is obviously that of Othello, the general who is driven mad with jealousy. The role of Othello probably boasts the largest record of A-list actors in all of Shakespeare. Acting greats such as Laurence Fishburne, Patrick Stewart and Laurence Olivier have left their mark on the role throughout the decades, and Lester Purry does not disappoint in the Guthrie production.

Purry brings a fury and frailty that is often missed by actors in the role. Many actors simply play the moor as stout and angry throughout the play, but Purry offers just the right touch of emotional weakness to show that Othello's seemingly over-the-top rage is simply a cover for his weak emotional state.

At the onset of the play, he is completely smitten by his love, and Desdemona's will often clouds his judgment. Shakespeare wrote the character of Othello in a similar fashion to the character of Hamlet. Both contemplate and drive themselves mad on the inside.

The difference with Othello is that he has less control over his emotions, and acts much more rashly on them. This lack of control stems pri-



Photo courtesy of T. Charles Erickson

Othello, presented by the Guthrie Theater, is the story of a love story torn by deceit and revenge.

marily from the fact he has already received such hostility all his life due to being a minority. Purry truly breaks down under the weight of his wife's supposed infidelity, and his anger comes more out of desperation than from pride.

It would be easy to identify Purry's timing and delivery as being derived from the acting of Samuel L. Jackson, but most likely it is the case that Jackson has taken a few tips from Shakespeare in his approach to his movie roles.

Bill McCallum plays Iago, the evil conspirator who seeks revenge on Othello for denying him his position as lieutenant. McCallum has a large task in bringing to life Iago's several long soliloquies. He adds great depth to his asides and monologues that not only clearly inform the audience of what Iago is thinking but also keep their attention throughout.

McCallum uses timing to clearly identify both the humorous and the ironic lines that are so prevalent in "Othello." He is evil to the audience but saintly to the characters, and he does not fall into the trap of



Photo courtesy of T. Charles Erickson

Desdemona, the virtuous wife of Othello, played by Cheyenne Casebier, is comforted by the deceitful villain, Iago.



Othello, played by Lester Purry, confronts Iago, played by Bill McCallum, unaware that Iago has

Events This Weekend
8pm on ABC
The 76th Annual Academy Awards
Hosted by Billy Crystal

ing at

5

um by the Guthrie Theater

letting his evil side seep through in his interactions with other characters.

Cheyenne Casebier plays Desdemona, the wife of Othello. While her initial scenes tend to be a little weak, she shows tremendous chemistry with Purry. The two really seem to be in love — another trait missing from many other productions where Othello is played as cold and stubborn.

Kris L. Nelson has a strong supporting role in that of Roderigo, companion to Iago. He plays the role as slightly goofy, but always offers tremendous balance when having to compete with the vivid portrayal of Iago. It is certainly a role that can be overpowered by Iago, but Nelson holds his own beautifully.

Virginia S. Burke plays Emilia, wife to Iago and caretaker of Desdemona. While her role is very small for the majority of the play, she erupts as the source of moral truth during the death scene. Shakespeare always enjoyed putting the source of morality in the most common character, and Burke commands the stage during the climax of the play.

"Othello" is being produced by the Guthrie Theater, a company originating in Minneapolis and St. Paul that has brought stage productions to the upper midwest for 40 years. It has a season of 11 plays, playing on their main stage, second stage and on tour. They also work very closely with area students in the locations they tour to, and help in commissioning high school productions and B.F.A. actor training programs. Their recent tour is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, a program to bring Shakespeare to small cities around the United States. The program was started by Jack Valenti, CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, and first lady Laura Bush to help spread Shakespeare's works to over 100 cities across the country.

"Othello" is a stirring work of jealousy, lies and murder. The Guthrie Theater offers a tremendously professional production highlighting fantastic actors with Broadway caliber sets, lighting and music. It is truly the best Shakespeare experience to come to South Bend all year.

"Othello" plays at the O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College tonight at 7 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 for adults, \$23.50 for seniors, \$20.50 for the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community and \$12 for students and family at the 2 p.m. matinees. For tickets, call the Saint Mary's Box Office at 574-284-4626.

Contact Jonathan Retartha at jretarth@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of T. Charles Erickson

ides in this most trusted advisor, Iago, played by s a cruel plan of revenge in action.

Jazz Festival returns to Notre Dame

46th annual event held on campus this weekend

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN
Scene Writer

Those of you looking to for a treat this weekend should not miss the yearly opportunity to hear sounds and melodies that unfortunately suffer from a lack of exposure on campus.

The Notre Dame Music Department presents the 46th annual Collegiate Jazz Festival, that started Wednesday and runs through the weekend. The weekend's concerts feature not only Notre Dame but also groups from Michigan State, Western Michigan, Indiana, Marshall and Texas State. All events are free and open to the public.

"Each group will perform its very best music," said Larry Dwyer, the director of jazz bands at Notre Dame. "Most of the groups will include a variety of jazz styles in their programs, to demonstrate to the judges their mastery of both old and new music, and to give the audience an interesting sample of the best of both old and new music, with different tempos and easy-to-listen-to music alternating with challenging pieces."

"By its nature, jazz includes a lot of improvisation, and each group will feature its best improvising soloists."

Lauren Fowler, who, along with Greg Salazar, directs the festival, also notes the importance of holding the event without charge. "Thus there's no reason to see one of the best musical shows on campus this year," Fowler said.

Besides great music, the Collegiate Jazz Festival will be judged by a world-class group of musicians, including saxophonist Jeff

Clayton, trumpeter Jon Faddis, pianist Alan Pasqua, bassist Dave Carpenter and drummer Peter Erskine. The judges will give awards to individual soloists for their outstanding merit over the weekend. It is also not uncommon for these soloists to go on and have outstanding careers in music, sometimes based upon the recommendations of the judges.

Mr. Dwyer remarks how the judges jam tonight is truly a sight to behold.

"[It's] always a spectacular moment at CJF," he said. "These internationally acclaimed musicians get on stage, with no rehearsal, and jam for about 45 minutes. The result is always incredible."

Students attending the festival should expect a wide variety of style in jazz as well, ranging from more traditional, big band-type arrangements, to the avant-garde works, to the heavily Latin-influenced beats produced by Salsa del

Rio, one of the two groups representing Texas State.

Regardless of whatever showcase students may choose to attend, the event should already prove a winner due to its exclusivity in the music world at Notre Dame. We all know how much fun it is to sing along with the glee club, and we've all experienced the rush of the marching band.

But jazz — what an opportunity to learn something new.

The concerts tonight and Saturday night will be held in Washington Hall and start at 6:45 p.m.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bholliha@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of <http://www.nd.edu/~sub/cjf/judges.html>

The members of the Peter Erskine Trio will be some of the many great jazz musicians helping to judge the participants of this weekend's 46th annual Notre Dame Jazz Festival.

NHL

Lightning continue hot streak, beat Leafs 4-3

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — The Tampa Bay Lightning are proving they belong among the NHL's elite.

Brad Richards had two goals and an assist and the Lightning beat the Toronto Maple Leafs Thursday night.

Pavel Kubina and Vincent Lecavalier had the other goals for the Southeast Division-leading Lightning, who have an 18-point lead over second place Florida.

Tampa Bay, 13-1-4 over the past 19 games, is just three points behind Philadelphia for the top spot in the Eastern Conference. Toronto also has 80 points, while Ottawa has 82.

"We're on a little roll," Lightning captain Dave Andreychuk said. "We're playing pretty well. We have some confidence. It wasn't our best game, but still came up with the win."

Lightning goalie Nikolai Khabibulin made 19 saves for his 200th career win (200-183-57).

Alex Mogilny, Mats Sundin and Joe Nieuwendyk scored for Toronto, which has lost three straight. The Maple Leafs have dropped five of eight.

"Generally when you go on a swoon, it's because you don't want to work at the checking part of the game," Toronto coach Pat Quinn said. "Some guys right now are probably thinking this game is about them for points and not about the team for points."

Leafs goalie Ed Belfour missed his eighth consecutive game because of a sprained back. Rookie Mikael Tellqvist made his fifth straight start.

Belfour took part in the morning skate, but it was determined he was not ready to play. He has played just once — Feb. 12 against Columbus — in the past 12 games. His status is day to day.

The Lightning snapped a 10-game winless streak against Toronto (0-9-1).

"It's a real confidence builder," Lightning right wing Martin St. Louis said. "We came out and played well against a team ahead of us."

St. Louis had two assists to tie Washington's Robert Lang

for NHL points lead with 74.

Kubina put the Lightning up 1-0 from the low slot midway in the first period. Richards gave Tampa Bay a two-goal advantage on a short-handed breakaway. The Lightning have 13 short-handed goals this season.

Mogilny made it 2-1 on a blast from the slot during a power-play 16 seconds after Richards' goal. It was Mogilny's first goal — coming in his fifth game — after returning from a hip injury that sidelined him 40 games. His previous goal came Nov. 15 at San Jose.

Richards, on a power play, and Sundin traded goals during the opening 2:02 of the second period.

Tellqvist later in the period stopped Lecavalier and Martin Cibak on breakaways. He finished with 22 saves.

"We need to get our heads back in the game and pay attention to the defensive part of this game, or we're just going to screw up everything we've worked for all year long," Quinn said. "We've got a lot of guys not doing very good jobs."

Lecavalier scored his fourth goal in the past three games in the third period, then Nieuwendyk got the Maple Leafs within 4-3 on a power-play with 2:44 left.

"It was a tough game," Richards said. "Every time we went up two goals, they scored right away. It just shows you when you play a team like that how tough it is."

Rangers 6, Islanders 3

Tom Renney preached restraint in his first game behind the New York Rangers' bench, and the disappointing team listened to its new coach.

A night after Renney took over from Glen Sather, he led his club to a victory Thursday that completed a six-game, season sweep of the New York Islanders.

Sather stepped down Wednesday to concentrate on his president and general manager duties with the team that is in 11th place in the Eastern Conference, 12 points behind the Islanders and the playoff cutoff.

"It's a vision. It's a ways out there, but we have our eye on



Saku Koivu, left, Craig Rivet, center, and Andrei Markov, right, celebrate Rivet's overtime game-winning goal in the Canadiens' 3-2 win over the Boston Bruins Thursday night.

it," Renney said of the distant playoff hopes with 19 games remaining.

In the rematch of last week's slugfest, Dale Purinton didn't take the bait from Islanders enforcer Eric Cairns. Instead, he took the punches but didn't retaliate and earned a lengthy power play for the Rangers.

"You have to be smart about keeping your emotions in check," Purinton said. "I don't think that was the time to do it."

The Rangers completed their second six-game sweep over the Islanders in a campaign that will likely see them miss the playoffs for a seventh straight season. They are 8-0-2 in their last 10 against the Islanders.

