

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 43 : ISSUE 112

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Notre Dame to host college symposium

Student government will discuss issues with representatives from midwest universities

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

Student government will host Notre Dame's first-ever Intercollegiate Symposium — a conference between student government representatives from other Midwest universities — this weekend in LaFortune Student Center.

Modeled after the Ivy Council, an annual meeting between student government representatives from the eight Ivy League schools, the Intercollegiate Symposium was strongly emphasized by student body president Bob Reish during his campaign for

the position in 2008 and will be one of the last initiatives he will lead before stepping down on April 1.

"[The symposium] is a way of reaching out to other campuses to see what their student governments have and don't have," Reish said.

He said he hopes the symposium will spark ideas for improving Notre Dame's student government.

"We would be wasting our time and effort if we didn't look at other universities," Reish said.

Northwestern University, Purdue University, Vanderbilt

see COLLEGES/page 6



ANDREA ARCHER | The Observer

Students to confer with community

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Student leaders will meet with leaders from the South Bend community today at the third annual Community Summit, where "honest dialogue" will help the incoming Grant Schmidt-Cynthia Weber administration forge relationships and continue communication with the community, student government Community Relations chair Gus Gari said.

The meeting — which will be held at Notre Dame Downtown, the location of the Office of Community Relations for the University — has four talking points, Gari said.

He said one of the main topics of discussion will be how to improve communication between the two groups. They also will talk about the development that is happening around campus, such as the Eddy Street Commons and off-campus student housing. Safety and security issues, along with how to smoothly integrate off-campus students into the community, will also be discussed, Gari said.

"We both have different goals a lot but ... we do realize that those goals can merge together and that's what we are looking for out of the Summit," Gari said.

In order to get a variety of perspectives, student government invited 40 people from a variety of positions, including representatives from South Bend's Common Council, the Mayor's Office, the Office of Student Affairs, Notre Dame Security Police and student

see STUDENTS/page 4

Ads raise awareness for Marathon

'Who's Brenna?' signs for College fundraiser

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

Neon signs appeared across the three campuses early Tuesday morning asking students, "Who's Brenna?" Students who wanted to know the answer were directed to watch WNDU at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to learn the answer to that question.

The fliers were placed around the campuses by Saint Mary's Dance Marathon committee as a way to raise awareness for the event and tell the story of Brenna, a young girl from the area who has spent time at Riley's Children Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind.

Senior campus marketing chair for the committee Meg Varty said she got the idea by talking to Dance Marathon representatives who told her other colleges and universities had successfully pulled off a similar form of advertising.

"We have never had a publicity stunt before and we decided we wanted and needed to do something big," Varty said. "When I heard the idea, I got excited because I knew it was definitely something we could pull off."

Brenna Blossor is a four-year-old girl whose life was saved by the doctors at Riley's Hospital, Varty said.

Three years ago, Brenna and her family attended the first Dance Marathon held on Saint Mary's campus, and they wanted

see ADS/page 4

Panelists: Obama has global effects

Erskine Peters Fellows discuss perception of president worldwide

By ROBERT SINGER
Assistant News Editor

The election of President Barack Obama has reverberated around the world, shifting social attitudes and even some policies in Jamaica, Tanzania and Brazil, according to this year's Erskine Peters Fellows who met for a symposium Thursday titled "Change, Hope and Expectation: The Obama Presidency in Global Perspective."

Hosted by the Department of Africana Studies, the event signaled the culmination of the

see OBAMA/page 8



WU YUE/The Observer
Seth Markle, an Erskine Peters Dissertation Fellow, speaks at the 2009 symposium in the Eck Center Thursday.

Latin Expressions to feature 17 acts

'Ritmo Latino' will combine traditional Latino productions and ND performance groups

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Those in search of a fun, unique event to spice up their weekend should look no further than Latin Expressions.

Latin Expressions, which takes place tonight at 7 p.m. at the Century Center in South Bend, is a showcase of Latino culture that features 17 different acts and 116 total performers. It is sponsored by La Alianza, the only Latino student organization on campus.

The show combines traditional Latino acts — Coro Primavera, Ballet Folklorico, a mariachi band and an

opening act put on by the Latin Expressions team — with Notre Dame performance groups who incorporate Latino culture into their own acts, including Project Fresh, the First Class Steppers, the M.O.B.B. brass band and Troop ND.

Co-director of Latin Expressions Cynthia Mabee said the show is special because it allows Latino students, a minority on campus, to give the audience a glimpse into their heritage.

"For those two hours, you are basically getting a snapshot of what drives us and our culture," Mabee said.

The theme of Latin Expressions 2009 is "Ritmo

Latino," which Mabee described as "the rhythm we all have that keeps us united in being Latino."

Two other integral parts of Latin Expressions are the emcees and the ushers, who are crucial in helping the audience to become a part of the show. This year's emcees are Danny Alvarez and Maria Moreno, Mabee said.

She said the emcees guide the show's structure and make sure the theme is evident in all aspects of the show. The ushers dress according to the theme and interact with the audience during intermission.

Karla Albite, co-director of Latin Expressions, said the

audience always enjoys the ushers and emcees.

"People always look forward to the emcees because they're always really great," Albite said.

Albite said this year, the ushers will be given musical instruments and will dance and play them during intermissions.

This is the 19th year Latin Expressions will take place. The show has grown exponentially since its first performance in 1990, Albite said.

"The show has really expanded in its scope," she said.

see LATIN/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Tired of Twilight

I have not read Twilight, but I saw the movie and I think that is good enough, and furthermore, I am not ashamed of this fact. I am officially tired of the argument between books and movies. I realize that the book, academically and in detail, will always be preferable to the movie if you are a book lover. However, I do believe movie connoisseurs do have legitimacy in favoring a film over the novel.

This isn't a matter of intelligence; it is a matter of taste. Simply because a person prefers the movie to the book doesn't mean they are not an intellectual or illiterate. I think all of us at one point or another have seen that a book was coming to the theaters, and in light of our busy schedules, we decided to forego cuddling up with the novel and just waiting for the film.

Ashley Charnley

Saint Mary's Editor

First of all, books and movies are two very different things. This is similar to comparing music and paintings. Paintings have inspired music and vice versa, however, in most respects they are really incomparable. One stimulates the eyes, the other the ears. Books stimulate the mind and imagination. They allow you to create a world inside your head. Movies create that world for you, and offer an alternative interpretation to the characters and settings you envisioned in your mind's eye. Not reading the book takes away the element of comparison, but does not take away from the whole experience.

It is important to take film as an art form in itself. There is still symbolism, significance in cinematography and lighting, as well as subtleties in the delivery and tone of the lines that could offer the viewer a different idea about what the significant lines of the book could have meant. Grant it, you may not agree with these interpretations but sit down with a literature class and analyze those same lines and the reaction will be the same. It will encourage debate, and isn't dialogue an important part of academia? Any subject that can inspire a lively debate cannot be condemned as inadequate or lacking intellect.

I am not discounting books however. I thoroughly enjoy a good novel, and I do believe there are some stories that shouldn't be converted to the screen because they are such classics. There are always movies that come out that fail to recreate the beauty of the words on the page, but that is true of any art form. Some works simply fall short.

So, go to the theater with an open mind. If you have read the book then you have the opportunity to see another interpretation different from your own, and if you are new to the story, then you will be entertained by a tale that has already been loved by many while it still lied artfully on the page.

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT POSSESSION COULD YOU NOT LIVE WITHOUT?



Kathleen McKiernan
Freshman Howard

"My cell phone; gotta stay in touch with people."



Melissa Cameron
Senior Howard

"My cell phone — gotta stay connected to my homies!"



Heidi Grossman
Sophomore Howard

"My copy of Twilight — I can't live without Edward."



Cristina Anaya
Junior Howard

"My Edward poster. He watches me sleep."



Carleigh Moore
Freshman Howard

"My ducks!"



Caitlin Monesmith
Freshman Howard

"My Copy of Dracula; down with sparkles!"



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Recent Notre Dame graduate Katie Vaas talks to students about careers with the Indiana Pacers during the Pacers Sports and Entertainment Information Session at the Dooley Room in LaFortune Thursday.

IN BRIEF

Notre Dame MBA Marketing Club will host a lecture entitled "Marketing's Role in a Sustainable Society" on Friday at 9 a.m.

An exhibit containing photographs, lithographs, and books from Latin American sites visited by Darwin will be presented at the Snite Museum of Art at 10 a.m. on Friday.

Portrait prints of 11 historical figures who have influenced Mauricio Lasansky will be presented in the exhibit "Great Thinkers (who have changed Modern Thought for the better). The exhibit will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Snite Museum of Art on Friday.

Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. and at 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Friday.

A panel will present a lecture called "Business on the Front Lines: Reports from the Field" will be held at noon in C-103 of the Hesburgh Center at 10 a.m. on Friday.

Edmund Pellegrino, M.D., will speak at the lecture "A Moral Foundation for the Helping Professions: Medicine, Law, Ministry and Teaching." The lecture will be held at 4:00 p.m. in McKenna Hall Auditorium on Friday.

A film entitled "Che, Part 1: The Argentine" will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. The film will be held in Browning Cinema, Debartlo Performing Arts Center. To purchase tickets, call the Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

To submit information to be included in this section of The

OFFBEAT

22 CA college students cram into phone booth
MORAGA, Calif. — Twenty-two students at St. Mary's College of California have done something their predecessors famously did 50 years ago: cram into a phone booth. Teams competed to fit as many bodies as possible into a phone booth on the campus green Wednesday, a half-century after Life magazine published a now-famous photograph of 22 St. Mary's students stuffed into a phone booth, a popular college stunt in the 1950s

Man impersonates justice, performs several weddings
SEDONA, Ariz. — Sheriff's officials in Arizona say a man impersonated an elected justice of the peace and performed several weddings whose legality are now in doubt. Yavapai County Sheriff's spokesman Dwight D'Evelyn says 41-year-old Allen Elfman was arrested Tuesday on charges of fraud, forgery, criminal impersonation, impersonating a public servant and tampering with a public record.

