

THE OBSERVER

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Reish, Braun tickets advance to run-off election

Top two pairs prepare for final contest Thursday

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

Candidates Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt came 61 votes short of capturing the student body presidency and vice presidency during the primary elections Monday.

Reish and Schmidt received 1,870 votes, 48.43 percent of the total 3,861 votes cast. Since they did not receive 50 percent of the total votes, they will compete in a run-off against Maris Braun and running mate George Chamberlain, who came in second.

Braun, the current student body vice president, and Chamberlain, the senator from Sorin Hall, received 866 votes, or 22.43 percent of the total.

see RUN-OFF/page 4

Student Body Primary Election

Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt	48.43%
Maris Braun and George Chamberlain	22.43%
Bill Ehrlich and Mike Roscitt	13.75%
Peter Kelly and Jon Poelhuis	6.27%
Cooper Howes and Daniel Rimkus	2.51%
Rick Hollowood and Alex Tomala	1.53%
Abstain	5.08%

MATT HUDSON/The Observer

Defeated candidates reflect on campaign, look ahead

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Four of the six tickets vying for Notre Dame student body president and vice president left the campaign trail after being defeated in the primary Monday.

The top two tickets — Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt and Maris Braun and George Chamberlain — will compete in a run-off Thursday.

Juniors Bill Ehrlich and Michael Roscitt placed third overall with 531 votes, or 13.75 percent of the total votes.

Ehrlich and Roscitt's campaign reflected their laid back approach to student government.

"I think we achieved the goals of our campaign," Roscitt said. "We wanted to

see DEFEAT/page 6

New policy ignores abstentions in final vote count; Judicial Council pleased with voter turnout, condemns 'abstain' posters



Presidential candidate Bob Reish, left, and running mate Grant Schmidt, pictured at the debate Wednesday, finished first in the primary.

PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

Judicial Council officials said they were pleased with voter turnout in the student body elections Monday — but they took issue with posters displayed around campus encouraging voters to abstain from the election.

This is the first election in which abstentions were eliminated from the vote count so that candidates need receive only 50 percent of votes cast for a specific candidate to win the election.

Judicial Council president Ashley Weiss said the change in tallying abstentions ensures the abstaining votes could not block a ticket from receiving

the necessary 50 percent, as happened in the 2007 student body elections. That election was decided by a Senate vote, resulting in the election of student body president Liz Brown and student body vice president Maris Braun.

"We introduced this as a safety net to make sure it doesn't happen again," Weiss said. Weiss and vice president of elections Danny Smith expressed disappointment with posters placed in dorms and South Dining Hall encouraging students to vote "abstain." One such poster read: "Domers wants you to vote abstain. God save the Irish."

Though the Judicial Council does not have jurisdiction over the matter unless the person

responsible is a member of student government, both Weiss and Smith condemned the posters.

"I think it's a little disheartening and almost disappointing that individuals that have really invested themselves in the student body and are striving to achieve more have individuals that are proclaiming against that," Weiss said. "In the fashion that they've been putting up the posters, it's disrespectful to the candidates and to student government at large."

Since none of the posters were approved by the Student Activities Office, Smith said posting around campus is a punishable offense.

see ABSTAIN/page 6

Top editors selected for 2008-2009 term

Observer Staff Report

Jay Fitzpatrick, Katie Kohler and Deirdre Krasula have been hired to help oversee The Observer editorial operations in 2008-09, incoming editor-in-chief Chris Hine announced Monday.

Fitzpatrick will be the managing editor, the No. 2 position at The Observer, while Kohler and Krasula will serve as assistant managing editors.

Fitzpatrick, a junior majoring in history and Arabic with



Fitzpatrick

a minor in journalism, ethics, and democracy, will assist Hine in managing all departments at The Observer. He said he will focus on improving the quality of writing and efficiency of day-to-day production at The Observer.

"When I first joined The Observer I never thought that I would have this chance to carry on the legacy of the paper."

Fitzpatrick, a resident of Dillon Hall from Catonsville, Md., began writing Interhall football in the fall of his freshman year and has covered various sports beats including football and women's basketball. For the past year he served as an associate sports

see STAFF/page 6

Students assist tax filing

Accounting majors earn credit to provide free help in community

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

As the April 15 deadline for filing income taxes looms, students in the Tax Assistance Program are helping members of the local community prepare tax returns as part of a two-credit course.

The program provides free tax-preparing services of federal and state income taxes for any individual or family with a combined income of less than \$38,000.

The Tax Assistance program "gets students involved in the real world, applying what they are learning in the classroom to real help for real people," course professor Ken Milani said.

Beginning Feb. 9 and continuing through the tax season, 90 students will spend three hours a week at one of nine designated centers in the South Bend-Mishawaka area. These centers include the Mishawaka Public Library and the South Bend Public Library as well as on-campus locations such as LaFortune Student Center and the Center for Social Concerns. The program extends beyond the area at another site in Plymouth, Ind.

Assistance is also available for students and staff who have tax returns that meet the income requirement.

Accountancy majors who have taken a federal tax class are eligible to participate in the Tax Assistance Program,

and some students like senior Kevin Manning and Masters of Accountancy student Tricia DeGroot will be participating in the program for a second semester.

"It just makes you feel good because you know that these people can't afford to have their tax returns done by anyone else," Manning said.

The Tax Assistance Program was started in 1972 by a law student and an MBA student, and Milani has been instructing the course ever since.

"The program started with one center and half a dozen students," Milani said. "Now, there are 10 locations and 90 students ... It has changed

see TAXES/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Just love

It's that time of year again.

No, not when you're recovering from Friday's celebration of the 98th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

By Cupid, it's Valentine's Day season!

Thursday, I will celebrate my 20th Valentine's in the same way I celebrated 18 of the previous 19 — by chilling at home and doing home-work.

John Tierney

Valentine's Day is like Thanksgiving — they're both giving holidays. On Thanksgiving, we're supposed to give thanks. Meanwhile, on Valentine's Day, we should give love.

Not necessarily love in a romantic way. And not necessarily love in a free way.

I'm not sure in which "way" we should give love on Valentine's Day, but we should give it.

To our friends. To our family. To our dorm brothers. To acquaintances from class. To the people we don't like from class.

Yes, even to the people we don't like from class.

(Column Intermission #1: My friend Kyle the Great just stopped by my room. She asked for a shout-out.)

Just as we give universal thanks on Thanksgiving, we should try to give universal love on Valentine's Day.

I know I may sound like a hippie, but I honestly have never smoked anything in my life. (Some people say that's where I went wrong.)

But hippies aside, Valentine's Day is more than a celebration for lovers, as the Kay Jewelers commercial that just popped up on my TV suggests.

To me, the essence of Valentine's Day was best captured this weekend by Sunday's showing of *Saving Private Ryan* on TNT. What love could be greater than that Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) shows for Private James Francis Ryan, some guy he never even met?

As romantic as those "every kiss begins with Kay" commercials may be, love isn't just about romance. It's about going above and beyond the call of duty for a friend, a stranger or an acquaintance.

It's important to remember that non-romantic love is just as deep as any other sort of love, despite the lack of attention it receives on Valentine's Day.

According to the "Love is in the Moment" Facebook event, suicide rates are at their highest at this time of year. If we let our love for our fellow people show, we may be able to do something to change that.

In 2005, 32,439 Americans committed suicide. But depression isn't just limited to those who commit or contemplate suicide. The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that 18 million Americans suffer from depression, and that 20 percent of teenagers will experience it by the time they reach adulthood.

Twenty percent of teenagers. As college students, approximately half of us are out of the teenage years. Look about you. One out of five people in your hallway, your room, your dorm, your class, your table in the dining hall has suffered from depression.

This Valentine's Day, remember to share the love. If you're in a relationship, don't limit your love to your significant other. If you're single, don't bitterly wish you had a girlfriend.

Just love.

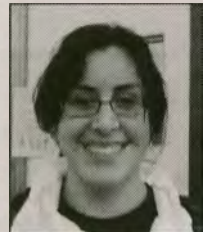



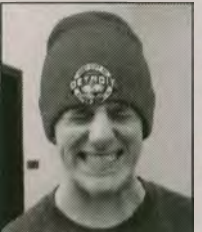

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

In the news article "NAACP hosts talk on relationship issues" published Feb. 11, the acronym NAACP was defined incorrectly. NAACP stands for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WOULD IT TAKE FOR NOTRE DAME TO HAVE CLASSES CANCELED?

					
Cristina Anaya	Chris Savino	Emily Doll	Angelica Nguyen	Joel Sharbrough	Maggie Merkel
sophomore Howard	sophomore Morrissey	junior Howard	freshman Pasquerilla West	junior Keough	senior Welsh Family
"It would take five feet of snow, because people like Cinthya would get lost and confused."	"That's a joke!"	"It would take...the second coming of Jesus."	"The death of Charlie Weis."	"Maybe if there was an avalanche off of all the giant mountains we have around here ... but maybe not."	"Enough snow so that the doors to DeBartolo wouldn't open."



Jeremy Eltz and Derek Stump of Ziolkowsky Contruction work on renovations to a computer cluster in Fitzpatrick Hall of Engineering. The cluster will be converted into office space.

DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

OFFBEAT

Cleaners find decomposing body in bathtub

PHOENIX — A dried and decomposing body was found in a bathtub filled with dirt in a Phoenix apartment that was stacked to the ceiling with garbage and human waste.

Owners of the small, standalone unit thought it had been abandoned in August, when they stopped receiving rent payments, Phoenix police Sgt. Joel Tranter said Monday.

Tranter said the owners didn't decide to do anything about the filthy apartment until last week,

when they paid other tenants in the complex to clean it out.

He said the cleaners began by removing garbage and boxes and buckets filled with human waste.

Dogs sacrafice their lives saving family

WINONA, Minn. — Bella, a 3-year-old golden retriever/collie mix who was once rescued as an abused puppy, returned the favor to her owners by alerting them to a house fire. With help from Maddie, a 6-month-old

golden retriever, Bella helped get Sue Feuling and her 9-year-old daughter, Mckenzie, out of the house last week. The dogs didn't make it.

"Those dogs were without a doubt the heroes," said Winona Assistant Fire Chief Jim Multhaup.

Bella had jumped on Feuling's bed early Friday morning and started barking, and Feuling then smelled smoke, grabbed her daughter and rushed out of the house.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

As part of Ethics Week, Richard "Digger" Phelps will present a lecture entitled "Community Service: An Ethical Imperative" Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Mendoza College of Business.

Children's Storytime: Valentine's Day Party will take place tody at 11 a.m. and 1p.m. in Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Stories and activities led by Kay Londergan.

Women's basketball will play Marquette Wednesday in the Joyce Center at 7 p.m.

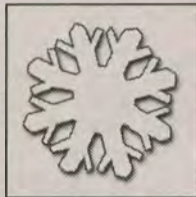





Women's tennis will play Ohio State Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Admission is free.

The film "9 Star hotel" will be playng at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Thursday at 7 p.m. as part of the "Immigration: A Notre Dame Perspective" film series.

There will be Stations of the Cross Friday at 7:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Stations will be held each Friday during Lent.

The Kellogg Institute for International Studies is hosting a lecture entitled "Unsettling Accounts: Neither Truth nor Reconciliation in Confessions of State Violence" Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 23 LOW 20	HIGH 20 LOW 18	HIGH 28 LOW 20	HIGH 36 LOW 30	HIGH 42 LOW 28	HIGH 40 LOW 24

Atlanta 61 / 40 Boston 33 / 16 Chicago 26 / 12 Denver 46 / 22 Houston 63 / 59 Los Angeles 82 / 51 Minneapolis 16 / 0
New York 35 / 18 Philadelphia 35 / 17 Phoenix 77 / 51 Seattle 47 / 41 St. Louis 31 / 23 Tampa 74 / 57 Washington 44 / 21

Denim sale raises funds for hospital

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Dance Marathon pilot charity project "Charity Denim," which took place today, attracted nearly 400 students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's and raised more than \$1,200 for Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, fundraising chair Maura Clougherty said.

Charity Denim sold discounted designer jeans from 40 to 70 percent off their original price. The California-based company is a non-profit corporation that partners with philanthropic organizations, colleges and other charitable organizations.

Dance Marathon charged \$1 admission to see the jeans and raised \$350 from admission alone. Sales from jeans and T-shirts raised \$977, Clougherty said.

"The entire total from today is going directly toward the total amount we are donating to Riley from Dance Marathon," she said.

Clougherty, a junior at Saint Mary's, said she didn't know what to expect from the fundraiser.

"We wanted to raise as much as we could and it went much better than I thought it could go," Clougherty said. "Notre Dame and Saint Mary's was the perfect place to have it because everyone loves designer clothes, but we can't always afford them with

books and other college expenses."

In Indianapolis, an average of \$9 per pair went toward the profit, which equals about 10 percent of the total jean cost. One hundred and four pairs of jeans were sold, along with 42 T-shirts and designer jackets, Clougherty said.

Due to its success, Clougherty is looking forward to welcoming Charity Denim back next year.

"There are a few things we'd like to see happen differently, like having more guys come, but overall, it was amazing," Clougherty said. "We are thinking about doing it once in the fall and once in the spring next year."

While the event started at 2 p.m., students were lined up by 1, Clougherty said.

Clougherty heard about the event through a friend from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio who participated through her sorority.

"My friend and I pass ideas back and forth and when she told me about this, I thought Saint Mary's would be a great place to do it," she said.

Charity Denim offered jeans from a number of brands including 7 For All Mankind, Citizens of Humanity, True Religion, Antik, Blue Cult, Joe's Jeans, Miss Sixty and Yanuk.

The Dance Marathon will be held on April 4.

Contact Katie Kohler at
kkohle01@nd.edu

Halls compete in RecycleMania

Event raises waste reduction awareness on 400 college campuses

By KARA COYLE
News Writer

With more than 400 colleges participating in the 2008 RecycleMania challenge, the 10-week competition has propelled the students of Notre Dame to actively — and even stealthily — collect as many recyclables as possible.

RecycleMania, established in 2001, is a national competition to increase recycling efforts and raise waste reduction awareness on college campuses.

Junior Lourdes Long, a member of the co-sponsoring Energy and Environmental Issues Committee, said the event is designed to increase consciousness of recycling and environmental issues.

"Awareness is our No. 1 goal," she said.

The competition is also sponsored by the Student Senate's University Affairs Committee.

Long said it is the hope of these two committees that over the course of the competition, recycling "will become habit" for students at Notre Dame.

While this is Notre Dame's first year participating in RecycleMania, the University has already increased the competitive-

ness of the challenge by encouraging competition between residence halls.

"Our goals are to have some fun," said Long.

As RecycleMania continues in to its third week, the results from the first week have been revealed. In the Per Capita Classic, which measures the amount of

recyclables per student

in a dorm,

Notre Dame

amassed 1.7

pounds of

recyclable

goods per

person in

dorms,

ranking the

University

No. 21

among participants,

according to the

RecycleMania Web site.

On the Notre Dame campus, Farley, McGlinn and

Cavanaugh amassed the

most recyclables during

week one, while McGlinn,

Cavanaugh and Howard

were the three leaders during

week two, Long said.

Some students have gone

to extremes to win the competition. Residents of some

dorms have engaged in

recycling raids, often

involving costumes, while

some editions of weekly

dorm notes have encour-

aged residents to steal a competing halls recyclables.

For example, Long, along with Ann Kelley, Students for Environmental Action member and Notre Dame's RecycleMania leader, single-handedly raided every dorm on North Quad last week for recyclables.

"I'm encouraging it," Lourdes said. "I'm leading the way."

The RecycleMania competition occurs during a year of increased

University recycling efforts.

This fall, the University col-

laborated with student volunteers to initiate coordinated recycling on the days

of some home football games. By handing out

recycling bags at Notre Dame tailgates, Long said

the group "collected thousands of pounds of recyclables."

The 2008 Notre Dame forum will address the

topic of "Charting a Sustainable Energy

Future."

Contact Kara Coyle at
kcoyle@nd.edu

"Awareness is our
No. 1 goal."

Lourdes Long
junior

Looking for solid business and accounting experience to put on your resume?

The Observer is accepting applications for a 2008-09 Business Manager and Controller. Responsibilities include preparing a yearly budget and handling payroll for a 200-person staff.

Since the Controller will take over as the 2009-10 Business Manager, Controller applicants should be sophomores, or juniors staying for a fifth year.

Both positions are salaried, about six to 10 hours a week.

Please contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu or

Kyle West at kwest1@nd.edu if interested.

Taxes

continued from page 1

quite a bit, but we still have competent, committed and concerned students helping taxpayers."

During the first four weeks of the semester, the class meets twice a week for instruction with Milani. The students learn about scenarios they could meet when they prepare tax returns at local centers.

"We go through different situations we might face with people in the area and do some practice returns," Manning said.

According to Milani, the program's students began work last Saturday in teams of two at various locations.

"It's great to be able to offer services to the South Bend community, especially the fact that it's done through a class that is organized ... you're well-trained and that makes you feel more prepared," DeGroot said.

There is also a group of seven students who will make house calls to individuals who are unable to get to the centers.

The program staffs a phone center Monday through Friday to answer questions about the service.

"There aren't a whole lot of phone calls, but we think it's a really nice service for people to be able to speak with a live person," DeGroot said.

DeGroot said one of the great features of the program is that students have some flexibility when they work at the centers during the week.

"We have center operations every day of the week except Sunday and Friday, and some in evenings and afternoons," DeGroot said.

Students end up working at the sites about six times during the semester.

The program advertises through Notre Dame and in local newspapers and radio and television stations.

"A lot of the people that come to the sites come because they have been before," DeGroot said.

Manning has found that the learning experience extends beyond just preparing tax returns.

"It's a really rewarding experience to give something back to community," Manning said. "You get to meet a lot of interesting people who have lived in South Bend their whole lives and talk to you while you're preparing their tax return."

A certified CPA is usually present at the major sites to handle more complicated tax returns and to assist the students.

Manning said there are usually very few errors on the student-prepared tax returns, but when an error does occur, the IRS contacts Milani. He then corrects any mistake that may have been made.

Manning said participating in the Tax Assistance Program has influenced his career plans.

"I think [the program] helped me decide that I wanted to go into the tax field," he said. "I didn't know for sure, but I really enjoyed doing this, so it strengthened my idea that I wanted to do something in taxes."

