

# THE OBSERVER

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## Fellowship rallies in honor of MLK, Jr.



Notre Dame Peace Fellowship member Casey Stanton, center, speaks during Wednesday's rally at the Clarke Memorial Fountain.

*Demonstration also focuses on effects of Iraq war with speeches, Scripture*

By JOHN-PAUL WITT  
News Writer

Snow flurries did not deter the more than 40 students in the Notre Dame Peace Fellowship from rallying at the Clarke Memorial Fountain Wednesday to commemorate the 39th anniversary of the death of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.

The rally featured speeches on King's teachings and the war in Iraq, a recitation of facts — including the number of civilian deaths sustained in the conflict — and a Scripture

reading and prayer service.

Speakers also commemorated King's April 4, 1967 speech, "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence." Organizers played a song composed of quotes from King's speeches and related them to the current conflict in Iraq.

Sophomore Michael Angulo, an NDPF member, coordinated the event.

Calling King a "modern-day prophet," Angulo exhorted listeners to follow King's "legacy of faith, justice, service and

see PROTEST/page 3

## South Bend job market in decline

*University takes spot as top area employer*

By EVA BINDA  
News Writer

Indiana's continued loss of jobs in the first months of 2007 increases Notre Dame's role as a major employer in the South Bend area, a finance professor said.

According to figures released March 30 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Indiana lost 7,400 jobs in February 2007 after being one of only three states in 2006 to report a net loss in jobs — approximately 12,700.

Ohio was the only state to report a larger job loss in February, with a decline of 9,700.

Finance professor Jeffrey Bergstrand said the loss of jobs is "part of the overall trend" in many Midwest states because of the decline in the American manufacturing industry. Most of the jobs lost in Indiana came from the state's manufacturing and construction sectors, which have been struggling.

Bergstrand said what is happening in Indiana "reflects a global trend" as workers move from production-related occupations to service-related jobs.

This trend is affecting not only Indiana as a whole but also the immediate South Bend economy, he said.

"Thirty years ago, manu-

see ECONOMY/page 4

## STUDENT SENATE

## Committee chairs approved for 07-08

By KAITLYNN RIELY  
Assistant News Editor

Student body president Liz Brown and vice president Maris Braun called their first Student Senate meeting to order Wednesday and encouraged the new senators and committee chairs to actively engage in their administration.

"I encourage you to always voice your point of view, no matter what. The point of Senate is to create conversation and debate," Braun said. "Senate has the capability to get a lot done, and Liz and I would really like to see that happen this year."

Before the meeting began, the new Senate Oversight committee chair, Ian Secviar, led the senators through the

process of introducing, discussing and passing a mock resolution.

The new senators then introduced themselves to each other, and Brown and Braun were sworn into office.

As their first acts in office, the senators passed several items of new business, including the Student Senate bylaws for the 2007-08 term, a list of rules regarding policies and procedures in the Senate.

The senators also unanimously approved Brown's recommendations for committee chairs.

Carol Hendrickson, a junior in Breen-Phillips, will serve as Academic Affairs committee chair.

Hendrickson told senators to

see SENATE/page 4



Morrissey senator Greg Dworjan, left, listens during last week's Senate meeting. Next year's committee leaders were chosen Wednesday night.

CHRIS MASSAD/The Observer

## ND offers dining, religious options for Easter break

*Students remain on campus to avoid hassle*

By KATIE PERALTA  
News Writer

With the extended Easter weekend a day away, students and faculty members are preparing for the holiday break.

Students traveling home for the weekend will be flocking to the South Bend Regional Airport, busing to Chicago airports and loading up the trunks of their cars for the trip home. And for those who are staying on campus, the University provides a number of ways to celebrate Easter.

Some students are glad to be heading home for the holiday weekend — including

freshman Mary Kusek, who will be traveling to Fond du Lac, Wis., to spend the Easter weekend with her family.

"I'm excited to be going home because Easter is the one holiday where my whole extended family gets together," Kusek said.

But with only two days off from school, traveling home is often time-consuming or expensive for students. Angela Amido, a freshman from Memphis, said she is staying on campus to avoid the hassle of making the trip home.

"I think that Easter at [Notre Dame] would be a

see EASTER/page 4



ERIC SALES/The Observer

Students carry a cross Tuesday during a campus-wide Stations of the Cross.

*Basilica celebrates Holy Week traditions*

By JOHN-PAUL WITT  
News Writer

Not all students will be celebrating Holy Week by going to the Basilica Sunday for Easter Mass, but many who stay on campus will be taking advantage of the spiritual opportunities Notre Dame offers for the holiday.

Catholics have a "duty" to attend Mass on Easter, said theology professor Father Paul Kollman. If possible, he said, Communion should also be received during the Easter season — the obligation to receive

Communion once a year is known as the "Easter duty."

Catholics are also encouraged to receive the sacrament of reconciliation before Easter, although this is not required "unless one is in a state of mortal sin," Kollman said.

Kollman cautioned, however, against viewing the Easter season in "legalistic terms."

"The liturgies of Holy Week are beautiful, and help prepare us for celebrating the fullness of the risen Christ on Saturday

see FAITH/page 4



INSIDE COLUMN

No frills,  
no thrills

Ever heard of the phrase “you get what you pay for?” It’s a statement applicable to anything and everything, especially nowadays in the context of air travel.

Recall the in-flight experience of yesteryear, when those who could afford flying received luxurious service in return. You’ve seen the well-groomed travelers spread out in reclining seats on TV Land, waited on by beautiful stewardesses. In those days of black-and-white television, flying was so classy that piano bars were on longer flights.

But here we are in the post 9/11 era, where you’re lucky enough to even receive a complimentary refreshment on board. With carriers burning through cash at a frightening rate, for them, the easiest way out of bankruptcy court is to slash ticket prices to get more people in the seats. Though appealing to the cost-conscious consumer, this means that quality service plunges with the airfares.

Remember the ghastly bistro bag? It’s history. Need a cocktail? Don’t expect free booze, even on international flights. Pillows? Sorry, cleaning costs got them scrapped from domestic flights.

And about those fares — you probably jumped at the offer of a \$139 one way bid from L.A. to New York. Great, just get ready to be squeezed in a middle seat for a six-hour red-eye flight. Want the afternoon flight instead, or a window/aisle seat? That’s cool — just be prepared to cough up an additional \$50 to \$500.

The nightmare continues, even with your feet still on the ground. Companies like Spirit Airlines now charge passengers \$10 for each checked bag (up to two bags) and \$100 for a third. Tardiness is also a problem. A USA Today study concluded that the overall performance of U.S. airlines declined for the third consecutive year in 2006. One in every three flights was delayed.

In earnest, the airlines really can’t afford to be trucking your butt cross country for less than \$200 a seat. It’s called “the stretching effect”: Low markups cause financial woes and wage reductions, which spill over to poison labor relations. Poor morale among employees causes luggage mishandling, cancelled flights and bumped passengers. Ultimately, the customers find themselves on the receiving end, wondering if paying discounted fares was worth the suffering.

But any savvy passenger can still work the system. You can arrive early at the airport to change your seat assignment at no extra cost. Travel light to spare your personal items — and your wallet — from check-in fees. If your bag is lost or damaged, demand compensation to buy new items or have the airline replace your bag.

Lastly, if your flight is overbooked and you can surrender your seat for a travel voucher, do it! A standby passenger once coveted my seat so badly he proposed \$1000 in cash if I relinquished it to him. Unfortunately, my mom declined the offer for me, convinced that it was drug money. Drug money or not, that’s ample cash to purchase an upgrade.

Another note to self: Want flagship service? Travel separately from Mom.

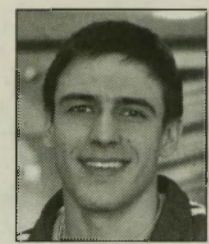




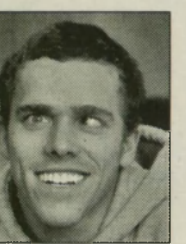
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, in the article “Irish stop slide with 7-3 victory” in the April 4 edition of The Observer, Notre Dame catcher Ryan Smith was incorrectly called Matt Smith. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE EASTER TREAT?

					
Mark Sullivan	Maureen Clark	Matthew Zell	Chris Esber	Allison Hickey	Brian Mahon
sophomore O'Neill	sophomore Welsh Fam	sophomore Dillon	sophomore Knott	sophomore Welsh Fam	sophomore Siegfried
"Easter bunnies; because they lay Easter eggs."	"Solid milk chocolate Easter bunnies."	"Chocolate eggs, because they lay chocolate bunnies."	"I like Peeps, because you only live once."	"Anything but Peeps."	"Hollow chocolate Easter bunnies — but they have to be hollow."



Members of Notre Dame Students for Environmental Action (NDSEA) Erin Burns, left, and Bill Ehrlich put together signs Wednesday to campaign against excessive energy use and carbon dioxide emissions for Earth Week.

OFFBEAT

Couple fights to name baby 'Metallica'

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Metallica may be a cool name for a heavy metal band, but a Swedish couple is struggling to convince officials it is also suitable for a baby girl.

Michael and Karolina Tomaro are locked in a court battle with Swedish authorities, which rejected their application to name their six-month-old child after the legendary rock band.

"It suits her," Karolina Tomaro, 27, said Tuesday of the name. "She's decisive and she knows what she

wants."

Although little Metallica has already been baptized, the Swedish National Tax Board refused to register the name, saying it was associated with both the rock group and the word "metal."

Tomaro said the official handling the case also called the name "ugly."

Chicago suit charges 'negligent dancing'

CHICAGO — A woman is suing her dance partner, claiming he dropped her on her head after flipping her into the air at an office party.

Lacey Hindman, 22, was a victim of "negligent dancing," says her lawyer, David M. Baum.

In the suit, Hindman claims that during a party at a Chicago bar and restaurant in April 2006, David Prange grabbed her by the forearms and tossed her in the air, and then she crashed to the wood floor.

Hindman said in the suit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court, that she suffered a fractured skull and brain injuries. She is seeking damages for medical bills and lost wages for time missed from work.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Lord's Supper Mass will be held today at 5 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Tenebrae service will be held tonight at 11 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team will play against Duke University today at 4 p.m. in Moose Krause Stadium.

Classes will not be held Friday through Monday in observance of the Easter holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday.

The Celebration of the Lord's Passion will be held at 3 p.m. Friday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.




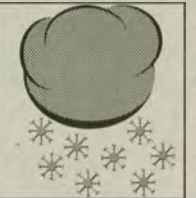


Ben Hur will be shown as a silent film with piano accompaniment by Dave Drazin on Friday at 7 p.m. in DPAC's Browning Cinema. The cost is \$3 for students.

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team will play against the University of California Saturday at 1 p.m. in Moose Krause Stadium.

The Paschal Vigil Mass to celebrate the Lord's passion will be held at 9 p.m. Saturday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Easter Mass will be held at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon Sunday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
		HIGH 38 LOW 25		HIGH 28 LOW 25		HIGH 35 LOW 20		HIGH 36 LOW 17		HIGH 39 LOW 25		HIGH 48 LOW 30

Atlanta 62 / 41 Boston 47 / 34 Chicago 39 / 26 Denver 57 / 33 Houston 69 / 55 Los Angeles 74 / 58 Minneapolis 38 / 18 New York 49 / 36 Philadelphia 49 / 37 Phoenix 92 / 66 Seattle 64 / 45 St. Louis 50 / 30 Tampa 80 / 65 Washington 53 / 39



# Protest

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peace."

"As he said in his speech against the Vietnam War, 'There comes a time when silence is betrayal,'" Angulo said of King.

NDPF member Casey Stanton, a senior, addressed the obligations of Christians concerned about the war.

"We call ourselves followers of Christ, but our actions in the world show we are more like a Judas," she said. "We should be more concerned about our brothers and sisters — innocent Iraqis ... and American soldiers."

Angulo said Peace Fellowship members were "inspired" to hold

the rally by the Catholic Worker demonstration in front of the Main Building March 26, during which several members of the Catholic Worker movement received arrest tickets by the Notre Dame Security/Police.

"They came to campus to raise awareness about peace, but [peace activists are] already on campus," Angulo said. "We felt that we needed to do more to educate people at Notre Dame."

The decision to stage an event — which came after the Progressive Student Alliance's "Week of Action" in March — was also motivated by the strong turnout at the March 19 lecture by two Marine veterans on the Iraq war.

"After 170 people came to see the veterans, we realized there

was a desire on campus to have more dialog about what's going on in our country and in Iraq," Angulo said.

Following Wednesday's rally, Angulo said the Peace Fellowship plans to continue its anti-war activism through inspiring "professors to speak out against the war and have more dialogue" with the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

The Peace Fellowship has held several forums with ROTC leaders in the past.

The rally was disturbed at one point by hecklers who called the participants "hippies" and told them to "go get high," but the shouts did not halt the proceedings.

Contact John-Paul Witt at [jwitt1@nd.edu](mailto:jwitt1@nd.edu)

# News correspondent to speak at lecture

Special to The Observer

Noted broadcast news correspondent and anchor Judy Woodruff will deliver the 2007 Red Smith Lecture in Journalism at 7:30 p.m. April 12 in the C a r e y Auditorium of



Woodruff

the Hesburgh Library at the University of Notre Dame.

Woodruff, senior correspondent on "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" on PBS, will examine the changing role of reporters in a talk titled "Are Journalists Obsolete?" The event is free and open to the public.

Earlier this year, Woodruff returned to "The NewsHour," where she reports from across the United States, conducts studio interviews and serves as substitute anchor. From 1993 until 2005 she anchored the daily program "Inside Politics" on CNN. Prior to joining CNN, Woodruff was White House correspondent for NBC News and served as chief Washington correspondent for "The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour" on PBS.

Woodruff has served as a visiting fellow at Duke University, of which she is a graduate, and Harvard University. Her interest in the political views of young people resulted in the recent PBS documentary "Generation Next: Speak Up. Be Heard." She is currently working on a second "Generation Next" documentary, which will be broadcast later this year.

Woodruff is the recipient of many journalism honors, including the 2002 Edward R. Murrow Award for continuing coverage of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the 1997 News and Documentary Emmy Award for outstanding instant coverage of the Centennial Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta. In 1995 she won the CableACE award for Best Newscaster and in 1994 she was named the inaugural recipient of the National Women's Hall of Fame President's 21st Century Award.

The Red Smith Lecture in Journalism was established in 1983 to honor the sportswriter and 1927 Notre Dame graduate Walter W. "Red" Smith, who won the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished criticism in 1976. At the time of his death in 1982, Smith was a columnist for The New York Times.

The Smith Lectureship seeks to foster good writing and to recognize high journalistic standards. It is administered by Notre Dame's John W. Gullivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. Previous Red Smith Lecturers include James Reston, James J. Kilpatrick, Art Buchwald, Charles Kuralt, Georgie Anne Geyer, Ted Koppel, Jim Lehrer and Frank McCourt.

The series is made possible by a gift from John and Susan McMeel and Universal Press Syndicate. A South Bend native and 1957 Notre Dame graduate, John McMeel is chairman of Andrews McMeel Universal, the parent company of Universal Press Syndicate. He is a member of the advisory council for Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters and a member of the advisory committee of the Gullivan Program.

Universal Press Syndicate, which is based in Kansas City, will publish Woodruff's lecture and distribute it to several thousand journalists and educators.

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## Senate

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expect a resolution from her committee on new locations for the College Readership Program, and said she wants to explore ideas about releasing the results of Teacher Course Evaluations (TCEs) to students so they can see how professors have been rated.

Colin Feehan, a junior currently studying abroad in London, will serve as the Community Relations chair when he returns in the fall.

Braun will chair this committee in the interim.

Karen Koski, a sophomore in Walsh, will serve as the Social Concerns committee chair. Koski took over the position from Sheena Plamoottil, who is now the chief executive assistant.

Koski said she wants her committee to take a "multi-faceted approach" to make students aware of social concerns issues and give them the chance to give back to the community.

Patrick Tighe, a freshman in Keough, and Brenna Doyle, a junior in Welsh Hall, will

serve as the co-chairs for the Gender Issues committee. Doyle is currently studying abroad in London.

Mariana Montes, a junior in Lyons, will chair the Residence Life committee. Montes has served on the Residence Life and the Multicultural Affairs committees for the past two years.

Callie Pogge, a junior from Badin, will serve as University Affairs committee chair. Pogge said her committee will "discuss issues that apply directly to the mission of the University."

Secviar, a freshman in

Knott, will chair the Oversight committee. Former Oversight chair Chris Hollon told the new senators that while this committee might sound "really dry," it was probably "the committee with the most excitement last year."

Lai-Nin Wan, a junior in McGlinn, will serve as the Multicultural Affairs committee chair. Her committee will work on cultural competency issues and the recruitment and retention of minority faculty members over the coming year.

Senators submitted their

committee preference to Plamoottil, and they will be placed on committees at the next Senate meeting.

### In other Senate news:

♦ The Senate unanimously passed three resolutions honoring Lizzi Shappell, Bill Andrichik and Brown by giving them emeritus status for their positions last year as student body president, vice president and chief executive assistant, respectively.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at [kriely@nd.edu](mailto:kriely@nd.edu)

## Faith

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when we receive new members into the Church through Baptism during the Easter Vigil," he said.

Brett Perkins, Campus Ministry director of Protestant student resources, said Protestants are extended a "special invitation to join the Notre Dame community" to celebrate Easter, but the efforts to include these students are not extraordinary.

"Campus Ministry doesn't focus on being interdenominational this week because it's so special for the Catholic faith," Perkins said.

Perkins said many

Protestant students attend services during the Triduum — Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday — days when the Church reflects on the Last Supper, and the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ.

"Protestant students will attend Mass, but are more likely to attend non-Eucharistic services like Stations of the Cross on Good Friday or the office of Tenebrae, night prayer celebrated at 11 p.m. on Holy Thursday," Perkins said.

No dorm liturgies will be offered during Holy Week, in part to foster community among all students, Perkins said.