Jaromir Jagr had two goals and an assist, and Chris Simon added two goals. Brian Leetch had a goal and two assists, and Bobby Holik had a goal and an assist as the Rangers swept their area rival for the third time.

The Islanders, outscored 27-13 by the Rangers this season, almost got back in it after falling behind 6-0 6:49 into the second period. Janne Niinimaa and Mariusz Czerkawski scored in the second, and Sven Butenschon added his second NHL goal early in the third. It

wasn't enough to extend the Islanders' home unbeaten streak to 10.

The Islanders hadn't lost at home since Jan. 10, the last time the Rangers visited.

"We're not worried about the Rangers," Islanders defenseman Adrian Aucoin said. "I don't think the Rangers are going to catch anybody. They have our number."

Just like last Thursday, the Rangers jumped to a big lead and then fought the Islanders.

Cairns matched up again with Purinton, who absorbed four punches while on the ice with his head down. When he got back to his skates, he waved Cairns off and the Rangers were rewarded.

Last week, Purinton had the upper hand after coming to the defense of forward Martin Rucinsky — punched twice by Cairns. He claimed Purinton suckerced him then, and still wasn't happy after Purinton didn't fight him in a rematch.

"I've lost a lot of respect for him," Cairns said. "For whatever reason, he decided to go into a turtle position. He has no respect. Stand up and be a man."

Canadiens 3, Bruins 2

Jose Theodore frustrated the Boston Bruins long enough to

see his team win in overtime.

Craig Rivet scored with one minute left in overtime and Theodore made 37 saves to lift the Montreal Canadiens to a victory over the Bruins on Thursday night.

"Teams that have success have a great goaltender," Rivet said. "Theo kept us in the game and gave us a chance to win."

Montreal is 4-1 in its last five games.

"We let other teams get back in the hunt after the All-Star break when we lost four straight," Koivu said. "But now we are gaining some confidence against quality teams."

Rivet scored the winner when he skated past the Boston defense and put a shot from the slot past goalie Andrew Raycroft.

Travis Green tied the game when he knocked down Nick Boynton's shot from the point and backhanded a shot past Theodore early in the second period. Boynton assisted on both Boston goals.

"We had our chances, but we gave them chances," Raycroft said. "You get a little more fired up when you are trying to catch another team."

Raycroft made 23 saves for Boston, which is 0-1-2-1 in its last four.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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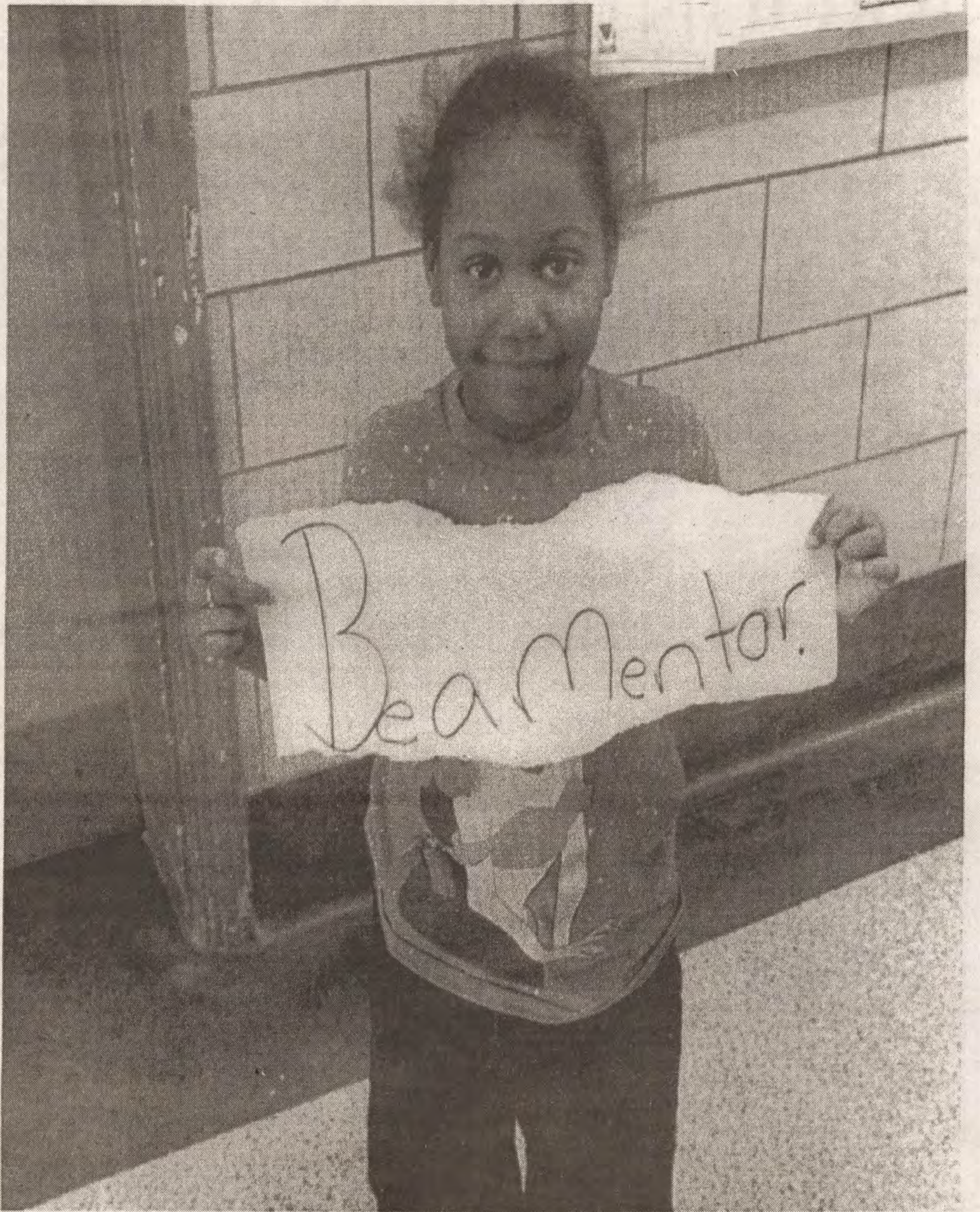
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AROUND THE NATION

page 16

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, February 27, 2004

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
New Jersey	35-21	.625	9-1	-
New York	26-33	.441	4-6	10.5
Miami	25-33	.431	4-6	11
Philadelphia	23-35	.397	3-7	13
Boston	23-36	.390	1-9	13.5
Washington	17-38	.309	3-7	17.5
Orlando	16-43	.271	3-7	20.5

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Indiana	42-15	.737	8-2	-
Detroit	36-24	.600	3-7	7.5
New Orleans	31-26	.544	5-5	11
Milwaukee	30-27	.526	4-6	12
Toronto	25-32	.439	2-8	17
Cleveland	23-35	.397	4-6	19.5
Atlanta	19-38	.333	5-5	23
Chicago	16-41	.281	3-7	26

Western Conference, Midwest Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Minnesota	42-16	.724	8-2	-
San Antonio	38-19	.667	8-2	3.5
Dallas	36-20	.643	7-3	5
Memphis	34-23	.596	8-2	7.5
Houston	33-24	.579	7-3	8.5
Denver	32-27	.542	4-6	10.5
Utah	29-30	.492	5-5	13.5

Western Conference, Pacific Division

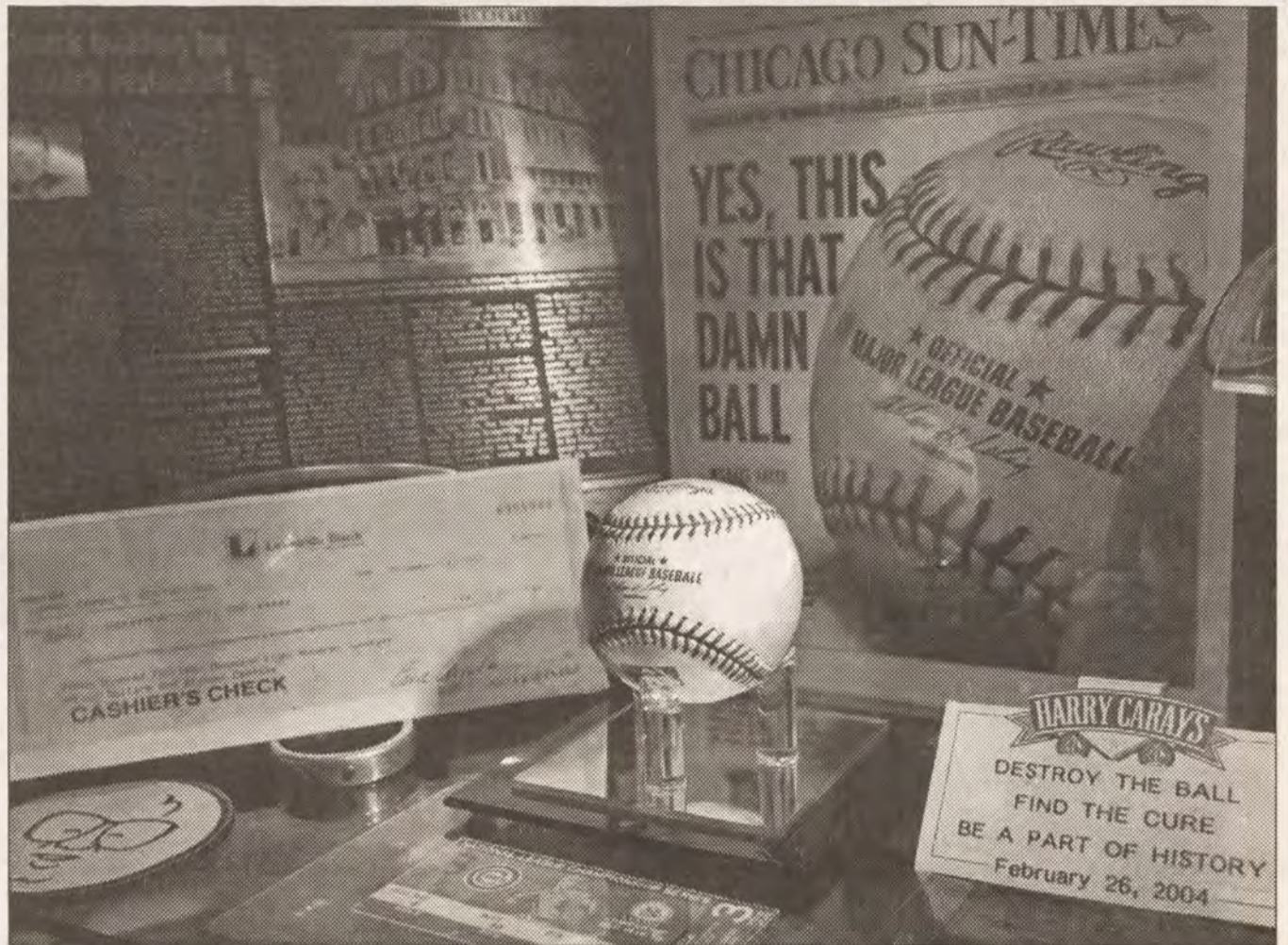
team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Sacramento	41-19	.745	8-2	-
L.A. Lakers	36-19	.655	8-2	5
Portland	29-28	.509	7-3	13
Seattle	26-31	.456	3-7	16
Golden State	25-31	.446	5-5	16.5
L.A. Clippers	24-32	.429	3-7	17.5
Phoenix	19-40	.322	2-8	24