Contact Becky Hogan at
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Run-off

continued from page 1

Schmidt said he and Reish were "pleased" with the results. The pair is looking forward to Thursday's election.

"We're excited for Thursday," Reish said. "I think our supporters came out and we'll see what happens Thursday."

Braun and Chamberlain said they were surprised by the results.

"I think it's really hard to tell how things are going to pan out, especially in this election with six tickets," Braun said. "I was surprised, but I really didn't know what was going to happen."

Though the Braun-Chamberlain ticket received 1,004 fewer votes than the Reish-Schmidt ticket, Chamberlain said he and Braun are not ready to concede and are looking forward to the run-off.

"We're going to keep campaigning," Chamberlain said. "I'm just excited about Thursday, really. We'll just do our best and hope the campaign goes well."

Both tickets said they would evaluate the results and target the dorms where they think they can improve.

Braun especially stressed the importance of a "grassroots"

campaign.

"I think we're going to take a look at the dorms where we feel we can make an impact and go from there," she said. "We'll focus on grassroots campaigning for the next few days and go from there."

Reish and Schmidt also plan to visit dorms during the next few days.

"We're going to reevaluate the dorms we contacted — see where our weak dorms are, see where our strong dorms are and go from there," Reish said. "I think the biggest thing is making sure people realize what we stand for."

While Braun and Chamberlain attempt to gain more support, Reish and

Schmidt said their major concern is maintaining the backing they already have.

"Getting those 1,870 kids [that voted for us] to vote again is the biggest thing that we want to push," Schmidt said.

Both sets of candidates said it is imperative that students vote on Thursday.

"It's pretty painless to vote, so hopefully students will remember," Braun said. "I think it's important to speak your mind, whatever that may be."

The run-off election will take place from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday.

Contact Joseph McMahon at
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WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Two CBS journalists missing in Basra

BAGHDAD — Two CBS News journalists were missing in the predominantly Shiite southern city of Basra, the network said Monday.

CBS said all efforts were under way to find the journalists, who were not identified by the network. It requested "that others do not speculate on the identities of those involved" until more information was available.

Iraqi police said the journalists were taken away Sunday after masked gunmen entered the Sultan Palace Hotel in central Basra. The police spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media.

"CBS News has been in touch with the families and asks that their privacy be respected," the network added in a brief statement from CBS Corp. headquarters in New York.

Leader stable after failed coup attempt

DILI, East Timor — East Timor's president was in "extremely serious" but stable condition at an Australian hospital Tuesday after surgeons worked through the night to remove bullet fragments he suffered in a failed coup attempt, the hospital's administrator said.

Dr. Len Notaros, the general manager of the Royal Darwin Hospital, told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. Tuesday morning that surgeons operated on President Jose Ramos-Horta for three hours overnight to remove the fragments and repair his wounds.

"His condition remains extremely serious but by the same token, stable," Notaros said. "The next few days will be the telling point."

NATIONAL NEWS

School fight leads to shooting

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A feud between two high school students that began off campus culminated at a gym class Monday when one student shot the other twice, then handed the gun to a coach, saying, "It's over now," authorities said.

The victim, a 19-year-old senior, was in critical condition at a hospital, authorities said. The suspected shooter, 17-year-old sophomore Corneilus Cheers, was charged with attempted first-degree murder, reckless endangerment and carrying a gun on school property, said police spokeswoman Monique Martin.

The teenagers got into a confrontation off campus over the weekend or last week, police said. Investigators were trying to determine whether it was related to gang activity, Martin said.

Former officer confesses to murder

CANTON, Ohio — A former police officer accused of killing his pregnant lover sobbed on the witness stand Monday that he accidentally struck her when she wouldn't let him out of her house.

"I didn't mean to hurt her," Bobby Cutts Jr. testified, clutching a handful of white tissues.

Cutts, 30, said he was at Jessie Davis' home to pick up his 2-year-old son, Blake, and was telling her to hurry.

He said that when she didn't move more quickly to get her son ready, he started to go, but that Davis grabbed him and told him he couldn't leave. He said he pulled his arm away and threw his elbow back, striking her in the throat and causing her to fall.

LOCAL NEWS

Bayh: Indiana primary still a factor

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's presidential primary is still nearly three months away, but Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh expects it could still help decide the race between Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama.

Bayh, who endorsed Clinton last fall after he dropped his own presidential bid, said Monday he was not disappointed in her campaign and continued to support her because of her political experience.

After primaries on Tuesday in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, the next major contests will be in Texas and Ohio on March 4 and Pennsylvania on April 22. An undecided Clinton-Obama race at that point would turn national attention to the Indiana and North Carolina primaries on May 6.

"Given the nature of our rules, it's going to be very difficult for either one of these candidates to get a very big lead, which makes it very likely that Indiana will be important," Bayh said.

Writers Guild to vote on contract

Meetings today will let members decide on ending strike, accepting 3-year deal

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Writers Guild of America moved swiftly Sunday toward a resolution of its three-month-old strike, with guild leaders deciding to recommend a tentative contract to members and ask them to vote on a quick end to the walkout.

By calling for separate votes on ending the strike and accepting the new three-year deal, the union cleared the way for the entertainment industry to return to work almost immediately.

Membership meetings will be held Tuesday in New York and Los Angeles to allow writers to decide whether the strike should be brought to a speedy end, said Patric Verrone, president of the guild's West Coast branch.

"This is the best deal this guild has bargained for in 30 years," Verrone said.

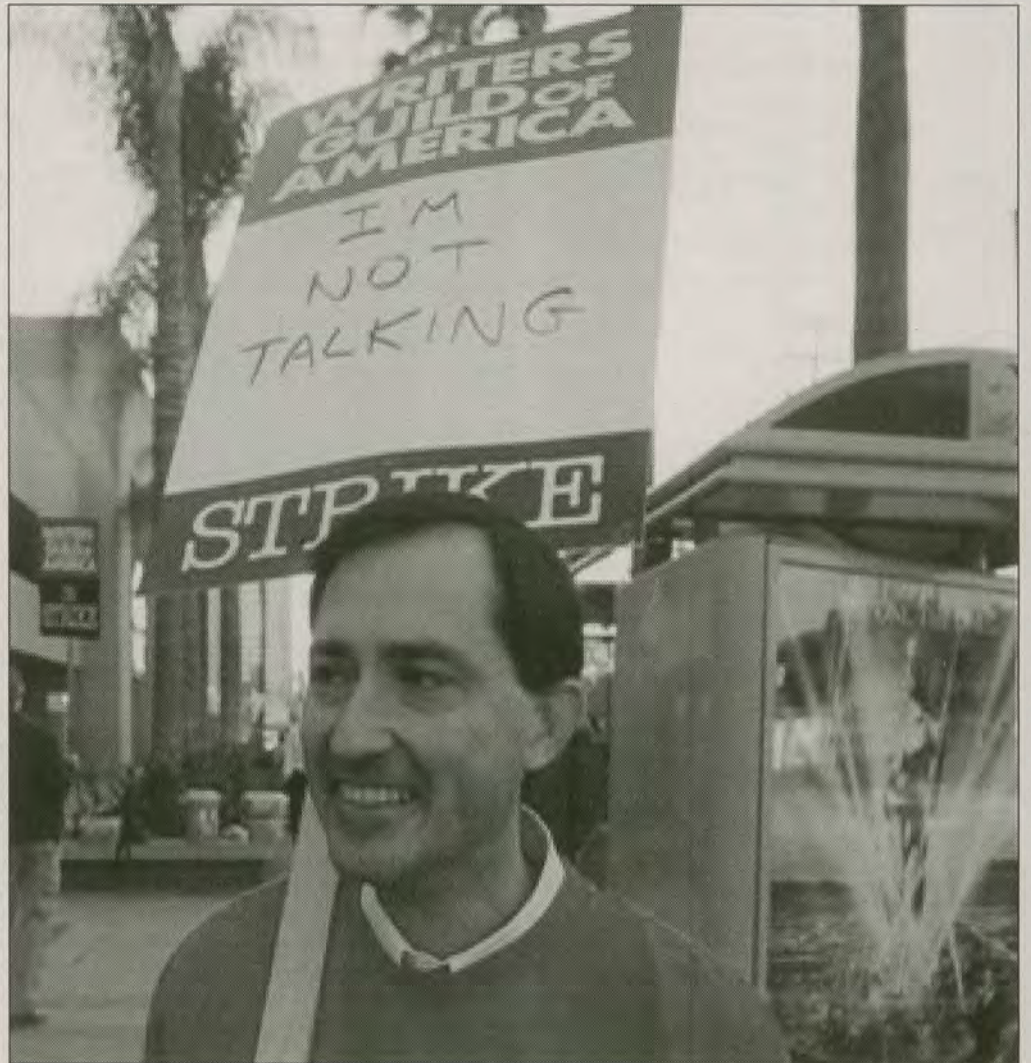
The tentative contract secures writers a share of the burgeoning digital-media market, he said, including compensation for Internet-delivered TV shows and movies.

"If they (producers) get paid, we get paid. This contract makes that a reality," Verrone said. But, he added, "it is not all we hoped for and it is not all we deserved."

Still, the union's negotiating committee recommended Saturday that the contract be accepted, and the West guild's board of directors and the East Coast guild's council agreed. They called for a membership ratification vote, which will be conducted by mail over about two weeks.

Member approval of the contract and the strike's end appeared likely. At heavily attended membership meetings Saturday in New York and Los Angeles, there was resounding support for the proposed deal that could put TV and movie production back on track, salvage the rest of the TV season and remove a boycott threat from this month's Oscars.

Verrone thanked television viewers who "tolerated three



AP

Patric Verrone, president of the Writers Guild of America West Coast Branch, speaks at a news conference in Los Angeles Feb. 20. Verrone called the proposed contract "the best deal this guild has bargained for in 30 years."

months of reruns and reality TV."

The guild's major bargaining concession to studios was agreeing to take unionization of animation and reality TV shows off the table, Verrone said. The guild has said it still intends to pursue those goals.

The Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, which represents the studios, said it had no comment Sunday on the guild's actions.

The American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, which represents more than 70,000 performers, broadcasters and others, lauded the writers guild for winning gains in digital media.

The federation is preparing to begin its own TV contract

talks and intends to be "focused, deliberate, and prudent as we engage with the employers to negotiate the best possible agreements for performers," its president, Roberta Reardon, said in a statement.

Despite friction between the federation and the Screen Actors Guild, the two groups traditionally negotiate together on a contract covering feature films and primetime TV. That contract expires in June.

Show runners — industry lingo for the executive producers in charge of a TV series — are expected to be back at work Monday, preparing for the return of writers as soon as Wednesday, industry members said.

Although show runners are also guild members, they are allowed to work while the strike remains in effect as long as they focus only on producer-related tasks.

The strike's end would allow many hit series to return this spring for what's left of the current season, airing anywhere from four to seven new episodes. Shows with marginal audience numbers may not return until fall or could be canceled.

A minimum of four weeks would be needed for producers to start from scratch with their first post-strike episodes of comedies and get them on the air, industry members said. A drama would require six to eight weeks from concept to broadcast.

SWITZERLAND

3 gunmen steal \$163.2 million in artwork

Associated Press

ZURICH — Three gunmen in ski masks and dark clothes burst into a museum just before closing time. After a quick run through the building, they hustled out the door and sped off with paintings by Cezanne, Degas, van Gogh and Monet valued at \$163.2 million.

Authorities appealed Monday for any witnesses to help reconstruct the robbers' getaway from the E.G. Buehrle Collection, a private museum of Impressionist works whose founder had his own troubled history with stolen art.

"This is an entirely new dimension in criminal culture," police spokesman Marco Cortesi said, calling it the largest art robbery in Switzerland's history and

one of the biggest ever in Europe.

The three robbers entered the museum a half-hour before its scheduled close Sunday. While one trained a pistol on museum personnel ordered to lie on the floor, the two others collected four paintings from the exhibition hall, police said.

The men, one of whom spoke German with a Slavic accent, loaded the paintings into a white vehicle parked out front. Police said the paintings may have been sticking out of the trunk as the robbers made their getaway.

A reward of \$90,000 was offered for information leading to the recovery of the paintings — Claude Monet's "Poppy field at Vetheuil," Edgar Degas' "Ludovic Lepic and his Daughter,"

Vincent van Gogh's "Blooming Chestnut Branches" and Paul Cezanne's "Boy in the Red Waistcoat."

The FBI estimates the stolen art market at \$6 billion annually, and Interpol has about 30,000 stolen works listed in its database. But while only a fraction of stolen art is ever found, such thefts are rare because of intense police investigations and the difficulty of selling the works.

"It's extremely hard, if not impossible, to sell these works," said Michaela Derra of Ketterer Kunst GmbH, a Munich, Germany-based purveyor of modern and contemporary art. "Maybe they think they can blackmail the insurance (companies) and get money for the paintings in return. But this is all speculation."

Abstain

continued from page 1

Weiss and Smith said they were pleased with voter turnout in the student body presidential primary election, but they expressed dismay at the presence of posters around campus encouraging voters to abstain from the vote.

Weiss and Smith said they hope more students vote in the run-off election Thursday.

The run-off will include the tickets of junior class president Bob Reish and sophomore class president Grant Schmidt and student body vice

president Maris Braun and Sorin senator George Chamberlain.

Student turnout was higher than last year with 3,861 total votes cast.

"Three hundred more people came out this year," Weiss said. "We would have been happy if one or two more people came out."

Though the 3,861 total votes accounts for less than half the Notre Dame student body, Smith said the turnout results

are positive.

"It's better than last year, and it's a higher percentage than most other [student government] programs at other schools," he said.

The link to the voting on the Notre Dame home page increased participation, Smith said.

Weiss said no violations were reported during the campaigns.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

"It's better than last year, and it's a higher percentage than most other programs at other schools."

Danny Smith
vice president for elections

Staff

continued from page 1

editor.

Kohler, a junior at Saint Mary's majoring in political science, began writing for the news department in the fall of her freshman year and was Saint Mary's editor for the past year. Kohler is a native of

Philadelphia, Pa., and will help oversee the news department.

"I'm glad to have been given this opportunity and look forward to taking on more responsibility at The Observer," Kohler said.

Krasula is a finance and English major from Rockville Centre, N.Y., and began working at The Observer in the fall of her freshman year. She cov-

ered women's basketball, baseball, softball, and men's tennis over the past two years.

"I'm excited and honored to taking on a new role at The Observer and look forward to this coming year," Krasula said.

Hine will take over as editor-in-chief Feb. 22 and Fitzpatrick, Kohler and Krasula will assume their new positions on March 10.

Faculty, freshmen socialize

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame is embracing a program that creates a social bond between freshmen and some of the University's top faculty.

No lectures. No reports due. The Residential Scholars Program provides food and conversation that ultimately help break down misconceptions and stereotypes between those members of the Notre Dame community on opposite ends of the academic spectrum.

"The program made me feel a part of the Notre Dame family right away," said Sara Jaskowski, a freshman from Boise, Idaho. "The opportunity to befriend professors is unique, and it's a good feeling to know I could turn to any of them with a question or academic struggle."

The concept is simple. Faculty and freshmen meet regularly to have dinner on campus and get to know one another as people. Some of them stay in touch via e-mail. Others have taken it a step further by attending social events around campus.

"The idea is to make the students comfortable in this environment and to help them build relationships and foster friendships with faculty," said Ann Firth, associate vice president for student affairs. "There are no programs at the dinners. We pray together and then we eat."

Founded in 2005 by Thomas Noble, professor of history and director of Notre Dame's Medieval Institute, the program is funded by the Offices of the Provost and Student Affairs. It has expanded from two residence halls in the first year to four: Siegfried, Cavanaugh, Welsh Family and O'Neill. Some 100 students and 35 faculty members currently participate, and there are waiting lists in each of the halls in case any students drop out. Not many do.

Noble began developing the program after hearing com-

plaints from his colleagues in the College of Arts and Letters about the lack of interaction between faculty and students outside the classroom. He modeled it after a program at the University of Virginia, where he taught for 20 years.

"I have had a few serious intellectual discussions," Noble said. "Mostly, I've had lively conversations about the kids' families, my family, what it's like to be here and what it's like to be away from home, and I always make a point to say 'Go talk to your teachers. Get to know them.'"

Along with Firth, Noble sought input from Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs, student leaders, dorm rectors and representatives from the First Year of Studies, which universally is regarded as one of the flagship programs for first-year students in higher education and is a key reason for Notre Dame's 98 percent student retention rate from the freshman to sophomore years.

All participants, at the very least, are stepping out of their comfort zones. For some, the program's benefits have been obvious and invaluable.

"Last spring I ate dinner with Chris Maziar (vice president and senior associate provost)," said sophomore Matthew Cossack from Shoreview, Minn. "I learned she used to be in charge of research at the University of Minnesota, which is near my hometown, so I told her I would love to do some type of research there over the summer. She sent me names of her former colleagues who work well with students, and I wound up getting a full-time job in the biochemistry lab of a prominent researcher. I spent most days purifying protein samples to look for biomarkers of various diseases, which was very applicable to my biochemistry major at Notre Dame."

Now a junior, Dennis Rankin of Valrico, Fla., was in the pilot program.

"Before college, I imagined professors to be interested mostly in their own areas of expertise," he admitted. "I never imagined they would find our lives and thoughts intriguing. Professors Christian Moevs (Romance languages and literatures) and Susan Ohmer (film, television and theatre) still stand out in my memory for their enthusiastic interest."

Also delighted by faculty fervor, Firth guesses most of the students won't fully realize for years the extent of this opportunity.

"The faculty who are part of the program are world-class scholars," she said. "Although they have incredibly busy schedules, they have been extraordinarily generous with their time and care deeply about students."

For example, Dennis Snow, professor of mathematics, has immersed himself in students' lives by playing guitar during Mass at Welsh Family Hall. Stuart Greene, associate dean for undergraduate studies in Arts and Letters and associate professor of English, and Hope Hollocher, associate professor of biological sciences, took a group of students to a performance at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

"If we've made it easier and more comfortable and more attractive for students to talk to faculty members, and we did that for 100 kids in each class, we'd have done something pretty good," Noble said. "I write lots of letters of recommendation, and when it's for a student that I've known for two or three years, had once or twice in class, and spoken to in and out of the classroom, I can write a much more meaningful letter."

