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Nobel prize winner speaks at SMC

Iranian activist, lawyer speaks to community on democracy, women's fight for equality

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Internationally renowned activist and author Shirin Ebadi spoke to an audience of more than 400 students, professors, trustees, members of the media and local residents in Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary's Thursday.

Ebadi served as the keynote speaker in the three-day Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership (CWIL) conference — "Women as Intercultural Leaders: Collaboration at the Crossroads" — that began

Thursday.

In its first year of hosting the National CWIL Conference, Saint Mary's attracted Ebadi as the keynote speaker with financial aid from the Lilly Endowment Inc., which funded the visit.

"We chose Dr. Ebadi because of her heroic advocacy on behalf of human rights, and especially the rights of women and children make her an amazing role model of women's intercultural leadership for our students," said Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of CWIL. "Her

see NOBEL/page 4



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Nobel Peace Prize recipient Shirin Ebadi speaks to more than 400 people at Saint Mary's Angela Athletic Facility Thursday.

Encyclical discussion planned

Liaison says Jenkins moved by Benedict's 'Deus Caritas Est'

By KEN FOWLER
News Writer

Nine students will present papers on Pope Benedict XVI's papal encyclical "Deus Caritas Est" ("God is Love") tonight and Saturday during a two-day conference, which will examine the work and its relevance to the Notre Dame community and the University's mission.

The conference has been a major focus of University President Father John Jenkins, although students have been the main organizers, said Micki Kidder, who has served as a liaison between Jenkins' office and the student committee that has prepared the events.

Last year, Jenkins asked history professor Sabine MacCormack to chair a faculty committee that would study the encyclical and find possible ways to "bring the encyclical into the classroom and create awareness," Kidder said. Late in the fall semester, MacCormack formed the student committee that became the main force behind the conference.

MacCormack, Kidder and a group of about 15 students

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At 35, women's sports still growing

Chronology of Women's Sports at Notre Dame

- 1972 Fencing becomes first women's sport as a club
- 1976 Fencing and tennis become first women's varsity teams
- 1977 Women's basketball becomes a varsity sport
- 1978 Field hockey becomes a varsity sport
- 1980 Volleyball becomes a varsity sport
- 1981 Women's swimming becomes a varsity sport
- 1986 Women's cross-country becomes a varsity sport; Field Hockey program discontinued
- 1988 Soccer and golf become varsity sport
- 1989 Softball becomes a varsity sport
- 1991 Women's track and field becomes a varsity sport
- 1996 Women's lacrosse becomes a varsity sport
- 1998 Rowing becomes a varsity sport

By KEN FOWLER
News Writer

Editor's note: This is the first in a four-part series looking at Notre Dame's athletic department under the direction of Kevin White as he enters his eighth year at the school.

Notre Dame celebrates 35 years of women's athletics tonight, Saturday and Sunday with the University's biggest-ever festivities for female athletes at the school.

More than 100 former Irish women's athletes are scheduled to attend the weekend events, which begin tonight

with a dinner at the home of Athletic Director Kevin White.

"We wanted to give people a reason to come back," said Meg Henican, an intern with the athletic department whose major responsibility has been organizing the events. "Being that these are all former athletes, we thought that some type of sporting activities would be fun."

Henican said the idea initially was to celebrate 30 years of women's varsity sports. But, she said, the athletic department wanted to include student-athletes who participated on club teams starting in 1972,

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Officials work to curb dangerous drinking

University strives to decrease alcohol-related hospitalizations, address dorm dis-orientations

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

Editor's note: This is the third story in a three-part series examining the use and abuse of alcohol at Notre Dame, the University's attempts to solve alcohol-related problems and the future of the campus' drinking culture.

Though alcohol use and abuse are present on almost any college campus — or any place that houses hundreds of young people at the same time — University officials said they can, and will, continue to work to reduce the possibility of losing students' lives to high-risk drinking.

These situations include freshman disorientations, athletic team initiations, PigTostals, case

racers, power hours and the classic drink-until-you-throw-up 21st birthday celebrations.

While students will undoubtedly continue to make their own choices with alcohol, University officials said these reckless activities can be contained.

Disoriented freshmen

Dis-orientation — the antithesis of the University's traditional freshman orientation — pitches the first-year students to the upperclassmen to let them pour the rookie college students drinks all night or until they become intoxicated — and consequently, inducted to the college life.

This practice, however, is not really a service seniors are offering freshmen, but rather a pretext to host a bacchanalia, said Father Jim Lewis, OADE assessment counselor and rector of



Observer file photo

Police examine patrons' IDs during a raid at the Blamey Stone, known primarily as Finnigan's, at 113 E. Wayne Street in South Bend last year. Student drinking habits continue to concern Notre Dame administrators.

Carroll Hall.

"Disorientation never was about 'welcoming' first-year students," Lewis said. "Do moderate or low-risk drinkers host disorientation? At the least, it is an event perpetuated by those who

have significant social dependence on alcohol."

Senior Bill Andrichik, the former student body vice president and chair of the Campus Life Council's Conduct Awareness task force, also noted the trend and

redflagged it.

"Things such as Dis-O create a dangerous situation for incoming students, many of whom are not accustomed to alcohol and don't

see ALCOHOL/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Bridges and wedlock

At Saint Mary's, Lake Marion is a well-known aspect of the campus. It's a very pretty part of the campus, it sits in between LeMans Hall and Madaleva and directly in front of Hagar Hall.

Mandi Stirone

Wire Editor

There's a fountain that spouts out of it, and in the winter, there is usually a giant ice block around the fountain from all the water freezing overnight.

Compared to Notre Dame's two enormous lakes, it appears pretty small and really fake. Well, it is fake. You can see the concrete on the bottom and all along the "shores." It's also disgustingly gross, though there are fish in it. I'm just not sure how they survive living in it.

Something passers-by will notice about Lake Marion is the island in the middle. This island is so big that it takes up most of the lake. There are a few trees, some wooden benches, a small fountain and a statue of the Virgin Mary.

To get onto this island, you have to cross a bridge. Under the bridge live two or three geese, the most famous of these had its disappearance printed in The Observer. This is all pretty inconsequential stuff, I'm sure, but the important part of that bridge is the superstition that surrounds it.

One of the more noticeable things about the bridge is that you rarely see a girl walk over the bridge with a guy. According to popular campus legend, girls are not supposed to walk over the bridge with a boy. It doesn't matter who he is; you're just not supposed to. I have watched many girls force the guy they're with to walk over the bridge by himself before they cross it. There's a pretty good reason too. No, it's not like the tradition of not walking up the steps of the Main Building — a Saint Mary's girl who crosses the bridge with a guy is still going to graduate, and no one is going to die from walking over, either.

The reason you're not supposed to walk over the bridge with a guy is pretty simple: If you do, you'll marry him, or at least the first him. According to the legend, the first boy you walk over the bridge on Lake Marion with is the one you're going to marry.

As far as I know, Saint Mary's girls aren't afraid of marriage; we just don't want to marry that first someone who we walk over a bridge with. It just doesn't seem like a good reason to marry someone. I don't really think many people would want to base their marriages on a legend about a bridge.

I have to admit; I'm one of those girls who has made a guy walk over the bridge before her. I don't really think there's anything wrong with it. It is, of course, centered on marriage, which is a little stereotypical, but God only knows how old it is.

It's a pretty silly tradition, but it's our tradition.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro01@saintmarys.edu.

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE CREEPIEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE?



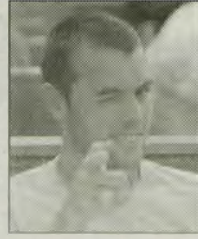
Alexandra Minnis
sophomore
Cavanaugh

"I had my entire quad facebook-friend Crystal Erwin at the same time two days after we hung a huge poster of her on her door ... She lives down the hall."



Beth Daley
freshman
Welsh Family

"My brother and I spied on our neighbor from our roof with binoculars dressed in all black for camouflage ... She called the police."



Robbie Bernadin
sophomore
Siegfried

"I caress random people's weenises ... Google it."



Chris Hall
sophomore
Zahm

"I grope every guy I see in Zahm."



Eleanor Huntington
freshman
Cavanaugh

"My roommmate woke up to me sitting on the floor staring at her."



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Junior John Donovan, left, and sophomore John O'Connell participate in Fisher games on South Quad Thursday as a prelude to the Regatta on Saturday.

IN BRIEF

University President Father John Jenkins will preside over the opening Mass for the conference on the "God is Love" Encyclical today at 4 p.m. in the Alumni Hall Chapel.

The reception for the conference on the "God is Love" Encyclical will begin today at 5:15 p.m. in the Grand Hall of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

The keynote speaker for the conference on the "God is Love" Encyclical, Mary Brosnahan, director of the Coalition for the Homeless in New York City, will deliver her speech in the Grand Hall of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies tonight at 6:30. A panel discussion will follow.

Notre Dame men's soccer will play the Mexican U-20 National team tonight at 7 at Alumni Field. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for kids 18 and under.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band will perform tonight at 7:30 in Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. For tickets, call 631-2800.

End the 40th Annual Antostal week with a big hilarious laugh! Renowned comedian Greg Giraldo will perform at Legends Saturday at 10 p.m.

Visitation for Corporal Nick Polizzotto, a South Bend Police officer killed in the line of duty, will take place from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 Sunday in the Joyce Center.

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

OFFBEAT

Grandma finds condom in McDonald's Happy Meal

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A grandmother was alarmed to find a condom in a happy meal gift pack bought for her 7-year-old granddaughter at a McDonald's restaurant in New Zealand, local media reported Thursday.

The condom was discovered Tuesday night in a bag that came with Maia Whitaker's meal, which her grandparents bought at a McDonald's outlet in the city of Wellington.

Grandpa Rowan Hutch told The Dominion Post newspaper it was lucky his wife was first to look inside

the small sports bag that came with the meal.

She was aghast when she found the green condom and its packet inside the bag, he said.

Woman: Suspect is wearing my T-shirt

GREENSBORO, N.C. — It took one glance for Sandra Rowells to recognize the man she said broke into her home, offered her \$500 to hide him and fled wearing some of her clothing. Rowells, 70, said police asked her if Jahmell Kareem, 33, of Winston-Salem was the right suspect.

"Yeah, 'cause that's my

shirt he's got on," Rowells said she told police. "It made me mad because my daughter had just sent me that T-shirt from Florida."

Police said Kareem crashed a car near Rowells' home Tuesday after leading police on a high-speed chase along Interstate 85 that reached speeds of 130 mph. Rowells said she woke up from a nap when Kareem forced open her locked kitchen screen door.

"I'm like, you can have this house, buddy, I'm out of here," Rowells said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 57 LOW 45	HIGH 52 LOW 40	HIGH 68 LOW 50	HIGH 73 LOW 55	HIGH 80 LOW 60	HIGH 77 LOW 62

Atlanta 73 / 58 Boston 63 / 43 Chicago 54 / 45 Denver 56 / 38 Houston 80 / 59 Los Angeles 80 / 56 Minneapolis 73 / 46 New York 63 / 47 Philadelphia 71 / 50 Phoenix 95 / 74 Seattle 64 / 46 St. Louis 64 / 48 Tampa 84 / 70 Washington 72 / 54

AnTostal events come to close

Salsa party, Battle of the Bands, quarter-dog eating contest planned

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

The 40th annual celebration of AnTostal — a Student Union Board (SUB) event that means “festival” in Gaelic — will wrap up a week of quarter-dog eating, comedians and a famed band with an afternoon salsa party and a battle of the bands tonight.

SUB officials said they hope they made this week as laid-back and fun as possible, giving students a breather before the tension of finals begins next week.

“We are really trying to get people outside and to get pumped for Battle of the Bands,” junior Meghan Kelly, SUB cultural arts programmer, said, referring to the square off Friday among student bands.

In addition to Battle of the Bands, SUB also organized T-shirt and donut giveaways outside O’Shaughnessy Hall Monday and a quarter dog-eating contest at LaFortune Student Center that night. The winner shocked everyone with

his ability to shove down a hot dog in an impressive 8.7 seconds, Kelly said.

The SUB also brought comedian Kenan Thompson, a “Saturday Night Live” cast member and former child star, to speak to students in DeBartolo Hall Monday.

On Tuesday, SUB entertained students with a movie watch of the horror classic “Jaws” on North Quad, complete with a grill that served free food to students.

SUB’s carnival on South Quad Wednesday was moved to the Stepan Center because of rain. On Thursday, famed Irish rock group Flogging Molly graced

audiences at Legends with its highly anticipated performance.

The Battle of the Bands will be held tonight at 8 at Legends, followed by Late Night Karaoke at Reckers from 1 to 3 a.m. SUB scheduled a performance to be held by comedian Greg Geraldo at Legends Saturday, with opening stand-up routines from two student performers.

Although this year’s

AnTostal has been Irish-themed, SUB has also organized a Latin-themed salsa dance party in addition to today’s festivities. The event will be held on the Fieldhouse Mall between 11:30 and 1:30 p.m. today.

“There will be lots of good music, a lot like at Latin Expressions,” Kelly said.

In addition to good music, students will also enjoy free Mexican cuisine from South Bend’s La Esperanza restaurant. SUB plans to attract students with La Esperanza’s flautas and quesadillas, Kelly said.

“People come in droves for free food,” said Kelly, anticipating a good turnout this afternoon.

Kelly said she hopes people come and dance, but they are also welcome to just stop by and grab some free food and socialize on their way to classes.

“I think it sounds like fun,” freshman Mary Kusek said. “I want to stop by before I head to classes for the day.”

SUB had no set goals or specific aims for this week. But in light of AnTostal’s 40th anniversary, Kelly said, organizers knew they wanted the celebration to be “bigger and better than ever.”

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

“We are really trying to get people outside and to get pumped for Battle of the Bands.”

Meghan Kelly
SUB cultural arts programmer

Caribbean festival to feature food, music

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

Students seeking a taste of the exotic should look no further than the Jordan Hall of Science Saturday from 8:30 p.m. to midnight, when the Caribbean Students Organization (CSOUND) hosts its Caribbean Festival.

The free event will showcase live entertainment as well as examples of Caribbean cuisine prepared by a local chef.

CSOUND began the festival last year in an effort to create a “place where students of Caribbean background feel comfortable and can teach others about what the Caribbean has to offer,” CSOUND president Hava Bourne said.

Bourne said she sees the festival as a way to expand the knowledge of the Caribbean on campus.

“Most Americans tend to

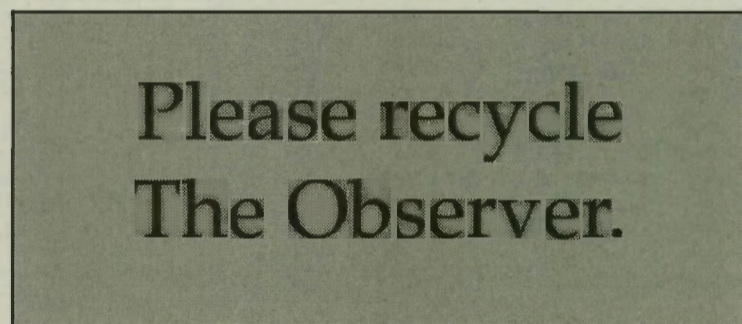
think Caribbean culture is just Jamaican culture,” Bourne said. “And while it’s great that Jamaica is well known, our goal is to teach people that the Caribbean has more to offer. It’s a lifestyle and a heritage that goes unnoticed.”

Students will also have an opportunity to sample cuisine that features “staples of the Caribbean” — like jerk chicken, beef patties and pies, sweet yams and plantains.

Music will be provided by a DJ and Roots Rock Society, a Chicago band that plays Caribbean and Soca-style music. Soca, or soul calypso, is dance music that originated in the island of Trinidad.

At Notre Dame, this event is “one of the few expressions of Caribbean culture on campus that you’ll see at all,” CSOUND vice president John Henry said.

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwitt1@nd.edu



This Sunday, May 6, the following candidates will complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Please keep them in your prayers and join us in congratulating them.

University of Notre Dame

- Seth Michael Carmack
- Elianne Angela Castañeda
- Viviana Joan Castro
- Brendan Crowley
- Natalie Cuevas
- Jennifer Rosalia D’Angelo
- Emily Catherine Dore
- MaryJo Alix Espinoza
- Kenneth Raphael Hamilton
- Janet Maria Han
- Anne Hanson
- Tyler Augustine Hulett
- Emily Helen Kane
- Kevin Francis Ludwig
- Dustin Madden
- Kathryn Marie Marvin
- Christopher Merino
- Candace Briel Montgomery
- Ashley Sophia O’Keefe
- Sophia Marian Park
- Kristen Ploetze
- Gianluca Gabriele Puliti
- Michael Jude Reyes
- Jessica Mary Magdalene Tannenbaum
- Adam David Wuellner
- Mollie Elizabeth Zubek

RCIA -

University of Notre Dame

- Derek Francis Bailey
- Christian Luke Chan
- Thomas Deering
- Adria Kateri Helmich
- Evelyn Teresa Rivera

Holy Cross College

- Thomas Florian Griffin
- Arrin Bridget Lemos

St. Mary’s College

- Mary Elizabeth Campbell
- McKayela Cecilia Collins
- Amanda Bernadette David
- Kristen Elizabeth Forney
- Laura Elizabeth Kaminsky
- Justine Leslie Mullen



Nobel

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work promoting peaceful, democratic solutions to serious problems in society is in keeping with the mission of the Sisters of the Holy Cross 'to reflect on the signs of the times, discern needs and respond.'"

Ebadi opened her speech by highlighting the importance of students in Iran and the U.S.. Her lecture, entitled "The Role of Women in World Peace," was delivered in her native language — Farsi — and translated into English and sign language.

"Students and professors are cultural ambassadors to us," she said. "The best relationship

between the United States and Iran is cultural and fortunately, there is a future for that."

Diplomacy, she said, is the most important aspect the countries must keep in mind for the future.

"I hope that this relationship between our two countries is expanded and political issues do not get in the way," she said, winning the applause of her audience.

While diplomacy and human rights are important, the rights of women remain at the forefront for Ebadi and her cause. She said women's leaders point to the tri-

umphs of women in "progressive countries" when they are trying to make a point in their own homeland. But even in progressive countries, she said, women face discrimination.

"Just look at America," she said. "You have had no woman president. More women are government secretaries than men. There is no discrimination with the laws, but men and women are still not equal."

The problems with Islamic countries, she said, are the common double standards between the two genders, which vary from country to country in the Middle East.

"In Saudi Arabia, women don't even have an ID card or birth certificate. In Kuwait, women are second-class citizens. In other

countries, there is still polygamy and women aren't even called by their own names," she said. "The important question is: Is it Islam that created this situation? In other words, can religion accept the equality of men and women?"

There are other Islamic countries, however, that are more advanced than even some in Europe, she said. She pointed to Pakistan, Indonesia and Bangladesh — where women have served as president or prime ministers — as evidence that the problem is not Islamic at its crux. She blamed patriarchal

societies for many of the problems plaguing women today.

"I am not fighting masculinity, but what I mean is that it is the culture that deprives women of their rights," she said. "But we can't forget, men are raised by their mothers."

In Iran, however, the political and social status of women is more complicated than that. Though more than 65 percent of university students in Iran are women, and suffrage was made universal five decades ago, Ebadi said she is still not permitted to testify in court without the presence of a man or another woman — 35 years after gaining full lawyer status.

"But the janitor in my office, even illiterate, can go to court and have his testimony heard," she said. "These examples prove that laws in Iran do not comply with the situation of our women."

Ebadi is one of the leading women in the strong feminist movement in Iran today.

Presently, Ebadi and her supporters have launched a campaign to get a million Iranian signatures — male or female — in support of ending discriminatory laws in Iran. But the government of the Islamic Republic is fighting the campaign by taking women to court and even imprisoning a few.