Men's Basketball

ESPN/USA Today Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Stanford (26)	23-0	770
2	Saint Joseph's (5)	24-0	746
3	Pittsburgh	24-2	677
4	Duke	22-3	664
5	Gonzaga	23-2	656
6	Oklahoma State	21-2	648
7	Mississippi St.	21-2	574
8	Connecticut	21-5	559
9	Kentucky	19-4	541
10	Texas	19-4	498
11	Wake Forest	17-6	441
12	Cincinnati	18-5	345
13	Providence	18-5	338
14	Arizona	17-7	296
15	Wisconsin	17-6	295
16	North Carolina	16-7	267
17	Southern Illinois	22-2	262
18	Kansas	17-6	240
19	N.C. State	17-6	226
20	Georgia Tech	19-7	215
21	Louisville	17-6	193
22	Memphis	19-4	155
23	Utah State	22-2	104
24	Illinois	18-5	69
25	Texas Tech	19-7	63

MLB



The baseball caught by Steve Bartman in October's playoff game between the Chicago Cubs and the Florida Marlins was destroyed Thursday night in a process using heat, pressure and flame.

Bartman ball destroyed at Harry Caray's

Associated Press

CHICAGO — In a flash, the ball that came to symbolize the Chicago Cubs' cursed history was blown up Thursday night, reduced to a pile of thread by a Hollywood special effects expert.

Hundreds of fans sang "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" before the ball — the foul fly touched by Steve Bartman in last October's playoffs — was obliterated.

Bartman had not been expected to attend the event, held in a tent outside Harry Caray's restaurant. Some fans were decked out in Cubs gear, others wore

replicas of the famous broadcaster's signature glasses and one man was covered in ivy.

"I feel it's finished, it's done and we're ready to move on and now I'm ready to play ball," fan Jessica Scroggin said.

The stunt was designed by Oscar winner Michael Lantieri, who worked on "Jurassic Park" and "Back to the Future."

"We're using a combination of pressure, heat and explosives in this bullet-proof tank to destroy that ball so it will not resemble a ball at all when we're finished," Lantieri said earlier.

Because the explosive

send-off came outside in a tent, some fans missed it.

"I'm somewhat disappointed, it was a little anticlimactic for us," Adam Fluck said.

Whether the ball was possessed by the curse that legend says afflicts the Cubs or not, fans were happy to see it go. To some, the destruction is a sign of the good things to come this season.

"I think it's very appropriate, it's symbolic of a new beginning," Rachel Cannon said.

Claudette Dockery agreed.

"The can cremate the ball for all I care or send it over Lake Michigan, the best I

believe is yet to come," she said.

Cubs fans are ready to move on from the infamous moment.

With the Cubs leading the Florida Marlins 3-0 in Game 6 of the NL championship series and just five outs from their first World Series appearance since 1945, Bartman reached for the ball hit by Luis Castillo.

From his front-row seat at Wrigley Field, Bartman deflected the ball away from left fielder Moises Alou. The Cubs then gave up eight runs to the Marlins, and squandered another lead in Game 7 the next night.

IN BRIEF

Owens misses deadline to void rest of contract

SAN FRANCISCO — Terrell Owens is still under contract to the San Francisco 49ers after the star receiver apparently missed a deadline for voiding the rest of his contract.

Owens, a four-time Pro Bowl selection, didn't file the necessary paperwork quickly enough this week to become an unrestricted free agent, according to the NFL Management Council. Owens' agent, David Joseph, will file a grievance.

"We voided the contract. There's an issue now as to whether or not the void was effective," Joseph said.

Owens was among several players required to file by a new deadline, which recently was moved up 10 days for players who signed their contracts before the league's 2001 collective bargaining agreement went into effect.

Cleveland receiver Dennis Northcutt made a similar mistake. The Browns announced Thursday

that Northcutt's agent failed to void the final three years of his contract.

Arizona guard Salim Stoudamire suspended

TUCSON, Ariz. — Salim Stoudamire, the leading scorer for No. 17 Arizona, was suspended indefinitely by coach Lute Olson "for failure to meet team responsibilities."

The school announced the suspension before Thursday night's game against Washington.

Stoudamire, fifth in the Pac-10 in scoring at 16.8 points per game, was on the Arizona bench in street clothes for the game.

Stoudamire often has been criticized by Olson for his moody attitude, but the junior from Portland, Ore., had vowed to improve his outlook and become a team leader this season.

Stoudamire was named Pac-10 player of the week after Arizona's home sweep of Southern California and UCLA. He scored 117 points over

four games, including consecutive career highs of 34 against UCLA and 37 against Oregon, before scoring 12 in the team's loss at Oregon State last Saturday.

Yankees release Boone

TAMPA, Fla. — Third baseman Aaron Boone was released Thursday by the New York Yankees, nearly six weeks after hurting his knee in a pickup basketball game.

The injury, which could sideline him the entire season, set the stage for the Yankees to acquire Alex Rodriguez from Texas last week. Boone, an NL All-Star last season, becomes a free agent.

"It's a tough situation we're all in," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said. "You have to move on. We'd like to continue discussing the possibility of keeping him within the Yankees' fold in some form or fashion that would manifest itself with him maybe being a player for us next year."

around the dial

TODAY

NBA

Toronto at Boston 7 p.m., ESPN

Phoenix at Seattle 9:30 p.m., ESPN

BOXING

Friday Night Fights 9 p.m., ESPN2

SATURDAY

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Memphis at Louisville 1 p.m., ABC

Santa Clara at Gonzaga 9 p.m., ESPN2

Utah State at UC Irvine 11 p.m., ESPN2

GOLF

WGC: Accenture Match Play

Championships 3 p.m., ABC

ND SOFTBALL



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer
The Irish huddle for a quick team meeting during a game last season. The Irish travel to Georgia this weekend to participate in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Leadoff Classic.

Softball has tough weekend lineup

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

In arguably the most prestigious tournament in college softball, the Irish hope that they can avoid the one thing that has plagued them early this season — rain.

Last weekend's Palm Springs Classic saw the Irish endure three days of rain. Their final game against No. 11 Tennessee



Booth

was cancelled due to the inclement weather.

Notre Dame travels to Columbus, Ga., today to face some of the top teams in the nation in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Leadoff Classic. In a tournament that features five of the top seven teams in the NFCA top 25, the Irish hope to gain some quality wins, as they face two ranked opponents in the same number of days.

The tournament, which is being held at South Commons Softball Complex, a former Olympic site, kicks off today with pool play. The Irish (5-3) start things off with Northwestern State (8-5) today at 2:30 p.m. In the nightcap, Notre Dame is set to square off with No. 6 Georgia (9-2) at 5 p.m. Pool play concludes Saturday at 12:30 p.m., when the Irish face No. 24 Cal State Fullerton (3-6).

The matchup with Georgia marks the first time these two teams have met. After pool play, the teams are split up into bracket play, guaranteeing each team at least two more games during the weekend.

The 24-team tournament features the top two teams from

each NFCA region. This is Notre Dame's sixth overall appearance in the tournament, and third consecutive year. This year's field contains 13 top-25 teams along with the U.S. Olympic team.

Notre Dame hopes that its early season experience will begin to pay dividends for a roster that only includes one senior, Nicole deFau. However, the young Irish have had some early season success. Just last weekend, the Irish defeated Utah 4-3 before losing to Pacific 12-1 and No. 8 Stanford 4-2. They ended the Palm Springs Classic with a 10-0 loss to the U.S. Olympic team, but held them to one run over four innings.

The Irish have been led this early season by sophomore shortstop Sara Schoonaert. She posted the Irish's only hits of the game against the Olympic team and was perfect defensively. She will bat second this weekend — a jump from her nine spot last weekend. Megan Ciolli, named to the USA Softball Player of the Year to Watch list, added two hits against Utah to lead the Irish to their lone victory last weekend.

Notre Dame has also received strong pitching performances from sophomore Heather Booth. Booth, last year's Big East Rookie of the Year, posted two consecutive complete game victories, her second coming against Utah.

Defensively, the Irish outfield has been outstanding, especially against Stanford last weekend. deFau made a home run-robbing catch to keep the Irish within striking distance.

Following this weekend, the Irish have three more road tournaments. After this stretch, they will have played eight ranked teams.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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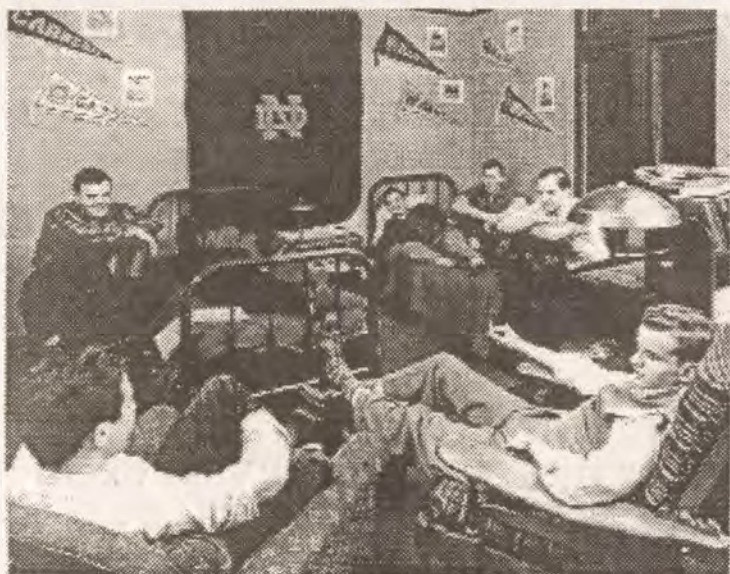
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MEN'S LACROSSE

Season kicks off against Penn State

Irish open against Nittany Lions for eighth straight year

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Lions-versus-Irish has become a season-opening tradition.

The lacrosse team opens its 2004 season against Penn State Sunday afternoon at Loftus Sports Center at 1 p.m. The match marks the eighth consecutive season opener played between the two squads.