Noble hopes to continue to recruit faculty mentors so the program can be expanded to accommodate all interested freshmen.

Defeat

continued from page 1

shake it up."

Though Ehrlich said he was surprised with the results of the election, he admitted he was going to be surprised whether they won or lost.

"It's just like when you take a test and you think you either got 100 or failed," he said. "You're just happy to get it back."

Ehrlich and Roscitt agreed they would not have changed anything about their campaign.

"[The election] was up to the people, and that's the way it should be, although [the results] do say something about the student body," Ehrlich said.

Juniors Peter Kelly and Jon Poelhuis received 242 votes to capture 6.27 percent of the total.

Their platform included instituting a free shuttle bus to take students off-campus and screening Student Union Board movies on weekdays.

"We definitely didn't want to be overly serious," Kelly said. "We had serious ideas, but we maintained our sense of humor."

Poelhuis said he was surprised by the level of voter turnout.

"I'm surprised by the num-

ber of people who didn't vote," he said. "Most people didn't even know [the election] was today."

Freshmen Cooper Howes and Daniel Rimkus received 2.51 percent of the student body's votes, but they were more surprised with the 5.08 percent of students who abstained.

Howes, like most of the losing candidates, does not plan to take his student government ambitions further, though Rimkus said he might continue to "dabble."

Howes and Rimkus said they have no regrets about their campaign.

"You've got to go big or go home. And we're going home," Rimkus said. "And we're going home."

Sophomores Rick Hollowood and Alex Tomala, who

received 1.53 percent of the votes, said they thought they did well for not having run a campaign.

Hollowood said he was not surprised by the election results, but he plans to join the race again next year.

Although Hollowood is out of the race for the executive office, he said he hopes the winning candidates will accomplish the top priority of his campaign.

"We hope winning candidates will take up the better toilet paper issue," Hollowood said.

Daniel Rimkus
vice presidential candidate

"You've got to go big or go home. And we're going home."

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

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Up: 1,271 Same: 104 Down: 1,875 Composite Volume: 3,745,210,903

AMEX	2,246.61	+16.65
NASDAQ	2,320.06	+15.21
NYSE	8,868.28	+45.16
S&P 500	1,331.29	+7.84
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	13,029.54	+12.30
FTSE 100 (London)	5,707.70	+76.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+1.51	+0.68	133.75
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-1.23	-0.35	28.21
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+1.08	+0.47	44.07
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-2.21	-0.60	26.52

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-0.99	-0.036	3.618
13-WEEK BILL	+1.39	+0.030	2.190
30-YEAR BOND	-0.77	-0.034	4.405
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.45	-0.039	2.657

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.82	93.59
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+4.40	926.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.48	95.18

Exchange Rates

YEN	106.8800
EURO	0.6892
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0026
BRITISH POUND	0.5126

IN BRIEF

Homebuilders stocks rise amid unease

NEW YORK — Wall Street finished higher in an uneasy session Monday as retail and homebuilders stocks rose on expectations for more interest rate cuts, but banks and insurers fell on worries about further mortgage debt troubles.

The Federal Reserve has been in rate-cutting mode this year and it is expected to lower the federal funds rate once more either this month or at its next regularly scheduled meeting March 18. And the cheaper cost of money is beginning to register in the stock market.

"A number of sectors like retail and housing stocks have done better since the Fed acted, and they are leading the market again today," said Steve Goldman, chief market strategist at Weeden & Co. "These stocks are called early bellwethers and they tend to lead a recovery."

But investors continue to grapple with bad news in the credit markets. The stock market fell in early trading and remained volatile even after recovering, with Wall Street clearly concerned by news that American International Group Inc. might have more mortgage debt to write off.

Starbucks joins AT&T to offer wireless

SEATTLE — Starbucks Corp. and AT&T Inc. will start offering a mix of free and paid wireless Internet service in most of the international coffee retailer's U.S. shops, beginning this spring.

The move announced Monday ends a six-year partnership with T-Mobile, which did not include free Wi-Fi and charged higher fees than AT&T will.

Starbucks said it will give customers who use a Starbucks card two hours of free wireless access per day. More time than that will cost \$3.99 for a two-hour session. Monthly memberships will cost \$19.99 and include access to any of AT&T's 70,000 hot spots worldwide.

Nearly all of AT&T's broadband Internet customers, about 12 million, will automatically have unlimited free Wi-Fi access at Starbucks, the companies said.

The deal boosts the number of AT&T hotspots in the U.S. to 17,000 — the most in the nation. An Associated Press-Ipsos poll found that only 19 percent of those surveyed said they planned to spend their rebate checks. Forty-five percent said they would pay off bills, while 32 percent said they planned to invest the money.

Bush to sign stimulus package

President urges Congress to pass more legislation to help recover from housing slump, credit crunch

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

President Bush, acknowledging that the country is suffering through a period of economic uncertainty, called on Congress Monday to do more to help people and businesses hurt by the housing slump and credit crunch.

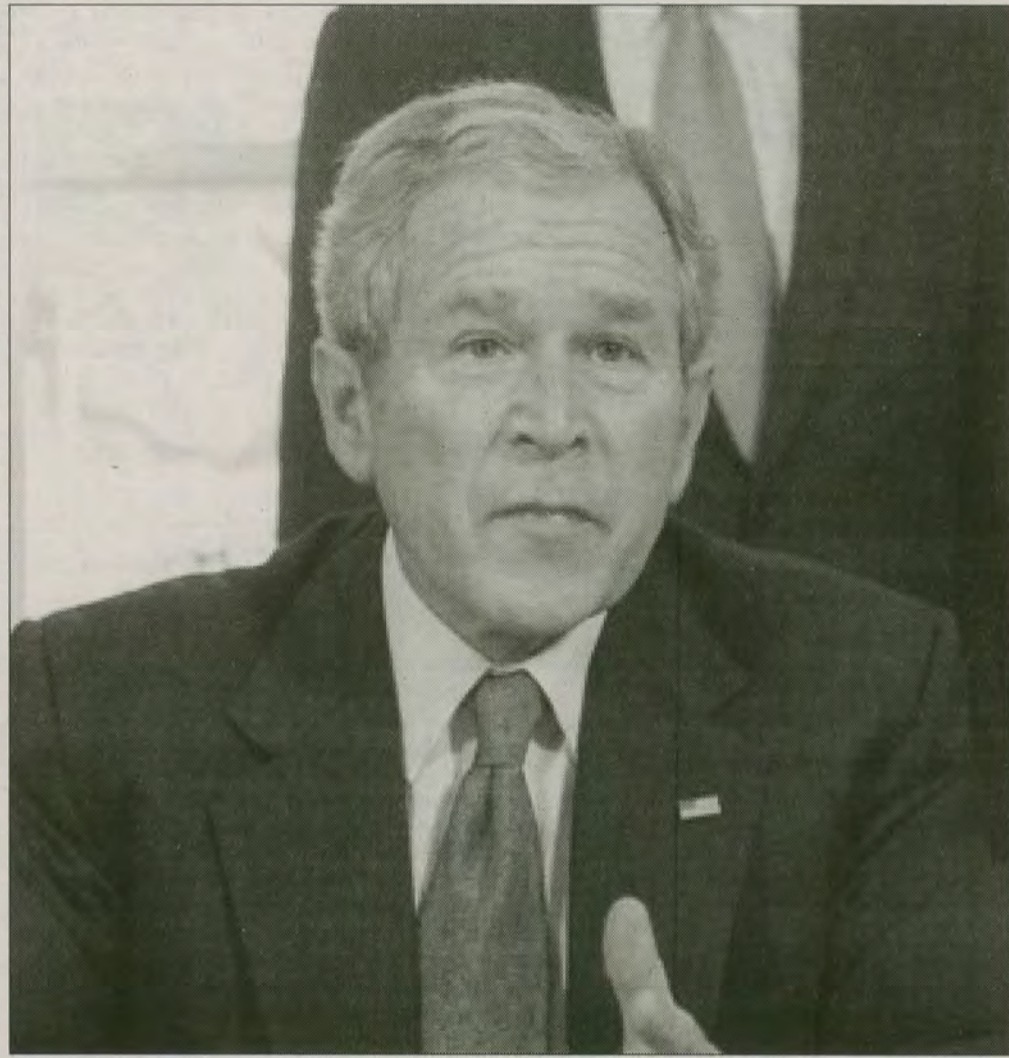
In a brief introduction to his annual economic report, Bush said the \$168 billion economic rescue package passed by Congress last week will keep "our economy growing and our people working."

Bush is expected later this week to sign the stimulus package, which includes rebates of \$600 to \$1,200 to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to disabled veterans, the elderly and other low-income people.

"Money will be going directly to America — workers and families and individuals," he told reporters. "It's going to help deal with the uncertainties in this economy."

In addition, the package includes tax breaks for businesses and would take some steps to boost the ailing housing market. Bush said that other steps need to be taken to strengthen the economy, and he exhorted Congress to make his tax cut permanent and do more to help struggling homeowners.

Bush urged lawmakers to pass additional legislation that would revamp mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and modernize the Depression-era Federal Housing Administration, which insures mortgages for low- and middle-income borrowers. The president also said Congress should



AP

President Bush speaks after signing the 2008 Economic Report Monday in the Oval Office. Bush is expected, later this week, to sign the \$168 billion stimulus package passed by Congress.

approve legislation allowing state housing agencies to issue tax-free bonds to help squeezed homeowners refinance their mortgages.

These and other steps could help struggling homeowners "weather turbulent times in the market," Bush said.

The stimulus package includes provisions that would temporarily raise to \$729,750 the limit on Federal Housing Administration loans and the cap on loans that Fannie Mae and Freddie

Mac can buy. Raising that cap on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac should provide relief in the market for "jumb" mortgages — those exceeding \$417,000. The credit crunch hit that market hard, making it very difficult, if not impossible, for people to get those loans. And, that has plunged the housing market even deeper into turmoil.

Fallout from the housing bust and harder-to-get credit have catapulted home foreclosures to

record highs, forced financial companies to rack up multibillion-dollar losses in bad mortgage investments, rocked Wall Street and dealt a powerful blow to the national economy.

The economy nearly stalled in the final three months of 2007, growing at a pace of just 0.6 percent. The odds of a recession have grown considerably over the last year, and an increasing number of analysts believe the economy may actually be shrinking now.

Yahoo's rejection leaves investors guessing

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Yahoo Inc.'s rejection of Microsoft Corp.'s unsolicited takeover bid left investors guessing the next move in a tense mating dance that may hatch a more imposing challenger to Google Inc. or disintegrate into a bruising brawl.

The rebuff, formally announced early Monday, wasn't a surprise because Yahoo had leaked its intention over the weekend.

As expected, Yahoo's board unanimously decided to spurn Microsoft after concluding the offer — originally worth \$44.6 billion or \$31 per share — "substantially undervalues" one of the Internet's prized franchises. The cash- and stock deal is now valued at about \$40 billion, or \$28.91 per share, because of a drop in Microsoft's market value.

But Yahoo didn't raise antitrust concerns about the proposed deal and included language that seemed to invite

a higher offer from Microsoft, the world's largest software maker.

"The board of directors is continually evaluating all of its strategic options in the context of the rapidly evolving industry environment and we remain committed to pursuing initiatives that maximize value for all stockholders," Yahoo said in a statement.

Microsoft, though, didn't seem inclined to raise the bid Monday, releasing a statement describing its current bid as "full and fair."

Calling Yahoo's decision "unfortunate," Microsoft didn't back off from its quest either. "Based on conversations with stakeholders of both companies, we are confident that moving forward promptly to consummate a transaction is in the best interests of all parties," the Redmond, Wash.-based company said.

Microsoft also emphasized it's prepared to "pursue all necessary steps" to get the deal done, raising the prospect that it could take the bid directly to

Yahoo shareholders with a so-called "exchange offer" or escalate the acrimony even further by trying to oust Yahoo's 10-member board later this year.

While assessing its response to Microsoft, Yahoo's board also examined a wide range of alternatives that included forging an ad partnership with Google, which paid nearly \$5 billion in marketing commissions to thousands of Web sites last year.

Without identifying its sources, the Times of London also reported Yahoo is exploring a merger with Time Warner Inc.'s AOL, another popular Internet property that has been struggling in recent years. A Yahoo spokesman declined to comment on the report.

Investors appear convinced Microsoft's bid remains Yahoo's best bet, given the Sunnyvale-based company's profits have been steadily declining despite a management shake up eight months ago and repeated promises of a turnaround extending back to 2006.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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Are you a fascist?

I have applied to write for The Observer every year since I graduated. This year, I was finally fortunate to find a staff with enough pity to accept me. One of the sample pieces I used to trot out was about the similarities between fascism and the modern Left. As a short essay must, it stayed on the surface in analyzing those similarities, which is about as much as I knew anyway. Those surface likenesses are pretty impressive, though. In fact, what first lit that particular bulb for me was a speech by Hitler advocating strict gun-control. It was pure liberal boilerplate. It got me thinking, and without much effort, I'd identified plenty more parallels.



Greg Yatarola

Dome and
Domer

But anything I've written could only look ridiculous compared to Jonah Goldberg's new book, "Liberal Fascism." Jonah writes for the conservative standard-bearer, National Review, and is a syndicated columnist. He's been known mainly for his sharp-but-light-hearted wit and profound knowledge of pop-culture trivia. So it comes as some surprise to many that he uncorked a masterpiece, and not about "Star Trek" or "The Simpsons," but about politics and history.

According to Jonah, what motivated him for this enormous effort was just what provoked my little sample tirade: he was sick of hearing "fascist" used reflexively by many liberals for persons or policies that they do not like. If you have never come across this slander, you probably haven't been paying attention. It can be found at every level, from moron street demonstrators with their "Bush is Hitler" banners, to media professionals like Keith Olbermann and Bill Maher, to college professors. I remember even seeing it in my high

school government textbook. There, on an illustration of the political spectrum, was "fascist" — two steps over from "conservative." Some of you, while praying publicly for the unborn, may have even been taunted with "Go home, Christian fascists!" Is a richer irony even possible?

But Jonah argues that this is not a case of the pot calling the kettle black. No, it's more like the pot calling the snowflake black.

To dismiss the notion that conservatism is somehow akin to fascism isn't hard. Fascism, like its cousin communism, is a form of totalitarianism. Anyone at all familiar with conservative thought can tell you that two bedrock conservative principles are limited government and decentralization. Go far enough to the right, and you will end up with a near-libertarian order in which most of what little power the government has is concentrated at the local level. This is totally the opposite of a centralized, all-powerful state. And there are many other enormous differences which space forbids discussing.

Then why the smear? Liberals think that since conservatives are mean, and Nazis were mean, conservatives must be Nazis. They do not look in the mirror and see the nastiness and sheer vituperation regularly coming from Howard Dean, Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, The New York Times, Air America, left-wing blogs, Hollywood, racist racial demagogues, etc. I could use the rest of my column this year documenting what George Will has labeled the "ferocity gap" between the Right and Left, and yes, I encountered it at Notre Dame, too.

Besides, people will think you are a totalitarian if you try to restrict what they most cherish, even if otherwise you're completely anarchist. When she was little, I was far more indulgent with my niece than her parents were — except when it came to candy. My niece really loved candy, so much so that she'd sometimes sit and meditate about it, and I tried to keep her away from it. Naturally, she considered me much meaner and stricter than her parents, no matter

how much I allowed or encouraged her to do things her parents would not tolerate. Replace my niece with liberals and candy with abortion, and me with conservatives, and you understand why liberals see conservatives as totalitarians. I do not wish to imply that liberals actually like abortion the way my niece liked candy; I would have to say, sadly, that based on my observation of American politics over the past decade, abortion on demand is what's most important to most of the far Left.

We have all seen those funny surveys showing how dangerously ignorant Americans are, even (especially?) college students — you know, 93 percent can't find Canada on a map, or something like that. But ignorance about facts and figures, like how many branches of government we have, is one thing. You can always just look that stuff up. Gross misunderstanding of important phenomena like totalitarianism is something else. For instance, isn't it a common idea that the enemy of communism was capitalism? As if the main right denied those tens of millions of poor souls crushed under the hammer and sickle — whether by Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot, Castro, Kim, or other monsters — was the right to own a business.

It is my hope that liberal fascism will begin the long process of educating Americans about the true nature of one of history's most awful movements, and the deep connections between it and more modern ideologies. I do not mind if the angry Left continues invoking their conservative-means-Nazi mantra, since it shows their own viciousness and their own ignorance. But I do hope conservatives will get better at answering it. Reading Jonah's book would be a start.

Greg Yatarola is a 1999 alumnus who loves his niece very, very much. But he still hates candy. His address is greggy@hotmail.com

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

How long will the Notre Dame men's basketball home win streak last?
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Feb. 24, Syracuse
March 5, St. John's
Intact through season
Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
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to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Be glad of life because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars."

Henry van Dyke
author

Dissecting the Democratic primary

In the Democratic presidential race, after analyzing voter trends in South Carolina, the 22 states during Super Duper Tuesday, and last weekend's contests, one thing is perfectly clear — winning depends on slicing bits of support away from the opponent.

Analysts commonly agree that both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are likely to remain neck-and-neck in the race well beyond March. The competition is between the sterling Clinton brand and the stimulating Obama movement. Both attract new voters to the process. Both draw equally impressive support across the nation as evidenced by the mere difference of only 50,000 votes from among nearly 15 million cast a week ago.

Yet each week brings new uncertainty. The demographics are so unique from state to state that the Clinton and Obama campaigns have learned how to peel off enough voters in select categories to win, but have yet to change their steady state-by-state trends. So long as Latinos support Clinton by 65 percent and African-Americans support Obama by 80 percent, both candidates will need to whittle at the edges of other support groups like women, men, union households, the well-educated or income categories in the various state primaries.

Overall, the campaigns can best be shaded to indicate their pockets of support — Obama has his African-American constituency with younger voters, the wealthy, highly educated liberals (the upscale elite Starbucks or McGovern/Kennedy wing of the party) who push environmental initiatives. Clinton, on the other hand, draws from a different spectrum with her Hispanic constituency and

older, less educated, union members and working class voters. Note that whenever either candidate can deny the other of the average of support in any of these constituencies, the primary election will tilt.