"I am an attorney for these

women," she said. "They have been accused of having taken steps against national security. But if my women oppose polygamy or want custody of their children, how does that threaten our national security? How does that danger our boarders? In reality, the government cannot respond to our requests and comes up with false accusations."

"Let's not forget democracy is not a gift to be brought to a nation. It is not an incident that happens overnight."

**Shirin Ebadi
Nobel prize winner**

Victory, for Ebadi, is extending democracy to her country and all of its citizens.

"This is impossible if women don't have full and equal rights. The victory of the feminist movement will open doors for democracy," she said. "Victory in the real meaning is removing discriminatory law for all."

Democracy is a lofty goal for Iran, but Ebadi said she has hopes for the future.

"Let's not forget democracy is not a gift to be brought to a nation. It is not an incident that happens overnight. But the victory of women can shorten this process," she said. "You ... all of you women, have a responsibility to make a difference."

Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of CWIL, opened Thursday's lecture by introducing College President Carol Ann Mooney, who recognized the importance of CWIL.

Mana Derakhshani, a French professor and coordinator of the French program, was the final

introductory speaker. Derakhshani, who is Iranian-American, reflected on Ebadi receiving the Nobel Peace Prize four years ago.

"I was filled with pride as an Iranian-American," she said. "For such an honor to be not only the first Iranian honored in the prize's history, but to be a woman. ... That is such an honor."

Although Derakhshani was not aware of Ebadi's accomplishments before the prize, she quickly learned about her cause.

"Her efforts to facilitate dialogue between world leaders and religions promotes new thinking and passion for rights," Derakhshani said. "I was struck by her unconditional commitment to justice and human rights."

The conference planning committee chose Ebadi from a long list of potential speakers, Meyer-Lee said. The other speaker most seriously considered was Wangari Maathai, an environmental and political activist from Kenya who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004.

Additional activities through the remainder of the conference include "Rain Away" dance performance this morning from 10 a.m. to 11:30, 30 sessions with presenters from 22 different states and four countries and a closing panel Sunday moderated by Caryn McGighe Musil, senior vice president at the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

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Alcohol

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know their body's limits," Andrichik said. "The peer pressure in these situations is unique compared to typical drinking situations and has historically led to high-risk drinking."

He said the committee spoke to hall rectors, resident assistants and students and determined "the University policy does address the issues, but that implementation of the policy has not fully eliminated the high-risk components of these activities," he said. "It appears the Office of Student Affairs at least shares some of these sentiments as our report was well received and will be consulted by the newly formed rector task force on disorientations."

In previous Campus Life Council meetings, Andrichik had urged the Office of Student Affairs to create an ad-hoc committee to create an informational program for first-year students.

Pushing the BAC

The OADE says it hopes to reduce the number of hospitalizations due to alcohol poisoning by pushing the blood-alcohol content (BAC) campaign beyond what many students dismiss as a sanctimonious platitude.

"Yeah, I guess BAC cards are a good way to track how drunk you are," junior A.J. Ong said. "But come on, I don't want to whip out my BAC card in the middle of a drink or if I'm flirting with a cute guy. It's not practical to expect students to be willing to do that."

The BAC cards, however, may be the only way to monitor a person's alcohol abuse — especially if the student drinks often and in large amounts.

Lewis said a high alcohol tolerance can mask the damaging effects of over-consumption of alcohol in a way that can allow

some students to "hide in plain sight."

OADE assessment counselor Annie Eaton said "one of the scariest" cases she has encountered is a male student who came to her office seeking counseling, on his own, after his 21st birthday because he had a six-hour blackout.

"He wasn't ResLifed, nobody knew about it," she said. "When he and I figured where his BAC was that night, he was at 0.6 and people die at a 0.2, you know. Alcoholism ran in his family too, so he inherently had a high tolerance and could take those large volumes of alcohol."

The following year, Eaton said, the student was arrested for driving with a 0.38 BAC.

"They took him to jail instead of the hospital because he was still functioning at 0.38. That's scary," she said.

She said heavy drinkers think they'll be safer, assuming their experience means they can maintain a lower BAC when, in fact, the BAC increases for rookie and mature drinkers at the same rate — but the latter may not show it.

"Two students who are the same size reach a high BAC by consuming the same amount of alcohol over the same period of time. One may be visibly intoxicated while the other one may seem to be 'OK,'" Lewis said. "High tolerance, which some look at as a badge of honor, is actually a sign of progression."

While these warnings may fall on deaf ears, Eaton and Lewis said the OADE will continue to try to raise awareness among students.

"Safety and education are the hallmarks of our efforts," Lewis said, "though the disciplinary

aspect is, naturally, the hot-button issue for some."

The disciplinary side of the equation is what often paints the University as the students' enemy rather than a concerned friend, Ong said.

"I understand the University has to act like a parent to keep its rules enforced and punish students if they break them," she said. "But if that's how things are going to be, the University cannot expect us to be all happy and super excited about its anti-alcohol fairs and its BAC pamphlets. It may be immature, but kids are that way. If you ResLife them and fine them for every bottle of rum they have, they won't like you as much the next day."

"There's only so much you can do to help"

Ong said students will not turn to the OADE unless they are really convinced they are alcoholics and desperately need a psychologist, which prompts the question: How much can the University help its students if they're not looking for help?

"If students are not receptive to the programs and the services the University offers them, then they won't benefit from them. It's as simple as that," senior Alexa Recio said. "And there are some students that really should get professional help and they don't do it because they don't even recognize they have a drinking problem."

Eaton said many students don't think the two beers they may drink during Monday Night Football qualify as "drinking" in the same way that beers at a bar on a Friday night qualify as "drinking" — and they may develop alcoholic tendencies

"High tolerance, which some look at as a badge of honor, is actually a sign of progression."

**Father Jim Lewis
OADE assessment
counselor**

the near future, but he said part of his work for Student Affairs consists of continuously making improvements that may help save lives.

"We continuously evaluate policies and practices related to alcohol. We consult among the senior staff of Student Affairs, the various Student Affairs department directors and their staffs, along with rectors and residence hall staffs," Poorman said. "We are unlikely to make any broad decisions without wide consultation."

He said with these consultants' cooperation, his office would continue to address the drinking issue by expanding programs and launching initiatives in four dif-

ferent areas: behavioral guidelines, therapeutic resources, education and social alternatives.

Lewis echoed Poorman's words, saying there is room for improvement in the University's programs for recovering alcoholics that may relapse during

their treatment.

"In conjunction with current services, I would hope that some combination of professionals on campus could develop a relapse prevention program for students who are in recovery," Lewis said. "Being on campus and in recovery is a tough combination."

Poorman, however, continued to stress the need for the students' cooperation to make strides in Notre Dame's efforts to reduce alcohol abuse permanently.

"All of us — students, faculty, staff and administrators — must work together to create a healthier campus climate with regard to alcohol use," he said.

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without knowing it.

The OADE, however, can't help them unless they recognize the office's recommendations are justified and they are willing to take actions to reduce their alcohol intake, Eaton said.

"Students need to understand in advance the ramifications of the decisions they make, to the extent that the University has rules and regulations we bring attention to, but ultimately, the decision to drink is theirs," Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk said.

On Nov. 10, 2006, senior Caitlin Brann, 22, was killed in an accident after her rear passenger-side tire blew out, causing her car to roll numerous times.

Though police called the accident a "non-survivable type of crash," they noted alcohol may have also played a role in the tragedy.

Brann's BAC at the time of her death was 0.249, three times the 0.08 Indiana limit for drivers.

Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman said "Caitlin's death was tragic and we grieve the loss of her life."

He said he recognized the University can't monitor students all the time and protect them from every accident that may befall them — or keep them from getting behind the wheel after a night at the bar — but he said "sound policies can help us address alcohol use and abuse on the campus."

"I also believe students are responsible for making good choices with regard to their own safety," Poorman said.

The administrative intervention

Poorman said there will be no revisions to the alcohol policy in

"We continuously evaluate policies and practices related to alcohol."

**Father Mark Poorman
vice president
Student Affairs**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Algerian al-Qaida No 2 killed

ALGIERS, Algeria — The No. 2 al-Qaida official in Algeria was killed Thursday in a clash with an army patrol, the country's official APS news agency said, citing security officials.

Samir Moussaab, whose real name was Samir Saioud, was killed near the village of Si Moustapha about 25 miles east of the capital, Algiers, the radio reported.

It said Moussaab's body was identified by former members of the Salafist Group for Call and Combat, an insurgent group that changed its name to al-Qaida in Islamic North Africa when it announced its alliance with al-Qaida in January.

The group was built on the foundations of an Algerian insurgency to topple Algeria's secular government that erupted in 1992 after the army canceled elections that a Muslim fundamentalist party was set to win.

Up to 200,000 people — militants, security forces and civilians — have been killed.

Militants push limits, Israel says

JERUSALEM — Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired two rockets toward Israel on Thursday, the army said, and Israeli officials warned they were losing patience as rising tensions threatened a five-month cease-fire.

One rocket landed in the Mediterranean Sea and the second in an open area in southern Israel, the army said. There were no injuries.

"Israel will not be restrained forever," said Miri Eisin, spokeswoman for Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. "We will defend our citizens and choose the time and place to respond."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said Thursday that calm had returned to Gaza and he appealed for Israel to refrain from carrying out raids in the area.

NATIONAL NEWS

Violence will get worse before better

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military commander in Iraq says the war effort may well get harder before it gets easier and American casualties are likely to continue to climb.

Speaking as the Senate was passing legislation to start bringing home U.S. forces in October, Gen. David Petraeus said the war will require "an enormous commitment" by the United States.

And he said that while some sectarian killings have dropped by two-thirds in recent months, the overall level of violence in Iraq has remained largely the same.

Candidate's son arrested in airport

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — David Huckabee, a son of Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, was arrested at an Arkansas airport Thursday after a federal X-ray technician detected a loaded Glock pistol in his carry-on luggage.

"I removed the bag and asked Mr. Huckabee if he knew what he had in the bag," Little Rock police officer Arthur Nugent wrote in a report after being summoned to a security checkpoint. "He replied he did not."

Huckabee, 26, later pleaded guilty in Little Rock District Court after being charged with a misdemeanor count of possessing a weapon in a prohibited place.

LOCAL NEWS

Teacher transferred over column

WOODBURN — A high school teacher who faced termination over a student newspaper column advocating tolerance of gays reached a settlement with school officials Thursday that allows her to continue teaching, although at another school.

Under the settlement with East Allen County Schools, Amy Sorrell, 30, agreed to be transferred from Woodlan Junior-Senior High School in Woodburn to Heritage Junior-Senior High School in Monroeville, said her attorney, Patrick Proctor.

RUSSIA

Putin: U.S. destabilizes European region

Russian president threatens to withdraw from Conventional Forces Treaty

Associated Press

MOSCOW — President Vladimir Putin threatened on Thursday to suspend participation in a key European arms control treaty, accusing the United States and NATO of destabilizing the region with plans to install parts of an American missile shield in central Europe.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice dismissed the concern as "ludicrous," and said Moscow should live up to its obligations under the treaty, which limits the number and locations of military aircraft, tanks and other non-nuclear heavy weapons around Europe.

"Our partners are behaving incorrectly, to say the least," Putin said during his annual state-of-the-nation address. "In case no progress is made during negotiations, I propose to discuss the possibility to end our obligations."

Withdrawal from the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty between Russia and NATO members would allow Moscow to build up forces near its borders, and Putin's threat provoked "grave concern" among NATO members, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the alliance's secretary-general, said at a foreign ministers' meeting in Oslo, Norway.

A Kremlin spokesman said later, however, that Russia would not pull out if it could reach accommodation with the West. And Russian military experts suggested the threat was a symbolic raising of the ante in the missile shield showdown more than a sign of impeding military escalation. Russia has no actual interest in a buildup of forces because it faces no real military threat and has no plans to launch any attack, they said.

"When we begin dia-



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov addresses the media Thursday after the NATO-Russia Council. Russian President Putin spoke about withdrawing from the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty.

logue with our foreign partners, we hope that we will get a positive reaction from them," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told The Associated Press. If no progress is made, Russian lawyers would begin working out a mechanism of formally imposing the moratorium, he added.

The Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty was signed in 1990 and amended in 1999 to reflect changes since the breakup of the Soviet Union, adding the requirement that Moscow withdraw troops from the former Soviet republics of Moldova and Georgia.

Russia has ratified the

amended version, but the United States and other NATO members have refused to do so until Russia completely withdraws.

In his speech to parliament and government officials, Putin accused NATO members of taking advantage of the situation to build military bases near Russia's borders, and said plans to install interceptor missiles and radar systems in the Czech Republic and Poland were undermining the balance of military power in Europe.

The United States says its missile shield system is to counter the threat of attack by countries such as Iran, which is pursuing a

nuclear program and long-range missiles.

"It is high time that our partners proved their commitment to arms reductions not by words but by deeds," Putin said. "I consider it worthwhile to declare a moratorium until all NATO countries ratify (the treaty) ... and begin to strictly abide by it."

He added that Russia already was taking steps to withdraw its forces from Moldova and Georgia.

Speaking to reporters before talks with Russia's foreign minister, Rice repeated U.S. assertions that any defense system in Europe would be useless against Russia's enormous missile arsenal.

Pullout bill expected to be vetoed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Call it mission accomplished for the new Democratic-controlled Congress after 113 days in power.

In a bold wartime challenge to President Bush, Congress cleared legislation Thursday to begin withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq by Oct. 1 with a goal of a complete pull-out six months later.

The White House dismissed the legislation as "dead before arrival."

The 51-46 Senate vote was largely along party lines, and like House passage a day earlier it underscored that the war's congressional opponents are far short of the two-thirds majority needed to override a Bush

veto.

Democrats marked Thursday's final passage with a news conference during which they repeatedly urged Bush to reconsider his veto threat. "This bill for the first time gives the president of the United States an exit strategy" from Iraq, said Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin.

The legislation is "in keeping with what the American people want," added Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

The White House was unmoved. "The president's determined to win in Iraq. I think the bill that they sent us today is mission defeated," said deputy press secretary Dana Perino. "This bill is dead before arrival."

Given that standoff, Republicans

and Democrats alike already were maneuvering for position on a follow-up bill.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell dismissed the just-passed legislation as "political posturing" by Democrats that deserves the veto it will receive. "The solution is simple: Take out the surrender date, take out the pork and get the funds to our troops," he said.

The bill would provide \$124.2 billion, more than \$90 billion of which would go for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Democrats added billions more for domestic programs, and while most of the debate focused on the troop withdrawal issue, some of the extra spending also has drawn Bush's criticism.

Encyclical

continued from page 1

met occasionally for planning and discussion purposes since the beginning of the spring term.

"We have been meeting periodically and on a variety of different content," Kidder said of the committee. "Sometimes we would discuss and study parts of the encyclical. Some meetings we would specifically focus on the conference, though, and planning."

Students have been presenting parts of their papers during committee meetings for the last few months, Kidder said, with the goal of getting feedback and stimulating discussion on how different topics in the encyclical could be addressed in the conference and their relevance at Notre Dame.

Kidder said the students had almost full control over the content but were supported by Jenkins' office.

"Father John has obviously been very involved in sponsoring it and encouraging and them to increase awareness across campus," she said.

Sam Cahill, a graduate student of English, agreed.

"Father Jenkins has been very supportive of our whole endeavor, and that's been won-

derful," Cahill said, also noting Kidder and MacCormack's work. "We just have a really strong group of people who believe in the relevance of Church teaching to academics."

Kidder said Jenkins has supported the conference and the students studying it not because it was the first such work from Benedict XVI, but rather because of its content.

"Father Jenkins was very much impacted by this encyclical," she said. "He has

expressed to me that it's an intellectually interesting text because of its diverse nature because it can impact people from various states, various walks of life. So I think he saw this encyclical particularly to have such an effect on all constituencies across campus because of its

diverse reach."

Kidder said Jenkins believes the document can have a "significant impact" on anyone who reads it.

Jenkins will attend all of today's events, which will begin when he presides over the opening Mass at 4 p.m. in the Alumni Hall chapel. Kidder said Jenkins may miss some of Saturday's events due to a scheduling conflict.

Cahill said one of the best parts about the conference is the interdisciplinary nature of the papers. A driving force of

the student committee that organized the conference, Cahill said students studying English, political science, architecture and other programs incorporated different fields of study into their papers.

Cahill's paper examines the use of the "pilgrimage" metaphor in Benedict XVI's "Deus Caritas Est" and the work of Jane Barker, a 17th century writer and Catholic convert.

"I think it's important to remember that we're all pilgrims on Earth," she said. "We have to look at what we go through in life — our suffering, our happiness, everything — in an eternal perspective. And that really comes out in 'Deus Caritas Est.'"

Mary Brosnahan, the director of the Coalition for the Homeless in New York City, will deliver the first of two keynote addresses tonight at 6:30 in the auditorium of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, where the entire conference is taking place.

Brosnahan is a 1983 graduate of Notre Dame and has been director of the Coalition for the Homeless since 1990. She won the Alumni Association's Dr. Thomas A. Dooley Award in 2002.

Father Philip Anderson, prior of Our Lady of the Annunciation of Clear Creek Monastery in northeastern Oklahoma, will deliver the second keynote address at 9:45 a.m. Saturday.

"We consciously chose them to reflect both aspects of the encyclical — the philosophical thinking in part one and the practical application of

Catholic teaching in the second part," Cahill said, referring to Anderson in the former and Brosnahan in the latter.

"We consciously wanted the two to complement each other," Cahill said. "Of course, they're not polarized. ... There's supposed to be this intimate connection between theory and practice."

The nine papers being presented and about six more papers, written by students who couldn't present, will be

judged in an essay contest. The contest has three categories — one for freshmen and sophomores, one for juniors and seniors and one for graduate students. The winner in each division will be awarded \$1,000, and the runner-up will receive \$500.

Students can submit essays to Kidder until May 4. Essay winners will be announced May 18.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

On Campus

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	13,105.50	+15.61

Up: 1,501 Same: 164 Down: 1,706 Composite Volume: 3,213,833,474

AMEX	2,197.25	-19.86
NASDAQ	2,554.46	+6.57
NYSE	9,715.49	-31.08
S&P 500	1,494.25	-1.17
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,455.20	+26.03
FTSE 100(London)	6,469.40	+7.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+0.52	+0.24	46.55
INTEL CP (INTC)	-0.75	-0.17	22.09
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	-0.38	-0.02	5.25
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+0.38	+0.11	29.10
JDS UNIPHASE CP (JDSU)	+1.49	+0.25	16.98

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.82	+0.038	4.684
13-WEEK BILL	-0.41	-0.02	4.80
30-YEAR BOND	+0.79	+0.038	4.868
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.99	+0.045	4.585

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.78	65.06
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-9.40	678.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.85	103.15

Exchange Rates	
YEN	119.5750
EURO	0.7353
POUND	0.5023
CANADIAN \$	1.1226

IN BRIEF

Comcast profits soar after first quarter

PHILADELPHIA — Comcast Corp., the nation's largest cable television operator, on Thursday reported that first-quarter profits surged by 80 percent, in part helped by a one-time gain resulting from the dissolution of a joint venture with Time Warner Cable.

The Philadelphia-based company posted a net income of \$837 million, or 26 cents per share, in the quarter compared with \$466 million, or 15 cents per share, in the same period a year ago.

The most recent quarter includes a \$500 million gain related to ending a cable partnership owned by Comcast and Time Warner serving Kansas City, Mo., southern Texas and Houston. The venture's end resulted in Comcast getting Houston, effective in January, and Time Warner taking the rest.

Excluding the gain, Comcast would have reported 17 cents per share in profits, which is in line with expectations of analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial.

Exxon Mobil sees rise in profits

NEW YORK — Oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp. kicked off 2007 with a 10 percent rise in profits, its best-ever first quarter, as higher margins on refining and chemical operations offset lower prices for crude oil and natural gas.