No. 11 Notre Dame has won six of its ten all-time meetings with No. 16 Penn State, including a 10-9 victory last year at State College, Penn., to open a 9-5 season.

Attackman Dan Berger scored four goals, and attackman Matt Howell had a goal and five assists in the game. Goalie Stewart Crosland made 18 saves.

The teams have developed a rivalry with the consecutive early season matches. The games have become solid tests on schedules that have increased in difficulty for the Irish.

"Every year this has been a great game, often the most exciting each year," head coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We've both got indoor facilities. This is an early weekend for either team to play unless we have indoor facilities, and both of us do. So we've developed a sort of tradition.

Penn State is 1-0 after beating Ohio State 5-4. Notre Dame has seen the Nittany

Lions play that one match, though in the early season the Irish will not concentrate on containing a specific aspect of the Penn State attack.

"We have to match up with their athleticism," Corrigan said. "Still, in any first game, you're really concentrating on yourself. You can't worry about anyone else. Having seen them play once, that's still only one game. Without a tremendous amount of scouting, we have to rely on our own team's play."

"Every year this has been a great game, often the most exciting of the year."

Kevin Corrigan
Irish coach

Three exhibition games have the Irish in shape to begin the season. The team has not left home yet as it has defeated Mercyhurst, the Boston Cannons and Denison all at Loftus in exhibition play. The Irish outscored its three opponents

51-17. "Since the fall started, we have had a lot of different opportunities to get better," Corrigan said. "We had two different competitions in the fall and played number of good teams. We played the three exhibitions in the spring."

Last season began with three straight Irish wins over Penn State, Pennsylvania and North Carolina. A win out of the gate against a talented squad like the Nittany Lions is what Notre Dame needs to jump-start its season. Corrigan and the players realize that.

"We're more than ready," Corrigan said. "We're extremely anxious."

Contact Pat Leonard at
pleonard@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish prepare to host rival IU

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Coach Jay Louderback predicts a tough match at every position when the Irish host No. 36 Indiana Sunday.

"We always have a good rivalry with Indiana," Louderback said. "Even if one team is ranked a lot higher than the other, it's still a close, tight match."

Traditionally, the Hoosiers have won past matches against the Irish, leading the series 12-7. However, Indiana has not won a match against Notre Dame since the 2001-02

season. Last year's bout between the two resulted in a 6-1 Irish victory.

The No. 26 Irish (6-1) are on a five-match winning streak after a 6-1 win over No. 20 Brigham Young University 6-1.

The Hoosiers (5-2) are coming off of an upset of No. 12 Kentucky 5-2, nearly sweeping the singles. Kentucky claimed the doubles point, despite Indiana having what Louderback calls "an off year."

"Indiana probably could have won the doubles point last weekend," Louderback said. "Their doubles play last week isn't an accurate depiction of how good they really

are. "I'd be surprised if the doubles matches aren't close this weekend."

The Irish are set to face several ranked players on Indiana's team, including the No. 24 nationally ranked doubles team of Karie Schlukebir and Linda Tran and No. 50 Grim and Sarah Batty. In addition, No. 40 Dora Vastag and No. 82 Tran will present a challenge for the Irish in singles. Assistant coach Michelle Dasso is confident the Irish will be ready this challenge

Contact Ann Loughery at
aloughery@nd.edu

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ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish elect to skip U.S. Championships

By **MIKE GILLOON**
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame indoor track and field teams will be able to go outside and enjoy the beautiful weather this weekend. After both teams finished second in last week's Big East Conference Championships, they will take this weekend off to rest.

The USA Track and Field indoor Championships are being held today and Saturday in Boston, but Irish assistant coach Tom Connelly said Notre Dame will not be sending any participants.

"The kids ran so hard last week at the Big East," he said. "We decided it would be best to ease our way back into training and risk having too much recovery instead of too little."

The Irish ran well last week as a number of athletes took home individual awards. Selim Nurudeen won the conference

championship and set a Big East record by running the men's 60-meter dash in 7.78 seconds. Lauren King won her second straight conference title in the mile run in a time of 4:53.95. Sophomore Molly Huddle also made her mark last week as she was one of three runners to break the conference record in the 3,000 meters.

Connelly, the women's distance coach, was thrilled with these performances.

"Kerry Meagher, Lauren King and Molly Huddle were our workhorses," he said. "Kerry was in a lot of races and Molly ran very hard all weekend. They have a lot of experience, and they knew what they had to do."

Connelly mentioned that the teams as a whole were pleased with their performances at the Big East.

"Our kids competed really hard," he said. "Miami finished ahead of our women but Miami is

one of the top teams in the nation. Our kids just kept lining up and running and did about everything they could."

The Alex Wilson Invitational will be held at Notre Dame next weekend. Connelly wants to use that meet to get some more team members qualified for the NCAA Championships, to be held March 12-13 in Fayetteville, Ark.

"There are a lot of kids on our team who we want to get qualified next week," Connelly said. "We also want to fine tune the rest of the people who are already set to go to nationals."

Connelly believes the team is still confident as it heads into the home stretch of the indoor season.

"The only way for runners to gain confidence in themselves is to run fast," he said. "Our kids ran very fast last weekend."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish hope for success on California road trip

By **MATT PUGLISI**
Sports Writer

The No. 17 Irish look to start the season on the right foot when they head west to lock horns with a pair of California squads this weekend.

After facing the University of California at Berkeley today at 3:30 p.m., the Irish head some 50 miles south to Stanford to take on the No. 14 Cardinal at 12 p.m. Sunday.

Due to a number of factors, coach Tracy Coyne isn't exactly sure what to expect from the Golden Bears.

"We've never played them before, and because it's so early and all their games have been in conference, it's difficult to get a scouting report," Coyne said. "I'm expecting them to be pretty good, but in all honesty I'm expecting to win."

The Irish, on the other hand, are more than familiar with the Cardinal. After a number of squandered opportunities led to a 14-13 double overtime heart-breaker against Stanford's last season, Notre Dame is eager for a little payback.

"I definitely think this is one of the games on our schedule that we're really looking forward to playing," Coyne said. "We know they're going to be a good team, and we're looking forward to [the game]. It's a revenge type of situation."

In addition to the level of competition, the Irish will be forced to battle the fatigue involved with both playing and traveling. Nevertheless, Coyne believes the

team can successfully weather the storm.

"We're going to do the best we can to balance everything out," Coyne said. "It will be a challenge, but I feel confident in our ability to face that challenge head on and perform well."

Following a 17-9 thrashing of Team Canada in exhibition play Feb. 14, the Irish finished up a short preseason at the prestigious Princeton Invitational Saturday.

The team competed in a unique arrangement that allowed the Irish to compete against defending champion and No. 1

Princeton, No. 7 Dartmouth and No. 9 Ohio State — the Irish sandwiched half-games with the Buckeyes and Tigers around a full-length match with the Big Green.

Notre Dame kicked off the Invitational by recording a 10-0

shutout of Ohio State. However, the Irish ran into trouble with the pair of Ivy League squads. Dartmouth held off Notre Dame for a 12-8 victory, and Princeton made short work of the Irish to the tune of a 7-0 shut out.

Despite the setbacks, Coyne is content with the squad's status heading into regular season play.

"I'm really pleased with where we are right now," Coyne said. "It's early and there's obviously a lot still to be done, but I'm happy with the progress and the attitudes. It gets monotonous when you're [training] inside for six weeks, but we got through it, and we're looking forward to getting started."

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

"I'm really pleased with where we are right now."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

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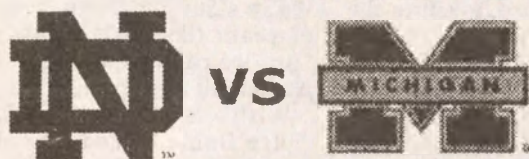
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Bouts

continued from page 24

sion was between senior James "The Warden" Ward and freshman Stephan Humphrey. Ward defeated Humphrey and will go on to face John "Yaz Wojo Yaz" Wahoske. Wahoske won his preliminary fight against law student Jeff Robinson in a unanimous decision.

In the sixth fight, law student Brian Nicholson came out to be the victor over senior Nick "The Silent Assassin" Nanovic. Nicholson will face senior Matt Knust in the quarterfinals. Knust defeated freshman Alex Harty in what proved to be an all-out brawl. Harty dominated the fight during the first round, but could not hold on. Knust's endurance proved to be a key advantage in the unanimous win.

180 pounds

The first fight in the 180-pound weight division was a split decision victory for freshman Adam "Alpha Fox" Frisch. Frisch defeated Zahm sopho-

more Pat Brown. Frisch had several key headshots to give him the advantage in the fight. Frisch will fight junior Jim Cristoforetti in the quarterfinals.

Senior Denis Sullivan defeated freshman Nick Curcio in a unanimous decision. Sullivan will face senior Brent "Total Eclipse of the Heart" Burish in the quarterfinals. Burish defeated sophomore Nick "Brooklyn" Klein in a split decision after a relentless second round.

Graduate student Josh "The Garden" Noem and Patrick "Me Wants Honeycombs" Merrell. Noem defeated Merrell in a split decision. Merrell began the fight with a fall and was unable to maintain balance throughout most of the fight. Despite a slow start, Noem picked up the tempo of the fight in the second round and continued until the finish. Noem will fight senior Eric Callahan in the quarterfinals who received a first round bye.

The final fight in the 180-pound weight division was between sophomore Robert

Lochridge and Siegfried junior Chris Henschen. This fight proved to be one of the most intense fights of the night. Both fighters fell during the fight and Lochridge received a bloody nose during the second round that continued to bleed throughout the fight. Henschen defeated Lochridge in a unanimous decision.

Light heavyweights

Stanford junior Mike Abel defeated senior Michael Denkelwalter in the first fight of light heavyweight competition. Abel opened up the fight with a series of headshots to Denkelwater that caused him to bleed. Abel won in a split decision.

In the final fight of the night, freshman Eric "The Red" Retter came out as the victor over senior Mike Ragsdale. Retter came out strong with a series of headshots that caused Ragsdale to lose his balance. Retter will face Johnny Griffin in the quarterfinals.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at jtapetil@nd.edu

Tennis

continued from page 24

for real."

The Irish have been plagued by nagging injuries, and senior tri-captain Luis Haddock and sophomore Eric Langenkamp were sidelined for Thursday's contest.

"They [Illinois] played well enough that it wouldn't have mattered if we had everybody," Bayliss said. "It didn't affect the outcome, and it probably wouldn't have affected the score."

"We were a deer in the headlights today, they were that good."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

Junior tri-captain Brent D'Amico came closest to putting the Irish on the board, taking the first set of the No. 2 match against Michael Calkins into a tiebreaker. The junior, who is recovering from shin splints, eventually lost to the nation's No. 54 player 7-5, 6-1.