Protestant and Orthodox students who wish to attend a local Protestant church for

Easter can find a ride through Campus Ministry on an individual basis, Perkins said.

All students who do not go home for Easter are encouraged to attend services on campus to further enhance the "community celebration" of the holiday, Perkins said.

Iron Sharpens Iron, the interdenominational fellowship group, will not meet at its normal time today "out of respect for the Triduum and by campus rule," Perkins

said.

Many students are celebrating Easter on campus, such as junior Katie Ottolini,

who plans to attend services in the Basilica on Good Friday and Easter.

"I'd go on Holy Thursday, but I have to take a practice MCAT," she said. "I don't mind having to go to the Basilica — I

enjoy being part of the greater ND community."

Some students prefer to celebrate Easter at home, such as sophomore Jonathan

*"I don't mind having to go to the Basilica — I enjoy being part of the greater ND community."*

Katie Ottolini  
Junior

Poelhuis, an evangelical non-denominational Protestant.

"I'll go home to Paradise, Ind., and attend services on Friday and Sunday with my congregation," Poelhuis said.

Poelhuis said the Catholic focus of Notre Dame has not deterred his personal celebration of Holy Week, especially because Catholicism exposed him to previously unknown traditions.

"Last year I participated in campus-wide Stations of the Cross. It was neat because it's something [Protestants] don't have," he said. "I like Notre Dame because I can do and learn about spiritual things that I'm not exposed to at home."

Contact John-Paul Witt at [jwitt1@nd.edu](mailto:jwitt1@nd.edu)

## Easter

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really nice experience," Amido said.

For those who are staying, North and South Dining Halls will remain open for the duration of the break, though with a modified schedule. As they have been doing for all Fridays in Lent, both will serve a non-meat menu on Good Friday, while South Dining Hall will offer a special Easter buffet Sunday from noon until 4 p.m., complete with a traditional roasted lamb, hors d'oeuvres and a variety of desserts.

The restaurants in LaFortune will remain open for a small portion of the break. Burger King and Sbarro will be closed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and Starbucks will be closed on Saturday and Sunday. The Huddle Mart and Subway will be closed only on Sunday.

The Hesburgh Library will stay open for those students looking to get some work done over the holiday weekend. It will keep its traditional hours on Friday and Saturday, but will be closed entirely on Sunday.

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart offers several Masses to celebrate Holy Week. A celebration of the Last Supper will take place in the Basilica tonight at 5. On Good Friday there will be a celebration of the Lord's Passion in the Basilica at 3 p.m., followed later by the Stations of the Cross at the Basilica at 7:15. On Holy Saturday, the Great Paschal Vigil will be held at 9 p.m., and the week culminates with Easter Sunday Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon and 9 p.m.

Contact Katie Peralta at [kperalta@nd.edu](mailto:kperalta@nd.edu)

## Economy

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facturing was dominant [in the South Bend economy]. A minority was employed in service related industries," Bergstrand said. "There has been a lot of growth in terms of financial services as well as growth of jobs in health care."

Today, the majority of jobs in the area are service-related, and South Bend has become a regional center for health services, he said.

Although Notre Dame has long been pivotal to the South Bend economy, Bergstrand said, the University now bears an even larger burden as the largest employer in the area. Add to that the jobs at hotels, restaurants and

other businesses brought by Notre Dame, and the University's economic impact only grows.


There was some good news, however, from employment data released Monday by the Indiana Department of Workplace Development. The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.3 percent in February 2007, down from 5.8 percent the month

before.

Locally, St. Joseph County ranked No. 47 out of 92 in a list of unemployment by county, reporting a 5.6 percent jobless rate.

The national unemployment rate for 2006 was 4.6 percent, according to U.S. Department of Labor Statistics.

Contact Eva Binda at [jbinda@nd.edu](mailto:jbinda@nd.edu)



# A Progressive Agenda for Mexico

6:00 pm - Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Hesburgh Center Auditorium

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Founding Member, Partido de la Revolución Democrática (PRD)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Pelosi meets with Syrian leader

DAMASCUS — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi challenged the White House on Middle East policy Wednesday, meeting with Syria's leader and insisting "the road to Damascus is a road to peace."

That brought a sharp attack from the Bush administration, which has rejected direct talks with Damascus until its changes its ways.

Washington accuses Syria of backing Hamas and Hezbollah, two groups it deems terrorist organizations. It also says Syria is fueling Iraq's violence by allowing Sunni insurgents to operate from its territory and is destabilizing Lebanon's government. Syrian government officials have been implicated in the 2005 assassination of former Lebanese premier Rafik Hariri in Beirut.

### Ukrainian politics erupts in protests

KIEV — Thousands of supporters of Ukraine's Russian-leaning prime minister marched Wednesday to the office of the pro-Western president, protesting a presidential order to hold early elections.

President Viktor Yushchenko on Monday night ordered parliament dissolved, and he called new elections for May 27, plunging Ukraine into its most serious political crisis since the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych has called Yushchenko's decision illegal and appealed to the 18-judge Constitutional Court.

Yanukovych's supporters have taken over the main Independence Square in downtown Kiev. Elderly people wearing red scarves in support of Yanukovych's coalition partner, the Communists, danced, while younger supporters sat on the edge of fountains and lounged on nearby grass.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Officers seize, give away tickets

ST. LOUIS — Fifteen members of the St. Louis police department were disciplined Wednesday, after officers seized World Series tickets from scalpers and gave them to friends and family.

St. Louis Police Chief Joe Mokwa suspended eight officers without pay for two weeks for giving away the Cardinals tickets, which should have been stored as evidence. He recommended their rank be reduced for at least a year. They could lose up to \$20,000 each in pay.

A lieutenant and three sergeants also await punishment for failure to supervise. Another three officers will be disciplined for violating an internal procedure.

### U.S. terrorist seeks lighter sentence

SAN FRANCISCO — The lawyer and parents of American-born Taliban soldier John Walker Lindh asked President Bush on Wednesday to commute his 20-year prison term, citing the case of an Australian man who was sentenced to less than a year for aiding terrorism.

Lindh, 26, was captured in Afghanistan in November 2001 by American forces sent to topple the Taliban after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He was charged with conspiring to kill Americans and support terrorists but pleaded guilty to lesser offenses, including carrying weapons against U.S. forces.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Same-sex marriage ban shut down

INDIANAPOLIS — The defeat of a proposed constitutional ban on gay marriage was a calculated political move by top House Democrats, some Republicans said Wednesday as they suggested the issue could hurt Democrats in the next election.

House Minority Leader Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, said House Speaker Patrick Bauer orchestrated the proposal's demise in the House Rules Committee, which on Tuesday voted 5-5 on a resolution supporting a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

Bauer said he did let the process move forward.

## IRAN

# British detainees set to be released

*Sailors, marines pardoned as Easter gift, says President Ahmadinejad*

Associated Press

TEHRAN — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad defused a growing confrontation with Britain, announcing the surprise release of 15 captive British sailors Wednesday and then gleefully accepting the crew's thanks and handshakes in what he called an Easter gift.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed "profound relief" over the peaceful end to the 13-day crisis. "Throughout we have taken a measured approach — firm but calm, not negotiating, but not confronting either," Blair said in London, adding a message to the Iranian people that "we bear you no ill will."

The announcement in Tehran was a breakthrough in a crisis that had escalated over nearly two weeks, raising oil prices and fears of military conflict in the volatile region. The move to release the sailors suggested that Iran's hard-line leadership decided it had shown its strength but did not want to push the standoff too far.

Iran did not get the main thing it sought — a public apology for entering Iranian waters. Britain, which said its crew was in Iraqi waters when seized, insists it never offered a quid pro quo, either, instead relying on quiet diplomacy.

Syria, Iran's close ally, said it played a role in winning the release. "Syria exercised a sort of quiet diplomacy to solve this problem and encourage dialogue between the two parties," Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said in Damascus.

The announcement of the release came hours after U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi met with President Bashar Assad in



The 15 released British sailors wave to the media in Tehran, Iran Wednesday. Their release was dubbed an Easter gift by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Damascus, trying to show that a U.S. dialogue with Syria — rejected by the Bush administration — could bring benefits for the Middle East. The British sailors were not part of their talks, and it was not clear if the release was timed to coincide with her visit.

Iran's official news agency said the British crew was to leave Iran by plane on Thursday at 8 a.m. By Wednesday evening they had still not been handed over to the British Embassy in Tehran and the embassy said it was not clear where they would spend the night. Britain's ambassador met with the sailors and con-

firmed they were in good health, Britain's Foreign Office said.

Ahmadinejad timed the announcement so as to make a dramatic splash, springing it halfway through a two-hour news conference.

The president first gave a medal of honor to the commander of the Iranian coast guards who captured the Britons, and admonished London for sending a mother, Leading Seaman Faye Turney, on such a dangerous mission in the Persian Gulf.

He said the British government was "not brave enough" to admit the crew had been in Iranian waters when it was cap-

tured.

Ahmadinejad then declared that even though Iran had the right to put the Britons on trial, he had "pardoned" them to mark the March 30 birthday of the Prophet Muhammad and the coming Easter holiday.

"This pardon is a gift to the British people," he said.

After the news conference, Iranian television showed a beaming Ahmadinejad on the steps of the presidential palace shaking hands with the Britons — some towering over him. The men were decked out in business suits and Turney wore an Islamic head scarf.

# Archives intern convicted of stealing

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A 40-year-old intern with the National Archives pleaded guilty Wednesday to stealing 164 Civil War documents, including an official announcement of President Lincoln's death, and putting most of them up for sale on eBay.

Prosecutors said Denning McTague, who has master's degrees in history and library science, put about 150 of the documents online and had shipped about half of them.

All but three of the items, worth an estimated \$30,000 in all, have since been recovered.

McTague told investigators that he

used a yellow legal pad to sneak the documents out while working at the National Archives and Records Administration last summer. As an unpaid intern, he had been responsible for arranging and organizing documents in preparation for the upcoming 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

A Gettysburg company that publishes books on the Civil War spotted some of the items on eBay and alerted authorities last fall, officials said.

The stolen Civil War-era documents included telegrams concerning the troops' weaponry, the War Department's announcement of Lincoln's death sent to soldiers, and a letter from famed cavalryman James

Ewell Brown Stuart, prosecutors said.

McTague pleaded guilty to one federal count of stealing government property. He could receive up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he is sentenced July 12, but federal sentencing guidelines call for much less.

Paul Brachfeld, inspector general for the National Archives, said the documents are invaluable and getting them back was not easy, especially since some had been sold overseas.

The buyers, mostly history buffs, surrendered the documents after learning they were stolen. Prosecutors said they could get some reimbursement from McTague.





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### BELGIUM

## World leaders discuss global climate change

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Scientists and diplomats from more than 120 countries debated the urgency of changes in the Earth's climate Wednesday as they tried to finalize a report on global warming that will guide policy-makers for decades to come.

In closed-door meetings, the delegates argued over revisions in the 21-page draft text, in one case making changes to highlight how global warming will reduce staple crops in countries such as China and India, where millions of people could go hungry.

The conference is due to release the report by Friday. The text is a synopsis of a more than 1,400-page assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with contributions by more than 1,000 climate experts, on the impact of global warming and the vulnerabilities of economies, ecosystems and human health.

It will be presented at a Group of Eight leaders summit in June in Germany, during which the European Union will press President Bush to sign on to international talks to cut emissions.

The report also will be the basis for a conference in December in Indonesia to set an international framework for controlling the emissions of carbon dioxide after 2012, the expiry date of the Kyoto Protocol, which mandates emission curbs for industrial countries.

The United States, which has refused to coordinate action to curb greenhouse gas emissions with other countries, was playing a low-key role in Brussels so far, said delegates on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the

media.

Delegates said the talks were going slowly, with disputes over the level of confidence attached to the statement. Some countries wanted the wording either toned down or the level of certainty reduced, delegates said. The issue was handed to a smaller "contact group" to resolve.

"We have made too little progress so far," said Hans Verolme of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, who is attending the sessions. "We want to make sure that what comes out in the end is crisp, well structured and understandable to the layman."

R.T.M. Sutamihardja, a delegate from Indonesia, said one difficulty was juggling the interests of each country in weighing the impact of climate change.

"If we want to include everything, we would need a bigger map," he told The Associated Press outside the conference room.

The report stresses that climate changes will have a more devastating impact on poor countries — and poorer citizens within rich countries — because they are less capable of adapting to shifts in weather patterns.

Many of the regions expected to be most affected already suffer severe water shortages and hunger, which will only get worse, the final report is to say, while some parts of North America and Europe will benefit in the short-term from milder winters and longer growing seasons.

The text is the second of four reports by the climate change panel. The first, issued in February, updated the science of climate change, concluding with near certainty that global warming is caused by human behavior.

## Glocksen latest to kiss 'Idol' stage goodbye

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gina Glocksen, who had her share of good and bad "American Idol" moments, kissed the show goodbye Wednesday, becoming the latest casualty in viewer voting.

The exit of Glocksen, 22, of Naperville, Ill., trimmed the number of finalists to eight. The winner will be chosen in May.

Judge Randy Jackson had said on Tuesday's program that Glocksen — the show's resident rocker girl, with her red high-lights and all-black outfits — gave a "nice, controlled performance" of the classic song "Smile."

His colleague Simon Cowell, who has griped that Glocksen was not in the same league as other finalists, sported a frown.

Glocksen let out a sob when she heard the result but managed to sing through her tears while performing on "Idol" for the last time.

Haley Scarnato and Phil Stacey had the next-lowest vote tallies in the phone balloting, which drew about 33 million

calls and text messages.

Scarnato, 24, of San Antonio, is not opposed to showing a little skin on "Idol." Though Cowell derided her take on "Ain't Misbehavin'" as a bit "pageant-y," he applauded her "nice legs."

Cowell said Stacey's performance of "Night and Day" was too dark and dreary, while Tony Bennett — this week's venerable guest coach — heaped praise on the 29-year-old Floridian, calling him one of the best singers he's heard.

Wednesday's program also featured a performance by Michael Buble, who sang "Call Me Irresponsible."

Among this week's survivors were favorites Melinda Doolittle, LaKisha Jones and Jordin Sparks. Sanjaya Malakar — the stringbean teen who's anything but a judges' favorite but still manages to rack up viewer votes — also made it through.

In its sixth season, "American Idol" continues to rule the ratings. It has attracted 26 million to 37 million viewers per telecast this season.



## MARKET RECAP

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Up: 1,758 Same: 163 Down: 1,463 Composite Volume: 2,645,323,674

AMEX	2,190.55	+0.46
NASDAQ	2,458.69	+8.36
NYSE	9,398.56	+17.10
S&P 500	1,437.77	+13.22
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,506.60	-37.49
FTSE 100(London)	6,364.70	-1.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
FIRST DATA CP (FDC)	-0.15	-0.05	32.28
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	+0.41	+0.18	44.34
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+1.21	+0.07	5.86
S&P RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.11	+0.16	143.85

Treasuries	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.26	-0.012	4.652
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.000	4.905
30-YEAR BOND	-0.02	-0.001	4.845
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.44	-0.020	4.542

Commodities	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.26		64.38
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+7.70		677.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.45		99.83

Exchange Rates	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
YEN			118.6050
EURO			0.7476
POUND			0.5060
CANADIAN \$			1.1594

## IN BRIEF

### NM residents vote on space attraction

UPHAM, N.M. — Billionaire Richard Branson looks at a bleak and featureless expanse of the New Mexico desert and sees the perfect spot on which to build the future — a \$198 million launch complex that would blast paying tourists into space.

Whether enough folks around here share his vision remains to be seen.

Spaceport America, as sketched out by Branson, would be funded by \$198 million in state, local and federal money. The first rocket flights would be in 2009 and would initially be suborbital trips that would offer five minutes of weightlessness at about \$200,000 per person. Eventually, the spaceport could offer trips into orbit and beyond.

But in poor southern New Mexico's ranching country, some say they have no intention of paying for some rich people's thrills.

Branson has said he chose the southern New Mexico desert as a launch site because of the weather, the large expanse of open desert and the support of the state.

### Airline business to pick up profits

SINGAPORE — After six years of losing money, the global airline business is expected to be profitable in 2007, a top aviation official said Wednesday, and Asia will spearhead the industry's future growth.

By 2010, Asia will become the world's largest aviation market, accounting for one-third of the world's air traffic, said Giovanni Bisignani, the International Air Transport Association's director general and chief executive.

"Aviation is the world's most exciting industry and Asia is the region that is going to drive it forward," Bisignani said in a lecture. "Asia's growing importance is clearly defining a new leadership role in all aspects of the industry."

Bisignani said the Geneva-based IATA, the governing body that regulates international air transport, expects the global airline industry to make a combined net profit of \$3.8 billion this year.

The industry had suffered six years of losses, amounting to more than \$40 billion over that time, as airlines were hit a lull in travel after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, high jet fuel prices and health scares like SARS.

## Companies pursue new approach

EMC's 'Mod Squad' seeks to inform struggling borrowers, not foreclose on homes

Associated Press

NEW YORK — As home foreclosures mount, mortgage companies are knocking on doors, sending letters and making phone calls with a simple message for struggling homeowners: They'd rather modify your loan than foreclose.

EMC Mortgage Corp., which has a \$78 billion loan portfolio that includes subprime loans made to homeowners with weak credit, this week launched a 50-person team it calls "the Mod Squad." Members will spend an unlimited time on the phone with troubled borrowers, sifting through their bills to compute a workable monthly payment. In an industry that often rewards workers for getting off the phone quickly, the team is preparing to speak to just three people a day.

"You can't just run this like a call center; it needs to be run like a counseling center," said John Vella, president and CEO of EMC. Right now, \$2.14 billion in mortgages, 2.74 percent of EMC's portfolio, is in default, up from 1.93 percent a year ago.

Lenders have long modified loans for homeowners facing job loss, illness, divorce or a death in the family. But with many borrowers across the country struggling to keep up with mortgage payments, mortgage companies increasingly are prodding anyone who's having trouble making payments for any reason to give them a call.