Exxon Mobil, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, said Thursday it earned \$9.3 billion in the January-March period, beating Wall Street expectations, even as revenue slipped and fell well short of analysts' forecasts.

The Irving, Texas-based company was the third major oil company to report earnings in as many days. BP PLC, Europe's second-largest oil company, on Tuesday reported a 17 percent drop in first-quarter earnings on lower oil prices and declining production. On Wednesday, ConocoPhillips said its first-quarter profit rose 7.7 percent as a result of asset sales that offset lower year-over-year commodity prices.

Also Thursday, Valero Energy Corp., the nation's largest independent oil refiner, said its first-quarter profit jumped 35 percent on the back of stronger gasoline and distillate margins.

VENEZUELA

Oil giants cede control to Caracas

ConocoPhillips last corporation to not surrender private project in oil-rich country

Associated Press

CARACAS — Four major oil companies on Wednesday agreed to cede control of Venezuela's last remaining privately run oil projects to President Hugo Chavez's government, but ConocoPhillips resisted, prompting warnings that its fields could be taken over outright.

Markets have waited to see if the companies, which pump and process heavy oil in the Orinoco River basin, would remain as minority partners after Chavez decreed last month that their fields be nationalized, on May 1. The four projects are considered Venezuela's most lucrative.

Officials from Chevron, BP PLC, France's Total SA and Norway's Statoil ASA signed memorandums of understanding Wednesday agreeing to give state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA a majority stake in three of the projects. Exxon Mobil Corp. signed earlier in private, officials said.

"ConocoPhillips has not signed," Venezuelan Energy Minister Rafael Ramirez said at the ceremony.

Houston-based ConocoPhillips is the most exposed: it is involved in two of the four projects, Ameriven and Petrozuata, and has the single largest stake of any company — a 50.1 percent interest in Petrozuata.

Ramirez said if ConocoPhillips does not sign by May 1, the state will take control of its two projects, but added that Venezuela remains open to dialogue.

"I think (ConocoPhillips) is willing" to sign eventually, Ramirez told reporters.

ConocoPhillips



Rafael Ramirez, Venezuela's energy minister, signs a memorandum of understanding in Caracas Wednesday. Oil companies also signed, giving Venezuela a majority stake in oil projects.

spokesman Charlie Rowton told The Associated Press that discussions were ongoing.

Wednesday's signing ceremony also included agreements giving the state control over some smaller projects outside of the Orinoco: Exxon Mobil's La Ceiba oil field and the Gulf of Paria East offshore oil field that Chinese company Sinopec plans to develop.

Ramirez said Italian oil company Eni SpA also did not sign, which raises questions about plans to develop the Corocoro off-

shore oil field, where it has partnered with ConocoPhillips. Eni had another oil field seized by Venezuela last year.

The companies in the Orinoco have until June 26 to negotiate terms of the takeover, including compensation, their new stakes and operational control for the projects, which they have run independently until now. The companies have more than \$17 billion in investments and loans in the projects.

Chavez has said PDVSA will take a minimum 60

percent stake that he will send soldiers with government officials to take control of the projects on May 1.

"It's going to be a day of celebration," Ramirez said after the signing ceremony.

Ramirez said the agreements are key to moving toward a nationalized oil industry. Chavez's government has made clear that it still welcomes private investment in oil projects, and until now most oil companies have appeared willing to adjust to the new, tougher terms.

Investors cheer Dow Jones upswing

Associated Press

NEW YORK — With the Dow Jones industrial average moving past the 13,000 mark for the first time, investors will likely be searching for a catalyst to send the markets higher.

A string of stronger-than-expected corporate profits, helped by robust overseas economies, have given investors reason to cheer in recent sessions. However, with the U.S. economy still expected to slow, investors will be looking for reassurance that their bets on stocks were not made in haste.

On Wednesday, the Dow industrials went as high as 13,107.45 before closing at 13,089.89. The Dow rose in 18 of the past 20 sessions and gained more than 780 points in that time; Wednesday marked the Dow's 35th record close since the start of October.

The broader market shared in the rally Wednesday. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose to a 6 1/2-year high, while the technology-dominated Nasdaq composite index hit a six-year high.

After the day's gains, a phrase often bandied about on Wall Street, "sell in May and go away," might appear prescient in the eyes of some investors.

In the coming weeks, economic figures pointing to unsteadiness in the economy could unnerve investors and halt the Dow's advance toward its next benchmark: 14,000. In the meantime, investors likely will be looking to see what happens to the S&P 500, which is nearing the record of 1,527.46 it hit in March 2000 as the dot-com boom began to fray.

Bill Strazzullo, a strategist at Bell Curve Trading, said there is a certain amount of nonchalance among

investors. He believes the Dow will continue to drift higher this year, but that the market doesn't have anywhere near the exuberance or reasons to keep climbing like it did during the dot-com boom.

"The higher you go, the case has to be that much more compelling to continue to carry the risk and take more risk," Strazzullo said. "You have to ask yourself, we're across the board at multiyear highs, what's the catalyst to take us that much higher?"

It took the Dow just 129 trading days, since Oct. 18, to make the trek from 12,000 to 13,000, far less than the 7 1/2 years the blue chips took to go from 11,000 to 12,000. The swiftness of this latest trip does recall the days of the dot-com boom, when the major indexes were soaring and it took the Dow a mere 24 days to barrel from 10,000 to 11,000.

Athletes

continued from page 1

five years before the first women's varsity squads were formed.

"People are excited, excited to get recognition," Henican said. "Particularly the women from the early years, the sort of pioneers and the ones who started things and had it rough and kind of paved the way for [female] student-athletes today."

She said the celebration comes at the perfect time, as the Monogram Club's first female president, Julie Pierson Doyle, finishes her two-year term in June.

Henican, who played volleyball for four years before she graduated in 2006 and took the position in the athletic department, said many former athletes are looking forward to interacting with current athletes and seeing how far the women's sports program has come.

The official Web site for the athletic department listed more than a dozen responses to the invitations from former student-athletes.

"I think this is a great celebration for women's athletics," wrote Jennifer Hall O'Dell, a 1999 alumna who played tennis. "Notre Dame athletics has provided many women with great opportunities over the

last 35 years, and I feel very honored and lucky to have had such a wonderful experience as a Notre Dame athlete."

Events continue Saturday with a nine-hole golf outing at the Warren Golf Course and a five-kilometer run set for the morning and sport-specific events scheduled for late afternoon. The celebration concludes with Mass and a brunch in the Joyce Center Sunday morning.

Title IX

And while Notre Dame celebrates 35 years of women's sports, supporters of women's athletics nationwide this June will celebrate the same anniversary of the landmark signing of Title IX.

President Nixon signed the bill into law on June 23, 1972 — the same summer that Notre Dame was preparing to admit its first class of female undergraduates.

Title IX incorporated specific language about education into the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the majority of the amendment was focused on the prohibition of discrimination based on sex in "any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

In fact, Notre Dame fell under an exception to Title IX for schools in the process of accepting students of both sexes for the first time. The clause allowed the University six years after the bill's enactment to comply with the legislation, although Notre Dame immediately began a women's athletics program, with fencing becoming the first sport at Notre Dame to field a women's club team, in the fall of 1972.

Though largely seen as a

"Notre Dame athletics has provided many women with great opportunities over the last 35 years, and I feel very honored ... to have had such a wonderful experience as a Notre Dame athlete."

Jennifer Hall O'Dell
Class of 1999
former ND tennis player

Expenditures on Men's and Women's Sports at Notre Dame, 2002-2006

Year	Football	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Men's Total	Women's Total	Women's share of sum, sans football	Women's share of sum, including football
02-03	11,203,796	2,735,637	1,790,882	19,491,450	8,197,632	49%	30%
03-04	11,393,367	3,055,454	2,213,647	20,973,124	9,563,321	50%	31%
04-05	15,092,475	2,642,041	2,334,872	25,020,755	10,460,419	51%	29%
05-06	17,973,037	2,786,073	2,286,940	28,760,194	10,906,308	50%	28%

Source: University of Notre Dame Higher Education Act Reporting documents, relevant years

*All figures are in dollars

Expenditures on Men's and Women's Sports, 2005-06

School	Football	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Men's Total	Women's Total	Women as percent of student body	Women's share of sum, sans football	Women's share of sum, including football
Stan.	12,533,439	3,024,785	2,259,166	23,271,578	13,964,551	48%	57%	38%
ND	17,973,037	2,786,073	2,286,940	28,760,194	10,906,308	47%	50%	28%
BC	15,071,270	4,753,745	2,445,432	24,845,216	9,723,527	52%	50%	28%
USC	17,219,167	3,629,811	2,000,305	26,828,489	9,710,849	51%	50%	27%
UCLA	13,458,173	5,154,796	1,556,291	23,747,373	9,358,026	56%	48%	28%

Source: Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

*All figures are in dollars

TOM HANCULAK/Observer Graphic

symbol of achievement for women's sports today, Title IX makes no explicit reference to athletics, despite the implications for athletics that became part of judicial rulings in the years following its passage.

In 1979, the Carter administration handed down a three-prong test to determine if an institution was in compliance with the act. Aside from a six-year period during the Reagan administration, the test has held that a college must demonstrate any one of the following three characteristics in athletics to be eligible for any federal funding, including student aid:

- ◆ Roster spots filled by athletes of each gender are in relative proportion to the student body as a whole
- ◆ The college demonstrates of continued expansion of the women's program
- ◆ The program fully meets the athletic needs of the under-represented gender

"With those three tests, institutions are kind of held to a standard, and it's amazing just how far we've come from, if you look at my data from my dissertation, from the late 70s, early 80s until 2007," White said. "We're not quite there yet, but we're getting there."

But, White said, it took some administrators in higher education nearly a decade after Nixon's signing and years after the announcement of Carter's three-part test to begin to fully implement the legislation. Nonetheless, the NCAA saw a change immediately. According to NCAA statistics published in a 1979 federal report, women participating in varsity athletics jumped from approximately 30,000 in 1972 to 62,886 in 1976.

"It was an amazing time for women in sport in that particular moment in history if you just look at the growth that had transpired in a short time frame," White said.

At Notre Dame, the changes were fast-paced. After tennis and fencing became the inaugural women's varsity sports in 1976, basketball joined in the fall of 1977. Field hockey followed suit a year later before the athletic department discontinued the sport in 1986, citing declining interest.

But the initial years of

women's sports did not fall under the scope of the NCAA. That body only began sponsoring championships in 1982, which prompted the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) to disband the following year.

Notre Dame was initially a part of the AIAW in women's sports but transitioned to the NCAA when it began sponsoring women's teams. Indeed, women's tennis was an AIAW program from 1976-82 and then went to NCAA Division II until 1986, before it jumped to Division I. At the time, NCAA divisions were separated by scholarship numbers, which led to a different timeline in each sport for ascension to Division I.

White and women's athletics

For White, issues of gender equity in athletic opportunities and coaching compensation hit home. He and his wife, Jane, were coaches and teachers while they worked toward higher degrees. White earned his Ph.D. in education from Southern Illinois University and published his dissertation in 1983.

The subject was simple, even if the analysis was not — "An appraisal of the women's intercollegiate athletic programs, and the relationship to men's athletics, at Big Ten Intercollegiate Athletic Conference institutions before and after Title IX implementation."

"It started for me in the early '70s when my wife and I were high school teachers and coaches, and I coached a number on the boys side of the ledger at that level in the secondary school and my wife coached a good number of sports on the girls' side," White said. "And I would actually be compensated two or three times more than she was per

sport."

The Whites moved to Central Michigan University in 1976 — the year women's fencing and women's tennis became the first varsity sports for women at Notre Dame and the four U.S. military academies opened their doors to women. There, both would serve as track and field coaches — where Notre Dame's now-athletic director would be compensated "about twice as much as Jane" for "commensurate" work, he said.

"So we understood Title IX right down to the family check-book," White said. "And I had a huge interest in women's athletics because my life partner had [a vocation] for coaching, and I understood it in ways I don't think I would have had, had I not had that experience — having a spouse coach during that particular era."

Nationwide, the 1980s were a turbulent and dynamic time for women's sports.

"We got to '82, and still not a lot of activity had occurred.

But schools were just starting to put in place athletic teams, create opportunities, hire full time coaches, and again it was starting to move. But that was a dramatically different intercollegiate experience than had existed 10 years earlier," White said.

"Fast forward to 2007, and 1982 looks like we weren't

even out of the box yet," he said, "when you look at the growth in financial advancement and just general commitment. And today, we're not exactly where we need to be, but we're a heck of a lot better."

In fact, 1982 was a crucial year in the life of Title IX. In the University of Richmond v. Bell, The Supreme Court held that the Department of Education could not investigate claims of discrimination in athletic programs if the athletic department in question did not

"It started for me in the early '70s when my wife and I were high school teachers and coaches, and I coached a number on the boys side of the ledger at that level in the secondary school and my wife coached a good number of sports on the girls' side."

Kevin White
athletic director

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receive federal funds. Thus, every part of an institution was exempted from Title IX's scope if it did not receive federal subsidies, and colleges could continue to receive federal support for some areas even if they did not meet Title IX's requirements in other departments.

That ruling held until 1988, when Congress overrode a veto by President Reagan to expand the scope of Title IX to the entire institution in the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

Notre Dame women's basketball coach Muffet McGraw, whose first season with the Irish was the 1987-88 campaign, credited White and former Athletic Director Dick Rosenthal.

"He really pushed the limits with women's sports to get more to a national level," McGraw said of Rosenthal. "That kind of got things started, and then when Kevin White came in, there was an even bigger push."

McGraw said White's combination of emotional support, along with financial increases for the women's teams, has been instrumental in continuing Notre Dame's rise in women's athletics.

"If you look at where we were then, where we are now, we have achieved progress," McGraw said.

Mentioning the comparable budgets for men's and women's basketball and the similar travel and lodging accommodations for the teams when they are on the road, McGraw said the University has taken tremendous strides to achieve gender equity, and that "a lot of that has to do with Kevin White."

Under White's watch, Notre Dame has won four national championships: McGraw's women's basketball squad in 2001, women's soccer in 2004 and the men's and women's combined fencing teams in 2003 and 2005 each captured those titles.

Spending disparities

Since White arrived at Notre Dame, the athletic department has added 67.3 scholarships — known as grants-in-aid (GIAs) — to students, with 38 of those for women's teams. Most of the increases were part of an initiative, developed within the first 12 months of White's tenure at Notre Dame, to fund to NCAA maximums the number of scholarships offered, Associate Athletic Director Tom Nevala said in an e-mail to The Observer.

Nevala said a four-year program to fully fund the GIAs began in the 2001-02 school year and concluded in 2004-05. During that time, rowing saw the largest increase in GIAs on the women's side — from zero to 20 — while lacrosse was the biggest benefactor on the men's side, going from zero to 12.6 GIAs.

Since the conclusion of the four-year program, the NCAA increased the maximum for women's soccer from 12 to 14, which prompted Notre Dame to add two scholarships for the squad to continue the philosophy of fully funding all its sports, Nevala said.

McGraw said the full funding of GIAs is a benefit for every sport as it recruits, because it shows the school's commitment to the entire field of teams, not



Notre Dame women's basketball coach Muffet McGraw, center, celebrates after winning the NCAA National Championship April 1, 2001, the first championship for the Irish.

just the profit-producing ones.

In the 2005-06 school year, Notre Dame filled a total of 863 roster spots on 26 varsity teams. The squads were split equally between men's and women's teams, with males accounting for 496 spots and females for 367. If two and three-sport athletes were counted only once, there would have been 389 men and 287 women playing at least one varsity sport in the 12-month period.

In 2002-03, while Notre Dame was still in the process of fully funding its GIAs, the University awarded \$5,625,442 in GIAs to male athletes and \$3,755,215 to female athletes, a 60-40 proportion.

In the most recent filing, the dollar disparity was slightly greater, though the percentage difference decreased a small amount. Notre Dame awarded \$7,455,598 (59.3 percent) in GIAs to men in the 2005-06 school year and \$5,126,072 (41.7 percent) to women.

Nonetheless, the current levels contrast starkly with the percentages 20 years ago. According to University records, the money spent on GIAs for women athletes was 19 percent of the total athletic GIA budget in 1988. That number was up from years prior, but nowhere near the 42-percent ratio the University commits to women's GIAs today.

The GIAs are a large part, though not the largest, of budgets for athletic departments across the country.

Most Division I institutions currently spend a percentage of their total athletic budget — aside from football — on women's sports that is relatively close to the percentage of women as part of the overall student body.

And in that category, Notre Dame ranks slightly ahead of many in its "cohort group" — the schools to which White likes to compare his athletic department. Of Boston College, Southern California, UCLA and Stanford, only Stanford spends a higher percent of its athletic budget on women's sports.

Stanford and Notre Dame rank at the bottom of that list

in terms of females as a percentage of the student body, but each spends a higher percentage of its athletic budget on women's programs than the percentage of women in the student body.

But return on investment is a different story.

According to records published by the University in accordance with federal laws, Notre Dame's game-day costs were \$6,666,660 for men's teams and \$2,306,665 for women's teams from July 2005 through June 2006. Excluding football, the only sport to bring in profit during the time span, the athletic department spent \$261,943 more on 12 men's sports than it did on 13 women's sports. That difference, which equates to a five-percent disparity, though discounting football, was slightly less than the difference in overall student enrollment by gender.

In the 2002-03 school year, Notre Dame spent \$177,056 on recruiting for the 12 women's teams other than basketball. That figure was 20 percent of the University's total expenditure for recruiting. Four years later, the money spent on recruiting for those 12 teams has risen to \$199,199, but the share has dropped to 13.2 percent of the overall total. (The biggest increase during the time span has been in football recruiting, which spent \$323,825 from 2002-03 and \$748,763 in the 2005-06 year.)

Other challenges

In revenue streams, the men's squads, led by football,

far outpace women.

Including football, which brought in \$61,463,627 from 2005-06, men's sports earned \$65,472,262 in revenue. Women's sports, meanwhile, pulled in \$1,361,139, or 2.04 percent of the total. (Revenue totals include money earned from ticket sales, contributions from alumni, postseason compensation, concession sales, radio and television contracts, program advertising and sales, sponsorships, royalties and sports camps.)

In fact, while the NCAA requires schools to list specific revenue and expenditure data for football and men's and women's basketball — all considered "revenue" sports — Notre Dame only made a profit on the football squad. Men's basketball spent \$19,053 more than it brought in while women's basketball spent \$1,908,949 more than it made.

Outside Notre Dame's contract with NBC for football and its stake in Big East basketball television deals, most revenue comes from ticket sales — though baseball, women's soccer, men's soccer and hockey are among the relatively small group of teams with paid admission for games.

"We're constantly looking for innovative ways to drive and to drive attendance and to raise the level of awareness and

promote interest," White said.

Still, White has been encouraged by what he calls an ever-growing increase in attention given to women's sports.

"It's amazing to me how much interest there is in attendance. At Notre Dame, we're constantly a top-10 women's basketball program in terms of attendance. The media interest in the women's basketball tournament, the Final Four — these are marquee events today — and even in the Big East conference ... We're beginning to see more competitions televised," White said. "Those are indicators — I think pretty strong indicators — that there is a growing societal interest in women's sport, beyond the participant. That there is a whole spectator element that's growing."

"And so is it where the men's program is today in 2007? No, it isn't. Not quite. But it's a lot closer than it's ever been, and my sense is that gap will continue to close."

For the 2001-02 school year, the annual survey given to student athletes included a question about gender equity for the first time. The question gave student-athletes the chance to write at length about issues of gender that have affected them at Notre Dame. Though those records aren't released, White

"At Notre Dame, we're constantly a top-10 women's basketball program in terms of attendance."