Man arrested for using slingshot to hit worker
TACOMA, Wash. — The Washington State Patrol said a 50-year-old Gig Harbor man accused of using a slingshot to hit Tacoma Narrows Bridge toll booth windows has been arrested. Trooper Brandy Kessler said Wednesday that the man was arrested and booked into the Pierce County Jail for investigation of second-degree assault, second-degree malicious mischief and reckless endangerment.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 51 LOW 34	HIGH 40 LOW 34	HIGH 50 LOW 33	HIGH 42 LOW 28	HIGH 54 LOW 39	HIGH 50 LOW 33

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Panel discusses economic effects

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
 Saint Mary's Editor

A panel of professors and community members discussed the social effects of the struggling economy in a lecture titled "Bringing About Change: Our Economy's Effects on Education, Family Violence and Unemployment" at Saint Mary's College in Vander Venet Thursday.

Jerome McElroy, professor of economics at Saint Mary's, said there are some differences between this recession and others the U.S. has gone through.

"What's unique about our recession is that for the first time in about two decades, the world economy is going to shrink," he said.

McElroy said as a result, the government is left as "the only game in town."

He said there are three ways to know whether the programs and policies the government put into place are helping to improve the economy.

If we see building permits rise, average workweek hours rise and the new weekly jobless claims fall, then the economy should be "on the move," he said.

Judith Fox, a professor of law at Notre Dame, addressed the issue of subprime loans and how they have negatively affected the economy.

"The original intent of subprime loans was wonderful. It allowed people who couldn't otherwise afford a home, get a loan," Fox said.

What happened, though, is loan brokers began giving loans to people who couldn't afford them. Sometimes they were up to 70 or 80 percent of their income. This leads to high foreclosure rates, she said.

According to Fox, Indiana is 11th on the list of state's foreclosure ratings, with a rating of 3.59 percent.

Thomas Kavanaugh, vice president for JobWorks, Inc., discussed his work at JobWorks in trying to train people and help them find new jobs in the community once they are unemployed.

"Elkhart County is pushing depression-like unemployment rates. Right now, at the end of January, they are at 18.3 percent," Kavanaugh said.

The difficulty in finding new jobs for workers in manufacturing comes from their lack of training in the areas of work that still have openings available, he said.

"Most of the people that work at RV manufacturing companies have never needed a computer for work," Kavanaugh said. "The skill base we are dealing with for these individuals who are not employed is completely under skilled with the people we are trying to employ."

Finding jobs is still an issue, and according to Kavanaugh, word of mouth is currently one of the most common ways. It's not the Internet or classifieds, but connections with people that are helping the currently unemployed find work, he said.

"That is how people are finding jobs these days. It's through networking," he said. "It's not necessarily what you know, it's who you know."

Jessie Whitaker, director of the LEND Homeownership Center, said the housing market has been facing problems due to difficulties in homeowners securing loans.

"I tell the individual, you may need to start saving your money pack up and move because they are not going to work with you," Whitaker said.

The government is working on providing incentives for servicers, who homeowners pay their loans to, to modify the loans to help them pay their loan, she said.

According to Whitaker, in the state of Indiana since January 2008, there have been 8,962 foreclosures.

Annie Envall, assistant director at S-O-S, a rape crisis center in South Bend, shifted away from the financial effects of this crisis into the emotional toll it takes on individuals and families.

She said people enter into an abusive cycle that rotates between tension, explosion and regret, or something she called the "honey-moon stage."

Envall said even though they blame their poor behavior on the economy, the abusers have larger issues.

"The true driving force behind domestic violence is the need for power, the need for control," Envall said.

She said she believes it is important to have resources available to help victims of abuse.

Even though Envall said she hasn't seen a notable increase in domestic violence as a result of the economy, she also said abuse is one of the least reported of crimes.

Mark Geissler, a social worker with the South Bend Community Schools Corporation, addressed the effect of these stresses on children. He stressed the increase of children living at or below poverty level.

"I think what we are going to be seeing soon is kids slipping into poverty who were already living on the margin before," Geissler said.

He also said the focus on children's emotional needs is not being addressed because their basic needs have to be met.

"It's a great time for these kids to get mental health treatment, but the problem is, mental health is no priority when there is an uncertainty about where food, shelter, and utilities is coming from," Geissler said.

In order to address these issues, the panelists said they believe government regulation is necessary, but more importantly, there is a need for education.

Kavanaugh said education "is an important thing that our government, our leadership and really the businesses really need to take a look at and make sure they are educating people on financial literacy."

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Independent of the University

Right to Life to hold annual conference

By NORA KENNEY
News Writer

Amidst the fury of one of the most heated debates on Notre Dame's campus this year, the Notre Dame Right to Life Club will be holding its annual conference Friday and Saturday.

Sophomore Holly Klejeski, the conference's coordinator, said she has been preparing for the 2009 Right to Life Conference since this time last year.

Klejeski said it is the club's hope is "that the Conference can be an opportunity for rational consideration and discussion of a variety of life issues."

Klejeski said the club is excited because several speakers have agreed to attend and give lectures. Part of the club's mission is to "engage in a variety of activities including prayer, service, and education," and the conference will offer inspiration in these areas.

The events will kick off with a lecture entitled "A Moral Foundation for the Helping Professions: Medicine, Law, Ministry, and Teaching," given by Dr. Edmund Pellegrino, senior fellow of the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity at Notre Dame.

Saturday's events include a

Mass, breakfast and a lecture by Lisa Everett called "The Family as the Sanctuary of Life" in 101 Jordan Hall at 10:15 a.m. Everett works for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend's Office of Family Life.

Chris Godfrey, a formal NFL player and a graduate of the Notre Dame Law School, will give a talk Saturday entitled "Life Athletes: Where Do You Live." Godfrey is the founding president of Life Athletes, Inc., whose mission is to stand for "Virtue, Abstinence, and Respect."

Dr. Elizabeth Shadigan of WomenSafe Health Consulting will also speak about the long-term health effects of abortion.

Francis Beckwith, a philosopher and this year's Senior Visiting Fellow with Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture, will give a lecture titled, "What the Abortion Debate is Really About." He is the author of the recent book "Defending Life: A Legal and Moral Case Against Abortion."

The conference ends with a talk given by Chaunie Brusie of Feminists for Life. Her talk is called "Say NO to the Status Quo: Support for Women and Children."

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Communications prof receives award

By M.B. GIZINSKI
News Writer

Susan Baxter, professor of Communication Studies at Saint Mary's, was honored with the Saint Mary's College 2009 Woman of the Year award at the annual "Women Honoring Women" dinner in Stapleton Lounge Thursday evening.

Baxter was nominated by sophomore Maria Chipman and junior Nichole Fundora.

Chipman said she was challenged by Baxter and learned more from her than from the material in the textbook.

"After class with her, I did not ask myself what I wanted to do, but what kind of woman do I want to become," she said.

Baxter said she wanted to recognize the students who have created a symbiotic relationship with professors.

"You have this backwards," she said. "It's an honor for us to wake up in the morning and face a room of intellectuals."

The event was hosted by the Student Academic Council (SAC), which is comprised of students from each academic department.

The nomination process consisted of students writing letters to SAC to nominate a woman staff or faculty member who had enriched the lives of Saint Mary's students.

Student body vice president Sarah Falvey, who organized the event, noted the large amount of nominations.

"We had over 30 women nominated, which I believe is a record amount," she said.

After two rounds of letters from students, six women on the faculty and staff were chosen as final nominees: Baxter, Ella Harmeyer, Jane Eleff, Isabel Larraza, Joanne Snow and Tina Flemming.

Those who nominated the women members of the faculty and staff said they felt it was important for a women's college to recognize them.

"Thanks are the key to giving back," Chipman said.

Senior Kelly Anderson, a member of SAC, said the award is an honor for the recipient.

"This is a nice way to foreground women in positions of success," Anderson said. "There are not a lot of events to recognize women in academia."

Anderson highlighted the relationships that are formed between women at Saint Mary's College. "Since it is a women's college, this recognizes that we are a community," she said. "There is a special bond in being part of a women's college."

Contact M.B. Gizinski at
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Latin

continued from page 1

Albite said that in recent years, the students in charge of the show have sought to make Latin Expressions more oriented towards non-Latino audience members.

"Recently, we have taken it upon ourselves to not just make it a show for Latinos,

but for everybody," Albite said.

Both Albite and Mabee have been working with Latin Expressions since their arrival at Notre Dame. They first learned about the show when they were on campus for Spring Visitation, and both immediately decided to become a part of the production.

"The moment I saw it, I knew I had to be a part of it," Albite said.

She said she is so dedicated to Latin Expressions that she co-directed last year's show while studying abroad in Rome, Italy.

"It's a beautiful show not just because there's good acts and good decorations, but because it's our opportunity to share who we are," Albite added.

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Ads

continued from page 1

to use Brenna's story, Varty said.

The members of the Dance Marathon committee who posted the fliers were the only ones who knew about the stunt, Varty said. They used fliers, posters, banners and sidewalk chalk spread throughout Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross campuses to spread curiosity over who Brenna was.

"We wanted to create buzz around the campuses and the only way to do this was to not let anyone find out what 'Ask Brenna' was," she said.

During the day on Wednesday, the 16 girls who

had posted the information about Brenna walked around the three campuses wearing neon green shirts that read "I'm Brenna. Ask me."