Critics say lenders made loans to borrowers who weren't creditworthy with terms that would be impossible for them to meet. Whether the current wave of workouts will merely postpone foreclosures — and delay bad



"Mod Squad" trainees work during a training session March 30 in Lewisville, Texas. They will spend unlimited time on the phone to help struggling investors.

loans hitting lenders' books — is an open question.

Regulators will be watching to see how many are successful, said Susan Wachter, a professor of real estate and finance at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

The scant public information on modifications makes evaluation tricky, said Thomas Lawler. The former chief economist at Fannie Mae now runs his own consulting business, Lawler Economic & Housing Consulting, in

Vienna, Va.

Loose lending standards followed by lax modifications can merely delay a problem, Lawler said. He pointed to the raft of modifications done in the manufactured housing business in the mid 1990's, when easy credit led to a wave of defaults and repossessions.

"If people had known what the servicers were doing, red flags would have been raised; but by the time people knew what was going on, it was too late," he said.

Advocates say that half

the people in foreclosure never talk to their banker before losing their house, and many could rework their loans if they only got help.

"It's tragic," said Colleen Hernandez, president of the nonprofit Home Ownership Preservation Foundation. "We have the capacity to help a whole lot more people."

Calls to her group have picked up markedly. Its 24-hour hotline, (888) 995-4673, is getting 300 calls a day, from 75 daily in the first quarter of 2006.

## Bridgestone awaits USW ratification

Associated Press

NASHVILLE — The United Steelworkers union said Wednesday that it has reached a tentative contract agreement with tiremaker Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire covering workers at six U.S. plants, including one in Indiana.

The union said it wanted to brief its members on the agreement reached Tuesday night and did not disclose terms of the deal in a news release.

"The tentative agreement and contract proposals follow the pattern established in the BF Goodrich and Goodyear contracts," said USW Executive Vice President Ron Hoover of the union's Rubber and Plastic Industry Conference.

The union said that workers at the six plants will vote on the contracts on April 25. If the contracts are

approved, they will expire on July 18, 2009.

The plants include Akron, Ohio; Noblesville, Ind.; Des Moines, Iowa; Russellville, Ark.; La Vergne, Tenn., and Oklahoma City.

Workers at the Warren County, Tenn., and Bloomington, Ill., plants are considering individual contract offers that cover workers there.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. workers at 12 plants in 10 states ended a three-month strike in December by approving a three-year agreement covering 14,000 employees. The deal included plans to close a Texas tire factory and creates a \$1 billion health care fund for retirees.

Goodyear said the pact will help reduce its costs by \$610 million over three years and \$300 million a year thereafter.

After Goodyear settled its contract

with USW, Bridgestone went back to negotiating with the union in January, according to Bridgestone spokesman Dan MacDonald.

Goodyear is third among the world's biggest tiremakers after Japan's Bridgestone Corp. and France's Group Michelin.

Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire, a subsidiary of Bridgestone Corp., is based in Nashville, Tenn.

The company said in a released statement that "it's been our goal throughout this process to achieve contracts that are in the best interests of both parties and allow our companies to participate successfully in a fiercely competitive market."

"We now look forward to the union membership's ratification vote, a process which will likely take several days," the statement said.



## ZIMBABWE

## National media prints threat on Briton's life



A normally busy road in Harare is quiet on the second day of a national strike Wednesday in Zimbabwe's capital.

Associated Press

HARARE — Zimbabwe's state-run newspaper appeared to threaten a British diplomat it accused of supporting government opponents on Tuesday, suggesting on its front page that she could be welcomed home "in a body bag" if she persisted.

Britain immediately summoned the Zimbabwean ambassador in London to explain the article in the Herald, calling the threats "shocking and absolutely unacceptable."

Tensions in Zimbabwe have been high since police violently broke up a prayer meeting last month, detaining and severely beating the country's most prominent opposition leader and other members of the Movement for Democratic Change. President Robert Mugabe has warned opponents they will be "bashed" again if they incite unrest and has threatened to expel Western diplomats if they meddle in local politics.

Trucks of riot police drove through Zimbabwe's capital and military helicopters flew overhead Tuesday on the first day of a national strike to protest deepening economic hardships blamed on Mugabe's government.

On Tuesday, the Herald newspaper made what seemed like a death threat against British Embassy political officer Gillian Dare, calling her the "the purse holder and financier" of an alleged terror campaign by the Movement for Democratic Change.

"It will be a pity for her family to welcome her home at Heathrow Airport in a body bag just like some of her colleagues from Iraq and Afghanistan," said an article on the newspaper's front page.

Dare, "labeled in some sections of the media as a British spy, could one day be caught in the crossfire as she plays night nurse to arrested MDC hooligans," the newspaper said.

A British Foreign Office spokeswoman called the threats "shocking and absolutely unacceptable" and said Zimbabwe's ambassador was called to a meeting in London with Permanent Undersecretary Peter Ricketts, who "emphasized that we expect Zimbabwe to offer protection to our diplomats."

Dare remained at the embassy working as normal, she said, speaking on the government's customary condition of anonymity.

During Tuesday's strike, soldiers armed with automatic rifles stood at intersections in Harare's main industrial district where

some factory gates were closed, along with several banks, shops and fast food stands. Most downtown shops were open, and commuter buses were full of passengers.

Zimbabwe's main trade unions called the two-day strike to protest an economic crisis that has brought 80 percent unemployment, the world's highest inflation rate — 1,700 percent — and acute shortages of food, hard currency and gasoline.

Labor unions planned no street demonstrations for fear of provoking police action.

Mugabe's crackdown dissent has brought international condemnation, though he received a boost last week when southern African leaders publicly backed him at a summit.

He has blamed the economic crisis on sanctions imposed by Britain, the United States and other Western countries. Western governments say the sanctions, including asset freezes and a travel ban on Mugabe and 100 of his top associates don't hurt most Zimbabweans.

The Congress of Trade Unions blames the meltdown — Zimbabwe's worst since independence in 1980 — on government corruption and mismanagement. Mugabe's government disrupted the agriculture-based economy in 2000 with violent seizures of white-owned commercial farms, part of a program to redistribute land to poor blacks.

Military helicopters swooped over downtown Harare in a show of force and later flew over the nearby Epworth township. Water canon and trucks of riot police drove through the city center. Four trucks carrying soldiers were seen headed to the southern town of Chitungwiza.

Executives at one Harare engineering plant said its workers planned to ignore the strike because the lunch provided in the canteen was the only daily meal they could rely on. Other workers feared their pay would be withheld.

An electrical store kept one of its main entrances shut, a practice seen in previous strikes enabling businesses to close hurriedly in case of unrest.

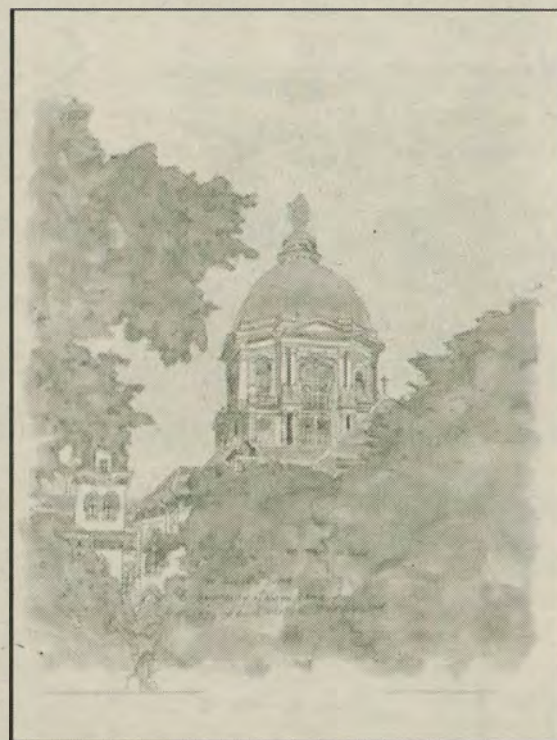
"It's patchy, but it looks like a military occupation down here," said a factory owner in eastern Harare who asked not to be identified. "We've left it to our people to decide what to do. A few haven't arrived."

Police ordered township shops and bars to close early Monday evening as paramilitary police were deployed and water canons patrolled.

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# Recycle The Observer.

## SOLOMON ISLANDS

# Diseases break out in refugee camps

Associated Press

MUNDA — Diarrhea has broken out among children huddled in camps of tsunami survivors in the Solomon Islands, a Red Cross official said Wednesday — the first worrying sign that thousands of people who lost their homes in the waves may be at risk of disease.

International aid was slow to trickle in to survivors, particularly in the hardest-hit town of Gizo in the western Solomons. At least 2,000 people spent a third unsheltered night on a hillside near Gizo following Monday's earthquake and ocean surge.

A New Zealand military transport plane unloaded an aid package of tarps, water and food rations in the town of Munda late Tuesday, following a shipment of similar supplies delivered earlier by a police patrol boat. Six doctors and 15 nurses reached Gizo on Wednesday.

An Australian air force transport plane left Sydney before dawn Thursday loaded with humanitarian relief supplies bound for the Solomons, a Defense Department official said.

On Wednesday, a supply boat left the capital of Honiara for the 10-hour journey to Gizo, but two others were delayed because provisions could not be found in the capital to fill them, chief government spokesman Alfred Maesulia said.

Frustrations were starting to show among survivors, many of whom fled the tsunami with whatever supplies they could carry.

"There's no water to wash, no water to drink," said Esther Zekele, who fled the tsunami waves with her husband and five children. The single sack of rice they brought to higher ground was half-empty, and no aid officials had come to their makeshift camp.

"We are just waiting, wondering why they haven't come," she said.

Getting aid to destroyed villages further afield could take at least two more days because of damaged roads, airstrips and wharves.

"We have not reached people as soon as we could ... because of the widespread nature of this particular disaster," said Fred Fakarii, chairman of the National Disaster Management Council.

Making things worse, many canoes and other boats were washed away or destroyed, and fuel was contaminated with sea water, Western Province Premier

Alex Lokopio said.

At least 28 people were killed when waves up to 16 feet high smashed into the western Solomons following a magnitude-8.1 undersea quake. No significant tsunami waves were reported anywhere outside the impoverished islands, located northeast of Australia in the South Pacific.

Red Cross official Nancy Jolo said the risk of disease was rising in the largest refugee camp located near Gizo.

"What we are experiencing right now in some of the campsites is children starting to experience diarrhea," Jolo told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio.

Fakarii said medical staff in Gizo had been overwhelmed by injuries and feared diseases such as diarrhea, cholera and malaria could break out because of the unhygienic conditions and lack of clean water and fresh food.

*"What we are experiencing right now in some of the campsites is children starting to experience diarrhea."*

**Nancy Jolo**  
Red Cross

"The conditions at Gizo are such that these are likely things to happen unless action is taken quickly," Fakarii told The Associated Press.

Survivors terrified by the more than 50 jolts that have struck the region since Monday's quake — including several registering magnitude 6 or stronger — were afraid to come down from the hills where they had taken refuge, said deputy police commissioner Peter Marshall.

At one camp near Munda town, people perched on a hilltop peered out to sea with binoculars keeping watch for another deadly wave.

"I'm too scared to go home," said Winnie Tava, 32, whose house was nearly destroyed by the tremor. She and her husband grabbed their three small children and a few belongings and headed for higher ground, where they were joined by about 40 other families.

The family sleeps on a plastic sheet under a tarpaulin stretched between two wooden poles. They have a single aluminum pot for cooking rice, and a kerosene lantern.

"When there's no more kerosene, no more light," she said.

Authorities said they were somewhat relieved that aerial surveillance flights over the stricken coast had revealed "no evidence of mass deaths."

The quake had set off tsunami alerts from Japan to Hawaii amid fears of a repeat of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that left 230,000 dead or missing.



# THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Thursday, April 5, 2007

## THE OBSERVER

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## An American specimen

Throughout the natural world, few creatures in the existing biological kingdoms create such a lasting impression as the varieties of human beings, and none more so than the modern American. Upon venturing out of its natural habitat and confronting a wide variety of new and foreign life, the specimen will regress to instinctive traits sociologically endowed in it. In such an acutely excited state, factors leading to the American Condition can be isolated, identified and examined.

Americans make up such a large and diverse family that only one who has spent much time carefully studying them can distinguish between the different types, from the brash Yankee to the unassuming Plainsman. Yet such regional flavors only serve to highlight common traits shared throughout the family, whether they appear in greater or lesser intensity — and with such widespread traits this study concerns itself. For example, an average American, displaced from his home and suddenly surrounded by his more distant brethren, often adopts a swaggering gaze. Careful background study reveals that the subject is nurtured from a young age on a steady diet of nationalistic jeremiads. The American seldom fails to develop in his mind an idea that adherence to a vague unspoken covenant is not only laudable, but also obligatory. The creature will fondly abbreviate Lincoln's "almost chosen people" to the final two words. This leads to the subject holding itself poised in a proud, even arrogant, manner.

This divine-right mindset is hardly surprising, considering the American's spiritual nature. It seems to be endowed with an inclination to belief in God or some indistinct transcendent power, although it lacks a clear understanding of what or

why. An apparent need of public approval engenders frequent (and confused) professions of this faith, but in private life, the subject rarely lets himself be shackled by the complicated moral codes accompanying such a declaration of belief. The belief itself — and I call it that for lack of a better word; perhaps "leaning" or "hunch" more closely hits the mark — stems from a mysterious source. It would appear to be culturally or socially inculcated, yet it occurs in such an inconsistently weak fashion as to seem a result of heredity — perhaps the product of recessive genes.

Despite a natural recognition of something greater and grander, the American specimen finds the boundaries of reverence only in its self-image. A fierce sense of pride is predominant. The American has long ago lost the awe of Fitzgerald's pilgrims, who faced something commensurate to their capacity for wonder. Today, awe is sought in every way but reflection or intercommunication.

Further close examination of the subject reveals a tendency to reject precedent ideas, teachings and ideologies, based solely on the fact that they are old. When at certain times a truly necessary rebellion does occur, the replacement philosophy or ideology will be reduced to its basest terms so as not to prompt confusion among the masses. This sense of unquestioned revolution for the sake of change crops up frequently enough to make the concept of rebellion seem itself an established institution. Does the American realize the irony in the situation, when rebellion has become conformity?

Perhaps this transformation of an ancestral cultural trait into something so conventional marks the American's diminishing ability to appreciate finer details. The specimen displays difficulty in distinguishing between the reality of the world and the virtual reality of the television, the tabloid, the computer or movie screen. To compensate, the specimen may resort to the all-too common practice of

making frequent over-generalizations, even in its self-diagnoses. (I pray the reader will excuse such sordid behavior, wherever encountered.) The American can take comfort in knowing that in this deplorable trait he is not unique among peoples of the world. Such comfort will be short-lived, however, because immediately the responsibility to change, to become more aware, must follow. It is not lack of facts but a personal choice that prevents the creature from grasping subtleties. Knowledge without action is sloth. No longer is the American one of Twain's innocents abroad; today, he is willfully ignorant.

Recognizing any or all of these attributes without understanding their specific cultural histories can lead an outsider to view Americans as impudent, rude, illogical and corrupt. Yet most any specimen will disprove this expectation, given time. Focusing on individual attributes cannot yield a true understanding of what exactly distinguishes this creature. It is the meeting of all these cultures, not their particular backgrounds, that forms the true substance of an American. Their interweaving makes the definition of such a species possible.

That the American has any sense of national identity at all, given the mixed and mottled stock that produced him, is truly a wonder. Strangely enough, these wide-ranging origins support the American specimen in times of need and yield some sort of common purpose. As he makes his own history, he should be mindful of maturing in the same way he was born — through the meeting of different paths. Producing a unity through the coalescence of different elements is perhaps his greatest achievement.

James Dechant is a junior studying abroad in Rome this semester. Questions, complaints and rude remarks can be sent to [jdechant@nd.edu](mailto:jdechant@nd.edu)

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



James  
Dechant

Foregone  
Conclusion

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I am ready to meet my Maker.  
Whether my Maker is prepared for the  
great ordeal of meeting me  
is another matter."

Sir Winston Churchill  
former British Prime Minister



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Rapes not 'inevitable'

I was dismayed to read the comments made by Sister Denise Lyon in Tuesday's story about an ongoing rape investigation at Notre Dame ("Assault investigation continues as 'rape' case," April 3), particularly her claim that rapes at Notre Dame are "inevitable." To describe rape as "inevitable" is to suggest that it is unavoidable, unstoppable and inescapable; to describe rape as "inevitable" is to suggest that there is nothing that can be done to end rape and sexual assault. The truth could not be further from this view. There is nothing at all "inevitable" about rape — rape is an act of violence and requires the willful decision of one human being to sexually assault another. Given that rapes are committed almost exclusively by men — according to national crime statistics, 99.8 percent of the people in prison convicted of rape are men — I would hope that male readers of The Observer would also be alarmed to see rape described as "inevitable." It is not "inevitable" that men rape women; men are not inherently rapists. Men can choose to work to end rape and sexual assault, and I, for one, am encouraged by the growing number of men around the world who are actively involved in the movement to end sexual violence. I only wish Lyon would join us in this movement, and then maybe she would realize that rape is a preventable act of violence, not an "inevitable" part of female experience or male biology.

Dr. Astrid Henry

professor  
Women's Studies and English  
Saint Mary's  
April 3

### How safe is student travel?

According to your March 6 article, "Student Travel Safety Tops University Priorities," Anthony Travel only hires bus companies that meet federal standards, which is merely a minimum needed to operate in interstate travel. All bus lines which travel out of their home state, including the one hired by Bluffton University, must meet the federal standards. The standards adhered to by Executive Coach Luxury Travel, Inc. are exactly the standards specified by Mr. Walsh of Anthony Travel. Clearly, however, safety can be a matter of more than meeting minimum standards. Federal standards do not mandate even the availability of seat belts on touring buses. It is believed that seat belt usage could have saved all the students in the Bluffton University crash and prevented many injuries. It is also quite possible that at least one fatality and a number of injuries in the University of Notre Dame swim team incident in 1992 may have been prevented with the use of seat belts. What Walsh did not address is whether the University of Notre Dame and Anthony Travel go beyond merely the minimum — and weak — federal standards. There is one very simple question which he did not address: When hiring buses, does the University of Notre Dame mandate the availability of seat belts for travel at highway speeds? If after 15 years, Notre Dame is doing nothing more than adhering to the minimum federal standards required by law, then Notre Dame did not learn anything from the swim team accident and does not consider student safety to be the highest priority.