Kevin White
athletic director

said in general athletes in sports with less fan and media attention didn't seem to show resentment toward those in the higher-profile sports — something, he said, that crosses the gender line.

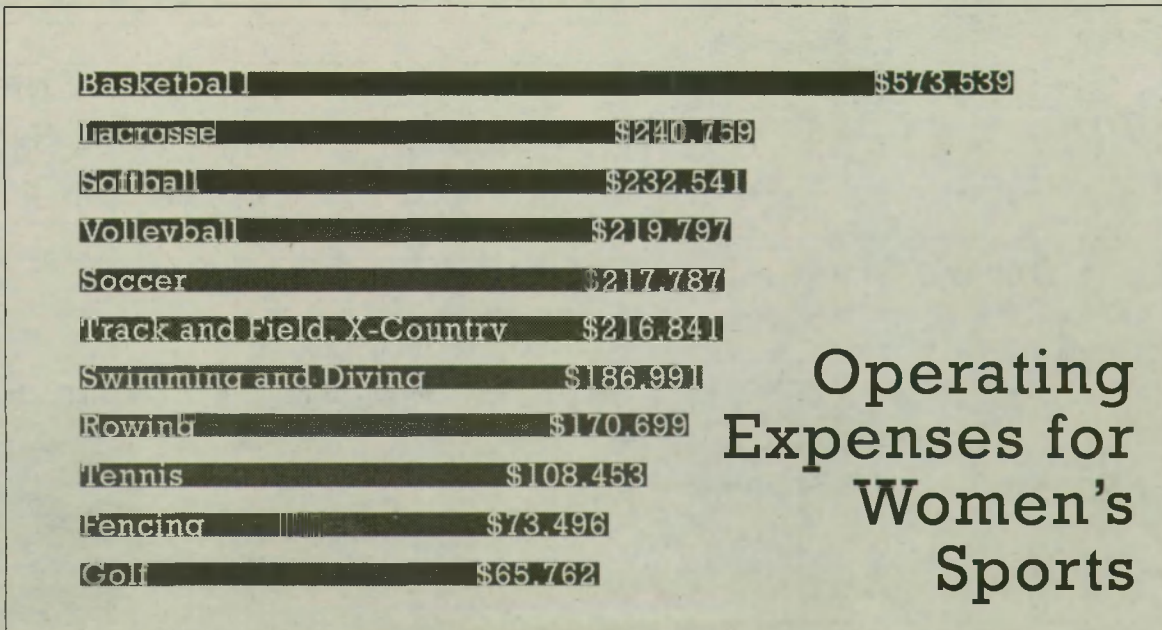
"I don't know ... that I could cite a particular

challenge that would be germane [only] to women's sports. We're constantly looking for innovative ways to improve the Olympic sports program," White said. "I don't see any distinguishing characteristics [of women's sports] that I could point to. I would say we treat — I like to think — we feel as committed to a women's softball or lacrosse player as we do to any male athlete in any sport."

For White, working toward that goal of demonstrating commitment to every athlete in every sport means inherently enhancing the women's program at Notre Dame.

The second part of this series will run Monday and look at Kevin White's path to Notre Dame.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu



THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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Effectiveness of awareness weeks questioned

This past week, a group representing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) hosted an awareness week on campus.

The task force has achieved some admirable goals, especially raising money for bed nets to prevent malaria in Africa, but some of its methods this week — especially the large electric construction sign outside DeBartolo — showed once again the problem with many similar weeks at Notre Dame.

The trend lately for students who want to drum up support for a cause, raise money for charity or point out an injustice in the world has been to host a week worth of speakers, events and, sometimes, protests.

But unfortunately for the organizers of awareness weeks, the reaction from many students is not one of empathy or support, but rather one of disinterest or even annoyance — even for causes with no opponents, like AIDS research or sexual assault prevention. Weeks that are not well organized don't make an impact. Weeks that flood students with information don't succeed in conveying one clear point. Weeks that immediately follow other awareness weeks don't find as broad an audience and risk confusing their cause with one of another group.

What do organizers need to do better to buck this trend? First, students need to see that when they participate in an awareness week, they are somehow contributing to the cause. "Awareness" is all well and good, but it is simply a first step. While it's necessary in order to make future progress, it's not yet a direct benefit to the cause.

The easiest way to do this is to raise money. Instead of

handing out donuts and flyers outside DeBartolo, why don't groups sell the donuts and give the proceeds to charity? Even more effective would be T-shirts, which students could then sport throughout the week — a tactic that some organizations, like the MDG task force, do already.

Another issue is the concentration of awareness weeks in the spring semester. Many groups probably want to avoid football season, which makes sense, but what if some organizers shifted their week to a different time in the year? That would prevent awareness-week burnout. A second idea would be spreading events out over a month, rather than cramming a weighty message into one week.

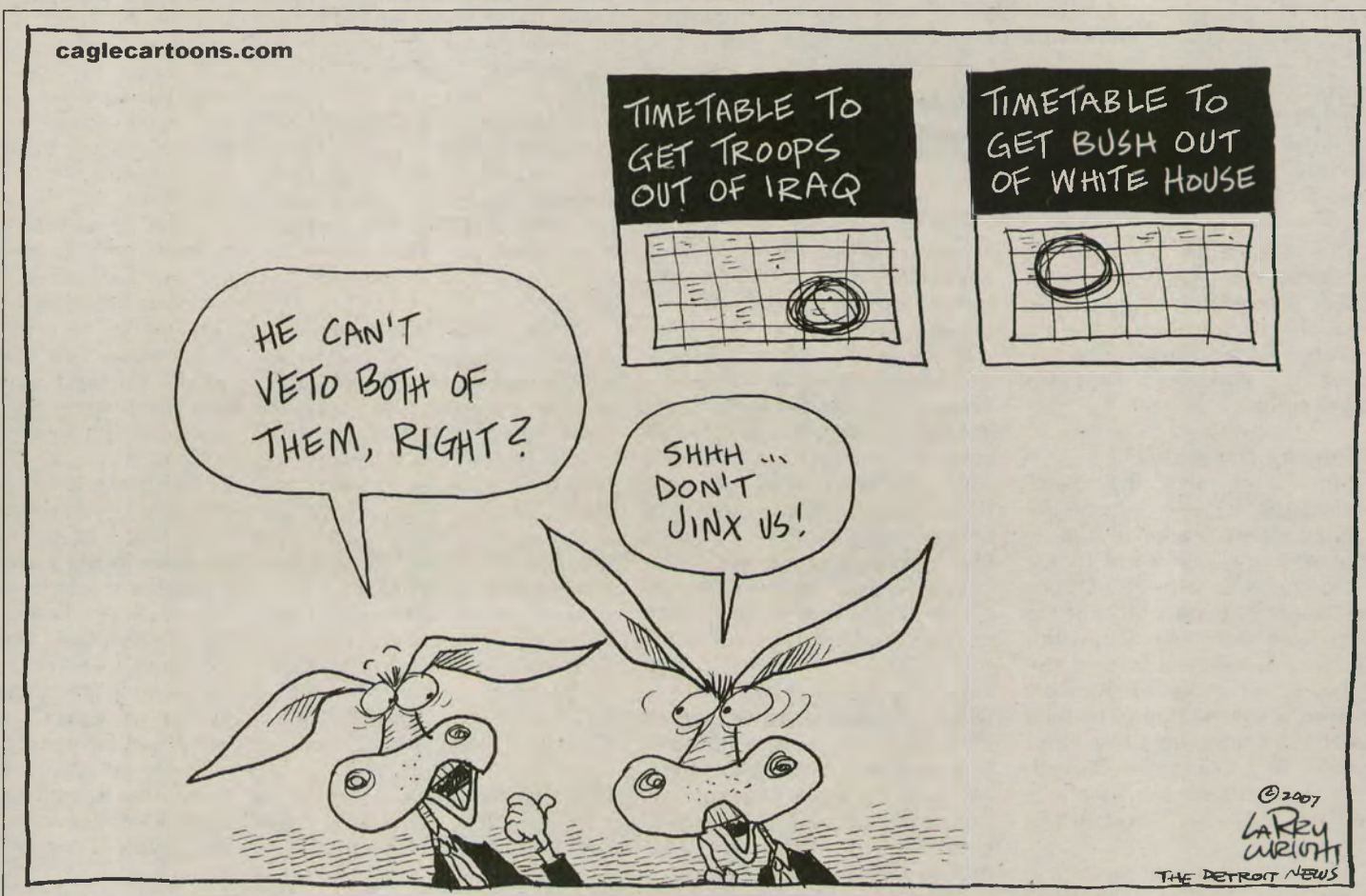
In order for that to work, of course, the groups would have to work together. If organizers give each other space and time to showcase their cause, everyone will benefit because students won't confuse multiple awareness weeks with each other — a legitimate problem, and a real disappointment. Instead of building momentum, many weeks seem to come and go with no real groundswell of support afterward. Increasing the time in between awareness weeks or changing to a month-long system would generate more support and allow more time to process important information.

Students driven to work for change can greatly benefit the rest of campus by explaining and promoting their causes. The challenge is to do so in a way that's engaging, informative and productive.

That can only be achieved through greater organization and coordination, and that is how students can become forces of change, rather than simply advocates for it.

The Observer Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



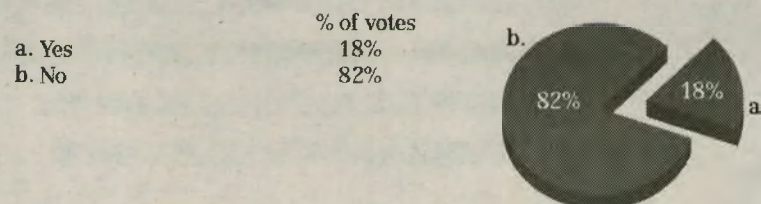
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OBSERVER POLL

Do you plan to donate money to a presidential campaign?



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I have found power in the mysteries of thought."

Euripides
Greek dramatist

A libertine education

Many years ago, as a new undergraduate student at a state university, I attended fraternity parties. Much to my surprise, I noticed time and again that the residents' rooms were decorated with posters for Quentin Tarantino's early film "Reservoir Dogs." I found it a mystery that these same posters — of slick suited gangsters in shades, strutting in black and white down an anonymous city street — adorned the walls of so many young upwardly mobile undergrads. What had resonated with them in a film about a bank robbery run amuck?

This mystery lingered, largely because I failed to connect those posters with a comment one critic made regarding "Reservoir Dogs." He had said the film was "all style, no substance." Slick cinematography and an eccentric soundtrack complemented the smooth characters on screen, but all three amounted only to something purely aesthetic. The film impressed one with its surface appeal and shocked one with its insistence that surface and style is all there is.

In retrospect, I was naive not to see those posters as symbols of a way of living in the world prevalent now among American college students and quite common through our society in general. Style, appearance — in some sense "beauty" — cut off from meaning, from truth and goodness, summarizes not only the film, but the lives many students attempt to live in the ostensibly boundless freedom of college campuses. The frat brothers of Psi-Psi-whatever and their coevals craved a life consumed by the power and satisfaction of appearances, cut off — truly ripped free — from the implications it might have for themselves and the world in which they live. If life and death is a matter of style, one may choose one's pleasures

and pick one's poison, with regard to the consequences only in so far as they inform that "style."

My naïveté haunts me as all the more remarkable because of a controversy in which I became involved at the time. The University administration had authorized a code of speech and behavior intended to eliminate "hate speech" from the classroom room and to allow the University to discipline students involved in untoward or criminal behavior on or away from campus. This binding code at a public university sat poorly with many of my fellow students because it seemed to place the University "in loco parentis," in the place of the parent. We students were adults not children, and no institution had authority to set itself above us in paternal fashion. We oozed the language of civil liberties and when we could "ooze" no more on our own, we got funding from the ACLU to subsidize our self-righteous, indignant excrement.

From my present vantage point, the correlation between the posters on the wall, the "lifestyle" of pure style, and the contrived arguments of vocal young activists seems absolute. All three are party to an effort — an old one, and one which continues — to create a public sphere, an entire society, stripped of codes of responsibility. This has proven a hard task, because those codes — called ethics and politics, and sometimes morality — have a way of inevitably emerging from our experience. We often and appropriately define this emergence of codes as Natural Law: the more experience of life one has, the more firmly one detects the vast structure of laws that subtend and direct it.

The world is always going to hell, of course. Anyone with a sense of the drama of history can discern one aspect of civilization or another sliding from bad to worse. College campuses play a particular part in the drama, however.

Because, as I say, codes of behavior inevitably arise — eventually — in everyday life, the average modern person lives a fairly docile, harmless existence. But higher education has become such a rite of passage in America that it has come to instantiate a "green room," a strange liminal zone apart from childhood and adulthood.

The crossroads where the relative unaccountability of youth and the relative sovereignty of age meet, the college campus may now best be understood only as a place of passage. No one remains there long enough to allow natural laws to rear their dogmatic heads. A student takes a course, and when it is over, the lessons are left behind with only the inscrutable fingerprint of a grade for evidence. Students lease a dorm room or apartment and foresake it when the lease is up. Most evocatively of all, packs of students rent and destroy those towering old buildings that were once family homes, replacing the relative permanence of generations with the complete transience of a school year lived from keg to keg.

This characterization may seem harsh, and my tone no doubt emerges from my own disgust at such a condition as well as my own past culpability in its persistence. Then again, it is better to have the humility to regret the folly of one's youth than to bear that folly like a trophy through some tedious adulthood, in which the emptiness of college hedonism so frequently mutates into the emptiness of perpetual acquisitiveness. This characterization also ignores a more grave matter. What is the connection between the practices of the typical American college student and the education that, in their spare hours, they are supposed to be receiving?

A liberal education is supposed to equip a student for a life of thinking, of contemplation, and of right action. If it serves any purpose at all, it must aid those who receive it in understanding

their experiences and in discerning and pursuing the meaning that emerges from such understanding. How liberal education could coexist with a mode of life that judges questions of truth and goodness anathema, seeking exclusively the satisfactions of "style," should strike one as a troubling question indeed.

The answer is, it does not. Much education in the humanities takes its cue from the evanescent libertinism of its students. Its curricula promise to "liberate" students from the various "parents" of tradition, authority, meaning and responsibility that so inconveniently intrude. Many students leave such courses no wiser than they entered primarily because the courses instruct they have nothing to learn, but rather should "unlearn" what they already know, unburdening themselves of the past and the codes it imposes. Students learn, that is, what they already intuited on any given Saturday night: the endless struggle for liberation must continue until one's life has been stripped of everything but style.

Liberal education stood once as a kind of elevation above the mutilating twists of life's passing infatuations. The denizens who occupy its corridors now have done well at demonstrating elevation is self-denial, edification ideology. Our syllabi of the literature of sexual transgression in eighteenth-century Ireland has saved many a student from dreaming there might be some more worthy end to human life than sex, transgressive, casual or otherwise. May more clerks turn treasonous against this institutional turn.

James Matthew Wilson is a Sorin Research Fellow and, as a final act of transgression, has just murdered The Treasonous Clerk. For information about the wake, write to jwilson5@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police priorities fail to meet student needs

We are seniors living off campus writing to express our frustration with both the South Bend Police Department and the Indiana State Police. Six of our eight cars and both of our houses have been broken into with valuables taken, including multiple electronics, and even a porch swing. Each time we have been met with a slow, casual response. For one incident, they tried to tell us that the evidence pointed to a student burglary, and have accused us of not securing our homes and cars well enough.

Meanwhile, this past Saturday night, five Indiana State Police squad cars arrived at our house and issued an underage drinking ticket to a Notre Dame student who was sitting calmly on our front porch, with no drink in hand, and no party or noise occurring at our house. More or less, an innocent 19-year-old girl received a citation for sitting outside talking to friends. Earlier in the day this past Saturday, hundreds of underage students were drinking in the backyard across the street from our house, while the South Bend Police were doing nothing but regulating who came in and out of this overrated annual event. While this block party was taking place, our small gathering was forced out of our front yard when three SPBD cars arrived, ignorant to the event across the street. Their justification was that the property across the street had a permit for the

occasion. We were unaware that it was possible under Indiana state law to acquire a permit to allow underage kids to consume alcohol.

The South Bend Police as a whole seems to show no care for Notre Dame students. They seem to fight crime only in instances where no danger is present, and ignore the numerous robberies and shootings that happen in South Bend. In our neighborhood, one of our neighbors has been charged with 17 counts of car burglary. Each time, however, he has been released on bail.

However, it is very comforting to know that South Bend and Indiana's finest are protecting us from the dangers of 19 and 20-year-old students drinking a beer. Because the Notre Dame residence halls have become so crowded, it is necessary that a certain number of students live off-campus. However, students should think twice before becoming a part of a crime-filled community where the law enforcers have such backwards priorities. Over the past four years, we have grown to love the close-knit community at Notre Dame. This year, we have grown to despise the community of South Bend.

**Matt Smith
 Mike Hennig**
 seniors
 off campus
 April 25

Taxes a necessary part of American society

I read Zach Einterz' recent column entitled "Minority blues" (April 25), and while I myself do wholeheartedly agree with some libertarian ideals, I temper my attitudes with some cold hard facts.

You, Zach, are free to live however you chose. You are free to do any of the things you cite in your article. You are free to pay no taxes to the federal government, just choose not to keep more than \$25,000 or so of your income and the government will not ask for any. You have a choice. You can live out of your car and give all your income to save the owls, trees or whatever charity you want to. But if your choice involves being an active, profit seeking participating member of the "majority's" economy, then you must pay dues to enjoy all the benefits of that society which provides such a high standard of living for those who contribute to it. That's a fact, not an option.

If you want an ambulance to show up and save your life when you wreck your car, if you want a fire truck to show up when your house is burning, if you want smooth roads to drive on, you must pay taxes for these things; life is not a smorgasbord where we can choose what you

want to pay for and what you don't.

Again remember, you do not have to pay for any of those things if you do not want to. Just remember the deal, if you chose to use the economy for your profit, you must contribute to it. And while I am a self-employed contractor who does not enjoy paying a portion of my hard earned money to someone else, I realize that it is a good investment.

By the way Zach, I spent five hours today in a ditch, in the rain with a shovel in my hands digging up a broken rain conductor, and if I can contribute to our country, I think maybe you could see fit to also help out without all the whining that you only get to keep 80% of your income to spend on whatever you want. As an economics major, Zach, perhaps you should study the tax system before you make ridiculous statements like, "it's hard to deny the fact that a large portion of your paycheck is going to support the war." Well Zach, it is easy to deny that. That's most certainly not a fact, and far from the truth. In short Zach, grow up!

Dean J. Marra
 Pittsburgh, Penn.
 April 26

DVD REVIEW

'Museum' fails to exhibit humor or talent

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

With an all-star comedic cast including Ben Stiller, Ricky Gervais (of the British "The Office" fame), Robin Williams, Owen Wilson, Dick Van Dyke, Steve Coogan and Mickey Rooney, "Night at the Museum" should have been the comedic promised land. It's too bad that director Shawn Levy ("Cheaper By the Dozen") has wasted all of these impressive talents in this disappointing and generally unfunny film.

The script was a good original concept but uninteresting in its actual execution, and having Chris Columbus (director of the disastrous first two

"Harry Potter" films) acting as producer surely didn't help. While it is a fairly cute kid's movie, "Night at the Museum" fails to be what it certainly could have been.

Stiller plays the disillusioned Larry Daley, a man who must find a job if he is to retain the respect of his son and ex-wife. After a series of failed business ventures and flack from his former spouse's stock market trader husband, he takes a night-guard job at the New York museum of Natural History.

He sees the job as his meal ticket to respectability and thinks it's easy work until he can find something better.

Easy, sure — except for the fact that the museum exhibits, wax models and everything else come to life at night and terrorize any unsuspecting person from the outside, including new night guards.