"The point was to have people walk up to us and ask who is Brenna or ask what they were suppose to ask Brenna, so then we could explain Brenna's story and hand them a packet to sign up for Dance Marathon," Varty said.

Overall, Varty said she believes the event was successful in raising awareness about Dance Marathon and its mission.

"On Tuesday people all over were talking, and on Wednesday tons of people finally found out who Brenna was, either by asking the girls in the green or watch-

ing the news," she said. "If they watched the news, they got to meet the Blossor family and the real Brenna as well."

Varty said she is pleased with the success of the stunt.

"I don't think it could have gone any better," she said. "It took a lot of work, but in the end it was more than worth it."

The Dance Marathon will be held April 3-4.

Members are asking that students register as soon as possible.

"Dance Marathon is in 11 days so get excited and turn in your packets as soon as possible," committee member Rachel Chesley said.

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Students

continued from page 1

government.

Gari said students who are not affiliated with student government have also been invited to bring a fresh perspective.

Students involved in student government "deal with these issues all the time," Gari said. By inviting students who aren't familiar with the issues, he said he hopes to get a fresh student perspective.

Jackie Rucker, director of the University's Office of Community Relations, said the Summit will help build relationships between students and community leaders, which will make solving problems easier.

"I think the more that you talk to people and you build relations, the easier it is to resolve issues," Rucker said. "You find out what

you have in common, you find out what your common goals are and some of the misconceptions that you had kind of melt away."

In past meetings, Rucker said, "students have been very open and reaching out to people in the community, and the community leaders likewise. ... We've been able to get some things going to help for each group to understand the other."

Mikki Dobski, director of communications and special projects for the Mayor's Office, said she is "enthusiastic" about attending the Summit and appreciates the commitment that student government has made to improving relations with the community.

She said the city of South Bend works with the University in a number of ways, and the collaborations have been positive for the city government.

"If there are people in the community who have a negative attitude, we want to help change

that," Dobski said.

She said she hopes the meeting will bring "good dialogue so that we can identify common goals and work together."

Gari said student government would also like to work with city officials to find out what is feasible for the new administration and how long it will take to accomplish its ideas.

Gari said he would like to get "a lot of real and honest answers as far as what can be done."

"Coming out of this meeting, it's important for city officials to know the student perspective on the issues that will be discussed. It's important for students to know the perspective of South Bend city officials and to really come up with tangible solutions that we both agree with," Gari said.

"Communication is key," Dobski said.

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Chocolate Affair

Mon., March 30th
11AM-7PM
The Gillespie
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WORLD & NATION

Friday, March 27, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Somalia pirates seize tankers

BRUSSELS — Pirates armed with machine guns hijacked a Norwegian chemical tanker Thursday off the coast of Somalia, the ship's owner said, an attack that came less than 24 hours after a smaller Greek-owned vessel was seized in the same area.

The U.S. 5th Fleet, which patrols the pirate-infested Gulf of Aden, confirmed both hijackings and said they took place in the same area but separate from the gulf, one of the world's busiest — and now most treacherous — sea lanes.

The 23,000-ton Norwegian-owned Bow Asir was captured 250 miles (400 kilometers) off the Somali coast on Thursday morning, and the 9,000-ton Greek-owned Nipayia, with 19 crew members, was seized 450 miles (720 kilometers) off Somalia on Wednesday afternoon, the European Union's military spokesman said.

Both vessels are chemical tankers but their cargoes were not immediately made public.

Foreigners attack Sudanese convoy

CAIRO — Sudanese officials said foreign warplanes launched two separate airstrikes last month on Sudan near its border with Egypt, targeting convoys packed with light weapons and African migrants trying to sneak across the frontier.

Just who was behind the strikes remains a mystery, but the U.S. and Israel immediately came under suspicion.

Mubarak Mabrook Saleem, Sudan's State Minister for Transportation, told The Associated Press he believed American planes were behind the bombings about a week apart in early February and claimed hundreds were killed. A Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed his account but said there were discrepancies on casualties. The U.S. denied any airstrike on Sudan.

NATIONAL NEWS

Penn. juvenile convictions repealed

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — Pennsylvania's highest court on Thursday overturned hundreds of juvenile convictions issued by a corrupt judge who took millions of dollars in kickbacks from youth detention centers.

The state Supreme Court ruled that former Luzerne County President Judge Mark Ciavarella violated the constitutional rights of youth offenders who appeared in his courtroom without lawyers between 2003 and 2008.

"Today's order is not intended to be a quick fix," Chief Justice Ronald Castille said in a statement. "It's going to take some time, but the Supreme Court is committed to righting whatever wrong was perpetrated on Luzerne's juveniles and their families."

Alaska volcano erupts twice

ANCHORAGE — Alaska's Mount Redoubt erupted several times Thursday, spewing a more than 12-mile-high cloud that could drop ash on Anchorage for the first time since the volcano began erupting Sunday night.

The Alaska Volcano Observatory said the first eruption about 8:30 a.m. shot an ash cloud about 30,000 feet in the air, and a second eruption about an hour later sent ash 65,000 feet high — the highest cloud since the eruptions began. Several smaller eruptions followed, with none of their plumes surpassing 20,000 feet.

The largest eruption caused a mud flow into the Drift River near the base of the volcano.

LOCAL NEWS

Crews still working on sinkhole

FORT WAYNE — Fort Wayne officials say it will take longer than expected to fix a 30-foot deep sinkhole that's closed a street near the city's downtown since the weekend.

City Utilities spokesman Frank Saurez says Anthony Boulevard just east of downtown will remain closed at least until the middle of next week, instead of reopening by the end of this week.

The 12-by-15 foot hole opened up Sunday.

U.S. to send more troops to war

Obama to dispatch thousands of additional military to the Middle East

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Concerned about the faltering war in Afghanistan, President Barack Obama plans to dispatch thousands more military and civilian trainers on top of the 17,000 fresh combat troops he's already ordered, people familiar with the forthcoming plan said Thursday.

Obama also will call for increasing aid to neighboring Pakistan as long as its leaders confront militants in the border region. The president plans to lay out his revamped strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan on Friday.

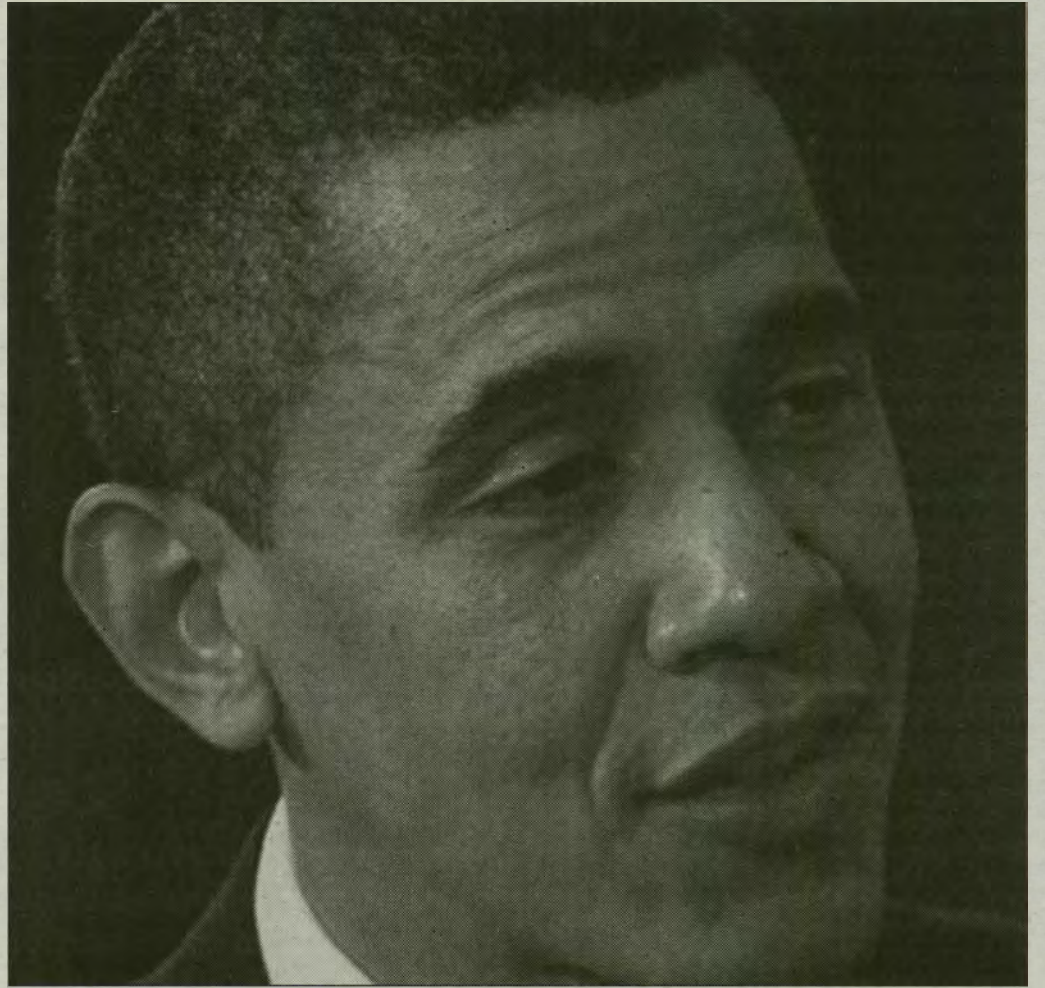
Several sources told The Associated Press the strategy includes 20 recommendations for countering a persistent insurgency that spans the two countries' border, including sending 4,000 military trainers to try to increase the size of the Afghan army.