Sue Ramseyer

Bloomington, Ind.  
April 4

### Fair Trade coffee does not help

Although Matt Palkert titled his April 3 guest column "The economics of Fair Trade: Responding to a complex problem," I didn't notice where he actually responded to the complex problems. It surprises me that despite the fact that eminent economists have voiced very legitimate objections to Fair Trade, advocates of Fair Trade seem to have complete disregard for those arguments. I have yet to read a proponent of Fair Trade who actually addresses those objections directly instead of using lofty or what I call "let's hold hands and sing John Lennon songs" arguments. I, for one, am a skeptic of Fair Trade. I believe Fair Trade acts as a subsidy to farmers and governments, thereby taking away incentives to move away from an agrarian economy. Third World countries are poor for the very reason that their economies are too dependent on agriculture. The only way Third World countries are ever going to achieve higher levels of economic growth and thereby eliminate poverty on the large scale is by becoming industrialized. If you keep subsidizing farmers and holding their hands, surely it will take away incentives from their governments to transition from an agrarian economy to one that's based on manufacturing. Presumably the reason Mr. Arias, the Ugandan coffee farmer, was so exuberant at the prospect of his sons

going to secondary school is in the hope that his sons will be able to get better, higher-paying jobs and improve the family's standard of living. However, if Uganda fails to industrialize and remains a commodity exporter, how will his sons be able to get better jobs and move away from farming? Uganda and other Third World countries need to industrialize, improve infrastructure, bring in investment, etc. All this is only possible if the government and the people decide to move away from an economy that always falls victim to the declining terms of trade and keeps them in perpetual dependency. If the objective is to help farmers in third-world countries, there are many other sensible and effective ways to achieve this. Fair Trade needs to be examined in light of a broader, long-term perspective. While Fair Trade coffee certainly adds a jolt of self-righteousness along with its jolt of caffeine in the morning, I believe the long term effects may not be as rosy as people make it out to be. Finally, let me point out to Palkert that I am no economist — just an average Joe (no pun intended).

Atul Adhikary

business graduate student  
Fischer Graduate Housing  
April 3

### U.S. economic situation not so bad

Katie Palmitier's personal financial story in her Apr. 4 Viewpoint column "No money, 'mo problems'" hardly seems to be one of financial crisis — far from it — but she did raise a point that often is not fully discussed in the public square: Why do we have a national debt, and why does it seem to be so high? It's true, our national debt is at \$8.8 trillion, and does not appear to be shrinking. And obviously, to you and me, \$8.8 trillion is a staggering amount, an impossible number for us to really grasp.

But here is a more staggering number — \$13.03 trillion, which is about 1.5 times as large as our national debt. What is that number? It is the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) — the amount of money that Americans made as a whole during 2006. Using this number, the comparison of our GDP and our national debt shows that our current state is at about the average ratio between the two figures since the 1940s. Indeed, for half of the Clinton administration, the ratio was smaller, meaning the national debt was closer to the U.S. GDP.

What's more is another huge number — \$2.7 trillion, which is our national budget for fiscal year 2007. The budget is about 30 percent of our national debt. Now, to the average American, it might seem like we are spending too much considering our national debt. But consider this: Many Americans take out loans to buy houses and cars, which add up to more than their annual income, many times more than three times their income. Are they wrong in doing this? Should they save up until they can actually pay for their home or car? I think most Americans would say no. It seems logical, then, that the United States would take a similar approach.

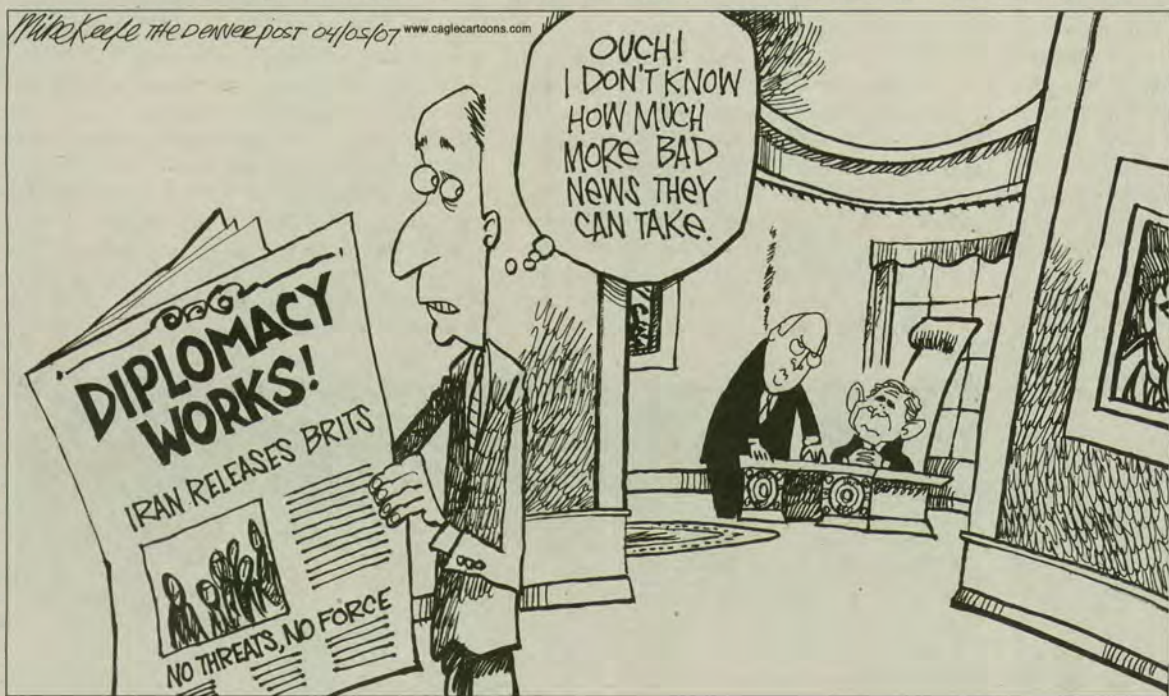
Further, to say that "an increase in taxes could be the answer to the country's financial problem" is a shortsighted look at how taxes affect our economy, and makes our economy out to be a zero-sum game. Indeed, the reality is much more complex, and our economy's strength shows that. The Dow Jones is doing remarkably well, nearing its all-time high, and unemployment is low, despite low taxes. Since the tax cuts took place, income from tax revenue has increased, particularly from the wealthy, who received the greatest tax cuts.

So, before you make a judgment about our nation's economic situation, make sure you have all the figures first. If Palmitier had all the figures, and perhaps some real-life financial experience, she wouldn't have so easily painted such a bleak, and sarcastic, picture of our president and our nation's spending priorities. Indeed, a complete look at our budget problems paints quite a different picture and, dare I say it, an optimistic forecast for our nation's economy.

Christian Hoeffel

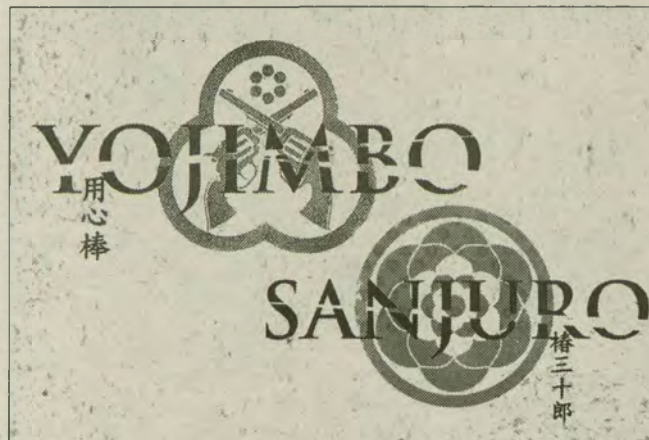
senior  
Saint Edward's Hall  
April 4

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



Recycle The Observer.





## A CUT ABOVE

Samurai Epics Receive  
Worthy Update

JARRED WAFER | Observer Graphic

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA  
Senior Staff Critic

## Yojimbo

Howling winds roar with gusto in Akira Kurosawa's 1961 film "Yojimbo." Like the torrential rains that soak the battlefields of "Seven Samurai," the elements are never mere backdrops in Kurosawa's creations. They loom over the proceedings like a secondary character.

Out of this maelstrom of swirling sands and dust comes one of the most iconic stars in the entire samurai canon — Toshiro Mifune's Sanjuro. Arms tucked into his scruffy kimono, he walks purposefully on long, powerful strides. It's a worthy arrival for a swordsman who would become Kurosawa's most revered mythic hero, as timeless today as it was 45 years ago. And before this tale is done, he would leave a deep and indelible cut on world cinema, inspiring the work of countless admirers like George Lucas, Francis Ford Coppola and Sergio Leone.

A masterless samurai in 19th-century feudal Japan, Sanjuro is a wanderer in search of a purpose — or, at the very least, amusement. His travels take him to a town so wicked it makes Sodom and Gomorrah look tame. Teeming with vile gangsters and dishonorable samurai, the redeemable characters can be counted on one hand.

Using his camera to sweep across the landscape, Kurosawa lets us in on this open secret in the first 10 minutes. The streets are deserted but strewn with limbs and corpses, bloody reminders of how high the body count goes.

Momentarily startled by all this carnage, the wily Sanjuro wastes little time before going to work. He sells his services to both of the town's rival crime lords, pitting them against each other. All the while, he uses his peerless swordplay to steadily thin the town's herd of miscreants, one handful after another.

"Yojimbo" marked the 13th collaboration between Kurosawa and Mifune. Their mutual admiration ran deep. In his autobiography, Kurosawa wrote of Mifune, "The ordinary Japanese actor might need ten feet of film to get across an impression; Mifune needed only three feet."

Already highly regarded for his work on 1950's "Rashomon" and 1954's "Seven Samurai" — both Kurosawa masterpieces — Mifune delivers a spellbinding turn as the arcane yet altruistic Sanjuro. The role made him the international face of Japanese cinema, and it's not hard to see why.

Mifune's impish performance is superbly understated, one of the all-time greats. He reveals as much with a scratch of his beard or wiggle of his shoulders as a lesser actor would with a minute-long monologue.

Eminently cool, he's Clint Eastwood before there was a Man with No Name, which is unsurprising. It's no secret that Mifune's Sanjuro inspired Eastwood's taciturn hero, and Leone's "A Fistful of Dollars" was an unapologetic remake of "Yojimbo."

Kurosawa christened Sanjuro — his most famous hero — a "samurai of the imagination." He's a force of nature dreamed up for a single purpose: ridding this small destitute town of its affliction. Once he does, Mifune disappears back into the swirling winds that delivered him.

Kurosawa loved bookends, and Sanjuro's mythic exit, like his arrival, cemented his place among the cinema's ageless warriors.

## Sanjuro

In describing what would become the most famous scene in "Sanjuro," Akira Kurosawa and co-writer Ryuzo Kikushima left much to the imagination.

"The duel cannot be described in words. After a long, frightening pause, the outcome is decided with a single flash of a sword," the screenplay read.

Tantalizingly vague, the description baffled even longtime Kurosawa collaborators. Just a year earlier, Kurosawa had delivered an instant masterpiece with "Yojimbo," as epic, haunting and beautiful a samurai film as had ever been done. What could the master unveil this time, the film's cast and crew wondered? Like the rest of the film world, they were hoping for a spectacle and a worthy sequel. Which is exactly what they got.

At its heart, "Sanjuro" is about a lone wolf who herds a flock of dim-witted but well-intentioned warriors in their quest to rescue an honorable kidnapped chamberlain from his corrupt rival.

The incomparable Toshiro Mifune once again plays Sanjuro, the lone wolf in this tale. He is the commanding presence that anchors the movie. Hidden beneath Sanjuro's disheveled veneer lies the same proud, noble and shrewd swordsman that we remember. He's a crafty warrior who fells injustice with his keen mind as well as his sharp sword. And although it would have been tempting to do so, Kurosawa and Mifune never retread any steps from the vaunted "Yojimbo."

The most pronounced difference between the two movies is in their tone.

Even though the titular character has changed little from the last time we saw him, the atmosphere in "Sanjuro" is lighter and more warm-hearted, far removed from the morbid town that Mifune haunted in "Yojimbo." Kurosawa lets the film breathe by allowing the actors, especially Mifune, have some fun along the way.

As the narrative progresses, Sanjuro grows quite fond of his brood of brave but foolish young wards. As the samurai stalk through the forests in search of leads, they follow in single file behind Sanjuro, who stops to scold them — as he frequently does — for their incompetence.

"We can't move like this, like a centipede," he hisses while impatiently scratching his knee. Mifune's facial expressions in these comic exchanges are priceless. They are the work of an accomplished actor who has sunk so far into the role that every action comes across with a relaxed, commanding ease.

These scenes of gentle comedy add a great deal of depth to "Sanjuro," but Kurosawa never forgets to give us what we came to see: unparalleled swordplay. Needless to say, the final warrior's duel between Sanjuro and his nemesis lived up to its billing. It astounded all who saw it when the film debuted in 1962 and has lost none of its edge to this day. The slow-burning buildup seems to last forever before the conclusive burst of violence.

This powerful technique would later inspire the iconic graveyard gunfight that ends Sergio Leone's "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly." For his own iconic, tension-grinding conclusion, Leone studied Kurosawa's methods and paid homage to the master, like so many devotees to come.

## Criterion Collection DVD

For a pair of films that left behind such a rich legacy, the 1999 DVD releases of "Yojimbo" and "Sanjuro" were shamefully ordinary. They were two of the earliest DVD releases for the Criterion Collection. As such, they lacked the depth and polish of later releases as DVD technology aged. The only special features included were the two original trailers.

Fortunately, Criterion — a company unparalleled in its restorations and releases of classic films on DVD — has rewarded "Yojimbo," along with its equally notable sequel "Sanjuro," with a second life on DVD. Using archived film prints, Criterion created entirely new digital transfers while sweeping away all the dirt, scratches and imperfections that pile on when a film nears its 50s. The new transfers look gorgeous, and the sound



has been similarly cleaned up. The films never show their true age, a testament to Criterion's painstaking restoration.

For bonus features, each DVD includes a 20-page commemorative booklet with scholarly essays, a 40-minute Japanese documentary on each film's production, trailers and behind-the-scenes images. The most notable addition, though, are a pair of commentaries by Stephen Prince, one of the world's foremost authorities on Kurosawa's oeuvre.

The topics of his commentary are deep, varied and vast, including the John Ford westerns that inspired Kurosawa, the historically accurate swordplay and the masterful usage of the widescreen frame. These are two of the finest commentaries Criterion has ever recorded. Listening to Prince here feels like spending a week with a Kurosawa guru at a top film school.

Thanks to Criterion's diligent archival efforts, "Yojimbo" and "Sanjuro" have been given a worthy resting place on history's shelf. In the "Yojimbo" commentary, Prince acknowledges Kurosawa's place among the inner circle of cinema's sages, calling him "one of the world's great epic poets of screen violence."

Time and again, Kurosawa proved capable of composing some of the most lyrical and balletic swordplay feats ever filmed. But as the quiet moments in these two samurai epics attest, it is great humanity, not violence, which lies at the core of his pictures.

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Photo courtesy of outnow.ch

Sanjuro (Toshiro Mifune), right, pensively scratches his beard and hatches a plan to set two equally wicked gangs against each other in "Yojimbo."



Photo courtesy of mathieu.perrin.free.fr

Corrupt samurai watch as Sanjuro (Toshiro Mifune) strides toward battle. Director Akira Kurosawa was a master at maximizing the widescreen frame.





JARRED WAFER | Observer Graphic

By MARTY SCHROEDER  
Assistant Scene Editor

When does a seemingly innocent musical about love and learning turn into something that is dangerous on multiple levels?

Not to sound like a reactionary, but when discussing Disney's smash television movie, "High School Musical," I'd like to lay out a few reservations that I think need to be addressed concerning this program and all of the spin-offs it has sired.

What could be better for adolescent kids than a story about people fighting the typical high school clique stereotypes, coming together in the end and realizing we can all be ourselves? It doesn't matter if you're the brain, the basketball player or the drama star — you can be friends with anyone and we can all get along in the end. Sounds good, right? It does — aside from the completely unreal depiction of what high school is actually like.

A film like "The Breakfast Club" or a television show like the now-defunct "Freaks and Geeks" is a far more accurate depiction of what individuals go through in the cutthroat world of growing up. In "High School Musical," the problems are too easily solved, and none of the kids have those finicky real problems like financial disparity between different schools, the backstabbing that's true to life and personal issues about fitting in.

In one sequence, all of the characters sing about making sure you stay in your own group and don't break the mold — or else you'll upset the balance of the perfect high school that the characters go to. Later, this mindset is what the two main characters "rebel" against. I put that word in quotation marks because there is no real change that takes place. In "High School Musical," they say, "Oh, I have a problem," sing a song, and the problem is solved.

I understand that some people will be able to tell the difference between what is portrayed on the television

and what is portrayed in reality. But with Disney's presentation of "High School Musical" on television, those lines are being blurred. During the commercial breaks, but before the advertisements begin, the actors often appear, out of character, and teach the viewers the dance moves. They are very encouraging and claim even you — yes, you — can be just like us.

But the target audience is far younger than the actors, and I would be willing to bet most viewers are not trained dancers and/or actors. The 30 seconds allotted for these "dance lessons" could be a very frustrating experience for anyone who aspires to be like the characters depicted. With most television shows and video games that people claim are influencing children poorly, the line between the living room and the television is easily found and defined. "High School Musical," on the other hand, takes that line away, which is the primary reason why this program is such an important piece in understanding what television programmers are doing. They are creating a phenomenon with astronomical record sales of the soundtrack, a traveling theatrical show and a planned "High School Musical: The Ice Tour," which will bring the show to your local convention center. The level of media saturation is unlike any program I can think of.