It is also important to note that a primary election and a caucus are completely different creatures. Caucuses are community political theater held within full view of the public during a quite limited time frame. They restrict attendance to those who can venture out after routine work hours on a particular evening, sometimes during snow and ice storms. Participants enthusiastically display their support openly with their neighbors. That structure favors Obama.

Primaries, however, are better indicators of general election support since voters privately indicate their choices during an all-day time period—just like in the general election. They too can favor Obama if the electorate is significantly comprised with one of his core constituencies, such as African-Americans in Georgia and South Carolina. Possibly, the most telling primary results to study thus far are ones in which ethnic minorities more resembled the national average — or where one minority group equals the other — such as the Northeast primary splits in Massachusetts and Connecticut, or further west with the trio of Missouri, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

How did Clinton win by 15 percentage points in the open Massachusetts primary where the governor and both U.S. senators opposed her? Obama was devoid of his core constituency with only 6 percent of African-Americans in the voter pool. Clinton won the women's vote by more than a two-to-one margin while nearly splitting the men's vote, losing by only one point. She also carried Obama's signature strongholds, like the 18-to-24 year-old vote by nearly 20 points and upper-income voters by 10 points.

Next door in the closed Connecticut contest, however, Obama edged Clinton by four points overall from among only Democrats. He chipped away at the Clinton core by

winning 57 percent of white men and 53 percent of Latinos. In this contest African-Americans and Latinos both equaled less than 10 percent. What makes Connecticut unique is the elite status of the voters, with nearly 80 percent college educated and three-quarters of the voters with above average incomes—strongholds of Obama.

In Missouri, where Obama edged Clinton by one percentage point, Clinton won 100 of 115 counties, yet lost the state. She carried white men (55 percent) and white women (59 percent), but Obama reached his threshold for winning a state by garnering 41 percent of white men. While the Obama campaign touts that their average for white men across the board is 41 percent, the statistic is skewed by his Illinois landslide and large upscale liberal support in coastal states like New York and California. His win in Missouri, with a near average pool of 20 percent African-American votes concentrated in the large cities, depended upon successfully slicing away Clinton's white male support.

Missouri, Massachusetts and Connecticut netted Clinton 13 delegates even though Obama won two of those three contests. As Obama currently enjoys a streak of wins in smaller and middle-sized states, the coming months loom with Ohio, Texas and Pennsylvania. Clinton can quickly counter his streak in those large states unless Obama slices into her core constituencies. The nomination may depend upon who has the sharper slicing technique.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, campaigned in Iowa for Hillary Clinton. He is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column usually appears every other Friday, except for election analysis. He can be contacted at hotline@aol.com.

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



Gary Caruso

Capitol
Comments

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bishops take action

The local shepherd of the Roman Catholic Church, Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy, recently informed University President Father John Jenkins that a theological seminar for Catholic bishops scheduled for Notre Dame has now been moved to the convent of the Sisters of St. Francis in Mishawaka. The reason for this change in venue is an embarrassment and a collective shame for the students and graduates of the University.

There is a crucial moral point that our local bishop and his colleagues want "the culture" to understand about this decision by Jenkins. And moving the venue away from Notre Dame is certainly a timely and an effective way to create such a teaching moment.

Sponsoring a public debate on the efficacy of abortion is a fine idea, and Notre Dame should encourage such expression on campus, even when certain pro-abortion viewpoints contradict Catholic teaching. But allowing its facilities to be used for performing abortions would be "acting" in a way that the Catholic Church condemns as unacceptable. To be sure, Jenkins, the University staff, and its board and trustees would never allow this to happen.

Similarly, sponsoring a debate on the merits of the alcohol-fueled seduction of a 16-year-old girl by a 24-year-old woman (described in the play as resulting in "salvation" and "a kind of heaven") seems compatible with academic freedom even at a Catholic university like Notre Dame. But allowing the facilities of Notre Dame to be used for the production of simulating sex acts and orgasms on stage and presenting for an audience "graphic descriptions of homosexual, extramarital heterosexual, and auto-erotic experiences" (Jenkins spoke these words during his Jan. 23, 2006 address to the faculty) is not just speaking against Catholic teaching, it is acting against Catholic teaching.

And herein lies the big difference! John D'Arcy and his fellow bishops get it. Thank God they decided to do something about it. Jenkins needs to seriously reconsider his mistake and cancel the March 26-28 production of "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. Perhaps this might give the University, its students and alumni reason to be proud again that our university is indeed a partner with the local and universal Catholic Church who welcomes the debate but abhors the conduct.

Marc Brammer
alumnus
Class of 1974
Feb. 11

'Monologues' promote non-violence

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that this response to Christina Holmstrom's letter regarding "The Vagina Monologues" ("Monologues' encourage mistreatment of women," Feb. 10) is not necessarily a refutation of her ideas, but an expression of an alternate perspective regarding Eve Ensler's play.

Holmstrom references the V-Day slogan and agrees that "violence against women should be stopped." "The Vagina Monologues" initiate conversation every year about methods in achieving this exact goal. In contributing her valuable opinion about how best to stop violence against women, Holmstrom has begun this process at Notre Dame this year, and the tentative upcoming production of the play will initiate even more conversation.

In its portrayal of real women's experiences, "The Vagina Monologues" document the significance of sexuality as a part of womanhood. The women who speak of their positive sexual experiences in the play are examples of women as sexual beings, not sexual objects, as Holmstrom suggests. "The Vagina Monologues" do not condone the perception of women as sexual objects. Monologues such as "My Vagina Was My Village," in which a number of Bosnian women recount their stories regarding rape as a war tactic, and "Crooked Braid," an account of the prominence of domestic abuse in Native American communities, clearly discourage the per-

spective of women as simply "walking vaginas." I am unable to see how these monologues encourage women to "treat themselves as sex objects."

As a two-time audience member, I know that Notre Dame's productions of "The Vagina Monologues" conclude each year with the monologue entitled "I Was There In The Room," an account of Eve Ensler's emotional experience in watching her daughter-in-law give birth. The beauty of this marital moment is a facet of sexuality that every Catholic can embrace.

"The Vagina Monologues" value all women's sexuality and allow each audience member to decide what is best for herself. The play does not encourage sex, but discourages violence against women, no matter how sexually active they are. These accounts are relevant to every woman and man, regardless of her or his religious beliefs. As a worldwide community, we should be concerned with every woman's experience with sexual violence, not just those who practice Catholicism. I hope all those who participate in this discussion have had the fortune of seeing "The Vagina Monologues," and that those who have not will attend a production on Notre Dame's campus, if it is approved to take place, at the end of March.

Rob O'Brien
senior
Sorin College
Feb. 11

Cheer with class

I strongly support Mike Coffey's remarks ("Reconsider 'suck it' cheer," Feb. 10) regarding recent off-color cheers at athletic contests. I would urge the student body to take a larger view of this question and eliminate cheers, such as "Suck it."

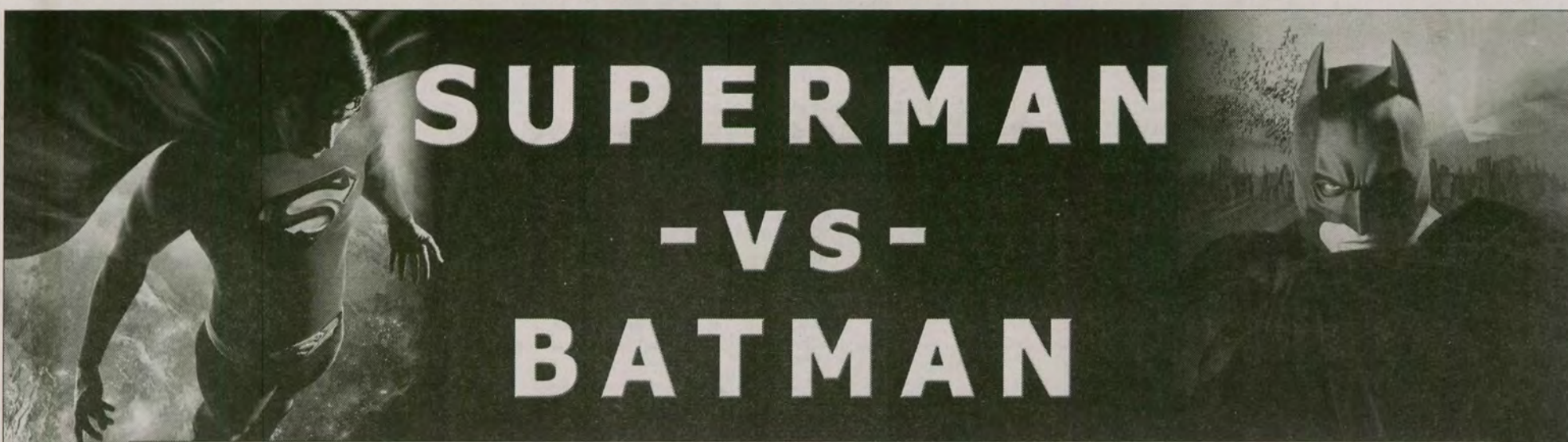
First, it reflects badly on Our Lady's University. Maybe other schools exhibit such behavior, but we have always aspired to be different.

Secondly, please consider the entire Notre Dame family, which encompasses a universe much larger than just the student body. Members of that family cherish and support their school and enjoy attending athletic contests and bringing their friends and fami-

lies. Notre Dame sports events should be for all the Notre Dame family and not flaunt anything that we cannot feel comfortable exposing to our children and grandchildren.

Often, visiting fans comment on how well they are treated with hospitality on the Notre Dame campus. Let this high-class spirit continue. Let's give our teams a great home field advantage in a classy way.

Wyn Norris
alumnus
Class of 1965
Feb. 11



POINT: SUPERMAN MORE THAN A MERE MORTAL

Before Rommel and Montgomery, or Lennon and McCartney. Before Tom and Jerry, or Hillary and Obama. Before Britney and Christina. Oh wait, that last one already has a clear loser.

Before any high-profile rivalry that may come to mind, there was Superman and Batman. It's Superman and Batman, not Batman and Superman.

My esteemed colleague Jay Fitzpatrick will have you believe Bruce Wayne's alter ego is better than the one and only Man of Steel. Jay is young and he means well but his I-love-explosions-and-cool-cars reasoning is exactly what drove the Batman fans at Warner to give us "Batman and Robin" in 1997.

How can one forget those opening lines?

"I want a car. Chicks dig the car," Robin says.

"This is why Superman works alone," Batman replies.

Ba dum chh. Not even George Clooney himself could keep the movie from putting the final nail in the coffin of the entire Batman franchise.

And while "Batman Begins" undeniably returned some much needed credibility to the so-called Dark Knight, one cannot forget so easily how many times Batman has proved to be a joke in the past.

"Batman Begins" is a well-made film that features a shirtless Christian Bale in a training montage and very likeable sidekicks in Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman. But the glorious return of Batman didn't come without flaws. The movie also put Katie Holmes in a role as annoyingly self-righteous as only her role in "Dawson's Creek" could have been.

So don't be fooled by "Batman Begins." Batman still sucks.

Marcela Berrios

Scene Writer

Let us never forget that he and Robin have set gay men 50 years back on their quest to gain social acceptance and shed the awful stereotype that portrays them as immoral. If the Dynamic Duo just came out already they could help educate the more conservative Americans on the contributions of gay men to society.

But Batman — unlike Ellen — is a chicken so he won't do that.

What he will do, though, is use his money to buy expensive cars and gadgets and trick Gotham City into thinking he's a superhero. Anybody with those resources could put up a decent fight too.

And that's exactly when Jay tells me that Bruce's willingness to use his millions to fight crime is what actually makes him a hero. He seems to forget that Superman also has powers and abilities that he altruistically chooses to use to protect Metropolis.

He could easily be an NFL quarterback, or single-handedly bankrupt FedEx by charging customers less and guaranteeing a 30-minute delivery to anywhere in the world.

But he doesn't do that.

Instead, he hides behind a pair of glasses and becomes a journalist. A journalist. That my friends, is what awesome people — or in his case, aliens — do. He writes compelling, conscientious articles with well-phrased leads and whenever possible, puns. I bet that if he had studied at Notre Dame, Clark Kent would've worked at The Observer.

And a man like that is a far better catch than any millionaire playboy.

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

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

COUNTERPOINT: BATMAN'S HUMANITY IS KEY

Batman is an everyman.

My esteemed colleague Marcela Berrios would have you believe that his immense wealth (estimated at \$6.5 billion by Forbes magazine in 2005) would make him above the common man. But Batman uses this wealth only for good.

His business, Wayne Enterprises, fights to improve the lives of even the lowliest Gothamites in conjunction with the charitable Wayne Foundation.

Superman's alter ego Clark Kent takes on the role of journalist — a noble profession, to be sure, but one that does not come close to matching the level of humanity and decency that Batman shows both in and out of the mask.

Also, Batman should not be discounted for his use of gadgetry in fighting crime. Because Batman was born with the unfortunate circumstance of being human, Batman needs something to give him an edge against the forces of evil. With his wide array of Batarangs, Bat-Computers and, of course, the Batmobile, he is able to defeat all those who threaten the safety and sanctity of Gotham City.

Ms. Berrios also provides the argument that Batman's relationship with Robin was something more than just a "Dynamic Duo." I believe her statements — which I will not repeat because I feel they are offensive — propagate the false stereotypes she mentions. True fans of the Dark Knight understand that Dick Grayson, the original Boy Wonder, was Bruce Wayne's ward. In effect, Grayson was his adopted son who Wayne took in after the boy was orphaned at eight years old when a gangster murdered his parents.

Batman's humanity makes him great. He understands that he has a certain responsibility to his fellow man.

Batman is also forced to combat a much more difficult class of

super-villain than the Man of Steel. The Dark Knight has brought to justice a plethora of maniacal fiends, including the Joker, the Riddler and the Penguin. This trio, and all of Batman's other villains, are clinically insane and willing to destroy anything in their way.

Who does Superman bring to justice in his career?

Lex Luthor. An old, bald mad-scientist-turned-businessman. This is the greatest challenge of Superman's career? With the powers granted him by the Earth's yellow sun, Superman should be able to solve the world's energy crisis, find peace in the Middle East and cure cancer — all before dinner.

In another attempt to discredit the Caped Crusader, Berrios references the 1997 film "Batman and Robin." Admittedly, this is not Batman's best showcase, but Superman is not free from this fault either.

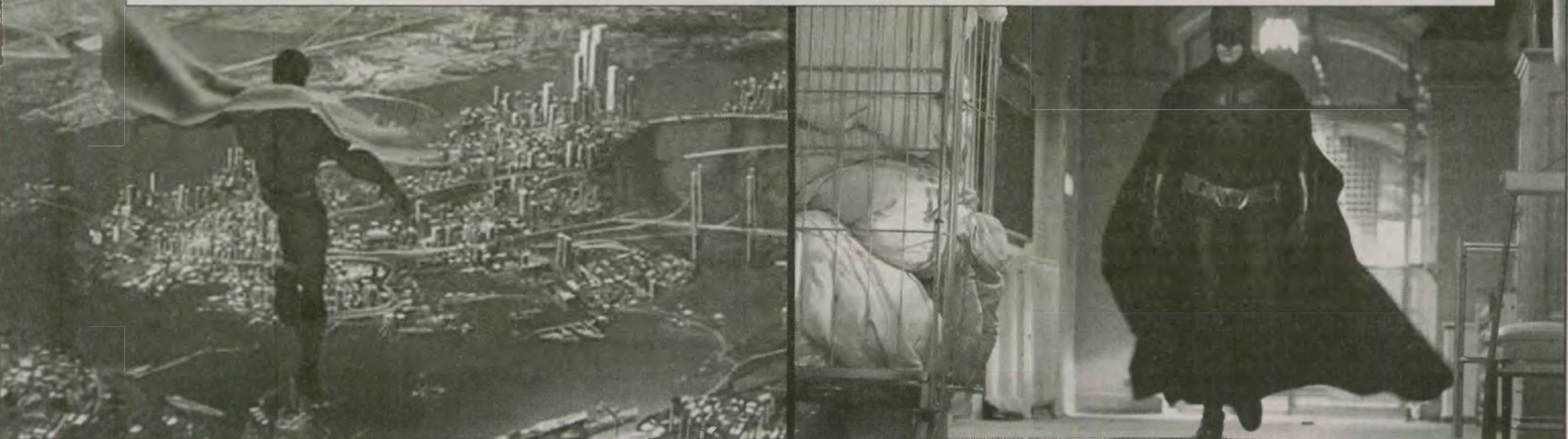
Berrios seems to forget that Superman has made his own forgettable flop: "Superman III." Whereas Batman fights legitimate super-villains in every movie rendition, Superman's nemeses fall short. In "Superman III," the Man of Steel is confronted with a disgruntled computer programmer played by comedian Richard Pryor. Not the most formidable of foes by any standard.

Batman is flawed. He suffers from the same neuroses that make us all human. Well, all of us except Superman.

These human flaws are what make Batman so great. He fuses them with his ideals of justice to make his city a greater place to live.

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

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Adams takes advantage of YouTube craze

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By JAMES COSTA
Scene Writer

In this ever-burgeoning age of technological innovation and advancement, several popular musicians have turned to the Web, namely super popular video-sharing service YouTube.com, to share a few of the more obscure elements of their personal lives and artistry. One singer-songwriter with a particularly impressive YouTube account is the famously prolific Cardinals front man, Ryan Adams.

Adams' account, titled "Horion74," provides a fascinating insight into just how weirdly talented and excited the guy is. With more than 30 videos available, the Jacksonville, N.C., native offers everything from acoustic songs filmed in his New York City bedroom to tours of the Hollywood Hills with none other than Mandy Moore, who seems adorably confused by Adams' assertion

that Los Angeles was originally founded by pirates and spaceships.

One of the more brilliant moments found within the account Horion74 is Adams' acoustic version of the song "Everybody Knows" off of the Cardinals' most recent record "Easy Tiger." Clearly engaged in a subtle but playful mockery of the thousands of YouTube users who film themselves covering (usually quite badly) famous songs in the privacy of their bedrooms and basements, Adams works through a rather butchered version of his own song as if he were just an average guy with a guitar, a video camera and a YouTube account trying to emulate himself. It's restrained comic brilliance.