"Night at the Museum" is a film that promised zingy one-liners, fabulous special effects and some of the best comic acting Hollywood has to offer. They get a D-minus on the first, a generous B-plus on the second and an F-minus on the last. It's kind of neat to look at for five minutes, but ultimately a horribly unfunny train wreck of a movie.

This isn't to say that the acting is bad. Williams is convincing as the wax model of Teddy Roosevelt and Gervais — probably the most wasted actor in any film, ever — does a decent job (with what he has to work with) as the uptight museum director.

The problem is the lack of cohesive cast feeling. The characters are too much Stiller, Williams, Wilson and Coogan and not enough Daley, Roosevelt, cowboy or Roman general. Alongside these characters is a monkey



Photo courtesy of thecia.com.au

Ben Stiller stars in "Night at the Museum," a recent children's flick. The film's talented but underused cast includes Ricky Gervais and Robin Williams.

that is only good for potty jokes and cheap gags.

"Night at the Museum" tries too hard to be an adult film and a kid's film at the same time.

Fast forward to the DVD and buyers have the option of to buy a one-disc edition or two-disc "Special Edition." If anyone wants to buy this film for whatever reason, the one disc would be the way to go — the extras on the two-disc set aren't worth the overpriced cost and would only collect dust. If you must buy it, get the widescreen one-disc set and enjoy it for the the film alone.

Don't waste your time with extras and money that could be used on a better movie.

"Night at the Museum" can be cute and does elicit a few muted chuckles from time to time. It's a damn shame it couldn't have been better — with a better director and script, its cast could have had audiences howling with laughter.

"Night at the Museum" deserves a place in an archive somewhere, and definitely not in the featured exhibit.

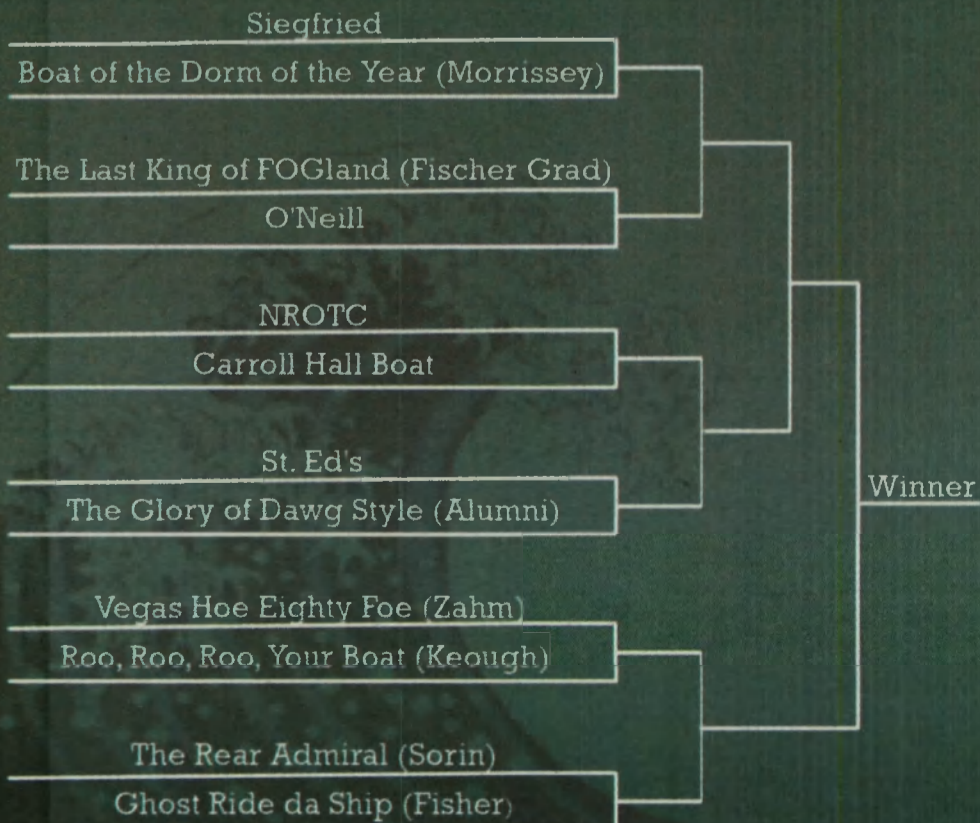
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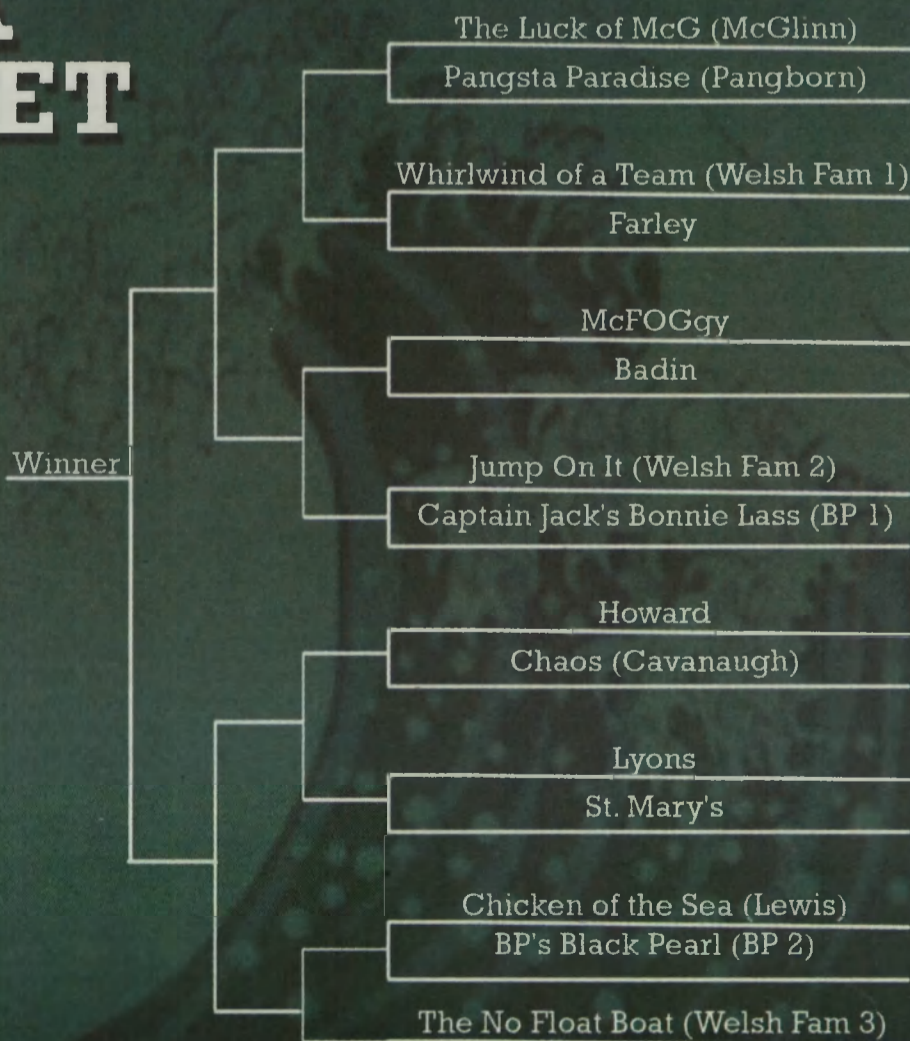
Film: **F**
DVD: **F**

2007 REGATTA BRACKET

MALE BRACKET



FEMALE BRACKET





TOM HANCULAK/Observer Graphic

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

The Jolly Piggot, Fisher Hall's flagship green vessel, lies in dry dock, tethered to a tree on the grass of South Quad as an announcement of the impending Fisher Regatta. The most visible of Fisher's signature events, the Regatta has become a widely renowned campus tradition in its impressive history at Notre Dame. With each dorm constructing its own lake-bound vessels, inter-dorm rivalries, sailing skills (or lack thereof) and an overall sense of campus spirit come together in one wet and wild afternoon.

For our coverage of Saturday's event, the Scene Section took the option (or mistake) of conducting a tag-team interview with Regatta co-commissioners Kevin Rabil and Will Kearney.



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

The Jolly Piggot rests outside of Fisher Hall in honor of the Regatta, which takes place Saturday. The Fishermen enjoy a week of festivities prior to the race.

What's different about this year's Regatta from Regattas of past years?

Will: Well, this is the Regatta's 21st birthday and, as we all know, that means we've got to celebrate like never before. Also, we are the best-looking commissioners in the history of Regatta, and we feel that is key to a successful Regatta and a successful life in general.

What's the turnout you're expecting for this year, both for spectators and competitors?

Kevin: This year we hope to get every single person on campus, nay, the world, to come and watch the event. Any celebrities that are in town are more than welcome to get some face-time on the local news.

All of the coolest dorms are competing in this year's Regatta, with the few other dorms watching from the shore, crying.

How do you expect the Fisher boat(s) to fare in the competition?

Kevin: As with every year in the past, we are hoping for pure and utter domination in our signature event. This year we realized that size doesn't always matter, and sometimes it's the personality that gets it done. We are hoping for some more flair this year and some more wins.

What are some of the events/activities going on in Fisher leading up to

the Regatta itself?

Will: Fred and Sally week is Fisher Hall's signature week leading up to this Saturday's Regatta. Each night, Fishermen gather for different events, which promote dorm unity and get everyone excited to throw down on Saturday. On Sunday, we had a grotto Mass with Pangborn, followed by a cookout.

We had a guest speaker, Assistant Athletic Director John Heisler, on Monday; section wars/roommate games on Tuesday; Red Mocks Awards on Wednesday, where every Fisherman gets made fun of for every embarrassing story of the year.

And on Thursday we rest up because we need all the energy possible to rock out at the Zoo on Friday. We also stress no homework throughout the week.

When did the "We...we are...we are Fisher...we are Fishermen!" chant start?

Kevin: A few years ago, there was a resident in Fisher given the name "Husky" and this was his cheer. From then on, we have called this chant the Husky cheer, and we can be heard throughout the Milky Way.

Sometimes, other galaxies call us up and say, "Nice cheer, guys." And we say, "Thanks." Then they say, "Hey what are you doing on Saturday?" And we said,

"This year we hope to get every single person on campus, nay, the world, to come and watch the event."

Kevin Rabil
Fisher Regatta
co-commissioner

"Well, we've got the Fisher Reg — " That's when we lost service.

What are some of the other distinct or different qualities about living in Fisher that separate it from the other dorms on campus?

Will: Fisher may not look like much, but she's the flyest dorm on campus. Fisher was built as a temporary dorm back in 1952, and we all know that aesthetically it is a scar on the face of campus, but we have awesome dorm spirit and love where we are. And let's be serious, chicks dig scars.

In conclusion, the dynamic duo said, "We hope everyone will come out and support a great cause. We are raising money for the Brother Andre House in Arizona. The Regatta will not disappoint — look forward to seeing you all there. Also, R. Kelly may or may not be performing (odds on no, but we're still hoping)."

Regardless of whether or not some contemporary R & B artists make it out to campus for the event, the Fisher Regatta pushes off this Saturday afternoon. Float or fail, the event promises to be entertaining at the very least. After all, what would the end of April be without the Regatta?

Like the Piggot, the Fisher Regatta is up and running once again, thanks to the efforts of the intrepid Fishermen of Fisher Hall. Jolly good.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

WEEKEND EVENTS

Farley Hall Players

"You Can't Take It With You"

Washington Hall
Friday & Saturday
7:30pm

\$5 students
\$7 adults

St. Ed's Hall Players

"Family Entertainment:

For Mature Audiences Only"
Sketch Comedy Show
Library Auditorium
Friday 7:30pm

"A Man For All Seasons"

Orestes Brownson
Council
Washington Hall Lab
Theatre
Friday & Saturday
8pm

Sunday 2pm
Free But Limited



PAM LOCK/The Observer

Students competing in the Fisher Regatta construct their own boats out of a wide variety of materials, often with an emblem of dorm pride on display.



PAM LOCK/The Observer

Saint Mary's Lake teems with competing boats during the 2005 Regatta. With multiple races, food and fans, the event draws an impressive annual crowd.

MLB

Pirates sweep Astros for second time this year

Sosa hits two homers to set record for most major league ballparks homered in, but Rangers fall to Indians 9-4

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Phil Garner won a World Series playing for Pittsburgh and managed in the All-Star game there last summer. Right now, the Houston manager probably isn't excited about returning to the city where he has enjoyed some of his best moments in baseball.

Jason Bay's two-run single in the sixth inning off Wandy Rodriguez gave the Pirates a 5-3 victory Thursday over Houston and their second three-game sweep of the Astros this season.

Barely 12 hours after the Astros left 18 runners on base during a 4-3, 16-inning loss to the Pirates, they stranded 13 and played sloppily in the field with two errors during Pittsburgh's go-ahead sixth inning against Rodriguez (0-3). The Astros have lost six in a row, including a 3-0 defeat Tuesday in which they were limited to three singles, and went 3-6 during a four-city road trip.

"It's good to be going home," said Garner, whose team begins a six-game homestand Friday. "We just lost our offense. We had some good games but we also had some games we didn't appear to focused on."

Houston pushed across two runs in the ninth but John Grabow bailed out closer Salomon Torres by getting Adam Everett to ground into a forceout at second with the bases loaded to end the game. It was Grabow's first save since 2004.

The Pirates are 6-0 against the Astros this season after going 3-13 last season and have swept successive series for the first time since 1979 — when Garner was the second baseman on Pittsburgh's World Series-winning team. The Pirates also swept a season-opening series in Houston from April 2-4.

"It was good to get the sweep, that's for sure," said manager Jim Tracy, whose Pirates are 10-10 after being 5-15 a year

ago. "There has been some dramatic improvement, and I know there's more to come. I know we're a better offensive team than we've shown so far."

Indians 9, Rangers 4

Sammy Sosa is "Slammin' Sammy" once again.

Sosa hit two homers to reach 594 for his career, but Paul Byrd and the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers Thursday for their fifth straight win.

Sosa's 439-foot drive leading off the sixth inning against Byrd (2-1) made Jacobs Field the 44th major league ballpark in which he has homered. That broke a tie with Ken Griffey Jr. and Fred McGriff for the most in a big league career.

"It's nice to have that record, but if we had won I would have enjoyed it more," Sosa said.

He obtained the record-setting ball by signing two baseballs for the fan who got it in the left-field bleachers.

Sosa has six homers and 18 RBIs, but he's hitting only .239 in 19 games since sitting out all of 2006. He said he still hasn't got his timing back after the long layoff.

"The more I play, the more adjustments I can make," he said. "If you talk about getting hot, I'm not there yet."

Byrd was wary of pitching to Sosa with or without runners on base.

"You still don't want to elevate a fastball to him," Byrd said. "On the homer, I was trying to go inside, left it up and away and knew where it was headed as soon as he swung."

The only stadiums currently in use that the 38-year-old outfielder has not hit a homer in are RFK Stadium in Washington and the new Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

Sosa went deep again in the eighth against Tom Mastny to move closer to joining Hank Aaron, Barry Bonds, Babe Ruth and Willie Mays in the 600 homers club. It was his 69th



Texas second baseman Michael Young walks back to the dugout after striking out with a runner on third base. Young went 1-for-4 in the Rangers' 9-4 loss to the Indians Thursday.

career multihomer game.

Byrd left after yielding a lead-off single in the seventh to Gerald Laird. The right-hander allowed three runs and eight hits, walked one and struck out three. The Rangers twice put a runner at third base with none out and failed to score against Byrd.

Texas loaded the bases in the first, but left fielder Shin-Soo Choo caught a fly ball from Mark Teixeira and made a perfect no-hop throw to get Kenny Lofton trying to tag up from third. Sosa then grounded out to end the threat.

"That play picked us up," Byrd said. "Three minutes in, I've got the bases loaded and it had disaster written all over it."

Nationals 4, Phillies 2

Shawn Hill wouldn't let an injury to his non-throwing arm keep him off the mound. It's a good thing for Washington because Hill's pitching like an

ace.

Hill pitched eight-plus innings, Dmitri Young homered and the Nationals snapped the Philadelphia Phillies' five-game winning streak with a win Thursday.

"A terrific performance," Washington manager Manny Acta said.

Aaron Rowand hit a solo shot for the Phillies to extend his career-best hitting streak to 14 games.

Hill (2-2) gave up two runs and four hits, striking out three in his 14th career start. The right-hander hasn't allowed more than two earned runs in any of his five starts this season.

Hill missed the 2005 season after having a ligament replaced in his elbow and was shut down after only six starts last year because of elbow problems. He strained his left shoulder on a dive in his last start but didn't feel any ill effects on the mound.

"The shoulder is a little tight,

a little tired, but no big deal," Hill said. "We really needed the win and I wanted to give the bullpen a rest."

Chad Cordero got three outs, fanning Wes Helms with a runner on third to record his second save in four chances.

Coming off a complete-game, 15-strikeout performance at Cincinnati last Saturday, Cole Hamels (2-1) had his shortest outing this season. The left-hander allowed four runs and eight hits in 5 1/3 innings.

"Coming off a phenomenal performance, it gives you confidence," Hamels said. "I was feeling good for five innings, then I just got out of my comfort zone."

The Nationals went ahead 1-0 in the fourth when Young hit an opposite-field homer to right-center, one pitch after left fielder Pat Burrell threw Ryan Zimmerman out at second base trying to stretch a single into a double.

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.

WANTED

Graduating?

Not want to miss any football games this fall?

Not ready to pay rent?

Want your first job to be tons of fun? The La Lumiere School in La Porte, Indiana (30 miles West of South Bend) is hiring an Assistant Director of Residential Life. Help plan nightly and weekend activities for the 150 day and boarding students, concentrating on the 65 boarding students. Housing, utilities and meals are included in addition to a stipend. You will have plenty of free time to attend graduate school or visit with friends back in South Bend.

Preference given to candidates willing to coach a sport. Come enjoy a great environment during your first year out of college, and help provide an enjoyably productive experience for the La Lumiere students. Please contact: Michael Kennedy, Headmaster, La Lumiere School, 6801 N. Wilhelm Road, La Porte, IN 46530. 219-326-7450.

kennedy@lalumiere.org

SUMMER WORK - \$15.50 base-appt. flexible schedules, no exp.needed, customer sales/service, conditions apply, all ages 17+, positions throughout the US, apply now, start after finals,

www.workforstudents.com

Sitter for 11-year-old girl in Granger and sometimes older sisters, 15 & 17. Days, 30-40 hours/week now through summer.

Reply: Linda.Harmon1@comcast.net

Seeking Designer for personal website. Call 574-631-5491 & lv. msg.

FOR SALE

ND CONDOS NEW 2/3 BR, 2 bath condos Minutes from campus Starting in \$130,000s 574-252-2427 ndcondos.com

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3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, finished lower level, all amenities. 10 yrs. old & 1 mi to ND. \$144,900. 574-277-2176.

FOR RENT

BETTER HOMES, BETTER AREAS, BETTER DEALS. BlueGoldRentals.com

3 to 6 bedroom homes for rent for 07/08 school year. On line see rent-nd.com or mmmrentals.com. Contact Gary at Grooms@ourweb-spot.net or phone 574-277-4759.

Furnished 1 bdrm apt., 2 mi to ND. AC, non-smoking, no pets. \$400/mo + utilities, free laundry, fenced yard. 574-289-9365.

Condo for rent-walk to ND/SM. Grt loc. Spac. Lower, 2b/2b incl. all appli. A/C, Carpet, Porch, Car Port \$925 + util. 630-417-8763/MCL214@aol.com

Very large home for rent for next school year. 1 block east of campus. Walk to class/food/shops. 4 huge bedrms/3 full baths/large kitchen-fam rm & laundry rm. 3 decks overlook huge fenced yard. Very private & safe! Must see!