The final song in "High School Musical" claims "We're all in this together / Once we know that we are / We're all stars and we see that." The problem is, if you dance through the halls of a high school with the moves you learn from the stars of "High School Musical," I doubt you'll have many people dancing along with you. To the producers of "High School Musical" — a little dose of cynicism never hurt anyone.

The final song in "High School Musical" claims "We're all in this together / Once we know that we are / We're all stars and we see that." The problem is, if you dance through the halls of a high school with the moves you learn from the stars of "High School Musical," I doubt you'll have many people dancing along with you. To the producers of "High School Musical" — a little dose of cynicism never hurt anyone.

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

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By ANALISE LIPARI and ERIN MCGINN  
Assistant Scene Editors

Some might argue that the shiny world of Disney's modern musical classic, "High School Musical," is a bastion of destructive fantasy that bears no semblance of a realistic high school experience. Cynics of the world seem to unite against what is commonly known to fans as "HSM," finding joy in criticizing the overly happy bubblegum pop as uncomfortably disconnected with the real world.

Frankly, those cynics are just plain wrong.

Yes, it's true that not all high school students will move to a new school, audition for the lead of a play and fall in love with a hottie like Zac Efron — and all within two hours, no less. It's also true that we can't all be like the dynamic team of Ryan and Sharpay Evans, since our wardrobes aren't stylishly decked out with sequins at a moment's notice. But while the "HSM" cynic might see this as an attachment to fantasy that could disillusion the innocent youth of America, HSM fans know that a little fantasy is good for the soul. Plus, imagining yourself singing and dancing with a teen idol never really hurt anyone.

The very heart and soul of Disney is founded on the idea of escapist fantasy. Walt Disney created his theme parks as a way for people, if even just for a day, to leave their lives and enter the world of fantasy.

We know when we walk into the Magic Kingdom that it's actually steel and cement and there is a person inside of that Mickey Mouse costume, but that doesn't make it any less magical. The same can be said for the Disney Channel's "HSM." We know that's not how high school actually is, but that doesn't mean we can't still gain enjoyment from it — much like how we don't watch "Rudy" thinking that we're going to be able to walk on to the football team.

And even though the plot of "HSM" resides firmly in the world of fiction,

there is still a lot that can be gained from watching it. There's no sex, violence or substance abuse — which is a big plus for a kid's movie, seeing as how we live in a world where fifth graders are now having sex in classrooms with posted lookouts.

Some may argue that the idea of cliques dissolving and everyone becoming friends doesn't happen in the real world. But why doesn't it? It's not that such a scenario can't occur, but that people choose not to act that way. While "HSM" is certainly idealistic, it is by no means unreachable.

"High School Musical" also promotes a surprising amount of more modern social values. Most visibly, the film works to break any and all racial stereotypes that it could possibly encounter in forming its cast. Gabriella Montez, played by Vanessa Anne Hudgens, and Efron's Troy Bolton fall in love across the racial divide

in an epic and endearing romance. Plus, the villain of the story, Sharpay, is as white as they come.

Awkward? Perhaps, but we can appreciate the decision not to call attention to issues of race, at least on the surface. After all, it is a Disney Channel movie —

true fans know what to expect.

In the end, "High School Musical" is nothing more than what it claims to be: a feel-good movie that everyone from starry-eyed adolescents to young-at-heart college students can enjoy. Sure, its underlying messages are couched in catchy songs and cute clothes, but what harm does that do? We all need to be reminded from time to time "that all our dreams have no limitations, that's what it's all about."

So to the "HSM" cynic, we say that "High School Musical" serves to inspire all of us to "bop to the top" — and make some friends along the way.

To Wildcats everywhere, we say stand up and be proud — because we certainly are all in this together.

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

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu and Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of rottentomatoes.com

Troy Bolton (Zac Efron), center, leads his basketball team in a song and dance number, one of many unrealistic scenarios that occur in "High School Musical."



Photo courtesy of rottentomatoes.com

Troy (Zac Efron) and Gabriella (Vanessa Anne Hudgens) show East High how to break out of the status quo and join together as one student body.



## MLB

# Tigers stave off 7-run Blue Jays rally, win 10-9

*Nationals, Indians, Rangers all earn afternoon victories*

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit Tigers got their AL championship rings, then treated thousands of hardy fans to the same roller-coaster experience of last October.

Curtis Granderson hit his first career grand slam as Detroit built a nine-run lead Wednesday, and the Tigers held on for a 10-9 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

"This lets us know that we can go ahead and hold teams off, and that's one of the things we're going to have to do over 162 games," Granderson said.

Coming off their first pennant since 1984, the Tigers lost Monday's opener 5-3 in 10 innings. Detroit chased A.J. Burnett (0-1) early in this one, and Granderson connected off Shaun Marcum for his first homer of the season, capping an eight-run third with a drive that landed on top of the wall in right-center, hitting the yellow home-run line, and bounced back onto the field.

Granderson also had an RBI triple in the seventh off Victor Zambrano and tied his career high with five RBIs.

"We just wanted to try and continue and add runs on knowing the game's not over," he said. "The game's not over until we come off that field."

Toronto closed with seven runs in the eighth off relievers Jason Grilli and Fernando Rodney but the potential tying run was stranded at third when Magglio Ordonez, who lost two fly balls in the swirling wind earlier in the inning, made a running catch of Troy Glaus' drive to right-center.

"That was the play of the game," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. "It was so tough out there. A lot of guys could have given up after having a little bit of tough inning. Those conditions out there were just brutal."

The wind became a factor in the late innings, holding up several pop flies and carrying a handful of seemingly easy outs out of the reach of Ordonez. The forecast for Thursday's series finale calls for similar conditions.

Todd Jones worked the ninth for his first save. After Toronto put two on with one out, Jason Smith flied out and Reed

Johnson popped out.

"We're not going to be able to beat everyone up," Granderson said. "We're going to have to be able to hold off some late-inning comebacks like today."

## Nationals 7, Marlins 6

Robert Fick sprinted across the diamond to wrap his arms around Dmitri Young. Then Young sought out Manny Acta for a hearty embrace. Most of the Washington Nationals gathered near the mound to hug, high-five and hop in unison.

Then they raced to the clubhouse, where the music blared and the champagne flowed.

Won the pennant? Not quite. The cause for celebration Wednesday? Washington's ninth-inning rally to beat the Florida Marlins — the Nationals' first victory of the season and Acta's first win as a major league manager. There also was Young's first key hit of his second chance, and Fick's first truly happy moment lately.

"It was kind of fun to see the players go out there. You know, we just snapped a two-game losing streak, and they're celebrating like we clinched the [NL] East. That tells me a lot about their character," said Acta, who received bottles of bubbly from the Nationals and from his former employer, New York Mets general manager Omar Minaya.

Washington lost the season's first two games to Florida by a combined score of 18-5, and then Wednesday trailed 5-0 and 6-1. It was 6-4 heading to the bottom of the ninth, but Young's bases-loaded single with one out off closer Jorge Julio (0-1) completed the comeback. Young hit an arching ball toward the left-field corner, and outfielder Josh Willingham let it drop, hoping it would land foul.

"I knew it was going to be close," Willingham said. "That was the only play I had."

His manager, Fredi Gonzalez, agreed.

## Indians 10, White Sox 9

Grady Sizemore gave the Indians the lead with one swing. And then in conditions better suited for football, fellow outfielder Jason Michaels ran hard and made a tumbling catch on the warning track to save the victory.

Sizemore, whose two-run homer in the seventh put the Indians ahead, raced over to congratulate the fallen Michaels after his catch Wednesday ended a bone-numbing win over the Chicago White Sox.



Tigers center fielder Curtis Granderson connects for a grand slam during the third inning of Detroit's 10-9 victory over Toronto Wednesday at Comerica Park.

"I thought he was going to punch me in the face. He was telling me it was a great catch," Michaels said.

On a day of subfreezing temperatures with snow flurries and a biting wind, Michael's catch of Joe Crede's long fly to left with two runners on in the ninth wasn't a sure thing.

"I thought it was going to be a routine pop fly. It just kept going and it had a lot of air time," Michaels said. "Grady's pretty aggressive out there. I wanted to make sure we weren't going to hit each other."

Sizemore, who led off Monday's opener with a homer as the Indians routed the White Sox 12-5, connected Wednesday on the first pitch from reliever Matt Thornton (0-1) to overcome a 7-6 deficit. The two-run homer followed Andy Marte's walk against Mike MacDougal.

Sizemore was more excited

about Michaels' catch than his homer.

"My heart was stopped for about two seconds. I saw the ball go in there and I just started screaming at him," Sizemore said. "The wind was going all sorts of directions. It was swirling out there which made the ball tough to read. The snow and the wind didn't help too much."

## Angels 5, Rangers 3

A slow start last season cost the Los Angeles Angels at the end. This time, they're at least out of the gate fast.

Ervin Santana held Texas to four hits in seven innings, Gary Matthews Jr. made another leaping catch and Los Angeles beat the Texas Rangers Wednesday for only the fourth 3-0 start in franchise history.

"We're playing good baseball," Angels manager Mike

Scioscia said. "We still have some things we're trying to clean up, but all in all, we've had a lot of good things happening."

The Angels outscored the AL West-rival Rangers 17-7 and left Texas rookie manager Ron Washington still looking for his first victory.

The Angels had last opened with a three-game sweep in 2004 at Seattle.

Last year, the Angels struggled to a 17-28 start and didn't sweep a three-game series until July 3-5 at Seattle. Their 54-29 record from July on was the best in the major leagues, but they still missed out on the postseason, after winning consecutive division titles.

Vladimir Guerrero, a scourge of Rangers' pitchers, singled in another run in the series finale. He went 6-for-11 (.545) in the three games.

## 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 5 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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# AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, April 5, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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## Major League Baseball

### American League East

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
New York	1-0	1.000	1-0	-
Toronto	1-1	.500	1-1	.5
Boston	0-1	.000	0-1	1
Tampa Bay	0-1	.000	0-1	1
Baltimore	0-2	.000	0-2	1.5

### American League Central

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Cleveland	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
Minnesota	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
Kansas City	1-0	1.000	1-0	.5
Detroit	1-1	.500	1-1	1
Chicago	0-2	.000	0-2	2

### American League West

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Los Angeles	3-0	1.000	3-0	-
Seattle	2-0	1.000	2-0	.5
Oakland	0-2	.000	0-2	2.5
Texas	0-3	.000	0-3	3

### National League East

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Atlanta	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
New York	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
Florida	2-1	.667	2-1	.5
Washington	1-2	.333	1-2	1.5
Philadelphia	0-2	.000	0-2	2

### National League Central

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Pittsburgh	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
Milwaukee	2-0	1.000	2-0	-
Cincinnati	1-1	.500	1-1	1
Chicago	1-1	.500	1-1	1
St. Louis	0-2	.000	0-2	2
Houston	0-2	.000	0-2	2

### National League West

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
San Diego	1-0	1.000	1-0	-
Colorado	2-1	.667	2-1	-
Arizona	1-2	.333	1-2	1
San Francisco	0-1	.000	0-1	1
Los Angeles	0-2	.000	0-2	1.5

## College Baseball Baseball America Poll

	team	overall record	prev.
1	Vanderbilt	26-4	3
2	Florida State	29-2	2
3	Virginia	27-5	5
4	North Carolina	25-5	6
5	South Carolina	23-6	1
6	Arkansas	22-8	7
7	Texas	25-9	9
8	Rice	22-10	8
9	Oregon State	23-6	4
10	Wichita State	24-6	10
11	Pepperdine	23-8	12
12	CS Fullerton	18-10	13
13	Oklahoma State	22-6	14
14	Coastal Carolina	27-3	15
15	Arizona State	23-10	16

## NCAA FOOTBALL



Former Grambling State coach Eddie Robinson waves goodbye after coaching his last home game at Eddie Robinson Stadium in 1997. He transformed the school into a powerhouse for future NFL players.

## Legendary coach Robinson dies at 88

Associated Press

To his very last day, Eddie Robinson was always battling something.

There was the institutional racism that surrounded him, the piddling football budget he and his coaching staff subsisted on at predominantly black Grambling State and, ultimately, the Alzheimer's disease that took his life at age 88.

"He'd been fighting that battle for a long time," said former Grambling quarterback and Super Bowl MVP Doug Williams. "It was one of the many he fought in his lifetime."

Robinson died Tuesday

night, not long after being admitted to Lincoln General Hospital in Ruston, La., Williams said.

He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease shortly after he retired in 1997 and had been in and out of a nursing home during the past year.

And so ended the life of a beloved football coach who put a small school in remote northern Louisiana on the map and turned it into a virtual farm team for the NFL during a career that spanned 57 years.

Robinson built a football powerhouse with a worldwide reputation, all the while struggling to get past

years of segregation and discrimination against blacks.

His success at Grambling no doubt made him the first easily recognizable black coach in any sport.

"Today we mourn the loss of a great Louisianan and a true American hero," Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco said. "Coach Eddie Robinson became the most successful college coach of all time and one of the greatest civil rights pioneers in our history. ... Coach Robinson elevated a small town program to national prominence and tore down barriers to achieve an equal playing field for ath-

letes of all races."

Robinson won 408 games, the most ever for any coach at the time of his retirement in 1997. He sent hundreds of players to the NFL and other leagues, and the majority of them were clutching college degrees when they left.

"We will be forever grateful for the more than 200 young men he developed at Grambling who starred in the NFL and those who later coached the next generation of NFL players," NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said. "He always focused on coaching his players to be better men as well as better football players."

## IN BRIEF

### Fenway Park adds seats to right field

BOSTON — A doughnut shop advertisement behind the outfield bleachers proclaims "Welcome to Fenway" in Japanese, anticipating new Red Sox pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka and the fans and media expected to arrive with him.

But they won't be the only newcomers in the Boston ballpark this season.

The Red Sox have added a new bleacher section on the roof deck in right field with 200 seats that will be sold for \$25 apiece. They're calling it "Conigliaro's Corner" to honor Tony Conigliaro, a promising outfielder whose career was derailed after he was hit in the face by a pitch in 1967.

The new seats, marketed specifically for families, are part of an annual offseason renovation that in previous years included the addition of seats above the Green Monster and a batting cage off the Red Sox dugout.

### MLB signs multi-year, \$700 million deal with DirecTV

NEW YORK — Baseball struck a deal to keep its "Extra Innings" package of out-of-market games on cable television, an agreement that likely will allow the sport's new TV network to be available in at least 40 million homes when it launches in 2009.

Baseball announced an exclusive \$700 million, seven-year agreement with DirecTV on March 8, but during a hearing last week in Washington, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., pressed baseball to resume talks with iN Demand, which is owned by affiliates of Time Warner, Comcast and Cox. While baseball had set a March 31 deadline, the sides kept negotiating and announced an agreement Wednesday night.

"Our chief goal throughout the process was to ensure that fans would have access to as many baseball games and as much baseball coverage as possible."

### Drunk driver kills Gainesville policeman after parade

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — A police officer who was struck by a car after the Florida Gators' championship died Wednesday, authorities said.

Lt. Corey Dahlem, a 22-year veteran, was struck by a black Toyota as police were clearing the streets at the University of Florida early Tuesday after the Gators' win against Ohio State, authorities said. Dahlem died Wednesday just before 3 p.m., hospital officials said.

The Florida Highway Patrol said the driver, Austin John Wright, 21, of Atlantic Beach, had a blood-alcohol level almost three times the legal limit. He is accused of running two motorcycle officers off the road. The officers were not injured.

Wright remained in jail Wednesday on \$500,000 bail.

## around the dial

### NBA

Heat vs. Cavaliers  
7 p.m., TNT

Suns vs. Spurs  
9:30 p.m., TNT

### MLB

Cubs vs. Reds  
12:30 p.m., Comcast



## NCAA BASKETBALL

# Falcons coach flies to rescue in Boulder

Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — A fading, mostly empty arena. The likes of Bob Knight and Bill Self to compete against on the hardwood and along the recruiting trail. A program with no real history of success or much support.

Bring it all on, declared Jeff Bzdelik.

He left Air Force to take over as basketball coach at the University of Colorado on Wednesday, the latest in a series of career challenges he's undertaken up and down the Rocky Mountain front range.

"I get excited by great, great challenges," said Bzdelik, who was 50-16 at Air Force after a 2 1/2-year stint as coach of the Denver Nuggets, whom he led to the playoffs for the first time in a decade in 2004.

"When somebody said to me, 'You're never going to win there,' I'm kind of a sicko with that," Bzdelik said. "It's kind of like with the Nuggets: 'You're never going to make the playoffs.' Hey, we did it in one year."

Similarly, he was admonished not to schedule heavyweights at Air Force, warnings that only drove him to do exactly that, and the Falcons flourished.

Now, his biggest challenge yet.

"Maybe we can't" turn it around, Bzdelik said. "Maybe I don't [succeed]. Maybe I fail. But I want to try."

The 54-year-old Bzdelik replaces Ricardo Patton, who went 7-20 in his 11th and final season in Boulder.

In his first season at Air Force, Bzdelik led the Falcons to the best record (24-7) in the program's 50-year history and an NCAA tournament bid. This year, they won a school-record 26 games and reached the NIT semifinals.

"And now here's an opportunity in my own backyard, and it's the ultimate opportunity," Bzdelik said. "The Big 12 is intimidating and the inconsistency of the tradition here, well, it is what it is. Now, with renewed commitment to facilities and excitement and dynamic leadership, can we now move it up the ladder? That excites me."

Bzdelik signed a five-year deal worth \$750,000 annually plus incentives. Bzdelik said he agonized over leaving the academy, where he met with the players late Tuesday and told them he was waffling about his future. He later called his captains to tell them he was leaving.

"I struggled with this, I did," Bzdelik said.