A lot of the movies are weird and eccentric, to say the least. Most have a decidedly low-budget feel. It's likely that all were made only with the help of invaluable tools available to Adams on his Apple iBook - Garage Band and iMovie. Yet he uses the tools he's got to

achieve a kitschy but endearing effect, showing how his rock star life is filled with the same bizarre and peculiar thoughts and impulses that the everyday artsy weirdo experiences.

Of course, Adams could not avoid the subjects of heartbreak and emotional misery that dominate most of his official CD releases. A number of the videos are focused on his recent breakup with the redheaded Banana Republic model and writer Jessica Joffe.

Apparently, the whole breakup didn't go well, and Joffe blocked Adams' cell phone and e-mail. In an effort to show her how sad he was, he started the YouTube account and loaded the video "Sad Days." Mainly just a slideshow of pictures of Jessica backed by sad music, the video was quickly taken down because "it was just too painful," as Adams wrote in the site's artist information area.

However, Adams quickly came up

with a few new sad ideas and posted them. These videos, titled "Like Yesterday," "I'm a Sad Person," and "Broken Arrow" hit at the same emotional core as did "Sad Days." This is especially true in "Like Yesterday," where he sings, "With a belly full of sleeping pills / with a little less pain / oh it doesn't feel like yesterday." The songs are reminiscent of the darkest moments Adams has shown us before on albums like "Heartbreaker," "Love is Hell," and "29." So for those who enjoy getting their heart all ripped up by Ryan's sadness, these songs are for you.

Much of the material is quirky and odd. Yet it's refreshing to get a glimpse into the life of an artist that hasn't been already filtered by record companies and the media. So check it out, it's a great mix of some pretty stark sadness mixed with bizarre home video fun.

Contact James Costa at jcosta@nd.edu

Cursive's latest is anything but ugly

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By JAMES COSTA
Scene Writer

"The Ugly Organ" is a remarkably multi-layered and beautiful effort at a concept album. Tim Kasher and his band Cursive construct a powerful look at the clashing influences of consumer culture, lust and art through the experiences and adventures of Kasher.

Written and recorded after Kasher divorced his first wife, "The Ugly

Organ" is a portrayal of life without the person that was once the center of his world. It's an interesting follow-up to the band's previous album, "Domestica." Also a concept record of sorts, that album dealt with the unfixed entropy of Kasher's failing marriage and the frenzied heartbreak that often accompanies such a painful experience.

"The Ugly Organ" uses two basic premises for the term of the ugly organ. First, it addresses the male difficulty in living without physical gratification and the shame in being controlled by the whims of an organ that symbolizes not the power of love and affection, but fevered lust and possible sin.

The second meaning refers to the ugly organ that embodies the music machine. Since Kasher makes music for a living, he must recreate his misery on an album in order to make the money he needs to survive.

In order to tie the presence

of the organ into the fabric of the record, recurring organ figures often erupt mid-song into the arrangement as a means of distressing the singer.

To open the album, Kasher offers a couplet, "And now we proudly present/ Songs perverse and songs of lament." It's a rather brilliant ploy to put the band ahead of whatever the critics might be thinking from the get-go, proving that the group anticipates the critics and is already beyond their sharp judgments.

Kasher ups the ante for the record in the track "Art is Hard," which seems intended for him and the band: "Cut it out / Your self inflicted pain / Is getting too routine / The crowds are catching on / To the self-inflicted song."

The band grasps the way in which its songs come off and knows it must forge new ground or run the risk of being considered trite and unimportant.

Most of the songs begin with harsh and foreboding music, making the first few seconds often the most alien and difficult to listen to. Yet almost all the songs incorporate the rich and shad-

owy texture of the cello, slowing the music down to an almost lullaby-like whisper, and then picking it back up into a deafening rush of exhausted exhilaration and pain.

One of the few tracks that deviate from this theme is "A Gentleman Caller." The song ends with a soft and classically emo last two minutes of voice over pulsing cello as Kasher sings, "Whatever you need to make you feel / Like you've been the one behind the wheel / The sunrise is just over that hill / The worst is over / Whatever I said to make you think / That loves the religion of the weak / This morning we love like weaklings / The worst is over." It's a rare moment of acceptance of loss and renewal on an album that relies heavily on the disaster and dysfunction of love within life.

The record grows unexpectedly on the listener. It's a lot like reading Kerouac's "The Subterranean," except that all you have to do is sit back and listen.

Contact James Costa at jcosta@nd.edu

The Ugly Organ

Cursive

Released by: Saddle Creek

Recommended Tracks: "Art is Hard" and "A Gentleman Caller"



NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Controversial call helps Georgetown edge 'Nova

Hoyas maintain Big East lead with win; No. 11 Texas squeaks by No. 3 Kansas for crucial Big 12 victory

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The score was tied. There was less than one second to play, and Georgetown's Jonathan Wallace was dribbling 70 feet from the basket when he heard the whistle.

He wondered what was up. After all, there's no way a referee would call a foul in that situation, right?

Guess again.

"At first I thought I stepped out of bounds," Wallace said, "because I was trying to make a play with the time running down. But I did kind of (feel a) nudge when I was trying to turn the corner."

"So," Wallace shrugged, "a call's a call."

And he's not about to raise a fuss over it. That "nudge" was a bump from Villanova's Corey Stokes, the 48th foul called in a frustrating, stop-and-start game. Wallace hit both free throws with one-tenth of a second on the clock to give the No. 8 Hoyas a 55-53 victory Monday

night, their first home win over the Wildcats in more than a decade.

"Wallace was dribbling, and the ref called a foul," said Stokes, who became the game's fourth player to foul out on the play. "What are you going to do?"

Wallace scored 15 points for the Hoyas (20-3, 10-2 Big East), who have won seven of eight and bounced back from a loss at Louisville on Saturday. Georgetown won despite blowing a 12-point second-half lead and scoring only two field goals over the final eight minutes.

Scottie Reynolds scored 24 points to lead the Wildcats (14-9, 4-7), who have lost six of seven, and he tied the game with a running layup in traffic with 1:05 to play. After Georgetown's Austin Freeman missed a 3-pointer, the Wildcats set up a final shot.

There was no doubt the ball would be in Reynolds' hands. He drove baseline against Jeremiah Rivers, ran out of room and attempted a pass that

Rivers deflected for a turnover.

"I felt like I really had to foul him for the refs to call it at the end," Rivers said. "The refs always let you play when the time's running down. I wasn't going to foul him anyway."

That theory didn't hold for long. Wallace came up with the loose ball and got the favorable call against Stokes.

"I can't complain about it," Villanova coach Jay Wright said, "because I didn't see it."

"I'm glad it went our way," was the simple observation from Georgetown coach John Thompson III.

Villanova outrebounded Georgetown 41-35 and committed 11 turnovers to the Hoyas' 18, and the Wildcats wouldn't have needed a last shot had it not been for a 1-for-21 stretch from the field over first 12 minutes of the second half.

Villanova shot 13 percent in the second half — including 0-for-13 from 3-point range — and 25 percent for the game. Corey Fisher went 1-for-16 for the game, and Reynolds was 1-for-6 after halftime.

The 1-for-21 drought allowed Georgetown to turn a 29-28 halftime deficit into a 46-34 lead, but it didn't last long. The Hoyas went into a funk of their own, scoring only one field goal over the next 6-plus minutes while the Wildcats kept making free throws.

"Phew! Phew!" Thompson said. "Wins are hard to come by in this league, so to walk away with a win feels good."

Roy Hibbert added 13 points for Georgetown, and DaJuan Summers had 12. Wallace went 3-for-8 from 3-point range — including a big 3 with 2:11 to play — a modest improvement over his 9-for-38 3-point shooting slump over his previous nine games.

Georgetown's last home win over Villanova was a 78-67 victory on Jan. 27, 1997, when the Hoyas played at US Air Arena. Villanova had been 6-0 at the Verizon Center.

Longhorns 72, Jayhawks 69

Damion James scored 12 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in the second half, and No. 11 Texas held off No. 3



Georgetown center Roy Hibbert shoots over Villanova defenders Casey Drummond and Corey Stokes during the Hoyas' 55-53 win Monday.

Kansas 72-69 in yet another thrilling matchup in a rivalry that has quickly escalated into one of the best in the Big 12.

James missed most of the first half with foul trouble, then provided the muscle Texas (20-4, 7-2 Big 12) needed to counter the Jayhawks' size and strength under the basket.

James finished with 14 points. Connor Atchley led Texas with 16 points and A.J. Abrams added 14 points.

Darrell Arthur scored 22 to lead the Jayhawks (23-2, 8-2), who lost for just the second time in 33 regular-season games dating back to last season.

Texas and Kansas have played some of the most exciting league games in recent years — their two meetings last year decided the Big 12 regular-season and tournament titles — and Monday night was no different.

This one wasn't as high scoring as when these teams usually get together, but it lived up to its expectations in terms of big plays and big shots.

Texas even rolled out some

football mojo to fire up the sellout crowd: Vince Young, the quarterback of the 2005 national championship team sat a few seats down from iconic coach Darrell Royal and Aaron Ross, a rookie safety with the Super Bowl champion New York Giants, was introduced to the crowd before the game.

On the court, the Longhorns and Jayhawks bulled their way through a game dominated by the Jayhawks' physical front line and Texas' 3-point shooters.

Texas led most of the first half, its best weapon coming in lanky 6-foot-10 forward Atchley, who caught the Jayhawks offguard by stepping out for four 3-pointers and had three big blocks on defense.

Kansas kept throwing bodies at the basket, wearing down Texas with dunks and outrebounded the Longhorns 23-13 in the first half. The Jayhawks trailed until Brandon Rush tied it with a long 3-pointer and followed it with a layup. Consecutive baskets by Arthur helped put Kansas up 42-38 at halftime.



Kansas forward Darrell Arthur, left, goes up against Texas center Connor Atchley during the Longhorns' 72-69 win Monday.

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AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

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AP Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	Memphis (72)	23-0	1,800
2	Duke	21-1	1,714
3	Kansas	23-1	1,662
4	Tennessee	21-2	1,553
5	North Carolina	22-2	1,511
6	UCLA	21-3	1,383
7	Stanford	20-3	1,354
8	Georgetown	19-3	1,207
9	Butler	21-2	1,132
10	Michigan State	20-3	1,071
11	Texas	19-4	1,014
12	Xavier	20-4	962
13	Indiana	20-3	933
14	Drake	22-1	863
15	Wisconsin	19-4	816
16	Texas A&M	20-4	713
17	Connecticut	18-5	658
18	Kansas State	17-5	486
19	Purdue	19-5	467
20	NOTRE DAME	18-4	465
21	Washington State	18-5	419
22	Pittsburgh	18-5	301
23	Louisville	18-6	246
24	Vanderbilt	20-4	222
25	St. Mary's	20-3	204

USA Today/ESPN Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	Memphis (31)	23-0	775
2	Duke	21-1	742
3	Kansas	23-1	712
4	Tennessee	21-2	663
5	North Carolina	22-2	654
6	UCLA	21-3	607
7	Stanford	20-3	575
8	Georgetown	19-3	534
9	Michigan State	20-3	506
10	Butler	21-2	482
11	Texas	19-4	429
12	Indiana	20-3	423
13	Xavier	20-4	380
14	Wisconsin	19-4	376
15	Drake	22-1	361
16	Texas A&M	20-4	278
17	Connecticut	18-5	274
18	NOTRE DAME	18-4	221
19	Vanderbilt	19-5	183
20	Washington State	18-4	175
21	St. Mary's	20-3	144
22	Kansas State	17-5	124
23	Purdue	19-5	118
24	Pittsburgh	18-5	68
25	Marquette	16-6	64

NCAA Women's Basketball Big East Standings

rank	team	conference	overall
1	Connecticut	9-1	22-1
2	Rutgers	9-1	19-3
3	West Virginia	8-1	19-3
4	Pittsburgh	8-2	18-5
5	Syracuse	6-3	18-4
6	NOTRE DAME	6-3	18-5
7	DePaul	5-5	16-7
8	Louisville	5-5	16-7
9	Marquette	5-5	13-10
10	Georgetown	3-6	13-9
11	Seton Hall	3-7	13-9
12	Villanova	3-7	13-10
13	St. John's	3-7	12-11
14	South Florida	2-8	12-11
15	Cincinnati	2-9	11-12
16	Providence	1-8	11-11

NHL



A teammate and trainer help Florida Panthers forward Richard Zednik off the ice Sunday after a freak accident stopped gameplay for 15 minutes. Zednik underwent emergency surgery Sunday to repair a partly-severed artery.

Teammate's skate nearly severs forward's artery

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Florida Panthers forward Richard Zednik lost five units of blood, but doctors never considered his life in jeopardy after the player had his carotid artery nearly severed by a teammate's skate in a freak and frightening accident.

Zednik underwent an hour of surgery to reconnect the artery Sunday night and was listed in stable condition in the intensive care unit at Buffalo General Hospital on Monday. He was awake and cooperative with the medical staff, doctors said.

Attending surgeon Sonya

Noor said there were no initial signs of brain damage, which is a fear whenever the carotid artery is clamped. She said clamps were in place for about 15 to 20 minutes during surgery, which she considers a short time.

"So far, he looks very good. He's awake, oriented," said Noor. "He remembers what happened last night."

Zednik was sliced across the right side of the throat by teammate Olli Jokinen's skate midway through the third period of Buffalo's 5-3 victory. Doctors said the skate blade just missed cutting the jugular vein.

The carotid artery sup-

plies blood to the brain, while the jugular vein takes blood from the brain. Blood pressure is much higher in the carotid artery.

According to Noor, the slashed artery was "hanging by a thread." She stressed if the artery had been completely severed it would have recessed into the neck, requiring even more extensive surgery.

Prior to surgery, doctors noted that Zednik's blood pressure was dropping, and there was also swelling around the cut making it difficult to breath. Doctors put a tube in his neck to open an airway.

Robert McCormack, the hospital's clinical chief of

emergency medicine, said: "We became concerned. He was clearly in shock from blood loss. His heart rate was high his blood pressure was a bit low."

Vascular surgeon Richard Curl, who assisted Noor, said the cut was about an inch-and-a-half deep and also as wide. Doctors were astonished the skate blade did not hit any other arteries or veins or cause any further damage.

"Luck," was a factor, according to Noor.

"He might have some hoarseness and that's about it at this point," said Noor, who said Zednik had a "normal, beautiful artery."

IN BRIEF

Dolphins release Green, Booker in first Parcells purge

MIAMI — Quarterback Trent Green was acquired by the Miami Dolphins last year as part of a plan to turn the franchise's fortunes around.

Not surprisingly, Bill Parcells' ideas will differ from the previous model.

In the Dolphins' first major player purge since Parcells took charge of Miami's football operations, the team parted ways with Green, wide receiver Marty Booker and seven other players Monday — ushering in the start of what's expected to be a massive offseason roster shakeup by the rebuilding franchise.

"This is never easy, especially since all of these players worked hard during their tenure here," new Dolphins' general manager Jeff Ireland said.

There is a chance that Green — who was due a \$500,000 roster bonus if he wasn't cut and who would have cost the Dolphins more than \$3.6 million against their 2008 salary cap — could see his Miami tenure continue.

Simpson's arrival at Las Vegas jail to be televised

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson told jailers he had been planning to host a poker game at his home in Miami before he was brought to Las Vegas to spend several nights behind bars, according to a television program transcript released Monday.

"I didn't expect to be back here so soon," Simpson laughed as he was greeted by a Las Vegas police jail officer, according to the transcript from producers of the MyNetworkTV show "Jail."

A crew was already filming at the Clark County Detention Center when the former football star was brought in by his former bail bondsman on Jan. 11, said Morgan Langley, an executive producer.

"It was not something we were expecting," Langley said of Simpson's appearance, which Langley said drew cheers from other people in an intake waiting room at the jail. "It was a little bit strange."

Association says it won't 'gag' Olympians

LONDON — The British Olympic Association has "no intention of gagging" its athletes at the Beijing Games.

A day after the BOA said it would require its athletes to sign a new clause in their contracts prohibiting them from making politically sensitive remarks or gestures during the Olympics, the association clarified its stance.

"Clearly (the instructions) had been misinterpreted and we now accept they may have been open to misinterpretation," BOA spokesman Graham Newsom said Monday. "But there is no intention of gagging anyone. We are trying to mirror what it says in the Olympic Charter."

Simon Clegg, the BOA's chief executive, acknowledged that the BOA's Team Members Agreement appeared to go beyond the provision of the Olympic Charter.

around the dial

NCAA BASKETBALL

Michigan State at Purdue
7 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Spurs' Ginobili drops 34 points, grabs 15 boards

Hughes scores a season-high 40 as Cavaliers top Magic; Lakers beat Bobcats, improve to 4-1 since acquiring Gasol

Associated Press

TORONTO — Manu Ginobili scored a season-high 34 points and added a career-high 15 rebounds, leading the San Antonio Spurs to a 93-88 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Monday night.

Tim Duncan added 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Spurs, who led from wire-to-wire and won for the fifth time in six games. San Antonio's only defeat in that time was a 98-90 loss at Boston on Sunday.

Ginobili had 21 points in 19 first-half minutes, scored three more in the third, then helped put the game away with 10 in the fourth.

Ginobili's biggest rebound came in the final 20 seconds when he rebounded his own miss and was fouled with the Spurs clinging to a three-point lead.

Toronto's Jose Calderon scored a career-high 27, and Andrea Bargnani had 12. Chris Bosh and Carlos Delfino each had 11 points and eight rebounds as the Raptors dropped their third straight at home.

San Antonio has won 10 of its past 12 against Toronto.

The Spurs led 68-56 at 2:41 of the third, but didn't score again in the quarter, allowing Toronto to cut the gap to 68-60 at the start of the fourth. San Antonio called a timeout after a jumper by Jason Kapono made it 70-66 with 10:38 remaining.

Duncan and Jacque Vaughn returned for the Spurs, who scored nine of the next 11 points to lead 79-68 at 7:44. But Toronto closed again, with 3-pointers from Calderon and Delfino and a layup by Rashaun Nesterovic making it 87-84 with 3:32 left.

Bosh made it 91-88 on a jumper from the top of the key with 1:20 left, but missed an almost identical shot 45 seconds later that would have made it a one-point game.

Toronto, who previous three games were against last-place opponents (Miami, the Los Angeles Clippers and Minnesota), struggled early against the defending NBA champions.