At No. 1, senior Matthew Scott lost to No. 20 Phil Stolt 6-3, 6-3, and freshman Stephen Bass dropped a 6-2, 6-1 decision to No. 100 Ryler DeHeart at the third spot.

King lost to No. 64 Chris Martin 6-3, 6-2 at No. 4, and Ryan Keckley was defeated by G.D. Jones 6-2, 6-1 at No. 5. Patrick Buchanan rounded out the top six with a 6-3, 6-2 loss to Pramod Dabir.

"I think Brent played pretty well, and Barry [King] extracted himself from a 4-0 deficit and played well from that point on," Bayliss said. "But you could just see the confidence in the Illinois players' eyes."

At doubles, D'Amico and Keckley lost to No. 8 Brian Wilson and Stolt 8-5 at the top spot. No. 18 Michael Calkins

and Martin defeated Scott and Bass 8-4 at two, and DeHeart and Jones topped King and Paul Hidaka 8-5.

Illinois has won 43 consecutive matches and are two matches away from tying the record held by Stanford. Illinois has won the last 26 home contests.

"We were a deer in the headlights today, they were that good," Bayliss said. "I don't say that very often ... but I have never coached against a team that played as well as this team played, and I've done this for a few years — 35, to be exact."

The Irish prepare to take on No. 12 Ohio State Saturday at 2 p.m. and No. 33 Miami Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"It's a matter of getting back on the right foot and being positive," said Bayliss, who expects to practice lightly today in preparation for the weekend.

NOTRE DAME 0, ILLINOIS 7
at ATKINS TENNIS CENTER

SINGLES

- No. 1: Phil Stolt (ILL) d. Matthew Scott (ND) 6-3, 6-3.
- No. 2: Michael Calkins (ILL) d. Brent D'Amico (ND) 7-6, 6-1.
- No. 3: Ryler DeHeart (ILL) d. Stephen Bass (ND) 6-2, 6-1.
- No. 4: Chris Martin (ILL) d. Barry King (ND) 6-3, 6-2.
- No. 5: GD Jones (ILL) d. Ryan Keckley (ND) 6-2, 6-1.
- No. 6: Pramod Dabir (ILL) d. Patrick Buchanan (ND) 6-3, 6-2.

DOUBLES

- No. 1: Wilson/Stolt (ILL) d. D'Amico/Keckley (ND) 8-5.
- No. 2: Calkins/Martin (ILL) d. Scott/Bass (ND) 8-4.
- No. 3: DeHeart/Jones (ILL) d. Hidaka/King (ND) 8-5.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

NFL

Lewis indicted on drug charges

Associated Press

ATLANTA — One of Jamal Lewis' lawyers believes the evidence prosecutors used to obtain an indictment may actually clear the Baltimore Ravens running back of federal drug charges.

Lewis was released Thursday on \$500,000 bond after he pleaded innocent to charges that

he tried to help a childhood friend buy cocaine in the summer of 2000.

After a brief hearing, defense attorney Ed Garland said that a recorded telephone conversation cited by federal prosecutors is open to interpretation.

"They may have omitted things that should have been in there," Garland said. "We believe it will

show he is innocent."

Lewis stood outside the federal courthouse in the rain and made a brief statement.

"I just want to say it's extremely important to me that my family, my friends, my fans and the Ravens organization know that I am innocent and I thank everyone for their continued support," Lewis said.


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Chris Thomas tries to split two defenders against Seton Hall Feb. 14. The Irish face the possibility of missing the NCAA Tournament this year. CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Rivalry

continued from page 24

and see where things will go," Notre Dame co-captain Torrian Jones said.

Mired in a two-game losing streak where a win in just one of those games would have solidified this team's claim for a NCAA Tournament berth, Jones knows as a captain he has to work with Irish coach Mike Brey to keep the team positive.

"We have to make sure everybody's mood is up as we have done for the whole season up until this point," Jones said.

With the injuries suffered by almost every Irish player making significant contributions this season, Brey's squad has had to deal with more adversity this year than any other season of his in South Bend. According to Brey, overcoming all of the injuries and getting into the national spotlight as a possible NCAA Tournament team is something more than anyone could have hoped for.

"Quite frankly it's amazing that we even got to the bubble at one point given the bodies

available to us," Brey said.

After dropping a tough game to Pittsburgh and winning three straight to gain some momentum, the Irish stopped making their shots. Whether that's a credit to the opponents' defense or just going cold, Brey knows his team relies on the outside shot and it has to go in for the Irish to win.

"We've got to make some shots outside, whether it's against a zone or a man-to-man, because of who we are now with the personnel available," Brey said. "A couple of those things have to go in. When a couple go in, we are a little more confident."

"Hopefully a couple will go in [when we are] in Los Angeles because we are going to keep firing them."

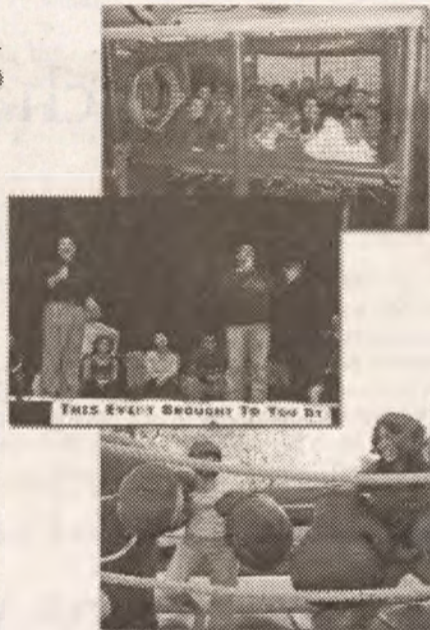
The Bruins (11-13, 7-9 in the Pac-10) lost 78-77 to cross-town rival USC Wednesday in overtime. UCLA has now lost 10 of its last 12 games after starting the Pac-10 season 5-0.

Saturday's game is schedule for a 4 p.m. tip-off and will be shown on CBS.

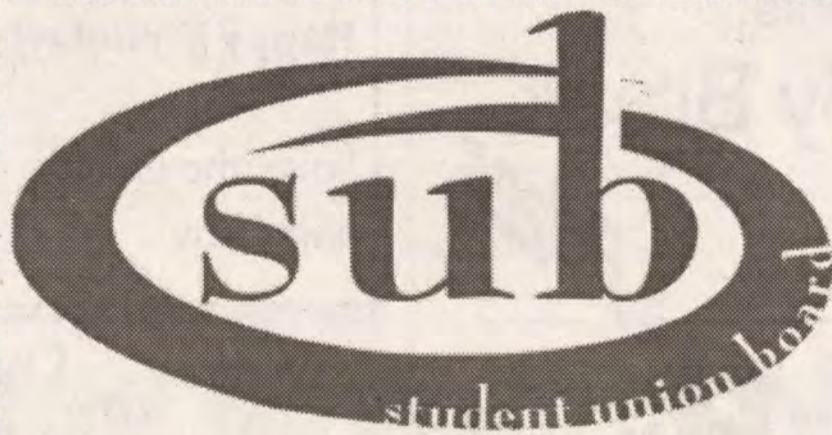
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Bengal

continued from page 24

A third consecutive fight was stopped early after sophomore Daniel Moriarty of Stanford Hall got knocked down twice a minute into the first round by junior Justin Alanis of O'Neill Hall.

In the next match, sophomore Patrick Flaherty of Sorin Hall won in a unanimous decision over freshman Bryan Marek of Knott Hall.

In a bloody last fight in the 160-pound division, senior Peter Doldin was defeated by senior William Phillip. The fight was stopped late into the second round.

165 pounds

The first of six fights in the 165-pound weight division opened with a match between sophomore Andrew "Party Boy" Breslin of Alumni Hall and senior Jesus Bravo. Bravo defeated Breslin in a split decision.

In the second fight, freshman Parfait "Powerhouse" Mwez of Zahm Hall won in a split decision over freshman Preston Carter of Carroll Hall.

Senior Ross "Pipe Cleaner Arms" Bartels defeated Billy "Killa Bee" Hederman in a unanimous decision in an emotionally charged fight.

Two juniors from Keenan Hall faced off in the next fight. Chase Heaton emerged with the victory over Craig Thompson.

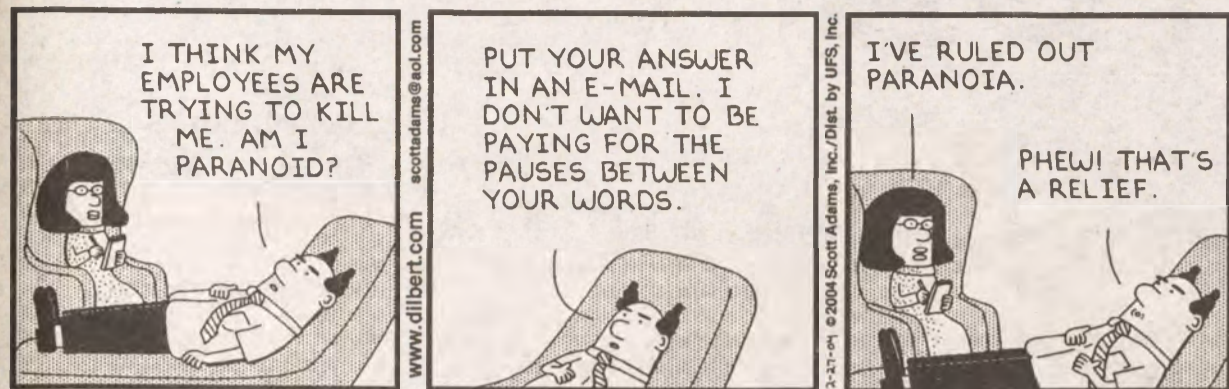
Sophomore Tony Schlachter of Morrissey Hall won the next fight with a victory over sophomore Alex Borowiecki of Keough Hall in a split decision.

In the final fight of the 165-pound division Daniel "Black Eye For The Straight Guy" Liem of Morrissey Hall gained the victory against junior Patrick McMorrow of O'Neill Hall in a unanimous decision.