Air Force athletic director Hans Meuh said the players were angry about Bzdelik's departure, but junior Tim Anderson said the players might be disappointed but understood why he left.

"I don't think any of us were angry," Anderson said. "I'm not angry with him. I believe him when he said it was a hard decision and he couldn't really decide either way. ... He said it was the toughest decision he's ever made, and so I believe him."

## NFL

# Police will investigate further in Vegas shooting

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Las Vegas prosecutors asked police to do more investigating before charges are filed against Tennessee Titans cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones in a strip club fight that led to a triple shooting.

"It isn't that we're missing things, they just wanted more detailed information," said Lt. George Castro, leader of the Las Vegas Police Department's violent crimes unit. "They said there might be more to this than what was recommended."

Since being drafted by the Titans in April 2005, Jones has been arrested five times and questioned by police in 10 episodes.

He met Tuesday in New York with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell to discuss those cases. Goodell has said he will announce his decision on suspensions or other disciplinary action within the next 10 days.

Jones told the NFL Network, in an interview that will be broadcast Thursday and Friday, that football means the world to him and also addressed why trouble seems to follow him.

"Like I said man, it was the people I was hanging around," said Jones, according to an NFL Network transcript. "I made some bad decisions. I am not living a lie. I promise you that I am on the right track, but I have made horrible decisions about who I am with or who I am going places with."

These are Jones' first public comments since the Las Vegas incident.

"I just explained myself and told him nothing but the truth you know," Jones said of the meeting with Goodell. "He asked me like, 'How can we help you?' You know? How can he help me? What can I do to change my image? So it's on me."

Las Vegas police have recommended a felony charge of coercion and misdemeanor charges of threat and battery against Jones in the Feb. 19 altercation at Minxx, a club several blocks west of the Las Vegas Strip.

The shooting left one man paralyzed. Authorities haven't identified the gunman, but Castro has said the 23-year-old Jones was the "inciter" of a fight that started inside in the club.

# Deus Caritas Est

## Call for Papers


The Office of the President and the *Deus Caritas Est* Student Committee invite you to submit papers on Pope Benedict's Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*.

Intent to present papers must be communicated by April 16, 2007. Please email [godislove@nd.edu](mailto:godislove@nd.edu) with confirmation of the topic of your paper. Students can then present their papers at the *Deus Caritas Est* conference (April 27-28), make any final revisions based on discussions during the conference, and then submit final documents by May 4, 2007.


Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

Freshman/sophomore:	\$1,000 winner and \$500 runner-up
Junior/senior:	\$1,000 winner and \$500 runner-up
Graduate students:	\$1,000 winner and \$500 runner-up

For additional information regarding the conference and call for papers please visit: [www.nd.edu/encyclical](http://www.nd.edu/encyclical). For questions email: [godislove@nd.edu](mailto:godislove@nd.edu) or call 631-6526.



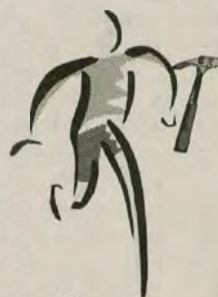
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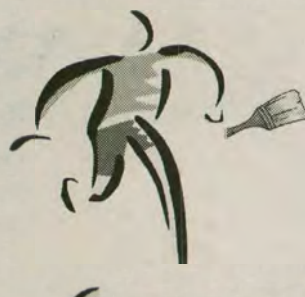
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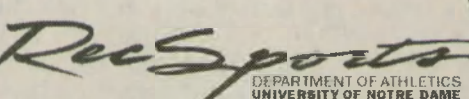
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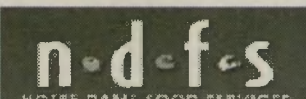
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## MLB

## Yankees-Rays rained out

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Andy Pettitte's return to the Yankees was pushed back a day because of rain, while Johnny Damon's injured calf left him unsure when he'll play again.

The scheduled game between New York and the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Wednesday afternoon was postponed, washing out what would have been Pettitte's first start in pinstripes since the 2003 World Series.

"It's definitely disappointing because you're ready. You want to get this day over with because you're so excited for it to get here," Pettitte said. "I'm obviously anxious to get out there."

No makeup date was announced. After the series finale Thursday night, Tampa Bay isn't slated to visit Yankee Stadium again until July 20.

Both scheduled starters were bumped back one day, so

Pettitte will pitch against Jae Seo on Thursday night. Temperatures in the low 30s are expected, with gusting winds.

"Bundle up," Pettitte said.

It sounds as though Damon won't be behind him in center field. New York's speedy lead-off hitter has a sore right calf and wasn't in the posted lineup Wednesday.

"I could barely walk," Damon said. "It felt like cramps the other day, but it's definitely much worse than that."

Damon left Monday's opening victory over Tampa Bay with cramps in both calves, but said Wednesday only the right one was still bothering him. In the clubhouse, he had his right calf wrapped.

"We're probably dealing with a strain, but to what degree we don't know yet," general manager Brian Cashman said. "No bruising. It's not swollen. But it's sore."

Melky Cabrera was slated to

start in center field Wednesday, and second baseman Robinson Cano was in the leadoff spot.

Cabrera will fill in for Damon until he returns. If Damon has to go on the disabled list, the Yankees would probably call up an outfielder from the minors. But after talking with team physician Dr. Stuart Hershon, Cashman said a stint on the DL was "not something that's being recommended right now."

No tests on Damon were planned yet. First, Hershon wants to see how Damon feels Thursday, Cashman said.

The GM was asked if an injury to Damon might open up a spot for former outfielder Bernie Williams on the major league roster. Cashman had a one-word answer: "No."

Williams, a longtime stalwart and fan favorite, declined New York's offer of a minor league contract in the offseason and never came to spring training.

## NCAA BASKETBALL

## Michigan signs Beilein to school-record deal

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Michigan desperately wanted to hire John Beilein and was willing to make him the highest-paid basketball coach in school history.

Beilein clearly coveted the job because he's going to pay his previous employer to leave — and he accepted an offer without visiting the Ann Arbor campus.

His contract with West Virginia had a \$2.5 million buyout clause — \$500,000 for each year remaining on his deal — and he said his lawyers are taking care of that.

"The buyout issue is sensitive, but I wanted to be the coach of Michigan," Beilein said Wednesday after being introduced at a news conference. "Obviously, the buyout was something I had to consider."

Michigan will pay Beilein \$1.3 million a season, plus bonuses, as part of a six-year contract. Athletic director Bill Martin, who said football coach Lloyd Carr is making \$1.6 million a year, hopes Beilein's contract demonstrates a commitment to basketball at a school where that has been questioned.

"It does to me," Martin said. Martin said negotiations on economics with Beilein took 10 seconds, adding he didn't need to address the buyout issue.

"It never came up because there was no way Michigan was going to pay it," Martin said. "To John Beilein's credit, he said, 'The buyout is my responsibility.'"

Both Beilein and West Virginia hope to keep the resolution private.

"The agreement on the buyout is between coach Beilein and West Virginia University," the school said in a statement from its general counsel's office. "Any details will be worked out between the two parties."

Michigan fired Tommy Amaker, who was making nearly \$1 million a season, last month after his sixth season without an NCAA appearance. The Wolverines last made the tournament in 1998.

The school's pool of candidates began with 40 names. Once it was trimmed to about a dozen, Martin said he read everything he could about each coach before the list was cut to six or seven. Several coaches were interviewed, but Martin would only talk about his 2-hour session Friday with Beilein in Atlanta.

Former Michigan and NBA player Tim McCormick, who was on Martin's search committee, raved about Beilein.

"Michigan has had good recruiters and good coaches, but Beilein is the best basketball coach Michigan has ever had," McCormick said. "His offense is creative and exciting, he mixes zone and man-to-man defenses, and he's won wherever he's been."

The 54-year-old Beilein is 551-318 with 26 winning seasons during a 29-season career in college that started at Erie (N.Y.) Community College and continued at Nazareth, LeMoyne, Canisius, Richmond and West Virginia.

Previous moves were made with his wife in a moving truck and kids in car seats. His latest was in a private jet Wednesday morning with Michigan officials, his wife and two of their sons.

"I grew up on the shores of Lake Ontario," said Beilein, whose hometown is Burt, N.Y. "We've made almost a complete circle back to the Great Lakes."

Amaker took over a mess at Michigan, stemming from NCAA violations, and cleaned up the program on and off the court. But he didn't lead the Wolverines back to the NCAA tournament.

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## NBA

# Bosh's clutch free throws sink host Orlando

*Wizards fall to lowly Bobcats as Arenas sprains his left knee*

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Chris Bosh scored 28 points, including five free throws down the stretch, to lift the Toronto Raptors to a 111-108 win over the Orlando Magic on Wednesday night.

Hedo Turkoglu shook off a recent shooting slump to score a career-high 37 points, but missed a potential game-tying 3-pointer from the wing. Turkoglu had gone a combined 6-for-25 the previous two games.

Anthony Parker added 20 points for the Raptors. Joey Graham scored 19 and T.J. Ford had 16 points and eight assists.

Turkoglu tied the game at 106 on a 3-pointer with 3:18 left, but the Magic didn't score for the next two minutes. Bosh hit three free throws, but was called for goaltending on Turkoglu's layup with 47 seconds left.

Trailing 109-108, Turkoglu missed a jumper. Dwight Howard got the rebound, but Bosh drew an offensive foul on Grant Hill.

With 9.4 seconds left, Bosh drained two foul shots to seal the win.

It was the Magic's second loss in a row, cutting their small cushion on the last two remaining Eastern Conference playoff spots. Toronto has already clinched a place in the postseason.

Both Howard and Bosh scored career highs (32 and 41 points, respectively) when these teams met in February, and both were on track for even better nights after 11-point first quarters.

But Howard didn't score in the second or third quarters, finishing with 18 points and 15 rebounds, and Bosh slowed down in the third.

The Magic didn't miss much in the first quarter, getting season bests in points (37) and field goal percentage (83 percent). From that point until the fourth, they couldn't do much right.

Orlando, which had a 15-point lead in the first quarter, trailed by eight points in the third and nine in the fourth.

Toronto outscored Orlando 8-2 in the last minute of the first half, drawing to 57-52 at the break. Graham scored five of them, including a 3-pointer with 1.5 seconds left.

## Bobcats 108, Wizards 100

Down went Gilbert Arenas. And with him, in all likelihood, went the Washington Wizards' hopes of achieving much of anything in the playoffs this season.

Arenas sprained his left knee in a collision with Gerald Wallace in the first quarter of Wednesday night's loss to the Charlotte Bobcats. The three-time All-Star will have an MRI on Thursday to determine the full extent of the damage, but the recovery time from such injuries is usually measured in weeks, not days, and the Wizards have only eight games left in the regular season.

He was just standing there, settling into rebounding position as Wallace drove baseline. When Wallace threw up one of those incredible, off-balance reverse layups, he crashed inadvertently into the left leg of

the Washington Wizards' guard.

The Wizards earlier this week lost All-Star forward Caron Butler to a broken his hand earlier this week, and they are 2-9 this season when he doesn't play. Butler is expected to miss at least six weeks, meaning he will play again only if Washington advances deep into the playoffs.

Wallace, who survived several collisions in what became a very physical game, finished with 27 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists to lead the Bobcats. He had also stymied the Wizards the previous night, getting 34 points and 14 rebounds in a 122-102 win at Charlotte on Tuesday.

Raymond Felton added 19 points and seven assists, Emeka Okafor had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and Walter Hermann had 20 points and nine rebounds for the Bobcats, who have won six of nine.

Antawn Jamison had 25 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Wizards, who fell one full game behind the idle Miami Heat in the Southeast Division.

Arenas was injured late in the first quarter, but he had been in the game less than two minutes. He did not start for the first time this season because he was late for the team's shootaround.

The Wizards put up a spirited effort without him, appearing to take out their frustration on the lottery-bound Bobcats in the second meeting between the teams in two nights. Antonio Daniels got his first start of the season, giving Washington a point guard who actually played point guard. Daniels finished with 18 points and a career-high 17 assists.

Etan Thomas was dominant at times in the paint, scoring a season-high 19 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in his third start since he replaced struggling center Brendan Haywood in the starting lineup. All five Wizards starters scored in double figures.

## Bulls 106, Pistons 88

Kirk Hinrich scored 29 points, Luol Deng added 22 and the Ben Wallace-less Chicago Bulls beat the listless Detroit Pistons on Wednesday night.

Wallace missed the game against his former team after going to the hospital with sinus inflammation, and his absence seemed to deflate a crowd fired up to jeer him again.

It also may have led to the Pistons underestimating the Bulls, whose offensive production made up for the lack Wallace's defense.

Chicago took control of the game with a 16-4 run — with Hinrich scoring half of its points — to end the third quarter for a 84-69 lead. Until that burst, it was a tightly contested game with 15 lead changes and eight ties.

The game almost took an ugly turn with 8:12 left.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton and Chicago's Tyrus Thomas were ejected with two technical fouls while play was stopped after exchanging heated words and being separated by teammates.

While walking off the court toward their locker rooms, both players had to be separated again.

Hamilton — and many of his teammates — had a frustrating



Raptors forward Chris Bosh goes to the basket during the second quarter of Toronto's 111-108 win over Orlando Wednesday. Bosh finished with 28 points in the contest.

night.

The 20-point scorer had more fouls (five) and turnovers (four) than points (three).

Chauncey Billups scored 17, Rasheed Wallace had 16 points and Chris Webber added 10 points and eight rebounds for the Pistons, who had won five of six.

Detroit's magic number is four to clinch home-court advantage in the Eastern Conference playoffs over Cleveland, which plays at Detroit on Sunday, with seven games left for both teams.

Chicago, which has clinched a spot in the playoffs, has won six of its last seven games.

Thabo Sefolosha, who entered the starting lineup with Wallace out, had 11 points and 10 rebounds. Chicago's P.J. Brown, who moved to center in Wallace's place, scored 11 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Thomas added 13 points and eight rebounds in just 10 minutes.

## 76ers 92, Knicks 90

Andre Iguodala scored 18 points and blocked Stephon Marbury's potential winning 3-point try, giving the Philadelphia 76ers a victory over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

Kyle Korver added 17 points for the 76ers, who overcame Marbury's big second half. Andre Miller scored 14, including a tough jumper with 7.4 seconds to go.

Marbury scored 28 of his 30 points after halftime, helping New York turn a double-digit deficit into a nine-point lead. But the Knicks couldn't hold it and lost their third straight, falling to 2-9 since coach Isiah Thomas was given a contract extension when New York was in eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

Both teams entered with slim playoff hopes. The Knicks were 10th in the East, 2 1/2 games behind Orlando for the final playoff spot. Philadelphia climbed within a game of New York with its victory.

The Knicks had a final chance after Korver, who came in leading the NBA in free throw shooting at 92 percent, missed a pair from the line with 2.1 seconds left. But Iguodala got a piece of Marbury's hurried shot behind the arc and time expired.

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## CREW

# Rowers face tough test in Indy regatta

By DANIELLE KELLER  
Sports Writer

After winning the Lubbers Cup Title last weekend, the Irish will travel to Indianapolis this Saturday to compete in the Indiana Invitational.

In the first match of the day, the No. 13 Irish will race No. 15 Wisconsin. Later in the day, Notre Dame will take on Indiana and Purdue.

Although only one of the opponents is ranked, Irish coach Martin Stone views each team as tough competition.

"I think that all three crews that we face will present challenges," Stone said.

After a shift from their usual lineups during last Saturday's regatta, the Irish plan to return to the original crews used earlier in the season. The reason for the changes, Stone said, was to allow younger players to gain more racing experience.

Even though the lineups were different, the team per-

formed well in last weekend's regatta, winning the varsity-four, second varsity-four and second varsity-eight races.

The varsity-eight, novice-eight and second varsity-eight boats all finished second.

Saturday's competition marks the second race of the season for Wisconsin. In their first competition, the Badgers' varsity and second varsity

crews went undefeated against Indiana. Stone said that Wisconsin was an especially swift team, having finished in the top 20 last season.

Last weekend, Indiana competed in Cincinnati. The Hoosiers swept away the competition, winning races against Dayton, Eastern Michigan and the Bearcats.

The Indiana Invitational is the fourth outing of the spring season for the Irish. They will compete in the Windemere Real Estate Regatta April 14-15 in Redwood Shores, Calif.

Contact Danielle Keller at [dkeller@nd.edu](mailto:dkeller@nd.edu)

*"I think that all three crews we face will present challenges."*

**Martin Stone**  
Irish coach

## MEN'S TENNIS

# Irish look to regain form in Dallas

By JAY WADE  
Sports Writer

No. 5 Notre Dame will try to reclaim the consistency that brought it an 11-match winning streak earlier this season against Southern Methodist University (SMU) Saturday in Dallas.

The Irish, 18-3 overall, have been inconsistent lately, getting shut out by No. 2 Ohio State March 31 and then turning around and beating No. 8 Illinois 5-2 two days later.

"After the win against Illinois, especially after the Ohio State loss, hopefully it will help us focus and end the season as strong as possible," Irish junior Sheeva Parbhu said.

While the Mustangs (12-8, 0-1 Conference USA) are not ranked, they are riding a five-game winning streak and are coming off a 5-2 victory against No. 45 Wisconsin. Notre Dame and SMU have traded blows over the past few seasons, with the Irish claiming a 5-2 victory last year and the Mustangs winning two years ago in Dallas by the same score.

"When you go on the road, you cannot take anything for granted," Parbhu said. "We only have a few matches left, so we have to make them all count."

Parbhu has his own reasons to be focused for the SMU match — his overall record of 90-25 (55-12 in dual matches) puts him one win away from tying Luis Haddock for No. 10



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer  
**Irish senior Ryan Keckley strikes the ball during Notre Dame's 5-2 victory over Illinois Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.**

all time on the Irish wins list.

Similarly, No. 9 Stephen Bass has his own record to break on Saturday. His 101 career wins have him one victory away from fifth on the Irish wins list.

Recent weather in South Bend, however, might be a problem as the Irish travel to a hot Texas for outdoor play.