"It is an integrated military-civilian strategy," Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told reporters in Monterrey, Mexico. "We are convinced that the most critical underpinning of any success we hope to achieve, along with the people and government of Afghanistan, will be looking at where civilian trainers, aid workers, technical assistance of all kinds can be best utilized."

Clinton declined to go into details to avoid pre-empting Obama's announcement.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs also would not discuss specifics of the plan, but said Obama is beginning to discuss its findings with members of Congress and others. Obama's top military advisers briefed key lawmakers Thursday.

In broad terms, Obama will define U.S. objectives as eliminating the threat from al-Qaida to undermine or topple U.S.-backed elected governments or to launch



President Barack Obama takes part in an Internet town hall meeting Thursday in the East Room of the White House.

attacks on the United States, its interests and allies, the sources said.

They described the recommendations on condition of anonymity because the final wording was not complete. The new plan identified al-Qaida as the target in a larger network of insurgents who threaten U.S. and allied forces in Afghanistan, often from sanctuaries across the border in Pakistan.

The written outline of Obama's plan describes a "strategy for success," as opposed to an exit strategy, but the goal is the same: Stability on both sides of the border that would allow a reduction and eventual withdrawal of U.S. combat forces from Afghanistan. To do that,

Obama proposes a greatly expanded commitment to improving and enlarging the Afghan army and Pakistan's frontier forces.

The additional 4,000 troops devoted to training and advising the Afghan armed forces would head to Afghanistan this spring and summer. They come on top of about 17,000 combat and support troops Obama wants in place by the end of the summer.

Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said the training group is needed because there aren't enough U.S. military advisers there now.

"We've got to increase the size," of the Afghan army more quickly than contem-

plated, said Levin, D-Mich. "The trainers are the key to that."

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said it seemed like a viable strategy as long as the manpower is there.

"I know we need more than the 17,000," he said.

As a candidate, Obama said the Afghan war should have been the U.S. priority all along, and that the Bush administration wrongly diverted U.S. attention and resources to the war in Iraq. As president, Obama has been under pressure to say how he plans to address the sharp increase in violence in Afghanistan while prodding anti-terrorism ally Pakistan to deal with the militant threat on its soil.

GAZA STRIP

Israeli army accused of misconduct

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — When Israeli soldiers expelled Abir Hijeh, her five children and their neighbors from homes in a Gaza war zone, she said they warned her in broken Arabic: Go south or you might get shot.

The group went the wrong way and came under fire from Israeli soldiers. Hijeh was wounded and her 2-year-old daughter was killed.

Hijeh's account of a sniper firing on civilians, along with soldiers' graffiti and destruction seen by The Associated Press in homes they commandeered, lend support to allegations of Israeli army misconduct during the onslaught in Gaza.

In recent testimony, Israeli soldiers

told of vandalizing homes they seized to use as army posts, as well as relaxed rules of engagement, including hasty shooting at civilians. The soldiers, who spoke to a military prep school in a closed-door session, described an incident with similarities to the shooting of the Hijeh family.

The accounts, published in two Israeli newspapers last week, further fueled international outrage over the Gaza offensive. Israel, which invaded Gaza to end years of rocket attacks by Hamas militants on Israeli towns, is already under international scrutiny about whether it used disproportionate force and failed to protect civilians. Gaza's Hamas rulers have been criticized for targeting civilian areas and using

Palestinians as human shields.

Senior military officials have acknowledged using massive firepower in Gaza to deter Hamas gunmen and prevent casualties among Israeli forces. The offensive was unprecedented in its deadliness, and contrasted with the smaller, pinpoint operations of the past in Gaza.

However, an Israeli army spokeswoman, Maj. Avital Leibovich, said the military "took every measure of prevention possible in order to save the lives of Palestinian civilians," including phone calls and leaflets warning residents to evacuate. Some of the incidents described by soldiers are under investigation. The army chief, Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, said this week that, if true, they were an aberration, not the norm.

Colleges

continued from page 1

University and Washington University in St. Louis are confirmed to attend the symposium.

"These schools are all close in distance and academic standing," he said.

Reish said the representatives will arrive Friday, tour the campus and attend reception dinner at the Morris Inn.

On Saturday, the student government representatives will participate in three "breakout sessions" to discuss issues such as community relations, student government's role in academic life, relationship with the administration and campus technology, Reish said.

Notre Dame's representatives will be Reish, student body vice president Grant Schmidt, chief executive assistant Karen Koski, student body vice president-elect Cynthia Weber and Ryan Brellenthin, who will replace Koski as chief executive assistant on April 1.

"We are participating but not leading the discussion," Reish said. "We want to see open dialogue."

Reish said he considered the idea of a symposium during the controversy involving the party ordinance proposed by the South Bend Common Council in 2007 to control student parties. He said when looking into the issue, he found that Northwestern University had a similar problem.

"Had we had a line of communication with them, it could have helped us," he said.

When elected to office in the spring of 2008, Reish said

hosting the symposium was one of his first priorities.

"Last year, I wanted to have this in April to really set the tone of our term, collect ideas and get off the ground running," he said.

However, issues with funds impeded the progress of the symposium, so the project was put on hold while Reish and Schmidt worked on other initiatives, he said.

Instead, Reish connected with other student body presidents through the creation of collegegovs.com, a Web site that allowed access only to student government leaders at colleges and universities.

But Reish said he was eventually able to secure the funds to put together the project and grab the interest of the universities who will attend.

"I have talked to everyone at the schools and they all said it is a great idea," he said. "We are really laying a foundation and creating kind of a personal connection."

Reish said he particularly would like to discuss the relationship between off-campus students and the community at the symposium, an issue Northwestern University stressed as important to them as well.


"This is something I really feel passionately about," he said.

Reish said he hopes the symposium will not only help improve Notre Dame's student government, but he also would like the event to foster a lasting relationship between the schools.

"We can ultimately develop a larger network," he said. "I think this can be a benchmark of where we fit on a larger scale."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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IN BRIEF

IRS puts pressure on Swiss banks

WASHINGTON — The IRS is ratcheting up the pressure on Americans who kept secret Swiss bank accounts, giving them six months to come clean and cough up any evidence against their advisers or bankers.

Tax lawyers told The Associated Press Thursday that demands for information and evidence have increased sharply since the government sued UBS AG to try to get the names of tens of thousands of U.S. citizens who may have dodged taxes through Swiss accounts.

Putting the squeeze on rich Americans who hid their wealth, IRS Commissioner Douglas Shulman on Thursday also laid out a six-month window for those with secret offshore accounts to come clean under specific terms and penalties.

The Obama administration wants UBS to turn over information on as many as 52,000 U.S. customers who concealed their accounts from the government in violation of tax laws. In February, the bank agreed to pay \$780 million and turn over the names of roughly 250 U.S. clients, but the Justice Department sued to get the names of tens of thousands more.

Swiss authorities have vowed to fight to protect their tradition of bank secrecy.

Art gallery owner charged for theft

NEW YORK — The owner of a now-closed Manhattan art gallery with a star-studded clientele was painted as a thief who stole \$88 million from art owners, a bank and investors, including tennis great John McEnroe.

Lawrence B. Salander used the money to try to corner the Renaissance art market and to support an extravagant lifestyle that included private jet travel, a lavish party for his wife at New York's Frick Collection museum, and the purchase and maintenance of his Manhattan town house and a 66-acre estate, Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau said.

Morgenthau said Salander defrauded a total of 26 victims in two primary ways:

In one, he sold artwork not owned by him and kept the money. The district attorney said Salander sometimes sold a piece of art owned by someone else several times.

Harsh financial regulations proposed

Obama administration submits new rules; says crisis calls for assertiveness

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration's aggressive plan for strict scrutiny of hedge funds and other freewheeling investors, part of the biggest expansion of financial restraints since the Great Depression, is drawing instant opposition from Republican lawmakers and the rules' targets. And skeptics are questioning whether the new rulebook would work anyway.

Wall Street wizards have proved adept at designing complex financial products to sidestep existing regulations. And Vincent Reinhart, former director of monetary affairs at the Federal Reserve, says, "You're going to see firms try to figure out how to be under the radar."

For example, private equity investors might try to buy large hedge funds and chop them into funds that would be small enough to operate unregulated, Reinhart said.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, unveiling the plan Thursday, said the nation's economic crisis demands bold action.

"We need much stronger standards for openness, transparency and plain commonsense language throughout the financial system," he told the House Financial Services Committee.

The administration's proposals, which require congressional approval, include:

- ◆ Imposing tougher standards on financial institutions that are judged to be so big that their failure would threaten the entire system.

- ◆ Extending federal regulation for the first time to all trading in financial derivatives — exotic instruments such as credit default swaps that are blamed for much of the economic carnage.

- ◆ Requiring larger hedge



Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner testifies before the House Financial Services Committee Thursday.

funds and other private pools of capital, including private equity and venture capital funds, to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

- ◆ Creating a regulator to monitor the biggest institutions. Geithner did not say which agency should wield such authority, but the administration is expected to favor the Federal Reserve.

- ◆ Empowering the government to take over major nonbank financial firms such as insurers and hedge funds if deemed necessary.

Committee Chairman Barney Frank, D-Mass., and many Democrats on the

panel backed the proposals, while Republicans assailed them as too far-reaching.

Private analysts also questioned whether Geithner's plan would succeed in safeguarding the financial system.

"We're not in this mess because we need new rules," said Bill Fleckenstein, a Seattle-based hedge fund manager who accurately predicted the housing bubble. "We need to enforce the rules we already have," he said. "What we had was a complete breakdown by all our regulators. They simply didn't do their jobs."

And Fleckenstein said he

didn't think requiring big hedge funds to register with the government would prevent devastating frauds like Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme.