The Raptors missed their first six shots and didn't score until a jumper from Jamario Moon at 8:33. San Antonio led by as many as 12 in the first and pushed their lead to 18, at 53-35, on a second-quarter basket by Ginobili.

Toronto's hopes took a hit when Bosh limped off midway through the first after injuring his right knee in a knee-on-knee collision with Vaughn. Bosh returned three minutes later wearing a black wrap on his knee.

Raptors guard T.J. Ford played eight minutes in the first half but was kept on the bench in the second because of a sore right wrist. Ford returned Feb. 4 after missing 24 games because of neck and arm pain, the result of a Dec. 11 fall at Atlanta.

Cavaliers 118, Magic 111

Larry Hughes scored a season-high 40 points and LeBron James added 29 and 10 assists as the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Orlando Magic on Monday night.

Hughes scored 23 in the third quarter on 6-for-7 shooting, including two 3-pointers and an assortment of drives and jumpers. He hit 9 of 10 free throws in the period.

Hedo Turkoglu had 25 points for Orlando, leading all five starters in double figures, while Dwight Howard had 16 points and nine rebounds. Howard scored 10 in the first quarter, but struggled the rest of the way as Cleveland collapsed inside with double- and triple-teams.

The teams were closely matched through three quarters, and entered the fourth tied at 86. But Cleveland opened a 98-88 lead, by far its biggest of the game, as the Magic scored only two points in the first 4:48 of the period.

Orlando lost its second straight, and third of a five-game home stretch before the All-Star game.

Jameer Nelson had 22 points for Orlando, Rashard Lewis scored 15 and Maurice Evans added 10 points and eight rebounds.

Cleveland won despite a lot of bad luck. The Cavs were without three of their top players, and nearly lost two others in a 30-point drubbing Sunday night to the Denver Nuggets — Zydrunas Ilgauskas with back spasms, Damon Jones with a sprained ankle. Both played Monday, but were game-time decisions.

Cleveland's plane was grounded Sunday night with a mechanical failure. The Cavaliers tried into early Monday to fly here before giving up for the night. They didn't arrive in Orlando until about 1:30 p.m. Monday for the 7 p.m. tipoff.

Drew Gooden was back in the lineup after missing three games with a strained right groin. He scored six of Cleveland's first eight points, but finished with 10. The Cavs were still missing Daniel Gibson (strained hamstring), Anderson Varejao (sprained ankle) and Sasha Pavlovic (sprained foot).

Ira Newble also scored 10 for Cleveland, while Devin Brown



Spurs guard Manu Ginobili drives past Raptors forward Andrea Bargnani during the first half of San Antonio's 93-88 victory Monday night in Toronto.

had 11 off the bench.

Lakers 106, Bobcats 97

Kobe Bryant drove into the lane, met heavy traffic and flipped the ball behind his back toward the corner for Pau Gasol, who was cutting the opposite way.

After the ball bounced harmlessly out of bounds, Bryant smiled at Gasol, who smiled back. It was one of their few mistakes in a dominating first half Monday night that provided a glimpse of what the Los Angeles Lakers were hoping for when they acquired Gasol from Memphis.

With Bryant hitting from the outside and scoring 31 points and Gasol clogging the middle to score 26, the Lakers continued their impressive road trip with a win over the reeling Charlotte Bobcats.

"Adding Pau to the mix, we

have something that has to be dealt with," said Bryant after the Lakers improved to 4-1 since the trade for their new big man.

It wasn't an entirely pretty performance for the Lakers, who improved to 6-2 on their nine-game trip. They allowed the Bobcats to cut a 13-point deficit to 89-86 midway through the fourth quarter.

Then Bryant went to work. His jumper with 4:30 left made it 96-90. His no-look pass to Lamar Odom for a dunk made it 100-93, and Bryant put the Lakers ahead by 11 with two free throws with 1:07 left.

Bryant had his third straight game of 30 or more points, but Bryant is clearly warming up to his new option down low.

Gasol had his second-highest scoring game since joining Los Angeles, hitting nine of 11 shots and eight of 12 free throws despite a cold that had Gasol

coughing in the locker room after the game.

"Yesterday, he didn't have a good game," coach Phil Jackson said of Gasol's 12-point performance in a win at Miami. "Today was the mark of a good player to come back and double your effort and have a good game. He's not feeling the greatest now either, so that's a good game for him."

Raymond Felton scored 29 points and Nazr Mohammed added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bobcats, whose seven-game losing streak matches the longest of their disappointing season.

The Bobcats played without leading scorer Gerald Wallace for the fourth time in five games. Wallace, hobbled by a strained right foot, was replaced a night earlier in Detroit by rookie Jared Dudley in the starting lineup.

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NBA

Injured Shaq practices for first time with Suns

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Shaquille O'Neal practiced with the Phoenix Suns for the first time Monday, showing no sign of the hip injury that has sidelined him since Jan. 21.

"It was different. It was very intense," he said after the one-hour workout. "I learned a lot. Now I can see why they can go at the pace they play at. When you just do short bursts like this, then you can save it all for the game."

Just when he will play in a game remained undecided.

"I haven't done anything in a month, but I'm in pretty good shape," O'Neal said. "It will probably take me a few more days to get in tune. The good thing about these guys here is they told me when I'm comfortable, when I'm one-thousand percent, then I can join them."

Phoenix has two games before the All-Star break — at Golden State on Wednesday night and at home against Dallas on Thursday. The first game after the break is at home against Shaq's old team, the Los Angeles Lakers, his former coach Phil Jackson and his old teammate Kobe Bryant.

"I think it's going to take a little bit," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "It's going to be an adjustment for our guys and for him. It's hard to think and play basketball at the same time. Right now, he's got to think where he's going to go and all that. But it's going to be good chemistry and it's going to change things up, hopefully for the better."

D'Antoni said the Suns will "not rush him back for any rea-

son." The coach said he will meet with O'Neal and trainer Aaron Nelson after Tuesday's practice to map out plans.

Phoenix is 2-1 since the trade last Wednesday that brought O'Neal from the Miami Heat for Shawn Marion and Marcus Banks. The Suns have the conference's best record at 36-15 but only 57 games separate the top nine teams in the West.

O'Neal injured his hip diving for a loose ball against Utah on Dec. 22. He returned Jan. 16 but was sidelined again five days later. An MRI showed inflammation in the left hip, shutting him down from all basketball activity.

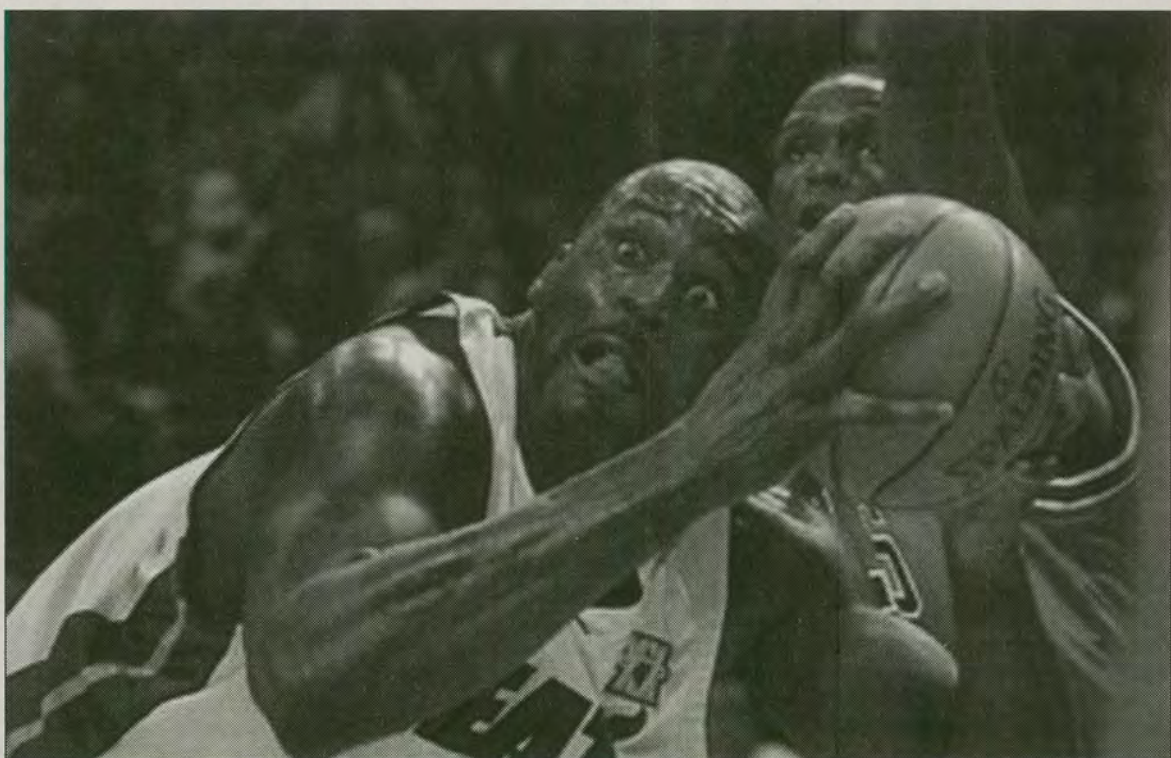
In going ahead with the trade, the Suns were confident their staff would be able to get O'Neal in playing condition.

"The hip's feeling pretty good, better than it's felt in a while," O'Neal said. "I'm used to just getting injections and going back out there. They told me they have their style, and they want me to stick with it."

O'Neal said he needs to get back in basketball shape and has to be comfortable with playmaker Steve Nash in a system far different from the one used by Pat Riley in Miami.

"I'm not going to rush anything because this is already a fine-tuned machine, and any kink could throw it off," O'Neal said. "I don't want to be the negative kink. I want to step in like I've been with this team the last three years. I have to make sure that everything's right."

He's been impressed by much of what he's seen, particularly the ability of Amare Stoudemire, named Western



Former Heat center Shaquille O'Neal eyes the basket as Bulls forward Luol Deng defends during the 126-96 Bulls win on Jan. 16. O'Neal was traded to the Phoenix Suns on Feb. 6.

Conference player of the week on Monday.

"I didn't know he was that good," O'Neal said. "I really didn't."

O'Neal's arrival will allow Stoudemire to move to his more natural power forward position.

"I think it makes my job a little easier," Stoudemire said. "If you look at me standing beside him I look more like a point guard than a center."

The entire Phoenix team seemed energized by O'Neal's presence.

"Most practices you don't want to be out there," Grant

Hill said, "but today everybody wanted to be out there and look forward to making it work. That's going to be the challenge. That's going to be the fun part."

O'Neal does not expect to be the star.

"I'm a historian of the game, so I understand that on this team I'm probably a big role player, and I have no problem with that," O'Neal said. "I did my thing in my prime, and it's Amare's prime right now. I think it's my job to get him to the next level. Toward the end of my career, I have no problem coming here and just fitting in

and just helping these guys get to the next level."

He compares his job to the role of an aging Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on the "Showtime" Lakers teams of Magic Johnson and James Worthy.

"Kareem was fortunate enough to have those style of players around him toward the end of his career, and I sort of feel like him now," O'Neal said. "I'm no idiot. I'm not going to come in here trying to take over and take 30 shots. I'm going to fit in very nicely — rebound, outlet to Steve, get some easy buckets, play some defense. That's all we need."

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NBA ALL-STAR GAME

Wallace chosen to take Garnett's place

Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett withdrew from the NBA All-Star Game on Sunday and was replaced on the Eastern Conference roster by Detroit Pistons forward Rasheed Wallace.

The announcement was made by the commissioner's office

after Garnett missed his seventh consecutive game with an abdominal strain. Celtics coach Doc Rivers, who will coach the East in the Feb. 17 game in New Orleans, said Garnett will not play until the team returns from the break.

"He's out until after the All-Star break," Rivers said after the Celtics beat the San Antonio Spurs 98-90 to improve to 5-2 since Garnett was injured.

Garnett was averaging 19.2 points and 9.9 rebounds per game before being sidelined two weeks ago after straining a stomach muscle on Jan. 25 against the Timberwolves. He

was the leading vote-getter for the All-Star Game, but Rivers said that Garnett would probably not play Tuesday or Wednesday, in Boston's last two games before the break.

Rivers, who will coach the East in the game, said he hoped Ray Allen would be considered as Garnett's replacement.

"He should be [an All-Star] anyway. I wouldn't be surprised if it wasn't Ray they use," Rivers said. "It would be nice to have Ray on. I would take Ray."

Wallace will join teammates Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton for the All-Star Game New Orleans. It

will be his fourth All-Star appearance.

The Pistons forward will have to alter his vacation plans after being selected to replace Garnett in the game.

"This time I'll go for the kids," Wallace said to the Detroit Free Press. "I guess once I get older or out of the game, they can look back on it and check it out."

"This time, I'll go for the kids. I guess once I get older or out of the game, they can look back on it and check it out."

Rasheed Wallace
Pistons forward

CLUB SPORTS

Women's hockey team rolls

Women's water polo sweeps weekend set; volleyball opens conference play

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame blew the Chicago Snappers out of the water from start to finish this weekend, winning 8-0 in its final regular season game.

Sophomore Emily Chappell started the scoring off less than a minute into the game from a set play from junior Margaret Knoedler. This was followed moments later by a pass from freshman Gillian Allsup to classmate Tess Ryan for the second Irish goal. Ryan would score twice more, registering her first collegiate hat trick.

The first period ended with a rebound goal by Knoedler.

The Snappers struggled and were unable to stop Chappell from taking the puck on the second period's opening faceoff and scoring an unassisted goal. Later that period senior Kara Brennan put it in the net thanks to fine passes from Knoedler and junior Amy Wilhelmy. Knoedler managed to score again with an assist by Chappell.

The team enjoyed success this year in large part due to the dedication and commitment of seniors Brennan, Laura Steinbrenner, Alicia Burtner, Casey Bouskill and coach Ollie Short.

"They each brought something so different to the team," Wilhelmy said. "And next season will be so different without them. We're really going to miss them."

Women's water polo

Notre Dame proved it is among the best nationally, sweeping four matches this weekend, including three nationally regarded rivals.

The Irish faced two conference foes on Saturday — Eastern Michigan and Miami of Ohio. The Irish shut down EMU 13-3, led by Betsy O'Neill and Maggie Hyde in goal. Ali Durkin led the scoring with four goals, Cristina Romano had three and Meghan Pearl added another two.

Against Miami, the Irish finished strong to post a 10-5 victory, after leading the Redhawks 2-1 at half. Durkin again led the scoring with three goals.

On Sunday, the Irish faced Michigan State in their first game, winning a close match 5-3. Kat Kennifer's two goals were the difference.

The final game of the weekend pitted the Irish against tournament-host Michigan. The Irish came out on top, winning 5-4, as the disciplined team drew 11 Wolverines ejections and three penalty shots, all of which were converted. O'Neill made several key stops, keeping the Wolverines playing catch-up the entire game.

Ski

With regionals looming next weekend in Marquette, Mich., Notre Dame was all business upon its arrival at Crystal Mountain Saturday.

Led by a second-place finish from freshman Erin McNeill, the female snowboarders made quick work of their competition, winning their only race of the weekend.

The men's snowboard squad finished second in team standings, with Jeff Kroon, Andy Martin and Alex Gorrel finishing fifth, sixth and seventh respectively.

The men's ski team was not about to take things so easily.

Juniors Eric Shaw and Joel

Sharbrough each were poised to finish on the podium after the first run, but the icy conditions were a rude awakening in the second run, sending both skiers cartwheeling off course. Freshman Chris Knoedler and senior Steve Feutz picked up the slack finishing sixth and 10th to pace the squad to a third-place finish.

Due to the weather conditions, only Saturday's ski races were held.

Men's volleyball

The No. 21 men traveled to Northern Illinois and DeKalb, Ill., last weekend for their first of two conference play days. In a conference featuring the national champions from each of the past three years, the Irish had their work cut out for them.

The opening match was against last year's national runner-up No. 4 Lakeland. While the Irish kept pace with the powerhouse for the majority of the match, they were unable to break ahead and grab a victory. Despite the strong outside hitting of Dan Zibton, the Irish began the day with a loss in straight sets, 21-25 and 18-25.

Immediately after the loss to Lakeland, Notre Dame was pitted Illinois State. In the first set, starting Irish middle Tim Goldsmith suffered a groin injury that sent him to the bench for the rest of the day, but junior Jason Gott was able to fill in and carry the load. Notre Dame dominated the young Illinois State team in straight sets, 25-19 and 25-20.

The Irish then faced Wisconsin-Milwaukee and current No. 1 and two-time defending national champions Wisconsin-Oshkosh in consecutive matches. The Irish came out strong against UW-Milwaukee, but its quick offense kept Notre Dame on its heels. The Irish lost the first game, but rallied back in the second, winning 25-22. A small lapse caused the Irish to fall behind in the third, but they rebounded with a 15-11 win.

The Irish were greatly tested against the Titans. Notre Dame started with two straight aces, but struggled the rest of the match.

UW-Oshkosh controlled the match, handing Notre Dame its second loss of the day, 25-22, 25-19.

In order to finish above .500, the Irish needed to close out the day with consecutive victories against Ball State and Iowa State. With a strong serving attack, the Irish succeeded and beat Ball State in consecutive sets, 25-18 and 25-21.

In its sixth and final match against Iowa State, Notre Dame was eyeing a respectable finish. Behind sophomore Arthur Kinsey's defense and Ted Grossestreuer's outside hitting, the Irish gained an early lead. The Cyclones caught fire and proceeded to take the lead and close out a first game win. With their backs against the wall, the Irish found the intensity they needed and pushed back against ISU. Notre Dame closed out the final two games and the match, 20-25, 25-23, 15-12, finishing the day 4-2.

Equestrian

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's competed in a pair of competitions over the weekend at the Taylor University IHSA Shows.

On Saturday, Jennifer Gilardi qualified for regionals with a second place showing in novice fences, while teammate Kelley Daniels took fourth in the event.

Katie Pietrucha finished third in the novice flat. Heather Ladue was fourth in intermediate flat and Brittany Gragg sixth in intermediate fences. The final Irish results saw Katrina Stewart and Laura Tiche tie for fifth in walk-trot.