But Parbhu was not concerned about the climate change, since the Irish are leaving today for Dallas and will have plenty of time to get acclimated to the heat. Also, a

little heat could go a long way for the Irish, he said, as it should prepare them for their upcoming matches in places such as Tampa, Fla., for the Big East tournament, and Athens, Ga., for the NCAA Tournament.

With only a handful of matches before these two big tournaments, the Irish will look to come out sharp against SMU. The first serve is scheduled for 1 p.m. Central Time.

Contact Jay Wade at [jwade@nd.edu](mailto:jwade@nd.edu)

## ND WOMEN'S GOLF

# Irish head to Indiana Invitational

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will look for a positive performance Monday in the Indiana Invitational as it prepares for the Big East Championships later this month.

The tournament, held in Indianapolis and hosted by Crooked Stick, will end the following day.

The Irish lineup will feature senior co-captain Noriko Nakazaki from the No. 1 spot, where she has led the team in scoring in seven out of eight tournaments this year. Nakazaki topped the Irish squad when she finished in a tie for sixth at the Betsy Rawls

Longhorn Invitational March 18.

Freshman Annie Brophy will tee off from the second spot thanks to her consistent contribution throughout the season. Her best round came at the UNLV Invitational, where she ended up with a one-over par 73.

Julie Kim, a fellow freshman, will shoot from the No. 3 spot. Due to an injury early in the season, Kim will golf in only her fourth collegiate event. Since recovering from the injury, however, she has impressed coach Susan Hunt enough to become a consistent name on the Irish scorecard.

Kristin Wetzel, another freshman, and sophomore Lisa Maunu round out the lineup at

fourth and fifth spots.

"Over the three-week layoff we have been playing as much as possible to stay competitive between each other," Maunu said. "We have all been working on our swing and putting to fine tune them."

The sophomore also commented on what the invitational means in terms of preparation for the Big East championships.

"This tournament is very important for Big East and for momentum into Regionals," she said. "We have to have a strong tournament in both this tournament and Big East so we can hopefully pull up our regional ranking."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at [lreyes@nd.edu](mailto:lreyes@nd.edu)

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## SMC TENNIS

# Belles travel to Madison

By ELLYN MICHALAK  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will travel to Madison, Wis., this weekend to compete in the Midwest Invitational, a selective tournament featuring some of the top squads in Division III.

"This tournament is a really big deal," senior captain Kelly McDavitt said. "You have to be invited to it. We haven't been invited to this tournament in three years, so we're really excited."

The Belles will first face Wisconsin-La Crosse Friday, a team that they fell to in the second match of their season. The Eagles are two-time defending champions of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Saint Mary's and Wisconsin-La Crosse faced each other March 12, with the Eagles dominating in a 7-2 victory and dropping the Belles' season record at the time to 0-2.

Now better prepared and with an overall record of 7-6 — and a perfect conference record of 3-0 — the Belles will attempt to avenge that loss and

advance.

"They are a tough team, but I think we have a chance at beating them," Saint Mary's coach Dee Stevenson said.

McDavitt agreed.

"We played them on our second day of spring break and were still adjusting to our playing potential," McDavitt said. "We feel a lot more comfortable now, and I'm pretty sure we can beat them this time."

In the previous matchup between the two teams, Saint Mary's did not play up to its potential.

Wisconsin-La Crosse senior Angie Riedel defeated McDavitt in straight sets. Freshman Camille Gebert had better luck in the No. 2 singles spot, beating Eagles freshman Rachel Benn, but Belles sophomore Mary E. Campbell could not pull off the win in the No. 3 singles spot against Wisconsin-La Crosse senior Julie Tellefsen.

Saint Mary's freshman Lisa Rubino won the fourth

singles spot, defeating Eagles senior Erin Fekete, but Belles senior Tara O'Brien lost to Eagles freshman Carlie Bohrmann in straight sets.

In the final singles spot, Saint Mary's junior Cassie Quaglia lost in straight sets to Wisconsin-La Crosse freshman Sarah Schoenwaelder.

The Belles' luck did not seem to change during the doubles matches. Though the powerhouse duo of Gebert and McDavitt battled hard and lost in a close match, the two eventually fell to Riedel and

Tellefsen 9-7. Likewise, Campbell and Rubino fell 8-4 in a heated match against Benn and Fekete in the No. 2 doubles spot. In the final match of the day, the duo of Belles senior Grace Gordon and O'Brien lost to Schoenwaelder and senior Courtney Tornow 8-5.

The winner will continue play on Saturday.

*"This tournament is a really big deal."*

**Kelly McDavitt**  
Belles captain

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## MEN'S GOLF

# Weather could wreak havoc at Boilermaker

By CHRIS DOYEN  
Sports Writer

The toughest opponent Notre Dame will face this weekend at the Boilermaker Invitational in West Lafayette, Ind., might not even swing a club.

While Big Ten schools — including Ohio St., Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan St. and host Purdue — will make up part of the field, the Irish might have to devote just as much attention to the inclement weather.

"It's not going to be focused as much on pure golf and scoring really low," senior co-captain Cole Isban said. "It's going to be more of almost a survival test with how bad the weather is supposed to be. Being a northern team, I think we might have an advantage there."

With flurries possible on Saturday and high temperatures not expected to break 44 degrees, the Irish will have the opportunity to put their well-developed cold weather games to the test.

Notre Dame has another reason to head into the weekend with some confidence. The team is very familiar with the Kampen Course at the Birch

Boilermaker Complex, the site of the tournament.

"We've played there a number of times," Isban said. "We've had a couple of tournaments there, and we even had NCAA Regionals there three years ago. We've been there a lot."

The rest of the field, while solid, is not quite as strong as it was last weekend at the AdminiStaff Augusta State Invitational in Evans, Ga.

"You always like to win," Isban said. "But it's a good field, even though it might not be as strong as Augusta State's."

In order for the Irish to have a good showing, Isban, an All-America candidate, will have to use his experience to lead the way through the harsh conditions. Fellow co-captain Adam Gifford will try to use momentum from his one-under-par 71 in Georgia to carry him to another low score in West Lafayette.

After the Boilermaker Invitational, the Big East tournament is only two weeks away, April 22-24 in Louisville.

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## TRACK AND FIELD

# More athletes look to qualify for NCAAs at Indiana meet

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

After qualifying 14 athletes over the past two weekends for the NCAA Midwest Regional, Notre Dame will travel to Bloomington to compete in the Indiana Relays Friday and Saturday.

But those plans could be halted by weather. Due to weekend forecasts, there is a possibility that Notre Dame could scratch the meet, senior Ryan Postel said.

"[Notre Dame sprinting] coach [John] Millar is discussing not running anyone at all and scratching the meet," Postel said. "It is supposed to be in the 30s this weekend there. Not exactly ideal for racing."

The first day of competition of the 2006 Indiana Relays was cancelled due to inclement weather.

If the Irish do compete, Postel will run the 400-meter dash, an event in which he has already qualified for the Regionals. Postel placed first at Arizona State's Clif Bar invitational in the event with a time of 47.20 seconds.

The Notre Dame men will not participate in the 4x100 meter relay due to a shortage of sprinters, Postel said.

"As it stands right now, we might not even run that event at all this season because we are lacking some short sprinters due to

various reasons," he said.

The Irish performed well at last year's Indiana Invitational. Sophomore Patrick Smyth won the 5,000 meters with a time of 14:12.61.

Senior Todd Ptacek, A.J. Andrassy, who graduated in 2006, and junior Jake Watson finished 3-4-5 in the 3,000 meter steeplechase, with Ptacek's time of 8:58.05 leading the way.

On the women's side, senior Molly Huddle finished fourth in the 5,000 meters, crossing the line in 15:54.41.

If the meet is scratched, the Irish compete next at the Mount SAC Relays in Walnut, Calif. Notre Dame likely will send only sprinters and field athletes to the event — Postel said that the distance runners will not be competing.

That would leave the Irish with eight events to earn or improve their qualifying spots before the Big East championships, which begins May 4 in Storrs, Conn.

After that, Notre Dame then has the Georgia Tech Invitational, held on May 11-12, to prepare itself for the Midwest Regional, which begins May 25.

Irish athletes who qualify

go on to race in the NCAA Championships in Sacramento, Calif. June 6-9, and from there to the USA Track and Field Outdoor Championship June 21-24 in Indianapolis.

Currently, the Irish have 37 athletes qualified for the Big East Championships.

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## Demons

continued from page 24

East player of the week Monday with a .722 batting average (13-for-18), two doubles, a triple, four RBIs and five runs scored.

Brown was also named Louisville Slugger/NFCA player of the week Wednesday. Brown is currently atop the Big East standings for batting average (.477) and on-base percentage (.531). Her frequent trips around the bases have given the power hitters in the lineup a chance to gain RBIs; Brown leads the Big East in runs scored with 24.

With her strong pitching during the streak, sophomore Brittney Bargar earned an honorable mention in the Big East Wednesday after going 3-0 with two complete games, a shutout and 21 strikeouts in 20 innings pitched.

Irish senior Kenya Fuemmeler will also take the mound, riding a series of strong performances herself.

She has a 7-5 record with a 2.60 ERA, seven complete games and 57 strikeouts this season.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish outfielder Stephanie Brown bunts in Notre Dame's 10-2 win over Syracuse Sunday at Ivy Field.

## Duke

continued from page 21

Irish defense with one of the best offenses in the nation, averaging almost 16 goals per game.

Junior attacker Carolina Cryer leads the Duke offense with 35 goals and 9 assists. Senior attacker Kristen Waagbo, recently named ACC player of the week, has also had a strong season with 24 goals and 21 assists.

But the Irish have two players of the week of their own. After wins over Connecticut and Duquesne, sophomores Jillian Byers and Alicia Billings were named offensive and defensive Big East players of the week, respectively.

Byers tallied four goals and an assist in both games last weekend for a total of 10 points on the week. Billings scored three goals in the two games, and she also grabbed six ground balls and forced three turnovers.

The Irish have found success lately with impressive defensive play and balanced offensive production. Over the four-game winning streak, the Notre Dame defense has allowed an average of just seven goals per game.

In addition, several Notre Dame players have assisted leading scorers Caitlin McKinney (32 goals this season) and Byers in the offensive scoring. Senior Meghan Murphy and sophomore Jane Stoeckert have recorded points in every game of the winning streak, and seniors Kaki Orr and Lena Zentgraf have been equally impressive.

### Notre Dame vs. California

The Irish will be tested by a solid California team Saturday at 1 p.m. The hard-luck Golden Bears enter the Loftus Center with a 5-3 record, with two of those losses against ranked opponents in overtime.

California is looking to rebound from a heart-breaking 9-8 overtime loss at Ohio State and pick up its first road win of the season. Struggling to score on the road, the Golden Bears also lost to Vanderbilt 9-6 in Nashville.

Defense has fueled Cal's success, with the Golden Bears giving up an average of just 8.25 goals per game on the season. Senior Laura Cavallo leads the team offensively with 19 goals and nine assists.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

## Streak

continued from page 24

good," Notre Dame coach Jay Louderback said. "They all play about the same and they use the lob a lot. It looks like we're going to be indoors and their doubles would probably be better outside just because they use the lob and don't really hit the big ground strokes."

Indiana easily defeated Big Ten rival Ohio State 6-1 Wednesday, capping its streak of consecutive Big Ten triumphs.

After the Irish battle the Hoosiers, they will travel to Columbus, Ohio, for a match with the Buckeyes that begins at 2:30 p.m. Monday.

Coming off a tough loss against the Hoosiers Wednesday, Ohio State will be looking to get back on the winning track they had been on before Indiana match. The Buckeyes defeated Syracuse and Michigan State the previous week.

The Irish have won 14 straight matches and have not been challenged much during the streak.

In addition to the recent success, the Irish welcomed back freshman Colleen Rielley

Tuesday, and they are hoping to be back at full strength by the end of next week.

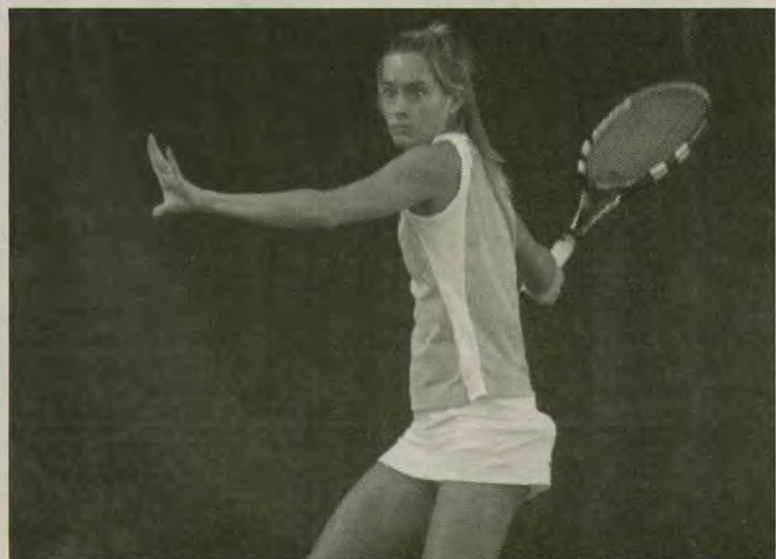
"It's going to be another week before [junior] Brook Buck is back. We've been very careful just taking it slow, but she'll be back," Louderback said. "But other than that, we should be at full strength this weekend."

After taking a day off from practice Wednesday, the Irish will be back at practice Thursday. Louderback feels that at this point in the season, the most important thing is staying fresh.

"This time of year the kids are in a pretty good groove of playing and it's mainly now just hitting enough to stay good and confident," Louderback said. "We'll probably play a little more doubles these next few days just because one team has only played once together and we should get them a little more experience playing together."

After Notre Dame's two matches this weekend, the Irish will have three days to practice and rest up for three matches the following weekend against Northwestern, DePaul and Marquette.

Contact Dan Maloof at dmaloof@nd.edu



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish junior Brook Buck gears up for a forehand during Notre Dame's 6-1 win over Louisville Feb. 9 at the Eck Tennis Center.

## SMC GOLF

# Tri-State Invitational cancelled

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

The Belles have another week to fine-tune their game after cold weather and wind forced the Tri-State Invitational, scheduled for this weekend, to be cancelled Wednesday.

Tri-State, located in Angola, Ind., is experiencing much the same weather that South Bend started to see Wednesday morning.

The tournament, which was to feature teams from around the region and is hosted by Tri-State every year, will be combined with the NCAA qualifying tournament April 12.

"Next week was to be our MIAA tournament — our NCAA qualifying tournament," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "We'll have teams from around the region in our [league] tournament, so it will be a tournament within a tournament."

Hamilton said the week off won't benefit the Belles, but the widespread nature of the weather conditions ensures that Saint Mary's opponents will not be getting a leg up.

"All the teams that we're going to be playing against as far as we're concerned for the NCAA aren't going to be playing either," Hamilton said. "We'll all be on equal ground."

Mark Hamilton  
Belles coach

Because of the weather, the Belles have been indoors working on chipping and putting. Hamilton said he will encourage his team to practice as often as possible over Easter break.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

## SMC SOFTBALL

# Hope game postponed by snow

## Contest with Flying Dutch may be played April 26 instead

By REBECCA SLINGER  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will have to wait to face MIAA second place Hope College — thanks to the weather.

Officials cancelled Wednesday's game between the teams Wednesday morning because of the threat of snow.

Freshman second baseman Mo Healy said the cancellation won't affect the team.

"If anything, this will give us more time to prepare. I think we're ready for them," she said. "Whatever the schedule, we'll still be ready."

The game has not officially been rescheduled, but coach Erin Sullivan said the team is looking to reschedule the game for April 26 in place of its scheduled game in Pittsburgh against Robert Morris.

Saint Mary's is riding a two-game winning streak

after sweeping Manchester last weekend.

The Belles are next scheduled to play Tuesday in Grand Rapids, Mich., against Calvin. Saint Mary's will follow that contest with a trip to Tri-State April 14 and a game against cross-town rival Bethel April 16 at Ivy Field on Notre Dame's campus.

*"If anything, this will give us more time to prepare. ... Whatever the schedule, we'll be ready."*

Mo Healy  
Belles second baseman

Contact Rebecca Slinger at rslinger01@saintmarys.edu



# Chemistry

continued from page 24

Weis let this rule slide Saturday when he fingered rising sophomore George West as his current No. 2 receiver behind rising junior David Grimes. West is competing with rising senior Darrin Bragg, rising junior D.J. Hord, and rising

sophomores Robby Parris, Barry Gallup, and Richard Jackson for that No. 2 slot.

Overall, West said he does not see the competition this spring as counter-productive.

"We have completely great chemistry and we're all young guys and we know we're all out there to compete," West said Monday. "We're all friends about it and we encourage each other. Somebody makes a good

play, you know, it's a good thing for the receivers.

"We feel as a receiving corps we have something to go out there and prove because everybody doubts us this year. We're taking that to heart right now."

Fullback Luke Schmidt added that competition is beneficial to the team overall, but he hopes team members will not take it personally if they are not picked as starters. Schmidt is battling for time on the field with returning starter Asaph Schwapp.

"Hopefully, everyone on the team will be able to take that positively and try and make themselves better and hopefully battle for it again next year," Schmidt said Monday. "Hopefully, they won't take it in a negative way, go hide themselves in a hole, just not care about the team anymore and care only about themselves. Hopefully, that'll be a positive effect on the team."

And then there's the quarterbacks.

Weis said he currently employs a system where each of the four candidates for starting quarterback — rising junior Evan Sharpley, rising sophomores Demetrius Jones and Zach Frazer, and incoming freshman Jimmy Clausen — each spend time in the No. 1 position in practice.

"I think you cannot make a subjective analysis when you're doing something that is this critical because we've all been in the comfort zone of having Brady Quinn here since the day I walked in here. Well, Brady's not here anymore," Weis said Monday. "I think going under my three premises of coaching, premise No. 2 is always tell the players the truth regardless of



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Notre Dame running backs including Junior Jabble, 37, and Travis Thomas, 26, run between drills Wednesday at the Loftus Center.**

the consequences.