239-707-2025.

andersonNDrentals.com

New 3 BR, 3.5 bath twnhse, close to campus, carpet, unfurn, all appl, AC, 2 car gar. No pets. \$1650/mo plus util. 914-232-3328.

WALK TO CAMPUS!! JAMISON RESIDENTIAL 3 BDRM 2 BA LUXURY CONDO. ACROSS B-BALL STADIUM FROM CAMPUS. SLEEPS UP TO 4 STUDENTS. EXCELLENT RENTAL FOR 2 GRAD STUDENTS OR FOR PRIVACY. CONVERT 3RD BEDROOM TO STUDY. CAB, NET, GAS, ELEC, INCLUDED. \$1600 PER MONTH BEGINNING 6/1. CALL MARK @ 310-940-9444.

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574-532-8718.

Two custom built riverfront homes for sale or rent. New construction, 10 minutes to Notre Dame. First home has 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3500 sq. ft. Second home has 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3300 sq. ft. Both have a walkout lower level with second fireplace and gorgeous views. Must see! Windsor Prop. LLC 574-876-3424

Roseland Cottages available 2 bdrm 1ba, walk to campus w/W/D. 574-272-3033 or dpaul@nd.edu

CHICAGO AREA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY for Female ND Grad: Family in Northbrook has home-bound 17-yr-old daughter with chronic illness similar to chronic fatigue syndrome. Free room & board for responsible person to live in house & act as "big sister". Three blocks from Metra. Call: Dan 312-913-2130 or

Chris 574-339-0582.

Storage facility for rent. Close to ND. 1200 W. 6th St., Mishawaka. Video & access control security, climate controlled. Summer rate for students. 2 mi north of Marian High School. 5x10 \$99; 10x10 \$149. Call 574-277-1878.

PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

Do not go it alone.

If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at 1-7819. For more information, visit our web site at <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml> or see our bi-weekly ad in The Observer.

PREGNANT OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS? You do not have to be alone. We want to help. Call our 24 hour confidential hotline at 1-800-NO-ABORT or visit our website at www.lifecall.org

Adopt: A young loving couple long to share their Hearts and home with a newborn & will provide Endless love. Expenses paid call Eileen & Ed at 1-800-718-6577

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape> to learn about resources at ND and in South Bend.

Evergreen Self Storage. Both climate and non-climate controlled. Sizes from 10x10 to 10x20. Located in the Princess Way Industrial Park in Granger at 12575 Sandy Drive. Mention this ad and save 10% off your lease. Call 574-243-4608 or 574-272-0618.

Two-thirds of the Earth is covered by water. The other third is covered by Kerry Rhodes

Draft Odds: JaMarcus Russell to Raiders — 5:1 Brady Quinn to Browns — 12:1 Adrian Peterson to Vikings — 25:1 Calvin Johnson to Lions — 1:20

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, April 27, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Men's Lacrosse Top 20

	team	record	prev.
1	Cornell	8-0	1
2	Albany	8-2	2
3	Virginia	10-1	3
4	Duke	9-2	4
5	Georgetown	6-2	5
6	Princeton	6-2	7
7	Maryland	8-3	11
8	Navy	8-2	6
9	Johns Hopkins	4-4	9
10	North Carolina	7-4	10
11	NOTRE DAME	6-3	13
12	Bucknell	9-2	15
13	Towson	6-3	12
14	Loyola (Md.)	5-3	8
15	UMBC	6-4	20
16	Drexel	8-3	NR
17	Delaware	6-4	14
18	Syracuse	3-5	16
19	Fairfield	5-3	19
20	Brown	6-3	NR

NCAA Women's Lacrosse Top 20

	team	record	prev.
1	Northwestern	8-1	1
2	Maryland	12-1	3
3	North Carolina	11-2	2
4	Duke	10-2	4
5	Virginia	10-2	5
6	Penn	10-1	11
7	James Madison	9-2	6
8	Penn State	8-4	10
9	Georgetown	7-4	7
10	Syracuse	6-4	8
11	NOTRE DAME	10-3	12
12	Yale	10-3	15
13	Princeton	4-4	9
14	Dartmouth	7-3	16
15	Vanderbilt	8-4	17
16	Johns Hopkins	6-5	13
17	Denver	12-2	14
18	Rutgers	10-2	18
19	Connecticut	6-5	19
20	Delaware	6-4	20

Baseball Big East Standings

	team	Big East	overall
1	Rutgers	12-3	24-14
2	Louisville	11-4	28-11
3	St. John's	11-4	25-12
4	Pittsburgh	11-6	19-16
5	Cincinnati	7-7	21-17
6	South Florida	9-9	27-15
7	West Virginia	6-8	23-13
8	NOTRE DAME	6-8	21-18
9	Villanova	5-10	18-18
10	Seton Hall	5-10	18-19
11	Connecticut	5-10	18-20
12	Georgetown	3-12	14-26

around the dial

NBA

Raptors at Nets
7 p.m., ESPN2

Bulls at Heat
8 p.m., ESPN

NHL

Rangers at Sabres
7 p.m., Versus

MLB



Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling bleeds through his sock during the 2004 American League Championship Series against the Yankees. Rumors have surfaced that the bloody sock was merely a publicity stunt.

Schilling's sock controversy continues

Associated Press

BOSTON — No paint, no ink, no ketchup.

Nothing but Curt Schilling's blood was seeping through his socks in the 2004 postseason, current and former Red Sox said Thursday after a rumor resurfaced that the pitcher milked his injury for drama while helping Boston end its 86-year title drought.

On Wednesday, Baltimore announcer Gary Thorne said during his broadcast of the Red Sox-Orioles game that Boston backup catcher Doug Mirabelli admitted it was a hoax.

"It was painted," Thorne said. "Doug Mirabelli confessed up to it after. It was all for PR."

Thorne backed off Thursday after talking to Mirabelli before the Red Sox played the Orioles. Thorne said Mirabelli had been joking.

"He said one thing, and I heard something else. I reported what I heard and what I honestly felt was said," Thorne said. "Having talked with him today, there's no doubt in my mind that's not what he said, that's not what he meant. He explained that it was in the context of the sarcasm and the jabbing that goes on in the club-

house.

"I took it as something serious, and it wasn't," Thorne said.

Mirabelli confirmed the story, saying, "He knows that I believe 100 percent that I thought the sock had blood on it. It never crossed my mind that there wasn't blood on that sock. If he misinterpreted something said inside the clubhouse, it's unfortunate." Mirabelli said he spoke with Thorne in the Boston clubhouse about six months after the 2004 playoffs.

"As he was walking away he asked, 'How about the bloody sock?' I said, 'Yeah, we got a lot of publicity out

of that, and that was all he can recall me saying," Mirabelli said. "He said he assumed what I meant was that the sock was fake and that it was just a publicity stunt. That by no means is what I meant. There was never a doubt in mind there was blood on the sock."

After an ankle injury hampered Schilling in Game 1 of the '04 AL championship series against New York, team doctors jury-rigged a tendon in his right ankle to keep it from flopping around. With blood seeping through his sock, the pitcher came back to beat the Yankees in Game 6.

IN BRIEF

Colts dispel rumors about cornerback

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts officials spent the last three days wrestling with what might be their most important decision of the offseason.

They're still not saying anything. On Thursday, team president Bill Polian used his predraft news conference to contradict several media reports that the Colts would not match New Orleans' four-year offer sheet to cornerback Jason David, letting him leave the Super Bowl champions.

"That's wrong because I have not opted yet, at least Tony (Dungy) and I haven't," Polian said. "We're still working through some issues and we don't have to do anything. Right now, we're still working through the last little details."

David's agent, Cary Fabrikant, said the Colts had not informed him of their intentions.

Jeter scratched from lineup due to bruised thigh

NEW YORK — Derek Jeter was a late scratch from the New York Yankees' lineup Thursday night against Toronto because of a bruised left thigh.

Miguel Cairo started at shortstop in place of Jeter and batted ninth. First baseman Doug Mientkiewicz was moved from the No. 9 spot in the lineup to Jeter's regular No. 2 hole.

Jeter, who has a 14-game hitting streak, left Tuesday's game at Tampa Bay after being hit on the leg by Scott Kazmir's pitch in the first inning. He was in the posted lineup before Wednesday night's game against the Blue Jays was rained out, and was originally slated to play Thursday, too.

But about an hour before the first pitch, Jeter was removed from the lineup. He and manager Joe Torre told a team spokesman that Jeter was still a little sore. He was available off the bench.

Duquesne athlete sues school after being shot on campus

PITTSBURGH — One of five Duquesne University basketball players shot on campus last year has sued the school, alleging it failed to provide adequate security at a dance.

The lawsuit, filed late Wednesday in Allegheny County Common Pleas Court, says university officials did not take action once they knew of potential criminal activity. A doorman let two armed men into the dance even after their friend asked if the men would be frisked, according to the lawsuit.

"Rather than alerting the campus police who were present inside the ballroom about (the frisking inquiry), or taking other similar reasonable steps, the doorman simply responded that they would not be frisked," and allowed the men to enter, the lawsuit states.

NFL

Goodell continues to clean up league

Associated Press

On the eve of the NFL draft, commissioner Roger Goodell promised to whack any team leaking confidential information about potential picks. That's not a bad idea for a league beset by enough legal trouble from current players that the face it presents to the public all too often is a mug shot.

Goodell, to his credit, has wasted little time since taking office trying to polish the NFL's image. He responded to the problem he inherited — some four dozen players being arrested in a calendar year — by toughening up the personal-conduct policy and threatening to hold the teams responsible for players' transgressions.

Now he's telling teams not just to keep reports of draftees' bad behavior to themselves but to use that information to keep the troublemakers from finding employment in the first place.

Good luck. "The definition of questionable character is always going to be different for NFL executives than it is for the average Joe," said Memphis-based agent Brian Parker, whose firm specializes in solid characters.

"They've got every bit of background information on these guys that's possible to gather, from the classroom to the weight room. And they've gotten better at how they apply that information. But every team has their own method of placing value on a prospect."

That is a diplomatic way of saying that while teams spend upward of \$1 million each to have kinesiologists, psychologists, sociologists and even psychics measure, poke and probe the available talent, they always take the player they think will

help them the most, no matter how many red tabs peek out from a prospect's folder.

Or, as San Diego general manager A.J. Smith put it a while back, "Ultimately, every club has to decide how short of the ideal they're willing to accept to fill a need."

We've heard countless times that drafting players is an inexact science. What the NFL's annual auction reminds us is that it's not about how much information you gather, but what you do with it that counts.

Two years ago, for example, Louisville running back Eric Shelton interviewed with a few clubs and couldn't figure out why each one kept harping on character. It wasn't until a visit to Carolina that he learned nearly 20 teams had received background checks on him containing reports of a criminal past. The real story? The company hired to prepare the checks confused him with another Eric Shelton.

Then there was the intelligence test devised by the New York Giants to supplement the standard Wonderlic exam given to every potential draftee. Their version totaled 380 questions in all — about eight times as many as the Wonderlic — with the intention of wearing down players to the point where the club got real answers instead of the ones players were programmed by agents and media consultants to give.

What impressed the players was not the test's difficulty, but its preoccupation with suicide.

"They asked that a lot of times in a lot of different forms," Panthers receiver Steve Smith recalled. "You know, like, 'Have you ever thought the world would be better off without you?'"

NBA

Ellis wins Most Improved Player

Warriors second-year standout edges Kings Martin by three votes

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Monta Ellis felt forgotten when he slipped down the draft board nearly two years ago.

The NBA now knows all about the Golden State guard, who won the Most Improved Player award Thursday for his transformation from an unsung Mississippi high schooler to a speedy scoring threat for the improving Warriors.

Ellis edged Sacramento's Kevin Martin by three points in the closest voting in the award's history, earning 47 first-place votes and 352 points from a media panel. Martin, the Kings' high-scoring guard, got 44 first-place votes and 349 points.

Ellis averaged 16.5 points, 4.1 assists and 3.2 rebounds this season with new coach Don Nelson and the revitalized Warriors, who returned to the playoffs after a 12-year absence.

The second-round pick's improvement on his 6.8-point scoring average in his rookie season was the NBA's largest increase this year, and he caught the nation's attention with a dunk-filled 28-point performance in the Rookie Challenge during All-Star weekend.

"Playing in the (rookie) game, getting this award and making the playoffs in the same year, I really can't explain it," Ellis said. "I worked so hard this summer to put myself in this position to win this award, and I just want to thank everybody around me for giving me the opportunity and keeping me on my toes."

Ellis emerged as a key contributor to Golden State's uptempo offense in his second season, earning his teammates' trust and playing in big situations while learning to play point guard at Nelson's behest. Among second-year pros, only New Orleans' Chris Paul averaged more points per game this season (17.2).

Not bad for a high-school star who had visions of instant stardom when he joined the NBA's last prep-to-pro class in 2005. Ellis held a big draft-day party for himself in his native Jackson, Miss. — but most of the guests left before he was chosen by the Warriors with the 40th overall pick.

"I think Monta is just scratching the surface, really," Nelson said. "I gave him an opportunity because he was one of my best players. That he was just 20 years old didn't matter to me, because he could flat-out play."

The previous closest finish in the award's balloting was in 1990-91, when Scott Skiles of Orlando edged Boston's Kevin Gamble by four votes.

The award has been presented annually since the 1985-86 season.

Nelson immediately recognized Ellis' skills after taking over the Warriors late last summer, putting him in the starting lineup for 53 games and playing him in most key situations. Ellis' slashing speed works perfectly in Nelson's preferred style.

"When we watched him come out of high school, he had a lot of things he's showing now," said Chris Mullin, the Warriors' top executive. "Not as refined, but as a high-school player you always have to keep working and keep improving, and he's done that. Nellie's system has been a good fit for him."

Ellis got a standing ovation in the Warriors' locker room when Nelson announced the award Thursday. The Warriors face the top-seeded Dallas Mavericks in Game 3 of their first-round series on Friday night in Oakland's first NBA playoff game in 13 years.

Ellis is the second Golden State player in five years to win the award, after Gilbert Arenas — another second-round pick who blossomed in Oakland before moving to the Washington Wizards — in 2003. Ellis also beat out teammate Andris Biedrins, who finished fifth in the voting.

Martin's scoring average went up to 20.2 points this season from 10.8 in 2005-06, but the lanky guard struggled down the stretch of the regular season along with his spiraling teammates. The Kings missed the playoffs for the first time in nine seasons, and coach Eric Musselman was fired last week.

"I think Monta is just scratching the surface, really."

Don Nelson
Warriors coach

Saint Mary's College Program in Dance presents

Dance Arts 2007

A Dance Concert

Guest performer
Tim Richard
of New York Dance Connection

Guest Choreographer
Lisa Frank

Artistic Direction
Indi Dieckgrafe

April 26 and 27
at 7:30 P.M.

April 28
at 2:30 P.M.


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Lunch and Conversation

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Friday, May 4
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch at the Co-Mo

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Lunch will be served

CORE COUNCIL FOR GAY & LESBIAN STUDENTS

NFL

Vick connected with dog fighting operation

Police find dozens of injured canines at quarterback's house

Associated Press

SMITHFIELD, Va. — Police conducting a drug investigation raided a house owned by Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick and found dozens of dogs, some injured and emaciated.

Police also found items associated with dog fighting.

State Police Sgt. D.S. Carr said Vick's relative, Davon Boddie, 26, lives in the house. Vick owns the property, but doesn't live there and wasn't present when a search warrant was executed in a drug investigation Wednesday night, Carr said.

Boddie was arrested outside a nightclub by Hampton police April 20 on charges of distribution of marijuana and possession with intent to distribute. The search warrant was executed by a multijurisdictional task force in a narcotics probe.

More than 60 dogs were found in three buildings. Some appeared malnourished, scarred and injured, officials said.

Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The Humane Society of the United States, said the group has "heard troubling reports for some time that Michael Vick has been involved in organized dog

fighting, and we fear that this investigation may validate that very disturbing allegation."

"We urge law enforcement to aggressively investigate this matter, and we further believe that anyone who harbors dogs for the purpose of fighting, deserves to be fully prosecuted for their crimes," Pacelle said in a statement. "Dog fighting is a barbaric activity that causes immense animal suffering and fosters violence in our communities. Our nation should have a zero tolerance policy for any form of staged animal fighting."

The Humane Society said dog fighting is illegal nationwide and a felony in 48 states, including both Virginia and Georgia.

The animal rights group PETA has asked Falcons owner Arthur Blank to suspend Vick pending the investigation and "to kick him off the team if it is found that dogs on Vick's property were neglected or used for fighting."

In a letter to Blank, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said it was the second time it was writing to the owner about one of his players and allegations of cruelty to animals. On Feb. 23, the organization wrote to him about defensive tackle Jonathan Babineaux's felony charges in Georgia stemming from the fatal beating of a dog.

Falcons spokesman Reggie Roberts said the team still was gathering information on the

report and had no immediate comment.

A spokeswoman for Vick's foundation declined comment. Joel Segal, the quarterback's agent, and Larry Woodward, a Virginia attorney who has worked with both Vick and his younger brother, Marcus, didn't immediately return telephone messages seeking comment.

The probe at Vick's property is the latest in a series of embarrassing incidents for the Atlanta quarterback.

He was named in a sordid lawsuit that accused him of knowingly infecting a woman with a sexually transmitted disease and using the alias "Ron Mexico" while seeking treatment. The case was settled out of court.

Last season, Vick flashed an obscene hand gesture to heckling Atlanta fans as he walked off the field following a dismal loss to New Orleans. He was fined \$10,000 by the NFL and donated another \$10,000 to charity.

In January, security officers at Miami International Airport seized a water bottle from Vick that they said smelled of marijuana and had a hidden compartment. Authorities later said there were no drugs in the bottle, and Vick explained that he used the secret compartment to carry jewelry.

Just this week, Vick came under more criticism when he failed to show for a lobbying



Police found dozens of injured dogs Wednesday on property owned by Falcons quarterback Michael Vick, seen above.

appearance on Capitol Hill in support of increased funding for after-school programs. He missed a connecting flight in Atlanta and didn't turn up for a later flight.

Vick and two other former Virginia Tech stars — Falcons cornerback DeAngelo Hall and former Buffalo Bills defensive end Bruce Smith — are scheduled to join Hokies football coach Frank Beamer and NFL commissioner Roger Goodell in a predraft ceremony in New

York on Saturday to honor the victims of the recent shooting at the Blacksburg school.

Other athletes have been linked to dog fighting.

The NBA's Qyntel Woods pleaded guilty in January 2005 to animal abuse and was sentenced to probation and community service, in addition to pledging \$10,000 to the Oregon Humane Society. Former NFL player LeShon Johnson has twice run afoul of the law for ties to dogfighting.

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NBA

Pistons easily handle Magic

Win on Thursday has Detroit one win away from second round

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Detroit Pistons showed they know how to close out quarters. Now they want to close out another series.

Tayshaun Prince scored 23 points, Chauncey Billups added 21 and the Pistons beat Orlando 93-77 Thursday night to take a 3-0 lead in the first-round playoff series.

The victory ended a post-season trend for the Pistons — they had lost their last six Game 3s when leading 2-0 — and left them one victory from advancing to the second round.

Game 4 is Saturday in Orlando.

Detroit, which has made four straight Eastern Conference finals, gave the Magic plenty of chances in this one. The Pistons trailed early, let Orlando be physical and seemingly got flustered as they were whistled for three technical fouls: Leading scorer Richard Hamilton even had an off night, scoring 10 points on 2-of-11 shooting.

But Detroit made up for it with solid 3-point shooting — Prince, Billups and Rasheed Wallace were a combined 8-of-10 from behind the arc — and strong finishes to each of the first three quarters.

"They hit shots in the course of a game that normal teams don't hit," said Jameer Nelson, who led the Magic with 27



Detroit forward Antonio McDyeess tries to block the shot of Orlando forward Grant Hill during the Pistons' 93-77 win Thursday.

points.