Contact Steve Coyer at scoyer@nd.edu

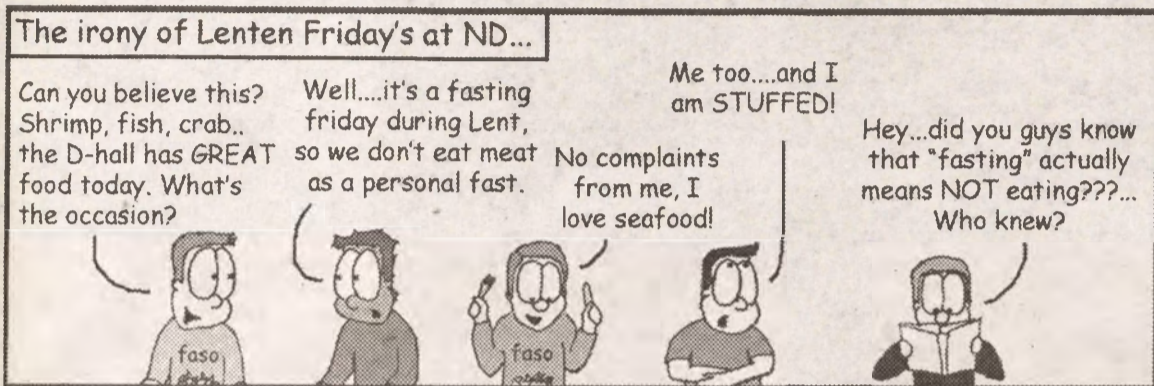
DILBERT

SCOTT ADAMS



FIVES

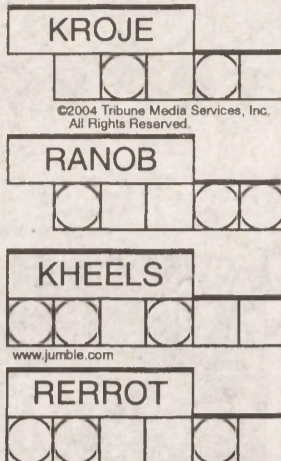
BRETT CAMPBELL & DAN ZYCHINSKI



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

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



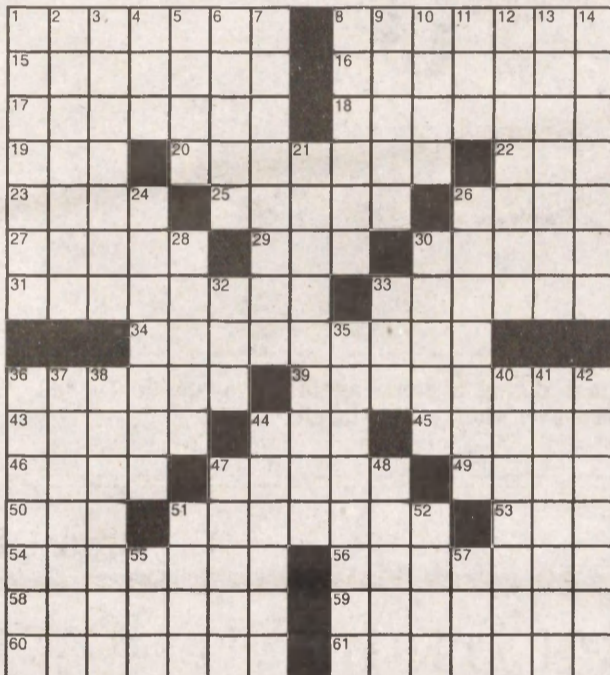
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: BROOD NOBLE FORKED GRATIS Answer: What the poultry thief did at the goose pond - TOOK A "GANDER"

CROSSWORD

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- ACROSS: 1 Isn't nice to... 8 Reception amenity... 15 Rumless daiquiri... 16 Author of "Miracle Mergers and Their Methods"... 17 Cooler... 18 Take the blame for... 19 It's seen off-shore in France... 20 One of the family... 22 Kit and caboodle... 23 Make one... 25 Opposite of sluggish... 26 Tennis star Mandlikova... 27 Middle ear bone... 29 Bob and shag... 30 Photo finish?... 31 Butcher's hangar... 33 Shoot... 34 Lulu in "Lulu," e.g... 36 Not one-track... 39 When to get revenge, proverbially... 43 Many an e-mailer... 44 Army E-3... 45 Proctor- (small appliance maker)... 46 Santa Maria Maggiore locale... 47 Nesters... 49 End notes... 50 Big Ten powerhouse, for short... 51 Portion of an editor's mail... 53 London's Old... 54 Like some trials... 56 "Soup's on!"... 58 Superhuman... 59 Learned... 60 Dropped off... 61 Charged... DOWN: 1 Lock-picking tool... 2 "Attaboy!"... 3 Song with the lyric "My heart with rapture thrills"... 4 Wrestler's rippler... 5 Centre, Minn. (Sinclair Lewis's birthplace)... 6 Mad Ave. profession... 7 YM covet subject... 8 Kayos... 9 Hammer & Rodgers' "All I Owe"... 10 Ex-Senator from Georgia... 11 Internet address ender... 12 Red Baron's transport... 13 Willa Cather heroine... 14 What gets read to rabble-rousers... 21 Reserved... 24 Hazel, for one... 26 Doctrine doubter... 28 Less forward



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- 30 Fancy embellishments... 32 Ear: Prefix... 33 Henhouse threat... 35 Opposite of charged... 36 Some beachwear... 37 Prematurely... 38 Madrid daily... 40 "Wonderful!"... 41 Help settle... 42 Took by force... 44 Victimized, with "upon"... 47 "A Vindication of Natural Society" writer, 1756... 48 Tractor handle?... 50 Best-selling album of 2001... 51 Memory jogger... 52 Check mate?... 55 Best-selling... 57 Military inits.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

Sharing your birthday: Elizabeth Taylor, Mary Frann, Joanne Woodward, Ralph Nader, James Farrell, James Leo Herlihy, Adam Baldwin, Chelsea Clinton

Happy Birthday: You've got all the right moves this year. You're sure of yourself and your ideas. You'll be able to reach your goals. Set your course and don't deviate even if someone does try to sidetrack you. This is your time to forge ahead. If you don't make headway, you'll have no one to blame but yourself. So set your mind on what it is you want most out of life. Your numbers: 10, 17, 20, 24, 32, 38

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You must complete unfinished projects if you wish to keep everyone around you happy. Disruptions in your home will surface if you have not spent enough time with family. ***** TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can expect to see fireworks at home if you have been spending too much time with your friends or on the road. Delays in shipments are likely. Make your claims quickly. ** GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will be the life of the party. Your quick retorts will keep everyone in stitches. Be careful not to be careless with your wallet or your possessions. Theft or losses are evident. ***** CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will take things the wrong way today. Extravagance will be a key issue. Refrain from trying to buy someone's friendship. You're the one who needs to change, not your partner. *** LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your colorful way of exaggerating will bring you popularity; however, it may be at the expense of someone's feelings. Think twice before you make someone the brunt of your good fun. *** VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Too much too fast will be the issue. Don't expect anyone to come to the rescue. You will have to solve your problems alone. Financial changes will be favorable if you have budgeted wisely. *** LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can count on others to help you achieve your goals. Your ability to be persuasive in a tactful manner will ensure that you get the backing you require to follow through on your ideas. **** SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be in a highly creative cycle. Get busy and work on ideas or hobbies that you had put aside. You can really express yourself well when dealing with those close to your heart today. ** SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your desire to travel will lead you to your travel agent. Don't hesitate to plan your vacation early. Just the thought of going away should improve your emotional well-being. ***** CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can get involved in financial ventures, but you must not overextend yourself. Be sure that you put some extra cash aside in case of an emergency. Older family members may need help. *** AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can expect an emotional push-and-pull with your lover. Try not to be too cool in your actions. Try to put your differences aside and get back to being affectionate with one another. *** PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can ask co-workers to help you finish up your work. Don't allow anyone to goad you into spending more than you can afford. Children may be emotionally draining. ***

Birthday Baby: You know how to work within the confines of a group. Your ability to contribute worthwhile ideas will enable you to gain popularity throughout your life. You are friendly, versatile and giving. Your success and satisfaction will come through your empathy for others.

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THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Rivalry renewed against UCLA

Struggling Irish head to California, square off against Bruins s after nine-year hiatus

By **MATT LOZAR**
Sports Writer

It's been nine years since one of college basketball's top rivalries took place.

Saturday, the rivalry is renewed.

Notre Dame travels to the Pauley Pavilion to face UCLA Saturday. The last contest between these teams was an 83-58 UCLA win at the Joyce Center Dec. 20, 1995.

The Irish (13-11, 7-7 in the Big East) are coming off a difficult 73-59 loss to Providence and seeing their NCAA Tournament hopes greatly diminished. Saturday's game gives the Irish a different opportunity — to play a late season non-conference game and try to get back in the win column looking to build momentum to close the season strong.

"The main thing we are looking to do now is play one game at a time, to finish above .500 in the league, with the things we've been through this year, injuries, guys in and out of the lineup, guys playing hurt, it would be a big accomplishment for this team to go into the Big East Tournament above .500

see RIVALRY/page 22



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Tom Timmermans looks to pass during a game against Providence Tuesday. The Irish travel to California on Saturday to renew their rivalry with UCLA.

BENGAL BOUTS 170-POUNDS—LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT Sefton defeats Baker

By **DAN TAPETILLO**
Sports Writer

During the second night of the 74th annual Bengal Bouts, the 170-pound weight division began its preliminary rounds.

The weight class began with freshman Brian Sefton defeating junior John "The Undertaker" Baker. Sefton will go on to face No. 1 seed Tommy Demko in the quarterfinals. Demko received a bye in the preliminaries.

The second fight was between Morrissey junior Jeff "Headshot" Schaal and Zahm senior Patrick "The Irish Curse" McGarry. McGarry won in a unanimous decision despite a receiving a hard blow to the face that caused him to bleed. McGarry will face Matthew "Touch me, I'll sue" Smith in the quarterfinals. Smith, an off campus law student defeated St. Ed's sophomore Bill Bordogna.

The fourth fight in the divi-

see BOUTS/page 21

MEN'S TENNIS

No. 1 Illinois crushes Irish 7-0

By **KATE GALES**
Sports Writer

"There were times," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said, "I thought I was in the middle of a bad dream."

The Irish were swept 7-0 yesterday by No. 1 Illinois, the defending NCAA champions and a team that Bayliss will always remember.

"This was the greatest display of offensive tennis I have ever been a witness to in a college setting," Bayliss said. "They are

see TENNIS/page 21



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

An Irish tennis player prepares to rip a forehand in a match this year against SMU. Illinois beat Notre Dame 7-0 on Thursday.

BENGAL BOUTS 160-POUNDS — 165-POUNDS

Knockdowns dominate first round matchups

By **STEVE COYER**
Sports Writer

After an intense first day of fights, Bengal Bouts resumed preliminaries Thursday with the 160-pound weight division.

The Bouts started with a match between Fisher junior Colin Kerrigan and Gregory Tomc, a freshman from Dillon Hall. The more experienced Kerrigan won easily in a unanimous decision.

In the next fight, Chris "Pants" Calderone of Morrissey Hall defeated junior Chris "Speedy" Segura of Keenan Hall in a unanimous decision.

Nathan Dyer of Siegfried

Hall gained a quick win over Greg "The Pit Bull" Schaefer of Keough Hall after Schaefer suffered a shoulder injury in the first round.