In Sunday's show, Krista Jones was named reserve high point rider, with a pair of first places in novice fences and intermediate flat. Ladue and Gilardi tied for third in intermediate flat, while Daniels tied Jones for first in novice fences.

Pietrucha and Laura Hale tied for 4th in novice flat. Catherine Germer's third place in walk-trot qualified her for regionals as she tied Klosterman, one place behind Laura Divil's 2nd place.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Vols survive Rutgers' late rally



Rutgers guard Epiphany Prince shoots over a Lady Vols defender during No. 1 Tennessee's 59-58 victory Monday night.

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Nicky Anosike sank two free throws with two-tenths of a second left and No. 1 Tennessee rallied to beat No. 5 Rutgers 59-58 on Monday night in a rematch of last season's national championship game.

Trailing 58-57, Anosike grabbed an offensive rebound and was grabbed by Kia Vaughn from behind. Unclear whether the foul had come before time expired, the Rutgers bench began to celebrate, but officials reviewed the play and determined that the foul had been committed just before the buzzer.

Television replays showed the game clock seemed to pause as Anosike came down with the ball and two-tenths remained on the clock, leading to the controversial finish.

Anosike calmly stepped up and hit the two free throws to seal the victory.

"It's unfortunate that those kinds of things happen," Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer said. "I'm getting used to it now."

Candace Parker had 27

points and 10 rebounds, and Angie Bjorklund added 13.

Epiphany Prince had 21 points for Rutgers, and Essence Carson added 18.

The Lady Vols (22-1) entered the second half with a 34-23 lead after the Scarlet Knights (19-4) made only two field goals and two free throws in the 11 minutes before the half.

The deficit was Rutgers' largest of the season. They had trailed by 10 to both Connecticut and Maryland before coming back to win both games.

Tennessee coach Pat Summitt warned her team at halftime that it could happen again.

"Rutgers is a second half team, all you have to do is look at all their comebacks this year," she said.

But Tennessee went cold after the break, making only one shot from the field — a 3-pointer from Angie Bjorklund — in the first 14 minutes.

Rutgers took a 39-38 lead on a Rashidat Junaid layup with 10:08 to go. Vaughn's putback basket put the Scarlet Knights up 56-51 with 1:35.

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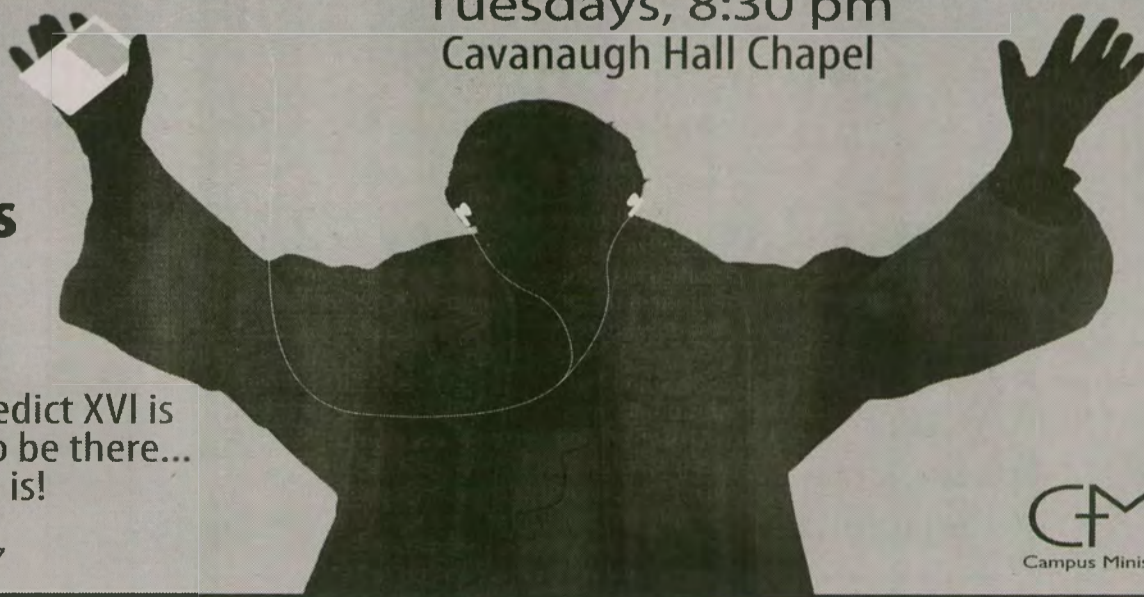
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MLB

'It's showtime' for Clemens

But Pettitte, two others won't testify in Wednesday's Mitchell Report session

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens and his accuser, Brian McNamee, will be the main witnesses at a House hearing on the Mitchell Report after New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte and two others were dropped Monday night.

Former Clemens teammate Chuck Knoblauch and convicted steroids dealer Kirk Radomski also were dropped from the witness list for Wednesday's public session. One new witness was added Monday night: a lawyer who worked with former Senate majority leader George Mitchell to produce December's report on drugs in baseball.

But all attention will be focused on Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner, and McNamee, his former personal trainer, who alleged he injected the pitcher with performance-enhancing drugs.

"I guess it's showtime, isn't it?" Clemens' lead lawyer, Rusty Hardin, said in a telephone interview.

Earl Ward, McNamee's lead lawyer, declined to comment on the charges.

McNamee said in the Mitchell Report that he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone at least 16 times in 1998, 2000 and 2001. Clemens' denials of those allegations drew the attention of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

McNamee also accused Pettitte of using HGH — something Pettitte acknowledged he did do for two days in 2002 to deal with an elbow injury. Before Pettitte spoke to committee lawyers under oath last week, Ward said he thought Pettitte would tell Congress he discussed HGH with Clemens between the 2001 and 2002 seasons.

With Monday's decision,

Pettitte was spared the potentially difficult situation of having to deliver public testimony that could hurt the position of Clemens, a friend, past teammate and former workout partner. Radomski has said he had no direct contact with Clemens, and Knoblauch's knowledge in the matter appeared to be peripheral.

Pettitte gave a sworn deposition last Monday, followed the next day by Clemens, and McNamee later in the week. Knoblauch, a former major leaguer who was a Yankees teammate of Clemens and Pettitte, was interviewed by committee staff last month, while Radomski had been scheduled for a pre-hearing meeting with the committee Tuesday.

All five originally were invited to testify Wednesday.

"Mr. Knoblauch and Mr. Pettitte answered all the Committee's questions and their testimony at the hearing is not needed," committee chairman Henry Waxman and ranking Republican Tom Davis said in a statement. "Mr. Clemens and Mr. McNamee have also cooperated with the Committee in its investigation."

Following Pettitte's deposition, his lawyers asked the committee to excuse him from the hearing, a person familiar with the talks said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the negotiations weren't made public.

Pettitte's request to be excused was first reported by The New York Times on its Web site.

Pettitte's attorney, Jay Reisinger, declined to comment after the announcement, while a lawyer for Radomski did not immediately return a phone message left at his office Monday night.

"I'm not disappointed," said Knoblauch's attorney, Diana Marshall. "I know Chuck is not disappointed."

The new witness is Charles Scheeler, a partner with Mitchell's law firm, DLA Piper. According to the firm's Web site, Scheeler mainly works in commercial litigation and white collar criminal defense.

Asked about Scheeler's addition, Hardin said: "It's interesting. I look forward to hearing what he has to say."

Clemens' camp disputes several elements of the Mitchell Report's sections about him. Clemens said he repeated under oath during his closed-door deposition what he previously had said in various settings publicly: "I've never used steroids or growth hormone."

McNamee, for his part, arrived for his deposition with color photos of what his side says is evidence — and what Clemens' lawyers have called "manufactured" — that was turned over to the Justice Department last month. McNamee's lawyers say the items include used needles saved for several years and that, when tested, they will prove Clemens used performance-enhancing drugs.

While McNamee has been quiet, not speaking a word to reporters after his deposition, Clemens has been crisscrossing Capitol Hill, speaking with nearly half of the members of the committee on a two-day tour last week. The 45-year-old pitcher planned to meet with more lawmakers Tuesday, a day before he testifies under oath at the hearing.

Pettitte was supposed to be there, too. Now the left-hander is free to get ready to head to spring training. Yankees pitchers and catchers are to report Thursday.

"Every witness should make the decision that's best for them," Hardin said. "Roger plans to be there and to answer every question fully and truthfully. Whatever anybody else did, that's their deal."

NFL

Walsh stays mum on Spygate probe

Former Patriots assistant declines to comment

Associated Press

LAHAINA, Hawaii — The life of a golf pro on Maui seems to fit Matt Walsh well.

Even with all the telephone calls he's been avoiding in the last week, since his name came up in the NFL's Spygate affair, Walsh isn't complaining. On a gorgeous Saturday morning, he sat in a chair overlooking the Kaanapali Resort with an easy smile on his face.

And no answers to offer.

Walsh is a former assistant coach for the New England Patriots who performed some videotaping duties for the team. A few days before the Super Bowl, Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) asked why Walsh was not interviewed during the NFL's investigation into Spygate.

Asked Saturday whether he'd been contacted by Specter's office or by the NFL, Walsh smiled and said, "I really can't answer that."

Nor would Walsh say if he was under a gag order from his attorneys, even though that seems obvious. On Wednesday, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell mentioned that his staff was talking with Walsh's representatives, trying to gauge whether Walsh had any new information to offer and if Walsh was free to talk to the league.

Does he have info? Is he free to talk?

"I can't comment on anything," Walsh replied. "I'm really sorry, but I can't."

Goodell reiterated at a Pro Bowl practice this week that the case against the Patriots is not closed if any more information is uncovered about the team videotaping opposing coaches' signals. The

NFL fined coach Bill Belichick \$500,000, slapped the Patriots with a \$250,000 fine and stripped them of this year's first-round draft pick.

Belichick handed over six tapes and accompanying notes, which the team said was all the material it had gathered. Then came a report that the Patriots videotaped the Rams' walk-through before the 2002 Super Bowl, and that Walsh was involved in that taping.

"We were aware of this before," Goodell said. "We pursued it and weren't able to get any information that was credible. We were aware of some of the rumors and we pursued

some of them and we continue that. From Day 1, I said if we feel there is new information that's inconsistent with what we've been told [by the Patriots], I reserve the right to reopen it."

Does Walsh expect that to happen?

A smile, and silence.

Is he amused by all the questions being raised, or all the phone calls by the media trying to track him down?

"Don't think I can comment on that," he said.

Walsh did ask a reporter how long he would be in Maui, whether he was in Hawaii for the Pro Bowl, and where the reporter was staying. He nodded approval when told which hotel was media headquarters.

"I've been there," he said. "Very nice place."

As is the Kaanapali course, which will host the Wendy's Champions Skins Game Three-Tour challenge later this month featuring Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Tom Watson, Gary Player, Jay Haas, Loren Roberts, Fuzzy Zoeller and Peter Jacobsen. It's also the home course for the Golf Channel show "Big Break."

Several times, Walsh answered the pro shop phone, but only to confirm tee times or give information about the resort. Asked how many phone messages he'd received in the last week, he once again smiled — silently.

According to his bio on the Kaanapali Golf Web site, Walsh worked in Arena Football, for seven years with the Patriots, who won two Super Bowls in that span, and one year in NFL Europa.

He also trained with the U.S. Bobsled team.

None of that was fodder for conversation Saturday, either.

Walsh was rumored to have attended last Sunday's Super Bowl, but offered no information on that.

As for his future — other than giving golf lessons and playing when he gets the chance — Walsh wasn't about to speculate.

"Do you expect to hear from Congress or the NFL or your lawyers anytime soon?" he was asked.

"Can't say," he replied before asking for the reporter's business card. "I have to get back to work. Thanks for coming out. I hope you enjoy Maui and the Pro Bowl."



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Peters

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season, and we're looking forward to having her back and ready to go next season," she said.

"I just cringed," junior guard Lindsay Schrader, who missed all of last season after tearing her ACL, said Sunday of Peters' injury.

Freshman forward Becca Bruszewski said she thought the play was a freak occurrence, not the result of any contact with another player.

"It just kind of looked like she went to cut back and just went down," said Bruszewski, who was standing near Peters when she fell.

McGraw said losing Peters will change the team's strategy at times.

"It changes a little bit of what we do. I think we'll probably go smaller at times," McGraw said Sunday. "And the way Becca's playing, I'm very confident in her coming in and doing a lot of good things. It changes the press a little bit."

Peters was the driving force behind Notre Dame's full-court, man-to-man press, using her height and long arms to disrupt opposing offenses. McGraw said the press is becoming less effective for Notre Dame, however.

"At this point in the season, teams have figured out our press," she said Sunday. "The half-court defense was really a lot better than our press tonight. We'll be able to get a good game plan without her."

McGraw looked at the injury as an opportunity for bench

players to increase their roles.

"Part of the growing process in this game, and in life, is dealing with obstacles that are put in your path," McGraw said in the release. "This presents an opportunity for some of our other players to step in and contribute down the stretch in the Big East conference season and I believe they will passionately embrace that challenge and take advantage of it."

The likely candidates, McGraw said Sunday, are Bruszewski and senior center Melissa D'Amico.

"It's a great opportunity for [Bruszewski] to move to the perimeter a little bit more," McGraw said. "And it's a great opportunity for [D'Amico], and [she] has been waiting for her opportunity patiently since the beginning of the year."

D'Amico, who averaged 20.4 minutes per game and eight points per game last season, averages 9.4 minutes per game and 3.3 points per game this season. The 6-foot-5 center has only started 10 games this season after starting 29 of Notre Dame's 32 games last season.

Bruszewski was optimistic about the prospect of increased playing time, and McGraw was confident in Bruszewski's abilities to contribute.

"She gets a body on somebody and she does a good job of boxing out," McGraw said Sunday. "[Panthers center Mercedes] Walker was hurting us early, we weren't rebounding and I felt like she was the one that could come in and make a difference."

Contact Bill Brink at
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Team

continued from page 20

Peoples. Zeller finished with 11 points while Peoples finished with seven, including two free throws with 18 seconds left to put Notre Dame up three and keep Marquette from taking the lead.

"They were huge," McAlarney said. "Luke Z., in the first half was great, grabbing rebounds, hitting threes. He was amazing. Jonathan, those two free throws were huge. That's a lot of pressure for somebody coming off the bench and he knocked them down."

Peoples said his heart was racing when he stepped up to the line and the Joyce Center crowd became quiet as he took his shots.

"I was really nervous," Peoples said. "Everybody said I looked really calm, but I was nervous inside. I knew I had to make them though, so I took my time and made both of them."

Peoples may have been nervous, but Ayers knew he would knock down the free throws.

"He lives for the crunch time," Ayers said. "He's played a lot big games in high school and played a lot of good minutes for us here."

Sophomore guard Tory Jackson said the team likes

to joke around with Peoples, especially his 36.7 three-point percentage.

"We tease him all the time," Jackson said. "He's Big Bear, that's his name. He jokes with us all the time but we joke with him, too."

On Saturday, Peoples did hit a three, but the shot probably would've fallen short if not for a Marquette goaltending violation. Even though he got credit for a made shot, the fact that Peoples needed a Marquette defender to illegally contest the shot won't spare him grief from his teammates.

"He's a little bit of a whipping boy, but he's a great player," McAlarney said. "I think people are shocked by

how good of a player he is because he comes in kind of hunched over, and he's so tight, almost like he's an old man, but we don't win the game without him."

Zeller scored most of his points in the first half and got the Joyce Center in a frenzy when he threw down a monstrous left-handed jam.

"I've seen it before," Ayers said. "He's done it in practice. I was glad he got to do it in a game. He has that long stretch with the left and it's a powerful dunk. I was glad he brought it out."

Zeller also stepped outside and drained two 3-pointers at crucial times to prevent Marquette from cutting into Notre Dame's lead late in the first half and early in the second half. Irish coach Mike Brey said he liked how Zeller has been playing defensively this season.

"We've sketched a good role for him to have success," Brey said. "He's a confident guy coming and shooting the ball, but I love how he's playing defense and rebounding right now and he's handling the basketball pretty good. He's moving differently, he's confident, he's going for it."

Zeller said everybody feels comfortable with his role, and that has only helped the team improve over the last month.

"We all have our roles, we just get out and play, and we just go for it and we all know what we can do," Zeller said.

Contact Chris Hine at
chine@nd.edu

"Everybody said I looked really calm, but I was nervous inside. I knew I had to make them though, so I took my time and made both of them."

Jonathan Peoples
Irish guard

"[Peoples is] a little bit of a whipping boy, but he's a great player."

Kyle McAlarney
Irish guard

Mustangs

continued from page 20

in the nation, lost to SMU sophomore Robin Fahgen in straight sets. Fahgen took the first set 6-2 in convincing fashion. After leading for much of the second set, Helgeson could not withstand a late rally from Fahgen, who took the set 6-4.

SMU senior Adolfo Solares followed up his teammate's win by defeating Notre Dame freshman David Anderson in a close match, 7-5, 7-5.

Stahl took the next point for the Irish in a gritty match against SMU sophomore Chris Hooshyar. After winning the first set 6-4, Stahl lost the second set 2-6. However, he rebounded to take the third set 6-4 to earn the win.

SMU took the next singles point as senior Alex Skrypko defeated Irish senior Andrew Roth. Roth took the first set 6-4, but Skrypko won the next two sets 7-5, 7-5.

With the team scores tied at 3-3, the match came down to Parbhu for the second straight day. Parbhu fell behind 6-5 in the first set against SMU senior David Kuczer, but he won the next set to force a tiebreak, which Parbhu won 7-5. Kuczer won the next set 6-4 to force a



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish senior Brett Helgeson follows through on a swing during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over SMU on Sunday.

deciding third set. However, Parbhu dominated the set, as he jumped out to a 5-0 lead en route to a 6-1 win that clinched the match for the Irish.

Notre Dame travels to Seattle

Feb 15-17 to compete in the ITA National Indoor Championships.

Contact Mike Gotimer at
mgotimer@nd.edu

ITA

continued from page 20

for the Irish came Friday over No. 13 William & Mary, 4-3. With the match tied 3-3, Kelcy Tefft came through with a tough win in singles to clinch Notre Dame's only match win of the weekend.

"Kelcy was playing a girl with a big serve, but she made a lot returns, broke her [opponent's] serve, and played a great tiebreak," Louderback said.