The Pistons scored the final six points of the first quarter, tying the game at 23. They made two baskets in the closing seconds before halftime, including a 3-pointer by Billups as he was falling out of bounds. And Prince hit a 3 on the last possession of the third.

Those 14 points essentially turned a close game into a double-digit lead.

"Those are plays that are killers when they're against you," Detroit coach Flip Saunders said. "When they happen for you, they give you a nice cushion."

The biggest one may have come just before halftime.

Orlando looked like it would keep it close heading into the locker room, maybe even hold a lead.

But Prince hit a 20-footer with 2.3 seconds remaining and the shot clock winding down — his second jumper in the final 45 seconds.

"He's the one guy on our team that people don't talk about," Saunders said. "He's kind of a silent assassin."

Prince then stole an errant inbound pass from Turkoglu and fed Billups, who hit a falling-down 3 just before the final buzzer.

Those two shots turned a one-point game into a 48-42 advantage for Detroit.

NHL

4-goal opening period leads Sens over Devils

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Ottawa Senators got to Martin Brodeur and the New Jersey Devils early and often, and then avoided what could have been an embarrassing let-down.

Jason Spezza scored 90 seconds into the game, and the Senators jumped to a 4-0 first-period lead before holding on for a 5-4 victory Thursday night in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

"We made it harder than it should have been," Senators goaltender Ray Emery said after making 26 saves to help Ottawa win its fourth straight playoff game. "You know that team will rebound and they will not go down without a fight."

The Devils certainly put a scare into Ottawa, drawing within 4-3 early in the second period. A shot off the goal post by Scott Gomez nearly tied the game later in the second.

"We weren't as sharp after we got the lead," said Senators defenseman Wade Redden, whose third-period power-play goal gave the Senators a two-goal cushion until the closing minute. "The start of the game, we really controlled the play. We were moving it crisp and we had guys in forechecking. I guess it's human nature to sit

back a bit."

Spezza, Joe Corvo, Dean McAmmond and Dany Heatley all scored in the opening 16:39 to give Ottawa the big cushion.

"I think they were kind of watching us play," Corvo said. "We were doing all the right things and we were all over them. We were scoring on basically every shot."

Travis Zajac, Brian Gionta and Andy Greene cut the Ottawa lead to 4-3 early in the second period. Zach Parise made it 5-4 with 30 seconds left.

"It's tough to spot a team like that a four-goal lead," Devils center John Madden said. "The chances are slim you are going to win the game. But we battled back and almost pulled on off."

New Jersey played without captain Patrik Elias, who was sidelined with the effects of a lingering cold.

Game 2 is Saturday at New Jersey.

Coming off an impressive first-round win over Sydney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins, the Senators came out flying in the first period and seemed intent on embarrassing Brodeur, who maybe could have stopped one of the first four goals.

"It was a like a snowball for them," said Brodeur, who made 21 saves. "They just kept on touching everything and putting it in the net."

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ROWING

Top competition awaits ND

Rowers to face No. 5 Virginia and No. 7 Princeton Saturday

By DANIELLE KELLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame doesn't get any easy races.

The No. 6 Irish face top-level competition Saturday against No. 5 Virginia, No. 7 Princeton and George Washington in Princeton, N.J.

"Three crews, all ranked in the top seven, I think it could be a great race," Irish coach Martin Stone said.

The No. 6 Irish then travel to Worcester, Mass., Sunday to

compete in the Big East Rowing championship. Notre Dame will face a wide array of skill, competing against No. 18 Louisville, Cincinnati, Georgetown, West Virginia, Villanova, Connecticut, Syracuse and Rutgers.

In their last outing, the Irish won seven out of 10 races — including three against top-10 teams. Notre Dame will need to show that same speed against Princeton, the last year's champion.

"Whenever we go out of region, we race against the best," Stone said, referring to the Windermere Regatta as well as upcoming races against Virginia and Princeton. Stone also said an impressive performance Saturday was crucial for boosting the team's NCAA

credentials.

Although George Washington finished sixth out of nine crews in the Atlantic 10 championship, it still presents a challenge for the Irish.

"All those crews have had good speed at different parts of the year. I think it's going to be pretty difficult," Stone said.

The Irish hope that this year's Big East championship is a repeat of last year, when they finished in first or second place in all of their races.

The remainder of the season has South/Central Regional Championships slated May 12-13 and then the NCAA Championships May 25-27.

Contact Danielle Keller at dkeller@nd.edu

NHL

Sharks take series lead over Detroit

San Jose scores goals 24 seconds apart to stun top seed at home

Associated Press

DETROIT — The San Jose Sharks silenced the fans at Joe Louis Arena while stunning the Detroit Red Wings with goals 24 seconds apart.

Matt Carle and Mike Grier scored midway through the first period and Evgeni Nabokov made 34 saves to lead San Jose to a 2-0 victory Thursday night in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals.

"We got the crowd right out of the game," said Joe Thornton, who had an assist on the first goal. "That was huge."

Nabokov's shutout was his first this postseason and the fifth of his career in the playoffs. He was tied for second in the NHL with seven during the regular season.

The stellar goaltender said it was important that the Sharks maintained their two-goal lead for the final 2 1/2 periods.

"I guarantee if we would've given up one goal, they would come hard and get the momentum," Nabokov said.

Dominik Hasek had to make just 17 saves because the Sharks played very conservatively after taking the lead, possessing the puck on offense and blocking shots on defense.

"We probably could've pushed a little bit more, but we feel comfortable with 2-0 leads," Thornton said.

Game 2 is Saturday in Detroit.

"You know they're going to certainly bounce back and throw some new wrinkles at us and have a lot more energy in the next game," San Jose coach Ron Wilson said.

Entering the series, home ice was regarded as perhaps the only advantage the top-seeded Red Wings had against the fifth-seeded Sharks.

San Jose quickly took that edge away.

Carle's goal at 9:45 of the first period was set up by a fantastic series of passes around the perimeter, ending with Thornton's cross-crease pass from the corner.

"It was just ping, bang, boom and it was in the back of the net," Thornton said.



Red Wings defenseman Chris Chelios, right, checks Sharks center Marcel Goc during San Jose's 2-0 win Thursday.

The Red Wings put San Jose's powerful power play on the ice for the first goal and lost the puck in their zone to set up the second.

Grier was in the right place when the puck trickled into the slot and he wheeled around and beat Hasek with a slap shot.

"I don't think he knew what he was doing," Hasek said. "He just shot the puck and hit the post and it went in. It was maybe a lucky goal, but if you make a turnover, bad things can happen."

It was a much different start for Detroit after taking 2-0 leads midway through the first period in each of its first two games in the first round against Calgary. The Red Wings won the series in Game 6 after winning all three games at home.

"We would've liked to have a better start, but we made a couple of mistakes and the puck was in the net," Red Wings coach Mike Babcock said.

The Sharks seemed right at home in Detroit, perhaps because they won a league-high and franchise-record 26 games on the road this season and won twice more in Nashville, including the series-winning victory in Game 5 last week.

The Red Wings had three power plays in the second period — while San Jose didn't have one — but they took just four shots.

San Jose's swarming defense had a lot to do with that, though Detroit did seem to miss Tomas Holmstrom standing in front of the crease to redirect and shield shots.

"We thought they had four blocked shots on our first power play when we had people in front of the net and the puck never got through," Babcock said.

San Jose blocked 13 shots and took 13 shots through two periods, and finished with 18 blocked shots.

Holmstrom missed the game with an eye injury and the Red Wings were also without defenseman Brett Lebda because of an ankle injury and concussion. With stitches around his left eye, Holmstrom said he hoped to play in the series, but didn't know if he would be ready for Game 2.

Even at full strength, however, Detroit doesn't seem to match up well with the Sharks' combination of depth, size, speed and skill. That appeared to be the case Thursday night and during the regular season, when San Jose won three of four meetings.

ND SOFTBALL

Irish face top Big East team

DePaul perfect against conference opponents

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame will take the field once again Sunday afternoon after rainy weather postponed Thursday's matchup with Illinois-Chicago. The Irish will travel to Chicago, but this time to take on Big East powerhouse DePaul in a doubleheader.

The No. 11 Blue Demons currently hold first place in the conference with a perfect 14-0 record. With only two weeks remaining until the Big East tournament, the games will have seeding implications for both teams.

The Irish are two spots behind DePaul with a 9-5 conference record. South Florida, who beat the Irish twice this season, is nipping at Notre Dame's heels in the fourth spot at 7-5 in the Big East.

"Games like these are always huge, but we don't want to get ahead of ourselves," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said.

The Blue Demons have won their past nine contests, dating back to a 4-3 loss to No. 17 Illinois State March 21. The last time they lost by more than one run was Feb. 24 when No. 8 Baylor beat them 4-0.

The Blue Demons have also yet to lose in their 13 home games this season. Saturday's double-dip with the Irish presents the last real threat to their perfect mark since the only team that remains on their home schedule after this weekend is Illinois-Chicago (15-26).



Irish shortstop Katie Laing hits during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Valparaiso April 19 at Ivy Field.

TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

"No one thinks we are going to win, except for us," Gumpf said. "It's very important for us to stay focused and get after it."

Pitching has been the backbone of DePaul's success this year. Senior right-hander Traci Adix leads the staff with a 13-1 record and an ERA of 0.59. She has also thrown six complete game shutouts. Fellow senior Meghan Huitnik and freshman Becca Heteniak join Adix in the rotation. The trio has combined for an ERA of 1.38 in their first 39 games.

Notre Dame pitchers Brittney Bargar and Kenya Fuemmeler will look to be on top of their games in order to keep the score close and give the Irish bats time to get to the DePaul pitchers.

The Irish have struggled at the plate recently, putting up only

four runs during their current five-game losing streak, including two shutouts.

"We're leaving way too many people on base. We've had plenty of opportunities — we just aren't taking care of them," Gumpf said.

Thirty-four baserunners have been stranded during the losing streak, which averages out to more than one per inning.

Notre Dame will need to take advantage of any scoring chances the Blue Demons give them to come away with a couple of wins this weekend. The first game is scheduled to start at 1 p.m., and the second will get underway around 3 p.m.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Matchup with Hope postponed due to rain

By REBECCA SLINGER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's was forced to accept another delay in its face-off against No. 2 Hope College after rain canceled Thursday's game.

An April 4 game against Hope was cancelled because of the threat of snow and Wednesday's game was called off due to rain. The long-suffering game has been rescheduled for today at 3:30 p.m. at Gainey Field.

Belles head coach Erin Sullivan said the team is ready to play Hope.

"We're really excited. Hope's always a good team, and we just want our chance to beat them," she said. "The team's just ready to go."

The Belles have hit .353 this season, third in the league. They also have the second-best pitching staff in the MIAA behind the arms of sophomores Calli

Davison and Kristin Amram. The pair has combined for a 2.35 ERA and held their opponents to a meager .200 batting average.

Amram is first in the MIAA with a 1.06 ERA and second in the league with 130 strikeouts.

Strong defense and a powerful offense have not been the Belles only strength this season. The team's precise play in the field has kept it to a league-low 26 errors on the season.

With 255 total hits this season and 194 runs, the Belles lead the Flying Dutch, who have driven in 168

runs. The Belles are second in the league with 20 homers, including seven by sophomore catcher Ashley Fusaro. The backstop has a slugging percentage of .702.

Saint Mary's will play Kalamazoo Saturday at 1 p.m.

"The team's just ready to go."

Erin Sullivan
Belles coach

Contact Rebecca Slinger at rsling01@saintmarys.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles prepared for MIAA tourney

Saint Mary's travels to Kalamazoo for meet

By ELLYN MICHALAK
Sports Writer

After wrapping up its regular season with a win Monday, Saint Mary's will travel to Kalamazoo, Mich., today for the start of the final tournament of the year — the MIAA conference tournament.

Earlier this week, the Belles (11-12, 5-3 MIAA) fell short in their final conference match of the season at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at Notre Dame.

Albion dominated the Belles in both singles and doubles play, eventually defeating them 8-1.

"We put forth our best effort. Unfortunately, [Albion] was very strong and consistent," senior captain Kelly McDavitt said. "We were not able to get the victory."

The Belles hit the road last Monday, traveling to Grand Rapids, Mich., to play in a non-conference competition against Aquinas. After losing to

Aquinas 5-4 in the last season, the Belles fought hard and avenged the loss, defeating the Saints 5-4. The Belles dominated in singles play, winning four of the six matches, while in doubles play, only the No. 3 duo of freshmen Lisa Rubino and Erin Kaplan managed to obtain a victory.

"We are looking forward to going to conference on Thursday," McDavitt said. "We are going to use our recent experience with Albion and Aquinas from this week to get ready for conference play. We are going to use good match play to build teamwork and put forth our best effort in the tournament."

The Belles entered last year's MIAA tournament as the fourth seed. At the tournament, Saint Mary's took fifth place and then earned fifth place in the final league standings. The last time the Belles won the tournament was in the 2004 season, when they entered it with a first-place seed.

As freshman at the 2004 MIAA tournament, Grace Gordon (with then-sophomore

Kristen Palombo) took second-place in the No. 3 doubles spot. This year, as a senior, Gordon will compete in the No. 2 doubles spot to vie for similar honors.

In the 2005 MIAA tournament, the Belles finished in the top three spots in every singles match except No. 6 spot. In the 2006 MIAA tournament, then-junior Kelly McDavitt and senior Calie Mulcahy took second place at the No. 1 doubles spot. But that past individual success may not translate into this year's tournament because of various rules changes to the event.

"The tournament is a different format this year," Belles coach Dee Stevenson said. "This year, it is a team dual match tournament, while last year it was an individual competition."

The Belles will again enter the tournament this year in the fourth seed. Despite the seeding and tough conference competition, Stevenson remained confident about her team's chances.

"We never go into a match expecting to lose, so we're going into the tournament in the fourth seed with a positive attitude and expecting to win," she said.

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continued from page 24

a good job hitting the outside shot. Its strategy was to pass the ball around often until finding an open shot — a strategy that benefited the team due to the steadily increasing rain it played through.

"The rain forced our strategy," O'Connell said. "But it didn't affect us too much. We still attacked spots in the zone."

O'Connell, Henry, Tim Capecci, Pat Lopez and Casey "Pistol" McGushin were able to draw defenders to the ball and find the open man effectively.

This strategy played right into the Broskis' game plan. The Broskis' 2-3 zone wouldn't let SBO get inside and did a good job of forcing longer shots.

The game started point-for-point, with neither team leading by more than one until SBO scored four straight to stretch the score to 10-7. At that point, lightning forced the players under shelter near the Bookstore and torrential rain drenched the court.

After the delay, gameplay changed significantly. The ball made a dull thud on the wet court, and bounce passes took a much different path than intended.

"We couldn't dribble," Henry said. "We also couldn't use the backboard."

After the break, the Broskis scored three straight and went into the half down just one. It was in the beginning of the second half that conflict arose.

The guards on both teams argued heatedly over fouls called — and, at times, ones not called. At one point, a Broski even began threatening a fan. The Broskis' mantra, which they repeated often to SBO players, became "don't start something you can't finish."

"It got a little heated, a little physical," O'Connell said. "But it was just two teams working hard."

SBO did finish, however, scoring eight of the last 11 points to seal the win. Along with perimeter shooting, both SBO and the Broskis did a good job crashing the boards. Ten of SBO's last 11 points came on put-backs or short jump shots.

Kramer Properties 21 Team 110 12

The tournament's top seed proved it deserved it Thursday.

Kramer Properties' entire team hit shots from three-point range.

Chad Knapke, Brad Phillips, Scott Smith and D.R. Amato not only shot well but also locked Team 110 down on defense. Knapke said that while the team's athletic advantage may be different from other teams, it presents a formidable obstacle.

"We're not the biggest team out here. We feel like we're a lot quicker than some other teams," Knapke said. "We try to use our quickness to our advantage on defense, get in the other man's face, make them make mistakes,

pretty much."

The game was close early, with both teams playing to their strengths. Kramer Properties found the open man, either in the lane or on the perimeter, for baskets. Team 110 sank some jump shots, with the free-throw line being the spot of choice. Kramer Properties jumped ahead 4-0, but 110 battled back and its deficit was 11-7 at the half.

The intensity picked up in the second half. Kramer Properties started creating more turnovers, which led to fast breaks, offensive rebounds and put-back baskets. Team 110 was not done, however. It scored three straight points to cut the score to 16-12, one coming on a textbook pick and roll from the right side, and another after 110's third consecutive offensive rebound.

Eventually, Kramer Properties took control of the game and scored five straight points for the win. The last point ended dramatically — the rebound from Kramer Properties' shots went out of bounds twice, only to be blindly flung back inbounds and recovered. Finally, Kramer Properties sank a jumper from beyond the arc to end the game.

Turtle Creek 21 Original Pancake House 14

Not even the rain could stop Turtle Creek's defense Thursday against the Original Pancake House.

In what was a fairly even matchup on the slippery Bookstore courts, Turtle Creek overcame Original Pancake House's size advantage due to its ball movement and tight defense.

The first half started with Turtle Creek juniors Joe Marnell and Rob Heroman hitting a series

of jump shots, which were set up with excellent ball movement around the perimeter.

Down low, Turtle Creek looked to get juniors Matt Gibson and Matt Hamel involved as well. Original Pancake House fought back with a string of jumpers to tighten Turtle Creek's lead.

On offense, Original Pancake House tried to go down low with its big men and an occasional outside shot.

Turtle Creek did a great job of stepping into the passing lanes to create turnovers, and on one occasion, it led to a fast break concluding with a series of passes including a behind-the-back dish for a layup.

Although the tempo slowed in the second half, Turtle Creek continued to frustrate Original Pancake House. Tempers flared when Hamel blocked a shot, causing some shoving and trash talking.

However, with good shooting down the stretch — including a pair of jump shots from Marnell — Turtle Creek was able to take care of Original Pancake House.

After the game, Marnell, Gibson and Heroman spoke about their keys to victory.

"We came out looking to rotate the ball," Marnell said.

"Our main thing was to come out with intensity," Gibson said. "We wanted to execute good team defense, and play as a team."

But they both attributed their success to their fan support, mainly their team dad, J.J. "Sauce" Cappa, and team mom Courtenay "Nay Nay" Moran.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu and Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer
Ryan Hornacek shoots over a defender during the Monstars' loss to My Daddy's Name is Devitt Thursday.

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Rutgers

continued from page 24

turn it around], but if we play our best game, not many teams can match us," he said.

The Irish, currently tied for seventh in the conference, need to continue to win in order to ensure they make the Big East tournament, which the top eight teams qualify for.

If the season ended today, Notre Dame would be in as the seven-seed, but with 11 conference games remaining and Villanova, Connecticut and Seton Hall all a mere one-and-a-half games behind, the Irish need to keep playing at their current level.

"It's very important that we win this series," Pollock said.

That won't be an easy task against the Scarlet Knights,

who feature five starters who are hitting over .300, including outfielder Dave Williams, who is hitting .415.

Notre Dame will counter the Rutgers offense with pitcher Dan Kapala, who is back in the starting rotation after sitting out last weekend's series against West Virginia with tendonitis.

The other two starters for the Irish in this weekend's series are unclear. Junior Wade Korpi, sophomore David Phelps, sophomore Kyle Weiland and freshman Eric Maust, all of whom have started conference games this season, will be available for coach Dave Schrage.

"If we do the things we need to do, I don't think anyone in the conference can beat us."

A.J. Pollock
Irish third baseman

Rutgers' pitching staff has been its weak spot this season. The Scarlet Knights have just a 4.82 team ERA and will be facing an Irish team that is averaging 7.2 runs per game over its last five.