The first technical knockout of the night happened in a match between Steve "The Hellcat" Hoeplinger of Stanford Hall and senior Alex Roodhouse. Roodhouse won the match after Hoeplinger was knocked down in the second round.

The next match was stopped early as sophomore Charlie Gough of Alumni Hall defeated freshman Zachary Jara of Zahm Hall with a technical knockout in the third round.

see BENGAL/page 22

**SPORTS
AT A GLANCE**

ND WOMEN'S HOOPS

Notre Dame at Rutgers
Saturday, 12 p.m.

Notre Dame to face Big-East rival Rutgers.

page 20

BASEBALL

Notre Dame travels to Florida to face three top-25 teams.

page 20

MEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame vs. Penn State
Sunday, 1 p.m.

The Irish open the season against Penn State.

page 18

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame vs. Indiana
Sunday, 10 a.m.

Notre Dame prepares to host rival Indiana.

page 18

ND SOFTBALL

The Irish travel to Columbus, Ga., for the National Faspitch Coaches Association Leadoff Classic.

page 17

NHL

The Tampa Bay Lightning defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs 4-3.

page 14

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, February 27, 2004

THE
OBSERVER



GUARDING THE CREASE

Photo Illustration by CHIP MARKS and MIKE HARKINS

Irish take on first-place Michigan this weekend

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

In what has sounded like a broken record this season, the Irish again will take on a ranked team this weekend. The difference is that this series is at home, where the Irish have a 12-game unbeaten streak (10-0-2).

Notre Dame (15-11-4, 11-10-3 in the CCHA) will put that impressive streak on the line when they face the CCHA's first-place team No. 4 Michigan (21-8-1, 16-5-1) tonight and Saturday at the Joyce Center.

The Irish have played nine games so far this season against ranked teams, collecting a 4-4-1 record in those games— including a 1-0 win over then-No. 1 Boston College Oct. 24.

That record is even more impressive considering that all nine of those games have come away from the Joyce Center.

"[Our difficult schedule] has really prepared us for games like this," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "It really does prepare you to go out and play a game like this — there's nothing that can compare to playing a Boston College at Boston College or a game against Maine."

"Those kinds of games really prepare you for the big conference weekends like this one."

The Irish enter the weekend in seventh place in the CCHA with 25 points. They trail sixth-place Western Michigan

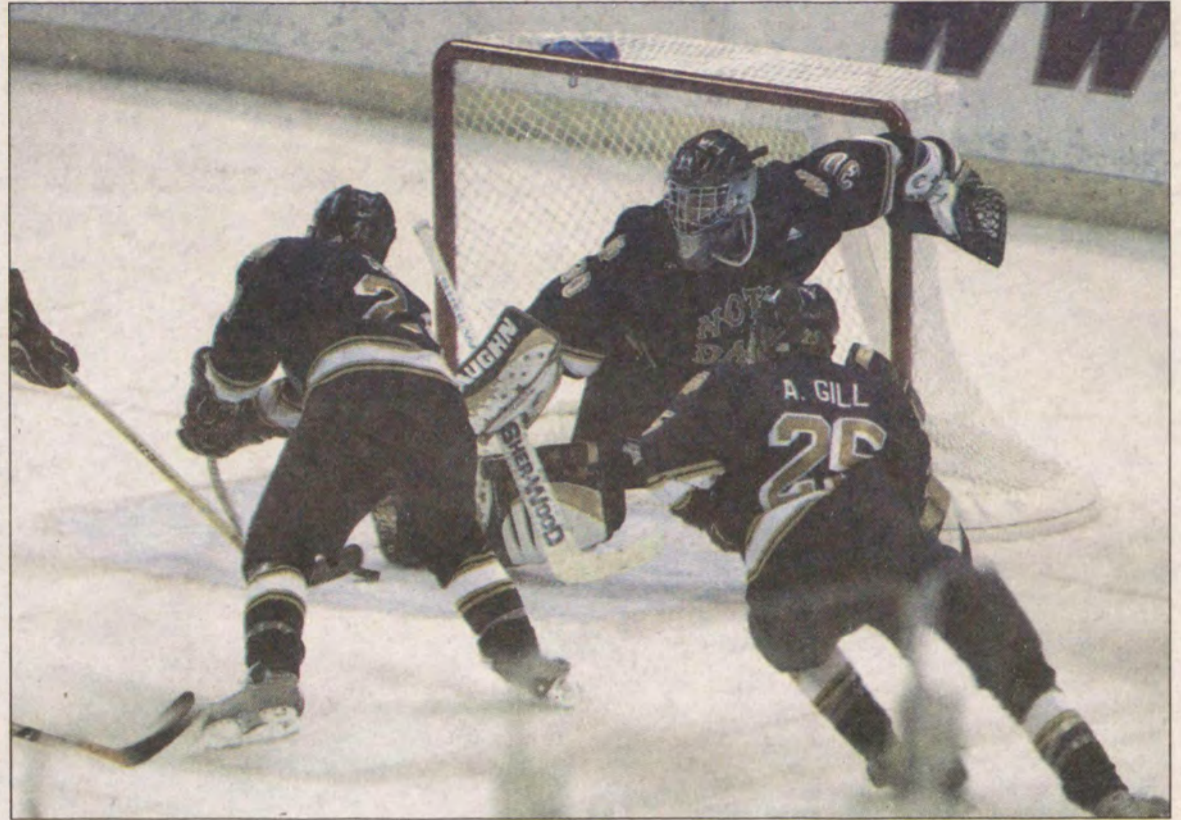
by one point and fifth-place Alaska Fairbanks by two points. One advantage Notre Dame has over these teams is that the Irish have games in hand (one game in hand on WMU and two games in hand on UAF).

"I've been in situations near the end of a season where you have to hope that another team loses games, and it's lousy," Poulin said. "It's terrible watching the scoreboard and hoping that somebody else does something. I would rather have it in our hands. I would rather have Notre Dame play to decide where Notre Dame is going to go in the postseason."

Although Michigan has had a distinct advantage in the series (55-39-5), the record is much closer in games played at the Joyce Center (Michigan leads 18-17-2). The Irish have certainly taken advantage of their home ice and have not lost at the Joyce Center this season since a 5-3 loss to Bowling Green Oct. 17.

"I really think we've got a real advantage [at the Joyce Center]," Poulin said. "We've just created a great atmosphere here — the band's been tremendous, the students, the fans, the energy, the horn — every part of it has added to the atmosphere."

This weekend's matchup is a contest between the No. 1 scoring defense in the CCHA in Notre Dame and the No. 2 scoring defense in the conference in Michigan. One big reason for each team's defensive



Irish goaltender David Brown makes a kick save in Notre Dame's 1-0 victory over Boston College Oct. 24. Brown and the rest of the Irish defense face No. 4 Michigan this weekend.

TIM KACMAR/The Observer

"I really think we've got a real advantage [at the Joyce Center]."

Dave Poulin
Irish coach

game has been the play of its goalies —sophomore Alvaro Montoya for the Wolverines and junior Morgan Cey and freshman David Brown for the Irish.

In a recently-released NHL Central Scouting rankings, Montoya was ranked the No. 1 collegiate goaltender eligible for this year's NHL draft, with Brown ranked No. 2.

"I think these are probably three of the top goalies in the country, and there will be a lot of focus on them, but I also think their teams play great defense in front of them," Poulin said. "There's a lot of components that make up a

good goalie, but it certainly helps to have defensively-sound players in front."

Michigan has one of the best offenses in the conference, with an average of 3.84 goals per game. A large percentage of that offense comes from the Wolverines' power play, which scores at a 21.8 percent rate and an average of 1.28 power play goals per game.

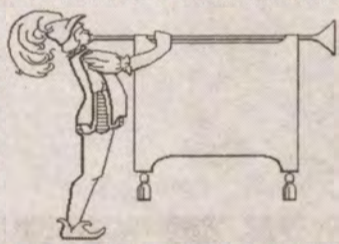
Notre Dame's penalty kill has been just as impressive. The Irish have killed 33 consecutive penalties and have killed 89 percent overall (121 of 136) to lead the CCHA and rank third in the nation.

"The special teams will be

enormous," Poulin said. "You're getting the No. 1 penalty kill against the No. 1 power play this weekend, and it's huge. Part of our success on the kill has been because we've been taking fewer penalties — it's a lot easier to kill three or four penalties than six or seven."

Notre Dame faces Michigan at 8:05 p.m. tonight at the Joyce Center. That game will be broadcast nationally on College Sports Television. Face-off Saturday is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu



Announcing the Year 2004 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2004 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved
- 5) the names of two references.

Application Deadline: Thursday, March 4th, 2004
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The puck stops here

Notre Dame's senior defensemen have made a major impact this season

By JUSTIN SCHÜVER
Associate Sports Editor

An offensive-minded defenseman. A player who plays at a level far above his stature. A tough guy on the ice but a good citizen off the ice. A player who is the definition of a hard-working student-athlete.

Like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, the four senior Irish defensemen — Brett Lebda, Tom Galvin, Neil Komadoski and T.J. Mathieson — have each played a role in the team's impressive defense this year.

Notre Dame is ranked first overall in the CCHA and ninth nationally in scoring defense, with a goals against average of 2.37 goals per game. While part of that success has been due to the play of the team's goalies, having four defensemen on the backline has also paid great dividends for the Irish.

"It's the most critical position, when you have a sound defense," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "There's just so much experience back on our blue line, and you just can't find a replacement for that."

"I think it also helps that they're all good friends. They play off each other and really help each other out there."

The offensive-minded defenseman

Watching him on the ice, it's sometimes hard to believe that Lebda is a defenseman. The speedy senior constantly uses his skating ability to take the puck up the ice and does not shy away from contributing to the Irish offense.

"[The offensive side] is probably the biggest part of my game," Lebda said. "In the four years I've been here, it's been good for me to learn more of the defensive side of my game because it's helped me to become a more-rounded player."

Growing up in Buffalo Grove, Ill., Lebda fell in love with hock-

ey at an early age and always tried to push himself to be the best player he could be.

"Hockey has always just been something I've loved to do, ever since I was too young to remember," he said.

As a 16-year-old, Lebda was extended an invitation to join the U.S. National Team Development Program (NTDP). During his two seasons with the U.S. NTDP, Lebda became friends with current Irish teammate Neil Komadoski.

"Neil has always been one of my best friends," Lebda said. "Coming here, it really helped to have someone I knew coming with me, and we've been able to grow."

"We've really been able to help each other on and off the ice."

Lebda leads all Irish defensemen so far this year with five goals and is second in overall scoring with 16 points. In addition to contributing on the offensive and defensive sides of the puck, he considers his physical play to be a major part of his overall game.