"Well, that's the one we're talking about right now. I think it's important to analyze the quarterbacks and just tell them, 'That's the way it is.' That's what I will do."

When practice and training camp is over and the depth charts are set for Notre Dame's season opener against Georgia Tech Sept. 1, Weis said he does

not foresee any problems with team chemistry.

"No matter what you do, there's going to be people who say, 'Well, it should be so and so, should be so and so, should be so and so,'" Weis said. "I just got to worry about what's in the best interest of the team."

**Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)**

# Cincy

continued from page 24

league, a long way down for a squad that won the conference a season ago and had its eyes set on another title.

"We're the defending Big East champions," sophomore pitcher Kyle Weiland said. "We need to start playing like

it."

Looking at the big picture, Schrage said the Irish can only afford to lose a few more contests for the rest of the conference slate. Notre Dame has 19 Big East games remaining.

"We need to play with a sense of urgency from here on out," he said. "If we're going to win the league, we can't afford to lose more than six or

seven games [total]."

One of the reasons the Irish have struggled is their inability to drive in base runners. Notre Dame has averaged 9.6 runners left on base over its last eight games.

But moving runners up hasn't been the problem while trying to push across a run. Against Oakland Tuesday, the Irish converted 5-of-5 sacrifice bunt opportunities.

Schrage said the issue isn't in moving runners from first base into scoring position — it's driving them in once they get there.

"We've been playing for a run an inning with this team," he said. "We're doing a good job of bunting people over, but I'd like to see us get that one more hit to break things open."

Cincinnati comes into the weekend series half a game ahead of Notre Dame in the league standings at 2-4 and 15-13 overall. The Bearcats have won a game in each of their two Big East series, which were against Georgetown and Pittsburgh. The series with the Irish will be their first at home this season.

The Bearcats are led offensively by outfielder Tony Campana, third baseman Josh Harrison and first baseman Neall French — each of whom is batting over .300.

The weather in Cincinnati is expected to be cold and windy, which is not conducive to high-quality baseball.

Weiland said players, especially relief pitchers, need to take special precautions to stay loose while on the bench in cold weather.

"We need to keep our jackets and make sure we run to the foul pole between



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish center fielder Danny Dressman bunts during Notre Dame's 7-3 win over Oakland Tuesday at Frank Eck Stadium.**

innings," he said. "We just need to make sure we stay warm and loose — but there isn't a whole lot you can do in 30-degree weather."

Irish senior Dan Kapala will start Thursday's game, and sophomore David Phelps will begin Friday's contest on the hill.

Because of the possibility of cancellations, Schrage has not

named a starter for Saturday's contest, instead planning to use regular starter Wade Korpi out of the bullpen in the first two games.

If all three games are played, Schrage said he will make a decision Friday as to who will start Saturday.

**Contact Chris Khorey at [ckhorey@nd.edu](mailto:ckhorey@nd.edu)**



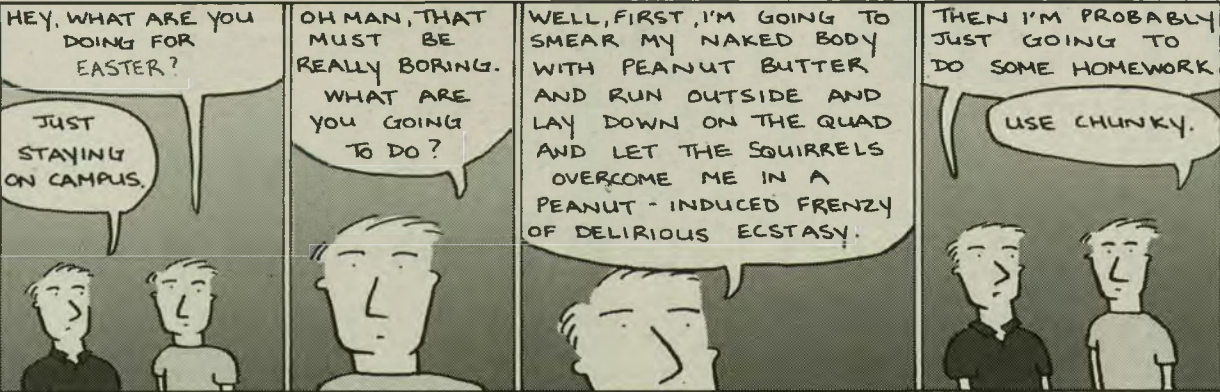
VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish pitcher Eric Maust delivers in Notre Dame's 7-3 win over Oakland Tuesday at Frank Eck Stadium.**



CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM



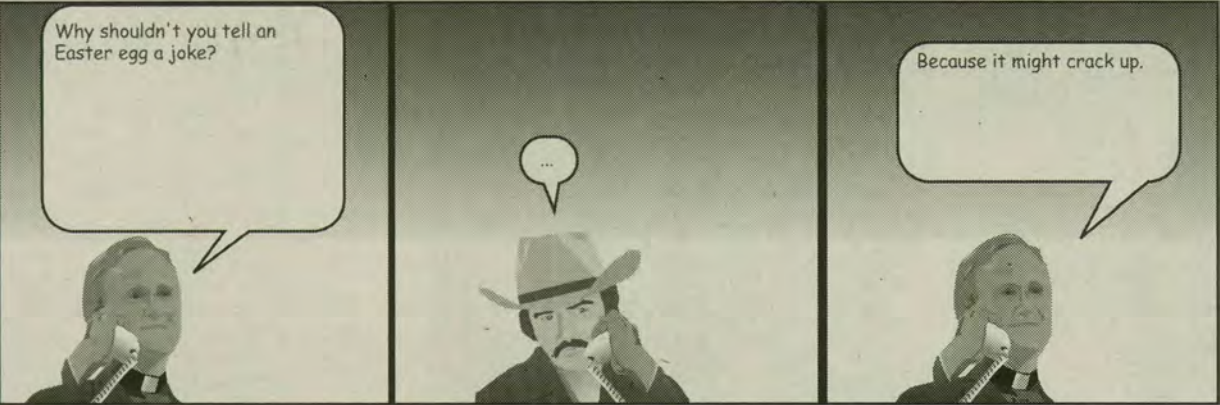
BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

LIAM MORAN



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**

1 Secretarial jottings: Abbr.

6 Lee with an Oscar

9 It's held in a hold

14 "The Rain in Spain" composer

15 Pal of Eeyore

16 \_\_\_ the hole

17 Stage part

18 Cooperation roadblock

19 Provocative military move, briefly

20 Quest for a stereotypical Jewish mother?

23 A tiny bit

24 Prefix with -cide

25 What the dry cleaner might say after losing a garment?

31 Recesses
- 34 Characters in a frat house?

35 Author who inspired a Baltimore team's nickname

36 Stuns

37 Setting of many a Stephen King novel

39 Bathe

40 Results of oogenesis

41 Freeman's opposite

42 Having a bottom

43 Reactions to poetry?

47 Check-box option

48 "Huh ...?!"

52 Like 20-, 25- and 43-Across?

56 Stock at hardware stores and garden shops

57 Spigot holder

58 Stack, in a way
- DOWN**

1 1960 John Wayne saga, with "The"

2 Make a brief call

3 By itself

4 Stories often have them

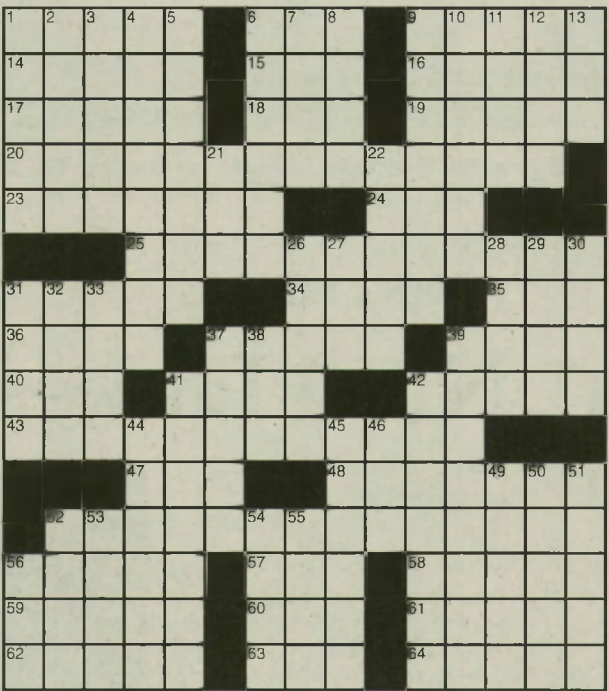
5 Promgoers

6 Some rings

7 Scrubbed

8 Anachronism, e.g.

9 Losers to the Rangers for the 1994 Stanley Cup



Puzzle by Mike Nothnagel

- 31 Sea of \_\_\_ between Russia and Ukraine

32 Tar, maybe

33 Duke it out

37 1980's attorney general

38 It might mean "I have to go out!"

39 Was shamed
- 41 Apparently does

42 Not going anywhere

44 Sign

45 Wealthy TV family

46 Chinese tea

49 Wear for a moment
- 50 They can be spiked

51 Like some coincidences

52 Solution

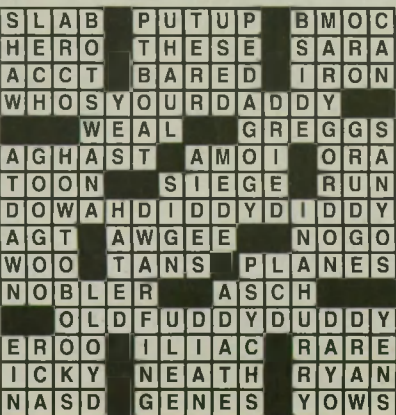
53 "Thirtysomething" actor

54 Call the shots

55 Heart

56 "Pow!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD  
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

LAUDT

WERFE

CHOTLE

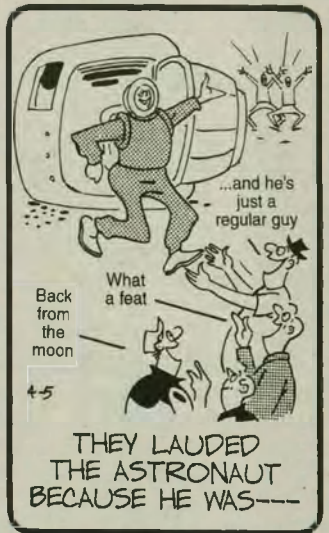
VEENAU

Ans:  TO

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CREEK QUILT POETRY CAMPUS  
Answer: When the locksmith got the high-rise job, the builder became his — "KEY" CUSTOMER

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jamie Lynn Spears, 16; Heath Ledger, 28; Craig T. Nelson, 63; Maya Angelou, 79

**Happy Birthday:** Be ready to take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way. If you are bogged down with other people's problems, you will not be able to advance this year. Reevaluate your situation and start to focus on your own goals. Your high expectations can be reached. Your numbers are 3, 14, 22, 27, 35, 46

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You may question your beliefs, your partnerships and your direction. Honesty will help you find the answers. Keeping an open mind and heart will give you the discernment required to make the right choices. 3 stars

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): This is not the day to hold back. If something is on your mind speak up and you will find it much easier to move along. Help others or volunteer in some fashion. Be careful if someone from your past asks for your assistance. 3 stars

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): If someone asks to borrow, the answer should be a simple "no." Do whatever is necessary to secure your personal life, your home and residence. An older relative may be a burden but, with give and take, the relationship can be good. 3 stars

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Stop being negative. If you play your cards right you can advance, find love and make new friends. Networking will lead to a good time and some interesting information. 5 stars

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Getting out and having some fun may be an outlet for you but it won't please everyone in your life. You will probably run into someone you never quite forgot. That may be exciting, but it will cause problems with your current relationships. 2 stars

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on love, communication and maybe even going on an adventure. Travel will take you away from home and all the worries that you face each day. You need a little time and space to figure out what you really want. 4 stars

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): What you want to do may be stifled by responsibilities. Be creative in finding solutions and you will have the freedom to do the things that you enjoy doing most. A sudden change in the way someone treats you will perplex you. 3 stars

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can get a lot out of the way today. Let your creative energy lead the way and you will develop something very interesting. A chance to make some money is apparent by picking up additional work or offering a service. Love is in the stars. 3 stars

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone will come to your rescue — if you ask for help, you will get it. Changes to your residence will help you enjoy the comforts of home a lot more. Don't make a hasty decision regarding a friend, relative or neighbor. 3 stars

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make money today by doing things a little differently. The time to put your plans into play is now. You can mix and mingle with people who will understand what it is you are trying to do. Don't be fooled by empty promises. 4 stars

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If your actions might hurt someone's feelings, rethink your options. Be careful not to upset anyone you care about or the damage may be reversible. Emotional confusion is apparent, so don't make snap decisions. 2 stars

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): You can turn something you are thinking about doing into a moneymaker. Invest in yourself and your ideas, not someone else's. A love connection can be made but make sure your motives are honorable. 5 stars

**Birthday Baby:** You are dedicated, loyal and forceful in the way you approach people. You are willing to do what is necessary to fulfill your needs. You are sensitive, intuitive and innovative.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultation:

THE OBSERVER

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## FOOTBALL

# Weis: Spring position battles won't hurt team chemistry

By CHRIS HINE  
Sports Editor

As the Notre Dame coaching staff sifts through position battles on both sides of the ball this spring, there are bound to be players disappointed with their spot on the depth charts.

But Irish coach Charlie Weis said Monday he is making sure this disappointment does not turn into disruption — and to that extent, he uses his tell-it-

like-it-is New Jersey personality.

"When the [team] realizes that the head coach is really making the decision that's in the best interest of the team because he doesn't have any favorites, usually they're comfortable with that," Weis said.



Weis

"So really, it doesn't divide the team. [The] question implies, correctly so, that you can have division on the team."

"I think that when they realize that I'm the one making the decisions based on objectivity, usually you don't have those problems."

Weis said he hopes to have depth charts set by the end of spring practice and then revise them again when the 15 remaining incoming freshmen enter during the summer. He

reiterated that depth charts are not set in stone.

"It isn't like depth charts never change," Weis said. "Depth charts change eventually, and injuries occur on top of it. That's part of being a starter and part of being a backup."

In his press conferences, Weis has been tight-lipped when reporters ask him about position battles. He will often say that he is encouraged by certain positions or how a given player is doing — but he will not com-

ment on who stands where.

And that's by design, Weis said.

"Just imagine if I came in and told you everything that happened in practice today and did that on a daily basis. I mean, God, people all across the country will be drooling over that," Weis said. "You just can't do it that way. It's part of my job to protect [players] so we don't create a situation like that."

see CHEMISTRY/page 22

## BASEBALL

# Early pressure

*Irish try to climb out of conference cellar in series at Cincinnati*

By CHRIS KHOREY  
Sports Editor

Notre Dame has won each of its last two non-conference games, but the Irish have to look all the way back to March 23 to find their last Big East victory.

Sitting at 1-4 in conference and 13-14 overall, the Irish travel to Marge Schott Stadium in Cincinnati for a three-game series with the Bearcats today, Friday and Saturday that coach Dave Schrage called a "must-win."

"The next couple of weekends, we have to make hay in the league," Schrage said.

Notre Dame finds itself in 11th place in the 12-team



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish second baseman Ross Brezovsky swats a base hit in Notre Dame's 7-3 win over Oakland Tuesday at Frank Eck Stadium. The Irish travel to Cincinnati for a three-game series beginning today.

see CINCY/page 22

## ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

# Irish take on Indiana, Ohio State

By DAN MALOOF  
Sports Writer

The No. 2 Irish will look to extend their winning streak to 16 as they take on No. 34 Indiana and No. 48 Ohio State this weekend.

Notre Dame, coming off a 6-1 rout of Purdue at the Courtney Tennis Center Tuesday, will be looking to improve its impressive 19-1 overall record as it travels to Bloomington to take on the Hoosiers at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Indiana began the season with a 5-0 record in the Big Ten for the first time since 1995 and has won six straight matches overall.

"Indiana is always really

see STREAK/page 21

## ND SOFTBALL

# ND heads to Chicago for DePaul showdown

*Wednesday's contest with Valpo rained out*

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

Due to frigid temperatures and icy rain, Wednesday's game against Valparaiso was postponed to April 12 at 5 p.m.

If weather permits, the Irish will face No. 23 DePaul today in Chicago for two Big East conference games at 3 p.m. and 5.

These two contests represent important games for Notre Dame because the Irish and Blue Demons are locked in a tie for first place at 8-0 in conference play.

Overall, DePaul boasts a 24-7 record, while the Irish are currently 19-12.

Notre Dame will have to

post one of its best offensive performances of the season to get the win, as it faces DePaul senior pitcher Tracie Adix, who this past week won her third Big East pitcher of the week honor of the season.

The Blue Demons are led offensively by junior Sandy Vojik, who has a team-high 17 RBIs on the season. Right behind her is fellow junior Marcy Wilus, who has batted in 16 runners this year.

Sophomore Amber Patton has scored many of those runs, boasting a .354 average from the leadoff spot.

The Irish are on a 10-game winning streak and have earned some Big East recognition themselves.

Senior Stephanie Brown earned her first ever Big

see DEMONS/page 21

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

# No. 4 Duke invades Loftus

By MICHAEL BRYAN  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is 1-8 all time against Duke, but it has a chance to change that today.

The No. 4 Blue Devils will invade the Loftus Center today at 4 p.m. for a showdown with No. 11 Notre Dame.

The Irish (9-2) bring a four-game winning streak into the game — their eighth of the year against a ranked team.

Duke (9-1) visits South Bend on a five-game winning streak of its own, highlighted by last Saturday's thrilling 19-18 sudden-death overtime win over No. 5 Virginia.

The Blue Devils won a thriller last year in Durham, 11-10.

Duke will challenge the

see DUKE/page 21



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish attack Heather Ferguson heads upfield in Notre Dame's 15-7 win over Duquesne Sunday at Moose Krause Stadium.