"You could register all 10,000 hedge funds, and it probably would just overwhelm the regulator," he said.

Timothy Brog, portfolio manager of New York-based hedge fund Locksmith Capital Management, said stricter rules won't work properly if regulators become bogged down in policing individual funds rather than monitoring the investment products they trade.

7,500 GM employees to take buyout

Associated Press

DETROIT — About 7,500 General Motors Corp. workers — roughly 12 percent of the automaker's U.S. hourly work force — have signed up to take buyout and early retirement incentives to leave the company, GM said Thursday.

Also, Chrysler LLC said Thursday it would extend its deadline to entice blue-collar workers to leave. The old deadline was Friday.

GM offered \$20,000 cash and a \$25,000 voucher to buy a car to all of its 62,400 hourly U.S. employees in an effort to further trim its blue-collar work force to match reduced sales.

Most of those who chose to leave took early retirement offers, said a person familiar with the numbers who did not want to be identified because the break-

down had not been made public. There were very few who took the buyouts, the person said.

The deadline to decide was Tuesday, and many of the workers waited until the last minute to turn in their paperwork, the person said. The workers have seven days from the date they turn in the paperwork to rescind their decision, so many will have to decide by March 31.

For those that will leave, the effective date of their departure is no later than April 1, GM said in a statement.

Both GM and Chrysler are living on a total of \$17.4 billion in government loans and are seeking another \$21.6 billion. The Obama administration's auto task force has indicated it may offer more aid, but further concessions are possible from both the companies' stakeholders.

Both companies have to submit completed restructuring plans to the federal government by March 31.

The latest round of buyouts and early retirements at GM was the third for the company since 2006. From all three offers, more than 60,000 workers have decided to leave the company.

The departures and other actions taken by the company "will help ensure the long-term viability and future success of General Motors," Gary Cowger, group vice president of global manufacturing, said in a statement.

GM has enough workers on layoff to fill all 7,500 vacancies created by the departures, the person familiar with GM's plans said. But if demand increases and more workers are needed, the company could hire new people at a new lower-tier wage of about \$14 per hour, the person said.

Obama

continued from page 1

Erskine A. Peters Dissertation Year, a program carried out in honor of Erskine A. Peters who was one of Notre Dame's distinguished scholars and a devoted servant to the community.

Denise Challenger, a Peters Fellow and a doctoral candidate at York University in Toronto, spoke about how Obama has changed attitudes for the better in Jamaica.

"There's a sense that Jamaicans can claim ownership to the presidency of Obama," she said. "What he represents is the validation of the potential of the black community."

While doing research in Brazil, Jessica Graham, a Peters Fellow and a doctoral candidate at the University of Chicago, said many people discovered a renewed sense of pride in their black heritage after Obama's election.

In a recent Brazilian census, only seven percent of Brazilians consider themselves as black, but using objective measures, outside organizations put the country's black population at 50 percent.

"People who are interested in the black consciousness movement in Brazil will hope that this will help people define themselves as black," Graham said. "They will find it more appealing to be black."

Seth Markle, a Peters Fellow and a doctoral candidate at New York University, said the Bush presidency damaged the reputation of the United States in the eyes of many Tanzanians, but Obama's successful campaign restored their hope in the American electoral process.

"They were engaging in the same way that we were engaging with Obama in the U.S.," he said. "People do see him as their president as well."

In Brazil, Obama's election has helped to weaken racial prejudices targeted towards black women, Graham said.

"It is very rare to see a man of his stature with a black woman," she said. "He presents a pride that you don't often see in the Brazilian context. Young women are saying, 'there are going to be little black girls in the White House with hair texture like mine.'"

Challenger noted another example of how individuals have been motivated by Obama's election — Jamaican author Taniesha Burke wrote a book titled "Raising The Next Barack Obama."

"She wrote a book on how to raise the next Barack Obama," Challenger said. "She's taken the idea of him and written an instruction book on how to raise the next Obama."

However, as Challenger said foreigners' admiration of Obama does not always extend to his policies.

"He represents values that go against Jamaican values," she said. "Homosexuality is a contentious issue. They decided that it is still a crime. The idea that homosexuality is immoral has now entered into the discourse nationwide. Within the Jamaican community, they recognize this complication."

Moving to the subject of foreign policy, Markle said Obama's presidency could diminish perceptions of U.S. imperialism.

"I do think [Obama's presidency] is changing the discussion around imperialism," he said.

According to Markle, because Obama is the same color as people exploited by American imperialist ventures in the past, the U.S. may begin to shed its reputation as an empire.

Challenger also contested the arguments of social theorists who believe race and gender to be minor factors in Jamaica society compared to class structure.

"Race and gender were the organizing principles of the former slave colony," she said. "There is still an issue of color. Colorism is really a damaging

Contact Robert Singer at rsinger@nd.edu

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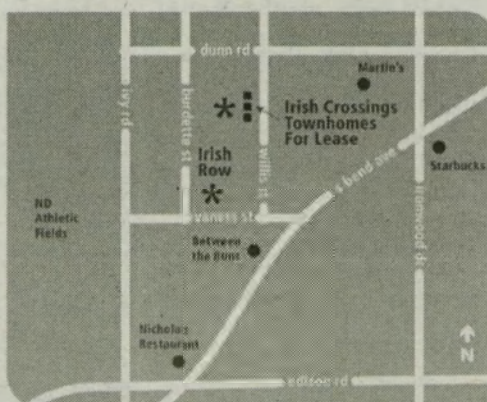
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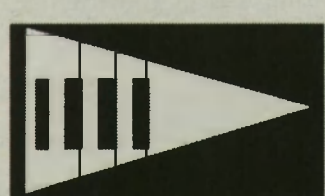
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Miss. tornado injures 28

Associated Press

MAGEE, Miss. — Residents in a tornado-ravaged community took advantage of clearing skies Thursday to collect family keepsakes and begin cleaning up from a storm that left 28 injured and dozens of homes and businesses flattened across south-central Mississippi.

But Magee, a town of about 5,000 in Mississippi's pine forests, may not have much time to begin serious cleanup as another storm system with the potential for more destruction was expected late Thursday or early Friday.

While families were busy moving debris from around homes and covering exposed ceilings, the steady grinding of chain saws echoed through the community as utility crews cleared fallen trees from power lines.

Magee Mayor Jimmy Clyde said the community was in the early stages of assessing the destruction from a pre-dawn twister that smashed through dozens of homes and apartment duplexes and damaged two churches.

"This is like reliving Hurricane Katrina all over again and that's no fun," Clyde said as office phones rang constantly with reports of storm-damaged neighborhoods and lost power and water service. "We got hit back then and we've really been hit now."

Officials believe 36 homes, a church and a business were destroyed in Simpson County, where Magee is located, and another 86 homes and structures were damaged. Across the state, 43 structures were destroyed and another 146 were damaged by at least five confirmed tornados.

Phillip Runnels spent the afternoon sifting through what was the barely recognizable remains of his mother's mobile home on Mississippi 28.

His mother, Pamela McCallum, 48, was in good condition after being airlifted to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. Her boyfriend, Larry Pearson, 58, was also injured and was in fair condition.

"She's in pretty bad shape and Mr. Larry, he's in worse shape," Runnels said as he continued his inspection.

The twister smashed through Magee around 1:30 a.m. as severe thunderstorms rumbled across the Southeast. Power blackouts affected tens of thousands of Louisiana residents and authorities reported damage to some Alabama homes. Georgia residents also braced for potentially heavy rains.

There were no immediate reports of deaths.

Mississippi's governor declared a state of emergency in Simpson County. At least nine counties reported damage Thursday. An elementary school was closed in Amite County in southern Mississippi after high winds tore off part of its roof.

The Salvation Army and other aid organizations hurried warm meals and supplies to stricken areas.

"We're getting a lot of help in here," Clyde said. "That's the thing about Mississippi. Everybody just-helps each other in times like this."

Clyde said homes in some areas were "basically leveled" and damage was extensive just outside the city limits.

Jeff Giachelli, 48, said he and his wife, Cappy, were asleep when the storm hit. He called to

his wife when the windows of their red-brick home shattered. His roof also had been sheared off.

"We got in the closet and it just collapsed," he said.

In a nearby neighborhood, several brick duplex apartments were smashed and cars were flipped upside down.

Stephanie Malley, 35, cried as she looked at the shell of her home, its roof gone. She awoke when flying debris hit her in the back. She grabbed her 11- and 13-year-old sons and pulled them into a bathroom.

"We stayed in the bathroom for a long time until everything started coming down," Malley said.

Her 11-year-old needed nine stitches for a cut on his leg. Nearby houses were marked with red spray paint to show that emergency workers who dug through the rubble didn't find any injured or dead residents.

The nearby Corinth Baptist Church was so shattered that "only the doors to its sanctuary were left standing," she said.

Members of the 100-year-old church stepped around the red brick rubble and walked through a cemetery where tombstones were knocked to the ground. A white church van was overturned.

There were still plans to hold Sunday services in the parking lot, however.

"Our church is still here, because our church is the people, but the building is gone," said member Charlene Loyd.

Another tornado touched down Wednesday in Mississippi's Lauderdale County, heavily damaging nine homes and a business, but causing no injuries, officials said.