As usual, Pollock and shortstop Brett Lilley will lead Notre Dame from the top of the lineup, but it will be up to sluggers like first baseman Mike Dury — who is looking for his ninth home run this year — to drive them in.

Both Saturday's doubleheader and Sunday's single game will begin at noon.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Hoyas

continued from page 24

14 game, Notre Dame became the first team to defeat Georgetown in Big East play with the 13-8 win. The Hoyas had won 37 straight Big East contests dating back seven seasons, when the conference added women's lacrosse.

While Notre Dame is the lowest seed in the tournament, Irish coach Tracy Coyne said her team is very confident.

"We're not intimidated by anyone," Coyne said. "We've beaten Georgetown once this season and played Syracuse and Rutgers very close. We know we can play with anyone."

The Irish will focus on containing Georgetown star and Big East player of the year Coco Stanwick. The senior attack — who scored just one goal and one assist in the first Notre Dame match — led the Big East with 74 points on the year.

The Hoyas' success has largely hinged on their defense this season, led by senior Maggie

Koch, Big East defensive player of the year. Georgetown led the Big East defensively, giving up only 7.03 goals per game in conference play.

Coyne said Notre Dame has been looking forward to this tournament for a long time.

"From the beginning of the year, winning the Big East championship has always been one of our biggest goals," Coyne said. "We feel very ready and prepared going into the tournament."

The Irish finished the regular season with 11 wins and only five losses, all to ranked teams. Facing one of the toughest schedules in the nation, Notre Dame was 6-5 against ranked opponents.

Sophomore Jillian Byers led Notre Dame and the Big East with 55 goals on the season, and her production will be key to the Irish's tournament suc-

cess. Junior Caitlin McKinney was second on the Irish with 60 points off 39 goals and 21 assists, and has led the team in assists all season.

McKinney and Byers were both named unanimous all-Big East selections, and senior defender Meghan Fitzpatrick also was named to the first team. Seniors Kaki Orr and Lena Zentgraf were selected to the second team.

The winner of the Georgetown-Notre Dame game will advance to the Big East championship game to face either No. 3-seed Rutgers or No. 2-seed Syracuse. The Irish dropped contests to both teams in close matches in the regular season, falling at Syracuse 16-13 in overtime and at home against the Scarlet Knights 8-7.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

"We feel very ready and prepared going into the tournament."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

Espinoza

continued from page 24

she feels the she is still her main competition.

"Yes, I'm still trying to get past the other athletes at this level," she said. "But most of what I'm trying to do is get past my marks and what I can do to improve."

As a young athlete, Espinoza competed in both throwing and jumping events. In fourth grade, she competed at the Junior Olympics in high jump, long jump and shot put. She liked competing in multiple events because it gave her the chance to see which one she liked best and in which events she performed best.

"I guess shot put and discus were a little above normal, so I just stuck with it," she said.

Personal-best throws drive Espinoza and give her motivation to keep up her hard work.

"It helps me to continue to work hard just because I know that what I'm doing is helping me to improve," she said. "And when I get that improvement, it just helps me

to work even harder to continue to keep improving my mark."

Espinoza will not throw the shot put this weekend — she'll compete in just the discus. This week in practice, Espinoza has focused on controlling her throwing motion in the ring.

"We've just been working on getting faster in the ring, which is helping to get the discus farther," she said. "Being fast, and still keeping the technique the same."

Although the Big East championships are looming, Espinoza said she approaches this meet the same way as any other and feels no added pressure.

"Every meet is another chance to get a big throw, and that's how I look at every meet, to get a mark farther than what I have gone before," she said. "I try not to get too worried about things. I just go to the meet and try and do my best. I know I'm pretty well-matched in the Big East. [This weekend] will probably be a challenge."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Buckeyes

continued from page 24

He has stopped 20-of-24 shots on goal for an impressive .833 save percentage.

"In the last six games, we played well defensively," Zimmerman said. "We are a great defensive unit. We need to play within ourselves, and we will come away with the win."

Ohio State is led by sophomore attack Joel Dalgarno, who has a team-high 42 points. Junior midfielder Kevin Buchanan is on a 26-game point streak dating back to 2005 while leading the Buckeyes in the assists category with 20 helpers.

Sophomore attack Jeff Ryan leads the team with 24 goals.

Senior midfielder Eric O'Brien has won 127 out of 211 face-offs (.602 percentage) for the Buckeyes.

Junior goalie Stefan Schroder has recorded all 12 decisions for Ohio State and has registered a .564 save percentage while making 114 stops.

"We prepared well all week to play a talented Ohio State team," Kemp said. "We have done a great job with our scout team. Our coaches have prepared us."

The opening faceoff will be at noon at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium.

Contact Pat O'Brien at pobrien2@nd.edu

WELCOME BACK TO CAMPUS:

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THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ATHLETICS

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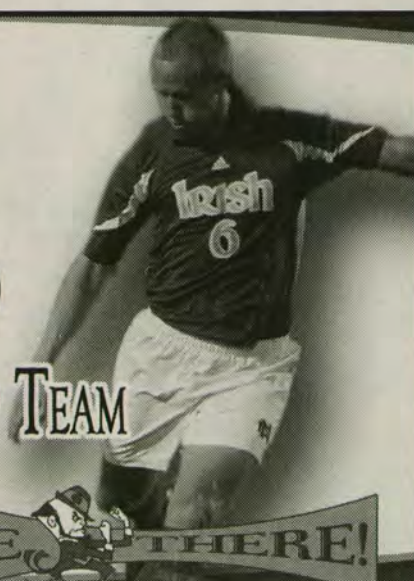

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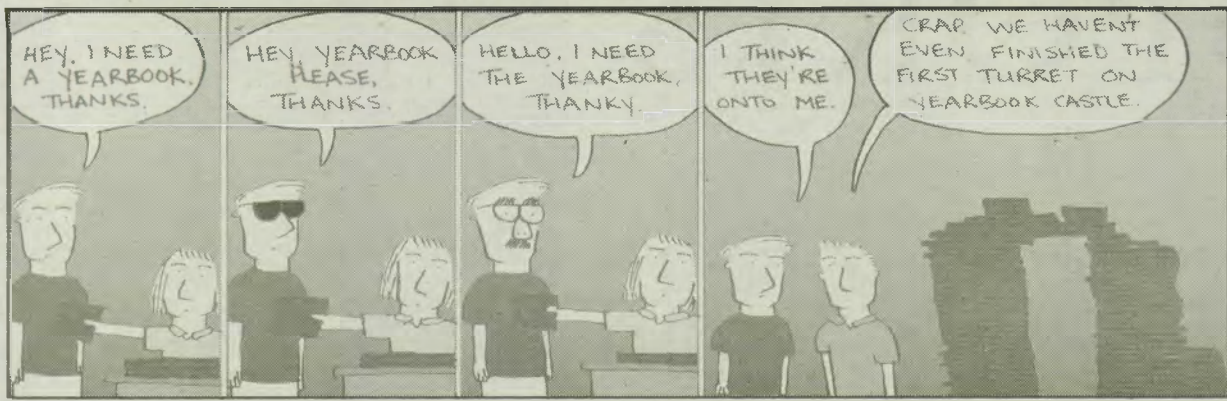
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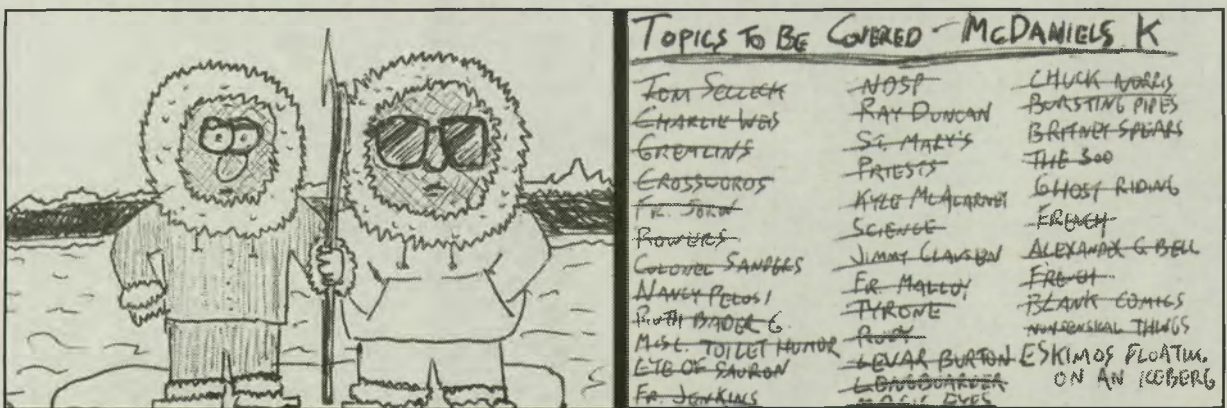
BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

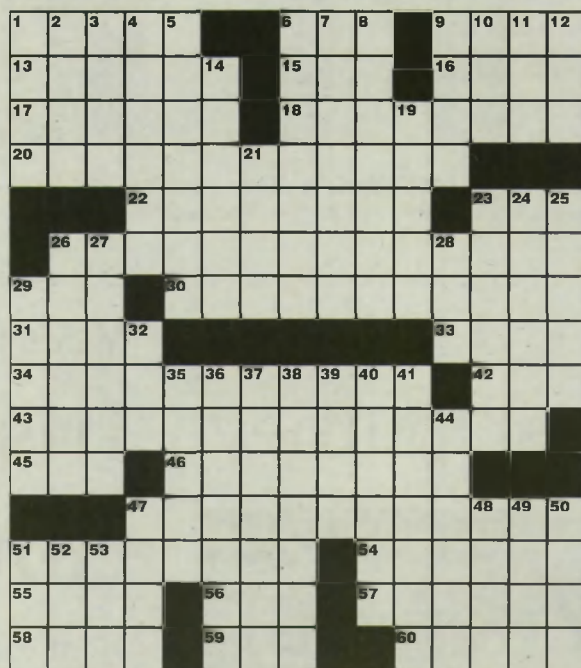
LIAM MORAN



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- "Same here"
 - Journey part
 - A.A.A. offering
 - Backless furniture
 - Let go
 - Martini & Rossi product
 - Punish arbitrarily
 - It has its highs and lows in math
 - Longtime TV host with a 1997 Lifetime Achievement Emmy
 - Something gotten on principal
 - Alternate name indicator
 - Feeling of excited anticipation
 - Pal
 - Antique dealers' destinations
 - Washington capital?
 - Make a sacrifice, perhaps
 - Treason
 - Affairs
 - Producer of many fragrances
 - Hirer's request: Abbr.
 - "Sense and Sensibility" sister
 - Microscopic code carrier
 - It was on the 37-Down of Johnny Unitas and Lenny Wilkens
 - Heavy metal
 - Like the ocean
 - Rembrandt van
 - Complaints, informally
 - Head-turner
 - Navigation abbreviation
 - Crib parts
- Down**
- Exile of note
 - Winery in Sonoma County
 - Pennsylvania and others: Abbr.
 - Variety of swallow
 - Holy smoke?
 - World Series team manager of 1977, 1978, 1981 and 1988
 - Pressing
 - River through Rochester
 - Gum holders
 - 33-time Walker Cup winner
 - "Road Rules" ailer
 - Quiche, e.g.
 - Some dormitory purchases
 - The sculptures "Rigoletto" and "La Tosca," e.g.
 - Check for a place to stay
 - Drive at, with "to"
 - Really into
 - Seconds: Abbr.
 - Experts sit on them
 - Strands, somehow
 - Bit
 - Some infiltrators
 - Informal states?
 - "American Buffalo" playwright

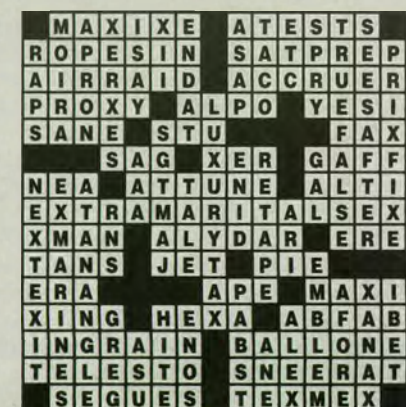


Puzzle by Eric Berlin

- Bullies, often
- "Romance de Barrio" and others
- Poet Thayer and others
- Skinny?
- Stuff in a locker
- Reporter Skeeter of Harry Potter novels
- Jour's opposite
- Gremlins and Hornets
- Be off one's guard
- Brightness measures
- Some college Greeks

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

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

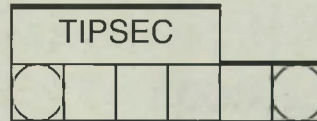
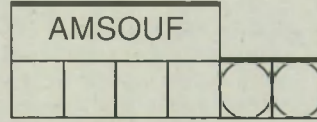
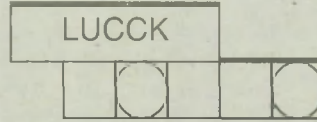
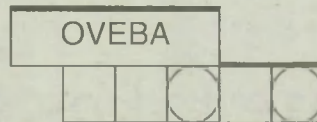


JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



Answer here:



(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LIGHT AROMA DETAIN GASKET
Answer: What the pupils experienced when they failed the multiplication test — HARD "TIMES"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jet Li, 44; Michael Damian, 45; Bobby Rydell, 65; Carol Burnett, 74

Happy Birthday: The more precise you are this year, the better you will do. Emotional matters may surface but it's time for you to deal with such things, once and for all. You have to move on or make things work, instead of avoiding the inevitable. That is what has held you back in the past. Your numbers are 12, 20, 24, 32, 37, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't hold back when you have so much to say, offer and do. You can make things happen if you push for what you want. A change in location, job or even the way you do things will all pay off. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take another look at something you passed over a while back. It may be time to pick up a new hobby, project or contract. An emotional issue that has been plaguing you can be fixed if you set new ground rules. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone may be trying to appease you with empty promises or even lies. Judge for yourself and make decisions based on facts. A problem with a partner or loved one may take you by surprise. Honesty will count, so don't exaggerate. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can make some interesting choices that will put you in a much better position for your career, education or relationships. Let go of the past and reinvent yourself and your life. Replace what isn't working with what makes you happy. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A new business or getting involved in a hobby that will introduce you to new friends will pay off. However, don't use your own cash, be too generous or get involved in a risky venture. Do something romantic in the evening hours. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Problems at home or with something you own must be taken care of quickly before matters worsen. A love matter may get blown out of proportion. Stay calm and hear whatever complaints are being made. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may be living in a dream world today but that's OK. Love is on the rise and travel and doing things with the one you love are all good. So forget about your worries and enjoy the moment. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can make headway today, so don't let anyone push you to do things that aren't your first concern. You have to work at getting your own projects off the ground. Set up appointments and you will convince others to back you. 4 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be careful: Just when you think you have everything in place, someone is likely to pull the rug out from under you. Don't take chances while traveling and be careful what you say. Precautions must be taken. 2 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Follow your heart and do something that excites you, instead of sticking to the same old humdrum routine. An unusual option will catch your eye. Do your research but don't rule out the possibilities. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can get serious about a lot of things in your life today. Relationships, where you see yourself living and what you intend to do with the rest of your life are all up for discussion. Good things will develop if you take action. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It will be one step forward and two steps back, especially if you haven't been completely upfront about what you are doing and whose ideas you are using. Someone could pull the plug on what you are trying to accomplish. Be honest. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are curious, unpredictable and always original. You will try things that may appear to be impossible. You are determined, outgoing and ready to take on the world.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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BASEBALL

Notre Dame takes two-series win streak to Piscataway

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

Notre Dame has won its last two conference series, but its quest for a third straight will be a little tougher.

The Irish travel to

Piscataway, N.J., this weekend for three games in two days Saturday and Sunday against Big East leader Rutgers.

Notre Dame (22-18, 6-8 Big East) has won five of its last seven conference games and eight of its last 10 overall.

The Scarlet Knights (24-14,

12-3 Big East) are riding a four-game winning streak and swept South Florida (who swept Notre Dame in late March) last weekend. Rutgers is also 11-1 at home this season, with its only loss coming to Seton Hall April 14.

But Irish third baseman A.J.

Pollock sees no reason why his team can't stop the Scarlet juggernaut in its tracks.

"Everybody is very confident," the freshman said. "We've built up a lot of confidence over the last week. If we do the things we need to do, I don't think anyone in the con-

ference can beat us."

That confidence in the clubhouse, Pollock said, has recently emerged as the team has started to play better.

"A couple weeks ago, most guys didn't think [we could

see RUTGERS/page 22

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXVI

Trimming the field

Annual tournament down to eight teams

By BILL BRINK and LORENZO REYES
Sports Writers

And then there were eight.

The 2007 Bookstore Basketball tournament is coming to a close. The quarterfinals will take place tonight at the Bookstore courts starting at 6, while the Final Four will be played Saturday afternoon with games at 3 and 4. Based on today's Sweet Sixteen games, the weekend is sure to be action-packed.

South Bend Orthopaedics 21, The Legendary Broskis 17

Both lightning and tempers flared during No. 15 South Bend Orthopaedics' victory over the Legendary Broskis. The game, which took a 45-minute break due to lightning in the area, was tough, physical and evenly matched throughout.

SBO, led by Joe O'Connell and Matt Henry on the perimeter, did



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Pat Devitt, center, drives against Monstar defenders Hank Jenkins, left, and Andrew Derksen during My Daddy's Name is Devitt's win Thursday at the Bookstore courts.

see BOOKSTORE/page 21

TRACK

Split squad travels to top meets

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

The toughness of Notre Dame's competition will jump to a higher level this weekend.

Some athletes will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, to compete in the Drake Relays, while others will head to Hillsdale, Mich., to compete in the Hillsdale Gina Relays. Both relays are notorious for the high level of competition.

Freshman thrower Jaelyn Espinoza isn't fazed by the competition. Instead, she challenges herself.

"Ever since I've been throwing since I was young, I've always looked at it as a competition against myself and my marks," she said. "Even being at this higher level, I still look at this as a competition with myself."

Although Espinoza has won an event at the college level,

see ESPINOZA/page 22

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

ND plays in first Big East tourney

Hoyas await team in first-round matchup

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

For the first time in its history, Notre Dame will play in a conference tournament.

No. 12 Notre Dame enters the inaugural Big East championship today, facing top-seeded Georgetown in the first round. The No. 4-seed Irish will look to defeat the Hoyas for the second time this season and pick up their first-ever win at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse.

The Irish (11-5, 3-2 Big East) won the regular season match against the Hoyas (9-6, 4-1) in a historic match at Moose Krause Stadium. In the April



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish attack Jillian Byers cradles against Duquesne defender Stacie Pollock during Notre Dame's 15-7 win April 1.

see HOYAS/page 22

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish face OSU for conference crown

By PAT O'BRIEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to Columbus, Ohio, Saturday to take on conference rival Ohio State in a matchup of two teams on hot streaks. The No. 10 Irish (9-3, 3-0 GWLL) have won six in a row while the No. 20 Buckeyes (8-4, 4-0) are coming off four straight victories.

Not only are the undefeated conference records on the line, but the winner of this game also receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament as the GWLL champion.

"In the back of our minds, we know it's a big game," Irish defender Ross Zimmerman said. "[Ohio State] is a different team with a few new players in

big roles. They are very physical and are a good defensive team with offensive threats."

Freshman attack Will Yeatman leads the Irish offense with team-highs in points (37) and assists (19). Sophomore attack Ryan Hoff is the team leader in goals with 30.

Junior midfielder Taylor Claggett leads the Irish in face-offs. He has won 137 out of 226 draws for a .606 percentage.

Junior goaltender Joey Kemp mans the defensive end for Notre Dame. He has recorded all 12 decisions, making 122 saves along the way for a save percentage of .635. Sophomore goalie Scott Rodgers, who has played more minutes recently, has seen action in five games.

see BUCKEYES/page 22