"I really just like to get in there and throw the body around every once and a while," Lebda said. "I'm not really the biggest guy ever, but I'm not afraid to shy away from anything."

The small guy with big game

Galvin's biography doesn't really leap out at you on first glance. At 5-foot-10, 190 pounds, the senior defenseman is one of the smallest players on the Irish roster — a far cry from giants like 6-foot-4 freshman defenseman Wes O'Neill.

"I guess I probably don't have the typical image of a defenseman, that 6-3 or 6-4 kind of guy," Galvin said. "I think I'm kind of different from most because I'm strong, small and can move the puck pretty well."

Despite his short stature, Galvin has blossomed this season on all sides of the puck, adding an offensive flair to his sound defensive game.



Irish defenseman Tom Galvin tries to collect the puck in Notre Dame's 5-3 exhibition win against Western Ontario Oct. 3. Galvin is one of four senior Irish defensemen. CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

In Notre Dame's last home series against Ferris State, Galvin pitched in a goal and three assists while also going +3 on the weekend. For his efforts, Galvin was named the defensive player of the week in the CCHA.

"I like [playing an offensive role] a lot," he said. "I actually started playing forward when I started playing hockey, and then I moved back to defense because that's where I needed to be — so every time I score a point or get an assist, it's always a plus."

The Miller Place, N.Y., native has found a niche on the point position with linemate Komadoski in the Irish power play. Special teams have been a large part of Notre Dame's success this year, and the power play unit is no exception with an 18.1 percent conversion rate so far this season.

The good citizen

Komadoski may be a hard-hitting defenseman on the ice, but once the final horn has sounded, he becomes a great citizen. Komadoski was named a nominee for the College Hockey Humanitarian Award, one of only 14 nominees in the nation.

"It's a great honor," Komadoski said. "A lot of people think that hockey players are these big, mean, tough guys, but off the ice I don't think you'll find a better person than a hockey player."

"I have to give a lot of credit to my teammates, too. We've all done a lot of community service through the year."

Komadoski has had hockey in his blood since as far back as he can remember, and a big reason for that is his father Neil, who played eight seasons as a defenseman for the Los Angeles Kings and the St. Louis Blues.

"He had a tremendous influence on me wanting to play hockey," Komadoski said. "He coached me all the way up until my freshman year in high school and really taught me a lot of the things that I know now."

"He still helps me to this day; he comes to all the games and really helps me out when I need it."

Following a two-year stint with the U.S. NTDP and current teammate Lebda, Komadoski made an immediate impact on the Irish as a freshman, collecting seven points (two goals, five assists) while also leading the

team with 45 penalty infractions.

Komadoski's play attracted the eyes on NHL scouts, and the Ottawa Senators selected him in the third round of the 2001 NHL Entry League Draft. He is one of two Irish seniors who have been drafted by NHL teams, along with forward Rob Globke who was a second-round draft pick of the Florida Panthers.

The hard-working student-athlete

Mathieson has never had anything come easy. His hometown of Clarksville, Md., was certainly not one of the premier hockey hotbeds in the United States and it was difficult to get noticed by some of the major college hockey schools.

Following a visit to Notre Dame, Mathieson was told that the coaches couldn't guarantee him a position on the team, but would instead leave it up to Mathieson to impress.

He impressed the Irish coaches enough that they allowed him to walk on to the team, and he has played a role for the Irish ever since, collecting three

points (one goal, two assists) in 43 career games so far in his career.

"The role that T.J. plays every single day for four years on this team has just been enormous," Poulin said.

In addition to being a full-time varsity athlete, Mathieson has also found a way to juggle an impressive academic schedule. He went into his senior season with a 3.812 grade point average in Aerospace Engineering and a candidate for the Rhodes, Mitchell and Marshall scholarships for undergraduate studies.

"It's tough at times [to stay on top of my studies]," he said. "I have to say that it's probably easier, though, because it keeps me on schedule."

"As it gets later in the semester it's tough, cause you have a lot of late nights and practices with little sleep, but you get used to it. I think it's been a rewarding experience."

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu



Irish defenseman Brett Lebda looks to shoot the puck in Notre Dame's 5-3 victory over Lake Superior State Nov. 21. SOFIA BALLON/The Observer



Irish defenseman Neil Komadoski moves the puck up ice in Notre Dame's 5-3 win over Lake Superior State Nov. 21. SOFIA BALLON/The Observer

Irish have chance of a lifetime this weekend

Notre Dame and Michigan. At the Joyce Center. With home-ice advantage for the first round of the CCHA playoffs on the line. It just doesn't get any bigger than this.

Michigan is, and has always been, "the" team in the CCHA. They've won numerous national championships and conference championships, and go into each season expecting to win another.

This is a team that helped sell 74,554 seats at the Michigan State football stadium when they played the Spartans in college hockey's first ever outdoor game in 2001. This is a team that has not had a losing season since 1986-87.

And this is the team the Irish will face at home for the last regular-season home weekend of the season.

"I think the team is pretty pumped right now," Irish senior defenseman Neil Komadoski said. "I'm going to go ahead and say that this is the biggest weekend of my college career."

"They're top-five nationally, and first in the conference, and I mean — just the fact that it's Michigan-Notre Dame. I think everyone's

going to be up for it, and hopefully we can come away with a win or two."

The Irish will have a great opportunity this weekend to silence their doubters and to make a statement in front of a national audience. Tonight's game will be nationally broadcast on College Sports Television and the college hockey world will be watching to see how the Irish compete against "the" team in the CCHA.

In their last series against a top-ranked team in the CCHA, back on Feb. 6 and 7 against Miami (Ohio) the Irish simply did not look like they could compete with the RedHawks, falling by scores of 5-2 and 2-0.

Things have changed in the conference since then, with No. 4 Michigan sweeping Miami in a series two weeks ago to move up to first place in the standings. Notre Dame was able to

bounce back from their defeats in Oxford, Ohio, to collect a much-needed four points at home against Ferris State on Feb. 13 and 14, defeating the Bulldogs 4-2 Friday and 4-1 Saturday.

Notre Dame was off last weekend, and has spent the last two weeks of practice preparing for these key games in its schedule.

"This off week allowed us to get healthy and rest up our minds going into this big series," Poulin said. "The energy's been high all week in practice and hopefully that will carry over to



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

The Irish celebrate their 1-0 victory over No. 1 Boston College Oct. 24. Notre Dame has beaten four ranked teams away from the Joyce Center already this season. This weekend will be the first chance for the Irish to defeat a ranked team at the Joyce Center.

this weekend."

The Irish have certainly shown they are capable of beating the best teams in the country already this season. Notre Dame defeated then-No. 1 Boston College 1-0 on the road back on Oct. 24, ruining the Golden Eagles' home opener.

The team has also defeated then-ranked teams No. 3 Maine, No. 4 Wisconsin and No. 15 Ohio State this season, with all those victories coming away from the Joyce Center. Notre Dame is currently ranked No. 17 in RPI and has three quality wins, tied for first overall.

With a successful outing against Michigan and a few wins in postseason play, it would not be presumptuous to assume that the Irish would have quite an attractive resume for the NCAA Tournament selection committee.

The Irish have never advanced to the 16-team NCAA Tournament in the school's history.

"From good to great doesn't happen overnight," Poulin said. "It happens over a period of time, but there are significant points that can give you the chance to go to that next level. We're a good team,

we're in the top 20 in the country and rank high in several statistical categories.

"We're a good hockey team, but the chance to be great is ahead of us. There are certain points along the way that are magnified, and I think this weekend is one of them."

When the puck drops tonight, Notre Dame will get that chance.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu.

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NOTRE DAME

Poulin has taken the Irish to the Super Six Championship three of his last four years. He has made the most of his recruiting, with stalwarts such as Wes O'Neill and David Brown already making major contributions this year.

The Irish offense has been the team's Achilles heel at times. The team does not get much offense outside of the trio of Rob Globke, Aaron Gill and Mike Walsh. Notre Dame scores a lot of its goals as the result of going hard to the net.

Notre Dame's defense is one of the best in the country, ranked ninth overall in scoring defense with a goals against average of 2.37. The Irish win a lot of games by close margins as a result of a defense that keeps the team in nearly every game.

The Irish penalty kill has successfully staved off 33 consecutive penalties coming into this weekend. Notre Dame's penalty kill is ranked third in the country with an 89 percent rate.

This might be Notre Dame's biggest strength this season. The tandem of Morgan Cey and David Brown have combined for six shutouts this season. Brown is tied for third nationally in save percentage.

The Irish have only lost one game at home this season and currently have a 12 game unbeaten streak. Despite playing in a makeshift hockey rink, Notre Dame's students and fans have helped create a true home-ice advantage.

MICHIGAN

Rod Berensen is entering his 20th season behind the Michigan bench. There is little he hasn't done, having already won two NCAA championships. The Wolverines have advanced to the NCAA Tournament 13 straight years.

The Wolverines score lots of goals, with an average of 3.84 goals per game. Michigan has one of the most balanced offenses in the country, with 13 players with at least 10 points so far this season.

Defensively the Wolverines are strong, only giving up 2.37 goals per game. The defense can hold leads, with the team holding a 16-2-0 record leading after one period.

The Wolverines have the top power play in the CCHA, collecting at a 21.8 percent clip so far this season. Their penalty kill is not quite as impressive, at 84.7 percent. That can be a problem, as the team takes a lot of penalties.

Al Montoya has quietly had an impressive season in net for the Wolverines. With so much offense around him, he has been overlooked at times but has solid stats with a .907 save percentage and a 2.41 GAA.

Michigan is used to being one of the powerhouse hockey programs in the country, and this year is no exception. The Wolverines know they only need three points to clinch the CCHA regular season championship.

ANALYSIS

Poulin has helped Notre Dame to become a competitive team in the CCHA, but has yet to take the Irish to the next level. It's hard to discount Berensen's consistent success and national championships.

Notre Dame's offense has sputtered, while Michigan's has been at a high performance level all season. The Irish do have a few players who can take over a game in Globke and Gill, however, and they still have the No. 1 defense in the CCHA.

Notre Dame and Michigan are nearly mirror images on defense. The Irish allow 2.33 goals per game while the Wolverines allow 2.37. Each team has a depth of experience on the blue line and goalies who can make the big saves.

Notre Dame's penalty kill has been almost perfect this season. On the other hand, Michigan's power play is successful one out of every five times. The Irish will need to limit the penalties they take this weekend to have a chance.

Notre Dame has two of the best goalies in the country in Cey and Brown. Michigan has Montoya, who is also very good, but the Wolverines cannot match Notre Dame's depth. Brown's save percentage and GAA are better than Montoya's.

The Irish have a chance to show that they can compete against the top team in their conference, and a chance to make a case for an NCAA tournament bid. It's the last home weekend for the Irish this season and the Joyce Center will be rocking.