IRISH GUARD

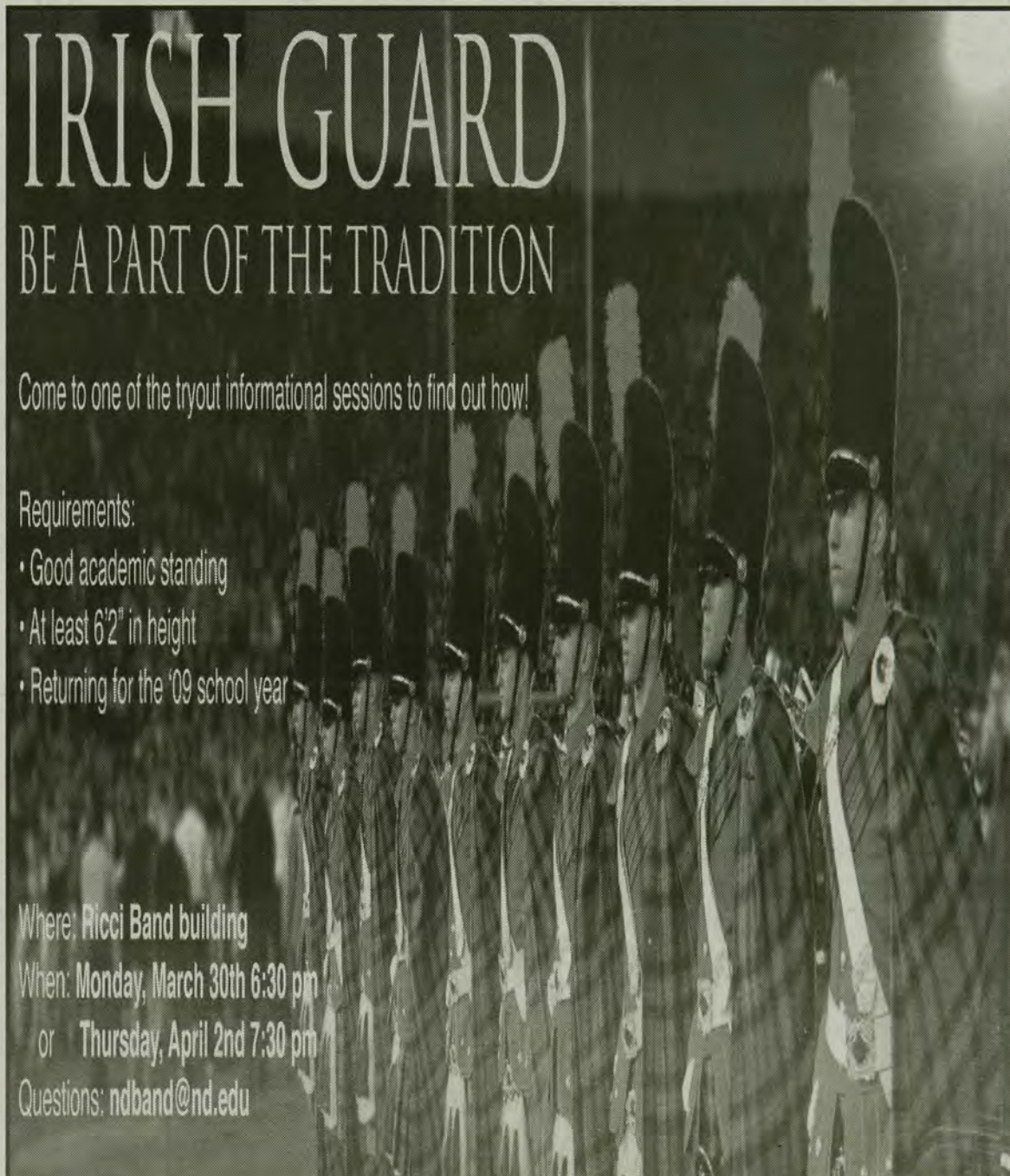
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Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

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POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$120 for one academic year; \$65 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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Constructive debate welcome

The Observer's inbox has been inundated with letters in response to the University's invitation to the President of the United States to be the principal speaker at this year's Commencement exercises.

These letters range from expressions of utter outrage and disbelief to mild acceptance, from sheer joy to indifference. Their authors — angered alumni, American Catholics not associated with the University and students — are contributing their viewpoints to a conversation that has — in many respects — reduced itself to a circus.

Of the 612 Letters to the Editor The Observer has received as of 2 p.m. Thursday, 313 have been authored by alumni. Of those letters, 70 percent are supportive of the University's decision to invite the president and 30 percent are against.

And while more alumni have written to The Observer than students, their voice must not be lost. In fact, of the 282 letters authored by students, the breakdown is a bit different: 73 percent of students who have written Letters to the Editor are supportive of the Obama selection, while 27 percent are against it.

Looking at the senior class' response, the sentiment is even more extreme: 97 percent of seniors are supportive, 3 percent are not.

There is a clear disconnect between alumni and the student body as a whole on this issue.

This is the seniors' graduation, their last memories of Notre Dame as a student. Protestors would do well to remember this. Make your views known; healthy debate is welcomed. Photographs of aborted fetuses are not.

The fact remains: President Barack Obama will be the 2009 Commencement speaker at the University of Notre Dame, following a long-standing tradition to invite the president to speak.

University President Fr. John Jenkins has described the president's decision to come to Notre Dame as an "honor;" likewise, the White House released a statement that Obama is equally "honored" to come to campus and address the graduating class. Neither groups have indicated that plans will change.

Yet the debate rages on, and with legitimate reason. According to official University statements, the invitation of the president is not an endorsement of his views pertaining to the protection of life.

However, the question arises: Is it possible to pick and choose what to honor?

There is no such thing as a perfect speaker; all are controversial on some level, regardless of their affiliation to political party or to religion. Take, for example, President George W. Bush, the last sitting president to speak at a University Commencement. A member of the Republican Party, his stance on the death penalty sparked protests in May 2001 when he was on campus.

As it was in 2001, it remains in 2009: there is a difference between tolerance and acceptance.

The University has said it does not accept the president's views on the protection of life, but it will listen to him, it will respect him, and it will challenge him in the future.

In doing so, the Notre Dame community is in a unique position to have the ear of the president for one afternoon.

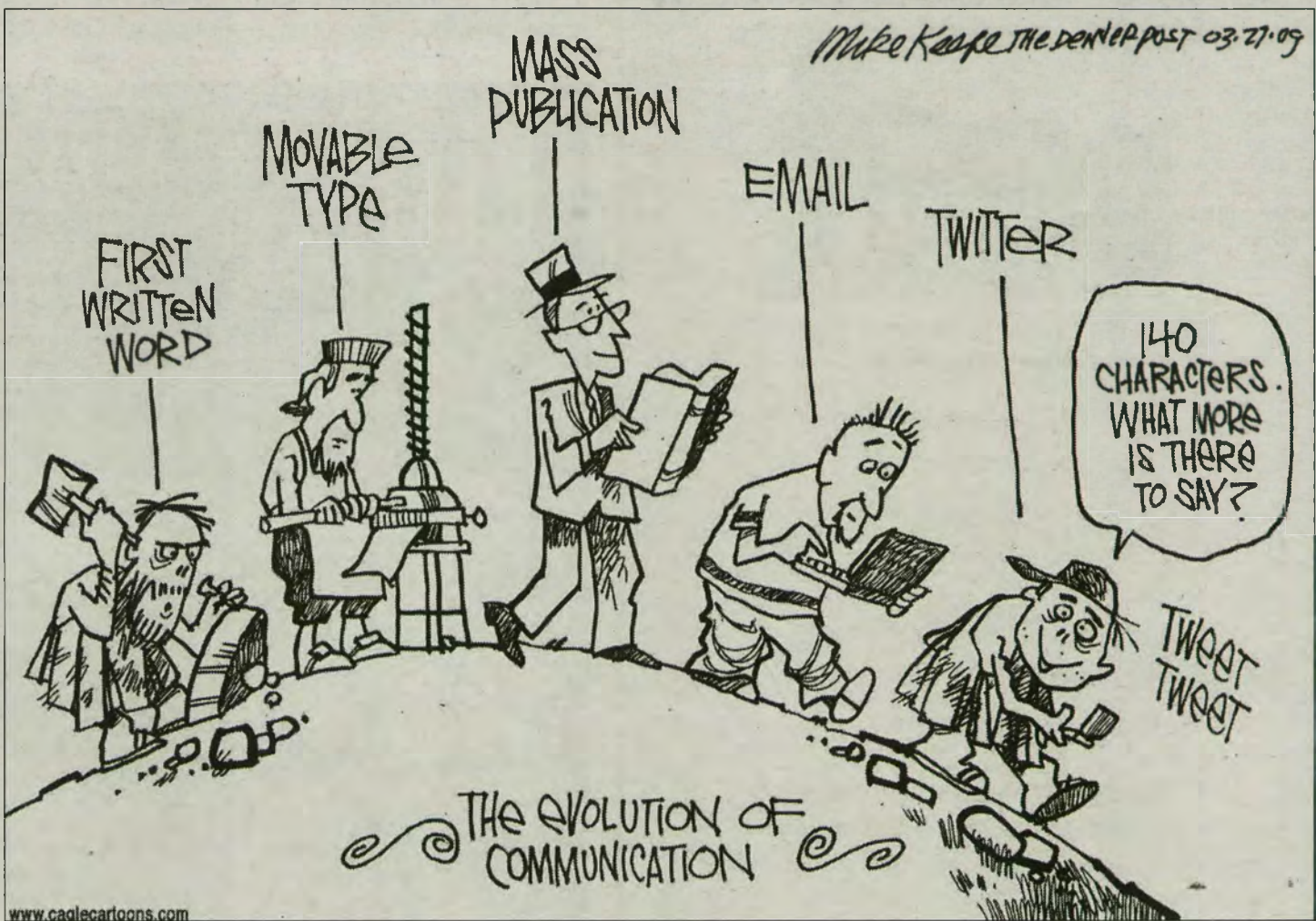
University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, without a doubt one of the most influential American Catholics, a man who has fought tirelessly for civil rights in this country and to transform the University into a respected institution of higher learning, said this Friday speaking to a group of alumni, parents and friends of Notre Dame:

"No speaker who has ever come to Notre Dame has changed the University. We are who we are. But, quite often, the very fact of being here has changed the speaker."