The glaring weakness was doubles play in Notre Dame's losses Friday to No. 6 Georgia, 4-2, and Sunday to No. 11 Baylor, 5-1.

The Irish dropped the doubles point in all three matches. Buck and Tefft, the No. 3 doubles pair in the nation, lost for the first time this year against William & Mary on Friday. The pair lost again to Baylor on Saturday.

"They're playing top ten teams, and the match with Baylor was just a really good

doubles match," Louderback said.

The team will look to bounce back as it prepares for a stretch of three games in four days starting Thursday.

"We worked a lot [Monday], and we will [Tuesday] on our doubles since we didn't win a doubles point this weekend," Louderback said.

"[Buck] always plays fair and hard. She's always on an even keel and doesn't lose her temper."

Jay Louderback
Irish coach

The high level of competition taxed and tested the Irish.

"We got a stretch right now where we play a lot of matches so today we had a short practice," Louderback

said. "When there are so many good teams and everyone is so close in ability, there's a lot of 3-setters. They all compete so well."

In the end, the Irish did not win the championship or the consolation bracket, but the experience will prove helpful come tournament time.

For now, the team prepares for its home match Thursday against No. 48 Ohio State.

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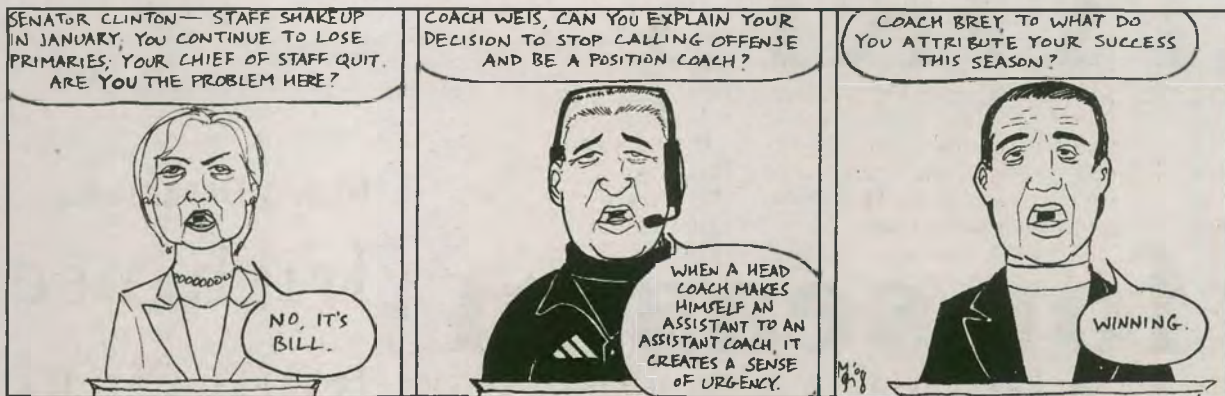
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MICHAEL MIKUSKA



TASTES LIKE FAILURE

RICH PROTIVA and ANDY SPANGLER

TASTES LIKE FAILURE GIVES YOU NOTRE DAME WEEKEND CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE. (MALE VERSION)

1) IT'S 9:30 PM ON A FRIDAY. YOU...
*GO TO AN ON CAMPUS PARTY-->3
*GO OFF CAMPUS-->6
*GO TO A FLIPSIDE EVENT-->2

2) GO BACK TO 1 AND BE REAL.

3) DORM PARTY HASN'T HEATED UP YET. IT'S MOSTLY SAUSAGE.
*DRINK A BEER AND WAIT-->3
*GO OFF CAMPUS-->6
*I'VE NOW HAD 15 BEERS-->4

4) THE PARTY FINALLY GOT GOOD. YOU CAN...
*APPROACH A GIRL-->10
*DRINK ANOTHER BEER-->5
*GO OFF CAMPUS-->6

5) BOOTED!!!
*BOOT AND RALLY?-->1
*QUIT--> LAME! ALWAYS BOOT AND RALLY.

6) HOW DO YOU GO OFF CAMPUS?
*CAB-->8 *WALK-->7

7) PUNCHED IN FACE!!!
*CRY LIKE A LITTLE GIRL-->1
*MAN UP-->1

8) FLIP A COIN
*HEADS-->9 *TAILS-->10

9) THERE IS NO PARTY. YOU CAME OUT HERE FOR NOTHING.
*GO BACK TO CAMPUS, \$6 POORER-->3

10) PARTY! WHICH GIRL TO APPROACH?
*CIRCLE OF GIRLS IN CENTER OF ROOM-->5
*GIRL WITH BOYFRIEND WEARING ND FOOTBALL HOODY CRUSHING A KEG ON HIS HEAD-->7
*GIRL WHO MIGHT ACTUALLY BE AVAILABLE-->11

11) FLIP A COIN *HEADS-->13 *TAILS-->14 *EDGE-->7

12) SHOT DOWN!!!!
*STOP BEING RICH PROTIVA, THEN-->10
*LEARN TO REPRODUCE ASEXUALLY

13) YOU WIN! YOU WILL NOW GRIND AWKWARDLY, MAKE OUT, THEN HAVE HER PULLED AWAY BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS BY HER FRIENDS. GO IRISH!

14) YOU GET LAID YOU BIG PIMP! (NO PATHS LEAD HERE. THAT'S NOT AN ACCIDENT.)

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

NOGGI
□ □ □ □ □

SEUDO
□ □ □ □ □

BASURD
□ □ □ □ □

BOPHIS
□ □ □ □ □

Ans: A □ □ □ □ " □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ "

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOTIF TANGY IMBUE SATIRE
Answer: When she refused to pay for her portrait, he turned into a — "MAD" ARTIST

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



WHAT THE SUCCESSFUL RANCHER HAD.

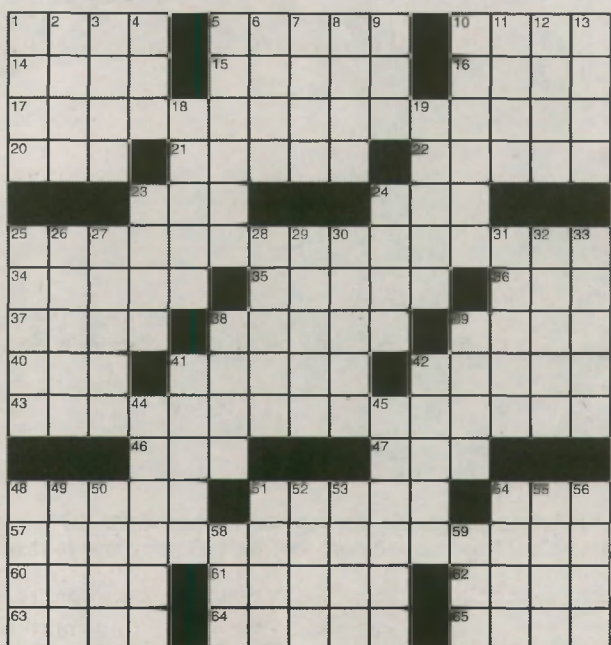
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 "Mamma Mia" group
- 5 Play chauffeur
- 10 Money to help one through a tight spot
- 14 Either of two directing brothers
- 15 All gone, as dinner
- 16 Mayberry boy
- 17 Daydreamer's state
- 20 Directional suffix
- 21 A choir may stand on it
- 22 Good thing
- 23 Sailor, colloquially
- 24 Digit in binary code
- 25 Joseph Conrad novella
- 34 Edward who wrote the play "The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia"
- 35 Pastor's flock
- 36 Rebellious Turner
- 37 Vintage autos
- 38 Kind of club that's a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 39 Prefix with lock or knock
- 40 —-cone
- 41 Colonial settlement
- 42 Bobby Orr, notably
- 43 Vocational school instruction
- 46 Superannuated
- 47 Ring outcome, briefly
- 48 — pants (multipocketed wear)
- 51 Room plus, in a hotel
- 54 "Don't —"
- 57 Common employment benefit
- 60 Cleveland's lake
- 61 Enlarge a house
- 62 Men-only
- Down**
- 1 Suffer from a charley horse
- 2 Transvaal trekker
- 3 Vanilla
- 4 "What else?"
- 5 "Meet the Fockers" co-star, 2004
- 6 Hamelin's problem
- 7 "— Jury" (Spillane novel)
- 8 Zig or zag
- 9 S.A.S.E., e.g.
- 10 Relax, as rules
- 11 Berkeley Breathed comic strip
- 12 Lieutenant
- 13 Fit snugly
- 18 Really hot under the collar
- 19 Like Lincoln, in physique
- 23 Uno + dos
- 24 Straight: Prefix
- 25 Hard on the ears
- 26 "Maria —" (Dorsey tune)
- 27 — to mankind
- 28 Taken wing
- 29 Intimidate
- 30 Station with a show
- 31 The blabs
- 32 Participated temporarily, as with a band



Puzzle by Adam G. Perl

- 33 Police con
- 38 Victuals
- 39 Florence's river
- 41 Letter-shaped opening for a bolt
- 42 Harley rider
- 44 Links bend
- 45 Bring into harmony
- 48 Stick of gum, e.g.
- 49 Prefix with - postale
- 50 Common Seattle forecast
- 51 Slaw or fries, e.g.
- 52 Reverse, on a PC
- 53 "The shoe the other foot"
- 54 A couple of chips, maybe
- 55 Injury reminder
- 56 Purchases for a shindig
- 58 — 9000, sci-fi computer
- 59 Bit of air pollution

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Rowland, 27; Mike Shinoda, 31; Jennifer Aniston, 39; Sheryl Crow, 46

Happy Birthday: This will be a great year if you put your imagination to work and follow your dreams. You will have the stamina, staying power and determination to see whatever you pursue through to the end. As long as you are careful in love and don't overreact to situations, the year ahead looks bright. Your numbers are 6, 11, 17, 27, 43, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional as you might be today, you are better off not making rash statements or taking a risk where your work or income are concerned. Concentrate on formulating what you want to do. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let your emotions push you into something that may be beyond you today. Do what feels right, not what you think will impress others. Small scale doesn't mean that you can't grow into something big. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Whether you change jobs, pick up part time work or send out resumes, it will help you challenge yourself to strive for more. You will be able to convince others to support you or give you a chance. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Size down, slow down and focus on what's important. Emotions will skyrocket if you take on too much. Stay in control and an arm's length away from anyone trying to push you the wrong way. 2 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You're the boss, so take charge, set your standards and goals and put your ideas into play. Use your creative imagination and don't be afraid to delegate what you want done. Generosity will play a role. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Love, social activity and a little networking will serve you well. You can entice the people you play with to take a closer look at you and, if you are single, attract someone who will want to get to know you personally as well as professionally. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A sophisticated look combined with an intelligent approach to the things you want to do and you will have enough support to actually accomplish your goals. Share your ideas and socialize with other creative people. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let your emotions get involved in what you need to accomplish today or you will fall short of your expectations. Someone you are close to may throw a wrench into the mix, leading you in directions you should probably avoid. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You've got everyone exactly where you want them to be so make your move and don't look back. You can expect things to get better at home if you are honest with yourself and the people you live with. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone may take you by surprise, causing you to waffle and make a costly mistake today. Keep your guard up and don't allow anyone to burden you with responsibilities that aren't yours to bear. 2 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Talks will lead to solutions today. Making money may be an issue for you but, if you think about what you like to do and what you are good at, you will come up with a way to fatten your wallet. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love, generosity and doing for others will bring you satisfaction and make you look good in the eyes of others. By being responsible in your actions and caring for those in need, you will find peace in your own heart. Romance is available so set the stage. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You have great ideas, a good work ethic and an insatiable curiosity. You love trying new things and helping others. You are a determined competitor who can always find a solution.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Peters out for season

Torn ACL ends year for freshman forward

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Freshman forward Devereaux Peters will miss the remainder of the season after tearing her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in her left knee during No. 16 Notre Dame's 81-66 win Sunday over then-No. 15 Pittsburgh, the women's basketball program said in a press release Monday afternoon.

While under her own basket with the ball early in the second half, Peters collapsed, apparently untouched, and grabbed her knee, writhing in pain.

Team officials helped Peters off the floor and into the locker room. She didn't put any weight on her left leg, and later returned with crutches and a full-length leg brace. Peters had an MRI Monday morning and team orthopedist Dr. Fred Ferlic confirmed the injury, the release said.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in the release she is confident that Peters will be healthy enough to play next season.

"We expect she will bounce back from this injury with the same determination and desire that she has already shown this



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish forward Devereaux Peters watches the game during Notre Dame's 81-66 win over Pittsburgh on Sunday, after tearing her ACL during the second half. Peters will miss the rest of the season.

see PETERS/page 18

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish use team effort in MU win

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

When Notre Dame played Marquette on Jan. 12, sophomore Luke Harangody scored 29 points while the rest of the Irish combined for only 37 points, and the Golden Eagles pummeled the Irish 92-66.

When the two teams met on Saturday, and Marquette clamped down on Harangody, the rest of the Irish rose to the occasion and lifted No. 20 Notre Dame to its eighth Big East victory 86-83.

"Coach just has a lot of confidence in the eight guys that are playing," forward Ryan Ayers said after the game. "Today, we saw how dangerous each guy was. We have balanced scoring, each guy is picking it up. I know Kyle and Luke have been doing a lot of the scoring, with myself, [forward] Luke Zeller, and [guard Jonathan] Peoples coming off the bench giving us a spark."

Five players finished with double figures and Ayers finished with nine points, but guard Kyle McAlarney said the Irish couldn't have won

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MEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame tops SMU, extends win streak to 5

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

In a tightly contested match, No. 9 Notre Dame defeated No. 46 Southern Methodist 4-3 at the Eck Tennis Pavilion on Sunday. The team extended its winning streak to five matches and improved to 7-1 overall in dual matches this season.

Coming into the match, Irish head coach Bobby Bayliss expected it to be close.

"They lost to Texas 5-2 earlier in the season, and Texas is No. 5 or No. 6 in the nation," coach Bayliss said. "We haven't seen them in two years."

Notre Dame started out fast by winning the doubles point for the second consecutive day. Irish senior Andrew Roth and freshman Steven Havens won Notre Dame's first doubles match 8-5. Shortly thereafter, the second Irish pair of senior Sheeva Parbhu and junior Brett Helgeson withstood an SMU rally to win their match 8-4.

After Parbhu and Helgeson took a commanding 5-0 lead, SMU senior Alex Skrypko and

sophomore Robin Fahgen fought back to make it a 6-4 match, but Parbhu and Helgeson won the last two games to seal the win.

Notre Dame's final doubles pair of freshman Tyler Davis and junior Santiago Montoya found themselves in a tight 5-4 contest, but pulled away late for an 8-5 win.

The Irish started out slowly in singles play, but they rallied with help from gutsy performances by Parbhu and freshmen Dan Stahl and Havens.

"It is early and we certainly are still young," Coach Bayliss said. "The freshmen have shown great poise under pressure."

The Irish picked up their first singles win when Havens defeated Mustangs senior Olvind Alver in straight sets. After taking a close first set, Havens dominated Alver in the second set and shut him out 6-0.

Notre Dame lost the next two points to SMU. Singles player Brett Helgeson, ranked No. 11

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Senior recognized by ITA

Coaches give Buck sportsmanship award

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

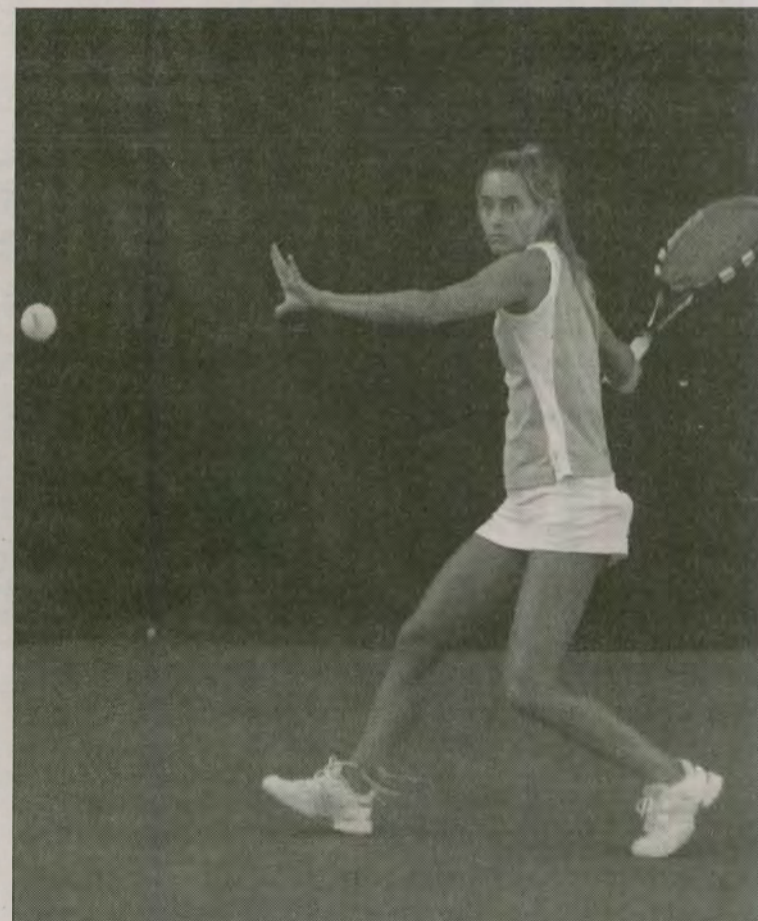
Though the No. 19 Irish (3-4) dropped two of three matches this weekend at the ITA National Team Indoor Championships, they did not come home empty-handed.

Notre Dame senior Brook Buck became the third player in school history to win the ITA Sportsmanship Award. The 16 coaches at the tournament voted on the award, which is given to one player who demonstrates outstanding sportsmanship and exemplifies the spirit of collegiate tennis.

Irish head coach Jay Louderback was proud of his team's captain.

"She always plays fair and hard. She's always on an even keel and doesn't lose her temper," Louderback said. "Even having won the national indoors in doubles [last year], she's still very humble."

The lone victory on the court



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish senior Brooke Buck prepares to return the ball during Notre Dame's 6-1 win over Louisville on Feb. 9, 2007.

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