We must continue that tradition, and show the president, and the world, what Notre Dame is; we will welcome challenges, but retain our character and retain our class in engaging with those who might disagree with us in debate. And we will give the class of 2009 the best possible send off to bring Notre Dame with them when they leave campus in May.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Observer Poll

Is your bracket faring better than Obama's?

	Votes	Percentage
Yes	368	71%
No	149	29%



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I don't think Catholics have a license on God."
Jess Shaffer
Observer Scene Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hip-Hop Night

Choosing to come to Notre Dame during my senior year in high school was one of the most important decisions in my life. I had to choose a place to learn, live, and grow for the next four years while attaining a degree that'd be with me forever. I chose Notre Dame for obvious reasons. The University's academic reputation, athletic traditions, and commitment to Christianity are just a few of the characteristics that I'm sure draw all of us to this school. However, the quality of the people here is what impacted me the most during my visits and led me to decide to come to the Dome.

Unfortunately this past Saturday, for the first time in my five and one half semesters here, I wondered if I had made the right choice. On Saturday the student group Wabruda brought Taalam Acey, a popular spoken word poet, into Legends for a show to be followed by Hip-Hop Night. I thought it'd be a great time to invite my friend from Chicago and younger cousin to campus to listen to poetry and then have some dancing fun afterward. Instead, my guests were offended and insulted by some of the students' attire.

It seems that some of my classmates deem it appropriate to wear "costumes" to Legends for Hip-Hop Night. Dressing in stereotypical "hip-hop" clothing for this is a growing phenomenon and is becoming increasingly offensive. These students may give the excuse of trying to dress "hip-hop," but it really just looks like a mockery

of black culture. While hip-hop is not the sole form of representing black culture, it does give many of our young people a voice. It is an ever-changing form of music and to perpetuate a single stereotype within it is both hurtful and demeaning. Some students at Hip-Hop Night sport bandannas, jerseys, baggy sweatpants, corn rows and fake chains. One of the most shocking outfits that I observed on Saturday included a fake tattoo on a girl's abdomen that read "thug life."

Sadly, while these students are garnering attention and making a spectacle of themselves, I find it pointless to address the issue right away. Most of them are way too intoxicated to listen to let alone care about my concerns and those of my friends. I was utterly embarrassed for my cousin, a senior in high school, to think that this is what she has to look forward to in college. I was even more ashamed that my friend, a junior at Central State University, had to witness such behavior and for it to help her form an opinion of Notre Dame.

I know this letter probably won't transform insensitivity or erase ignorance, but I just had to show my discontent. I am saddened and disappointed that Notre Dame students, my classmates, could be so inconsiderate.

Shawnika Giger
junior
Pangborn Hall
March 25

Irish Outrage

I am shocked and outraged by the actions of certain members of the Notre Dame community as of late. I am, of course, referring to William McTighe's participation in the White House's St. Patrick's Day party ("Student plays Irish music for President" March 25). How can McTighe possibly reconcile this action with his conscience as a Catholic? How can he possibly think to share such a joyous celebration (St. Patrick's Day) with our nation's charismatic, brilliant and popular president when he knows full well that Obama is pro-choice. McTighe has sullied the name not only of bag-pipers everywhere but the Irish race as a whole. How can the world

think anything except that McTighe's band, the Shannon Rovers, is completely and without-exception pro-choice and thus do not value human life.

In fact, I just threw away four Shannon Rover's CDs, two hats, six T-shirts, and one bagpipe due to their association with this group. I never thought it possible, but the Shannon Rovers are no longer my Irish pipe band.

Bernardo Garcia
sophomore
Keough Hall
March 25

Express some humility

Last Friday's Observer featured a column by Bob Kessler about the "hookup culture" in which he made a comment about "our state school counterparts" that implied that they have lower moral standards than our own student body. I don't know Bob, but I'm sure he's a nice guy and that his comment was merely a light-hearted attempt at levity.

Nevertheless, I believe this is worth mentioning because in my semester and a half here at Notre Dame, I've noticed that it is a consistent practice among a segment of the student body to pat themselves on the back by pretending to be superior to people at state schools. This past week alone I probably heard about a half dozen such comments from my fellow Domers.

I offer a word of caution to my peers who may think this is witty, or makes you appear more sophisticated than those mere peasants at state institutions: you sound like morons, and would be wise to kick this habit before leaving the Notre Dame bubble. I realize most of the time these remarks are made in jest, but given the frequency with which they can be heard here on campus or at a week-

end party, they show a very real flaw in the character of those who say them. None of us are better than anyone else just because we go to Notre Dame. True, maybe some of us are smarter, maybe some of us worked harder. Though, maybe some of us just got lucky and struck the right chord with a particular admissions official in our personal statements, or maybe your family name is on one of the buildings here. Or, maybe you worked just as hard to get here as a kid at a state school who made the decision on where to attend based on what he or she could reasonably afford.

Regardless of how we got here, one thing is certain, we are all incredibly fortunate. I love this school, and all the amazing people I've met here, with all my heart. We should all be grateful for the opportunity to attend such a prestigious institution, and upon graduation, go forth into the world with humility and respect for one another regardless of our various backgrounds or alma maters. As a Notre Dame student who transferred from not merely a state school, but a community college at that, and who earns excellent grades (better

grades than the drunk who stood in front of him at a party this past week slurring his words as he quipped about those poor kids at state institutions, I might add), I would just like to offer a reminder that you never know who you're talking to and what your words might say to them about your own character.

Allow me to end with a dose of inspiration for my fellow public school alums, and fans of the Wes Anderson film, "Rushmore." I offer you the words of Bill Murray's character, Herman Blume, as he addresses the prestigious Rushmore Academy: "Now, for some of you it doesn't matter. You were born rich and you're going to stay rich. But here's my advice to the rest of you: Take dead aim on the rich boys. Get them in the crosshairs and take them down. Just remember, they can buy anything but they can't buy backbone. Don't let them forget it. Thank you."

Brendan McPhillips
junior
off campus
March 25

More than one issue

Very recently there was a viewpoint letter which suggested something which normally I would consider very wise. The author suggested that we realize that this is one issue that the Catholic Church disagrees with President Obama on, and that a single issue should not dictate an entire relationship with a political official.

This is a stance I've taken many times. After all, there are no perfect candidates. It is impossible to find one who does not disagree with you on at least one issue which matters to you. And from the standpoint certainly of those who either agree with Obama on the pro-life/pro-choice debate, or even those on the fence, would agree that this is just one issue.

What you must understand, however, is that those who believe that abortion is killing an innocent human being do not see it as just an issue. To them it isn't just about the economy, it isn't just about how much is spent on Iraq or education, how well the police are paid and how other countries view us. To them it's a question of killing innocent human beings, and how President Obama is campaigning to make it easier and easier to do this. He obviously does not see these as human beings, from the way he talks about them and his stance on it, but we do.

To us it is not just about an issue; it's about thousands of lives being lost each day. It's not just an issue; it's a form of genocide. To the Catholic Church, having thousands die each day before they are even given a chance to see the light of day is the greatest tragedy in the modern world — a tragedy that we facilitate. So naturally they are upset about President Obama speaking to them, when they consider him to be the facilitator of many of these evils.

But the other side has a valid point too; now that we have invited the President, we cannot simply uninvite him; it would be an amazing insult to him and everyone who agrees with him. Nor can we refuse to give him an honorary degree, because that would be a similar slap in the face. But those who want Obama to speak at commencement should realize that there is a difference between "respecting the office of the presidency", a good and patriotic thing to do, and heaping honors upon the President; I am perfectly capable of respecting my president without honoring him with awards, especially if I don't feel he deserves them.

The true problem in the eyes of those against having him speak is that he was invited at all. Now that he's here, there is nothing to be done. If we don't all understand that, we need to begin to understand that. President Obama will speak at the Commencement, and he will get an honorary degree. There's nothing to be done about that now, and talk as radical and ridiculous as lining Notre Dame Avenue with pictures of aborted fetuses is not only counterproductive, but simply inflammatory and demeaning.

But on the other hand, the response from those similar to what is going on at ndresponse.com is also quite reasonable and worthwhile; it's taking a stand on the issue when there is nothing in our power we can do about it. We must have the president as our speaker; we don't have to like it or take it lying down. And, as a sidenote, I'd also like to point out that for me, personally, it isn't about one issue. In fact I doubt that there is even one major issue that I agree with on the president on, as a Catholic, Aristotelian, pragmatist and capitalist. And also, on occasion, someone with a dollop of common sense.

So do not peg us all as simply having one issue with him, whichever issue that may be.

Cavanaugh Hannon
freshman
Dillon Hall
March 26

Easter Mass

Recently I heard the Basilica is filming an Easter Mass this Saturday which will be broadcast Easter morning on NBC. I'm sure it will be a beautiful mass full of celebration, but can you really celebrate Easter two weeks early? Isn't Lent supposed to be a solemn time of reflection and fasting? I'm confused how we can "celebrate" the Resurrection before He has even been crucified. It's great that the Church is broadcasting mass, but why not have it live? You would think that with the number of sporting events telecast live NBC could broadcast something as important as Easter Mass on the actual day.

Kelli Davis
freshman
Pasquerilla West Hall
March 25

This Week's Mix – Bust Out the Shorts



by Andrew Seroff

- 1 "All Right Now" - Free
- 2 "No Sunlight" - Death Cab for Cutie
- 3 "Sugar Magnolia" - Grateful Dead
- 4 "Let Me Go" - Cake
- 5 "Superman" - Goldfinger
- 6 "You Get What You Give" - New Radicals
- 7 "I'm From Barcelona" - We're From Barcelona
- 8 "Wishbone" - Architecture in Helsinki
- 9 "Hot Dog" - Led Zeppelin
- 10 "The Blues Are Still Blue" - Belle and Sebastian
- 11 "Saturday Morning" - Eels
- 12 "Beer" - Reel Big Fish

Last week we had great spring weather, but all this week clouds sat above our heads. I was working on a "Psyche! It's Still Winter!" playlist, but then, as if to thwart my plans, sunshine and blue skies rolled in. I'm not complaining. Here's my "Just Kidding, Bust Out the Shorts" playlist.

12 songs,
1 weekend,
43 mins, 8 secs of music

By STEPHANIE DePREZ
Scene Writer

There is one thing to remember when listening to the Kronos Quartet: they are not a string quartet. They are, in fact, a "new music ensemble." What does this mean to the average listener? It means they are somewhere between Stravinsky and Arcade Fire – and nowhere near Mozart.

Kronos was started in 1973 by David Harrington, who decided to form the group after hearing a Vietnam-inspired piece by known avant-garde composer George Crumb. He decided to delve into the new musical tradition of music that is off the beaten path. Born from the avant-garde movement, the Kronos Quartet has played and recorded music that varies from Shostakovich and Webern to Thelonious Monk to Jimmy Hendrix.

Their unique interest in minimalistic music and anything with an unusual rhythm has led them to run the musical gamut a few times over. They have collaborated with Bollywood artist R.D. Burman (giving them a distinct Indian sound), appeared on the album "Late in the 20th Century" (next to a Romanian woman's choir), can be found on the new release for AIDS awareness "Dark was the Night" (along with Sufjan Stevens and Iron and Wine), and were commissioned to write an ode to earth by NASA. They have appeared with Dawn Upshaw, Dave Matthews, and Nine Inch Nails. The heart-stopping music in "Requiem for a Dream" and "The Fountain?" Yeah, that was these guys.

There is nothing they cannot do, and for that matter, nothing they will not do.

Tonight they will be premiering a piece by Terry Riley, a famed minimalist composer. According to Harrington, Riley's "In C" in 1964 was a marked change in music.

"All the sudden people thought about music differently," Harrington said. "There was no more hierarchy of musicians. It was a community of music."

Riley has since become one of the most famous composers of minimalism.

The premier tonight of "Transylvania Horn Courtship" will be the 24th collaboration between Riley and Kronos. It will be unique for Kronos in many ways, one being the addition of on-stage sampling, creating a musical loop in the middle of the piece they can play over.

"We've never done sampling in a show before," Harrington said.

The next thing one might notice about the

piece is that Kronos isn't playing normal instruments. Instead, the instruments look like someone took a violin and a trumpet and bashed them together. Instead of a cello, there is a long neck with strings and what looks like the head of a phonograph sticking out of the bottom.

These instruments are actually recreations from instruments from Thomas Edison's time. Because string instruments had a hard time being picked up by an Edison cylinder, musicians would put the round, flaring part of a horn near the strings to amplify the sound.

Kronos had these instruments recreated for this piece by an artist and instrument maker in San Francisco. Since they were originally made for Edison's cylinder players by an Eastern European man, Riley was inspired to use the name Transylvania.

The instruments used for "Transylvania Horn Courtship" are a strange, jarring blend of brass and strings that signifies some sort of quirky relationship between the two. The dichotomy is strangely appropriate for Kronos, who pride themselves on their musical diversity and openness to literally anything that comes their way. Watching them play, it seems to make sense.

As Harrington said, challenges came with "learning to play completely new instruments. There has never been a piece we've played in 35 years that has required as many aspects"

But why premier a piece at Notre Dame? "Anne Thompson [executive director of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center] invited us to make a project that would be joyous," says Harrington. "It's been a wonderful experience with Terry Riley. This piece is the most joyous we could put together, this piece for this occasion."

The collaborative team that calls itself the Kronos Quartet is a musical feat to be marveled. For over thirty years, they have been redefining contemporary music in all its forms, from metal to movie scores to minimalism. They are an American institution, and their appearance at the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be a night to remember.

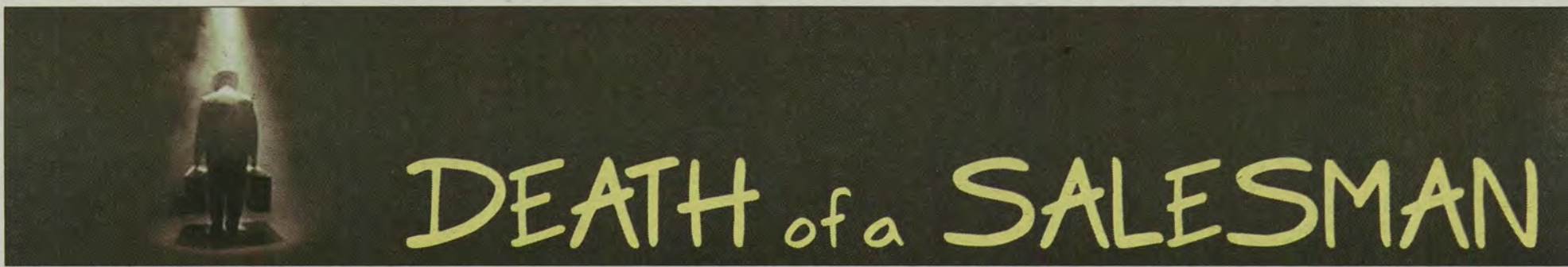
The performance begins at 7 p.m. tonight, and the second performance takes place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$48, \$38 for faculty and staff, \$36 for seniors and \$15 for students.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of <http://www.learningmusician.com>

The Kronos Quartet will perform Friday and Saturday at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.



By SARA FELSENSTEIN
Scene Writer

This weekend the Notre Dame Student Players will be performing Arthur Miller's classic American tragedy "Death of a Salesman," directed by freshman Tom Blanford and produced by sophomores Robert Jenista and Rachel Witty. Starring are senior JJ Rees as Willy Loman, sophomore Kelly Hunt as Linda, freshman Derek Defensor as Biff and freshman Chris Stare as Happy.

The protagonist, Willy Loman, is a traveling salesman based in New York City. His wife Linda loves him for who he is despite his shortcomings, but Willy always feels the need to be someone better. He puts incredible pressure on his sons, Biff and Happy, to be successful in business, yet they are both well into their adult lives and still have not done much of anything.

It is repeatedly noted throughout the play that Willy and his sons are good with their hands, yet it is clear that Willy thinks business is the only path to success in America. He clings to the American dream with everything he has, pretending to be a successful businessman before his family when really that is far from the truth. It is because of this extraordinary persistence to be someone he cannot that Willy sends his life spiraling downward towards suicide.

"Death of a Salesman" has redefined the genre of tragedy, as it follows not the fall of a traditionally great man but rather someone like Willy Loman who seems to be insignificant and forgotten in his everyday life.

Miller is making the claim that even men who are ostensibly small in the face of society can have just as long and tragic a fall as a great man. Willy does not rule a kingdom but he does in a sense rule his own household, which sets him up as a tragic hero.

It is typical for members of the audience or readers of "Death of a Salesman" to flip-flop between empathizing with and feeling repulsed by Willy Loman. Rees believes that putting himself in the physical and emotional position of this character has allowed him to empathize more with Willy.

The play is told mostly from Willy's point of view. A series of flashbacks and

warping of time characterize the show and give the audience a more rounded explanation for Willy's current ragged condition. It is clear that in his distress he has begun to lose grasp of past and present, fantasy and reality.

"It is important for the audience to see a stark contrast between the true characters in reality, and their actions and emotions as Willy remembers them, yet see a smooth transition in and out of reality," Blanford said.

Blanford has faced the challenge of distorted time and flashbacks through extra emphasis on blocking and transitions of emotions.

As always, a show's set can dramatically affect the audience's interpretation.

"Our production this weekend is a traditional, but minimalist approach to the show. The set is minimized and open to allow the emotions of this show to stand on top, while close attention was put into adopting the time period of the 1940s," Blanford said.

As a popular play performed countless times since its debut in 1949, what makes this production at Notre Dame unique is that it is entirely student produced, directed, and performed. Young, aspiring college students are dealing with issues attributed to the working class of an older generation.

"Willy Loman is 63 years old I am obviously not 63 years old. It's a challenge to make Willy, Linda, [and the other characters] relatable to college-age students," Rees said of his character.

However, what connects Willy's generation to our current generation are the "themes of defining success, the American Dream, and leaving a legacy," he said.

Even though at times the characters' actions might provoke pity or disgust, these pervasive themes are what allow young adults to understand and relate to the position that Willy Loman and his family face.

"Death of a Salesman" will be performed this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors and can be purchased in advance at the LaFortune Box Office.

Contact Sara Felsenstien at
sfelsens@nd.edu

Arthur Miller's "The Death of a Salesman" has been a staple of American theatre since its opening in 1949. This weekend it is being presented by the Notre Dame Student Players Club at Washington Hall.

It centers on the Loman family, a simple family struggling

to achieve the American dream. The play is well done and enjoyable to watch if not entirely relevant to a college age audience.

As head of the family, Willy Loman, played by JJ Rees, works as a traveling salesman. From week to week he struggles to make ends meet. Because of this difficulty, he chooses to live in a world of memory and imagination rather than a world of reality. Through a series of flashbacks and daydreams, the story of Willy's life emerges.

The audience can see that Willy's life is defined by his constant struggle to justify his version of the American dream with the disappointment of reality. He has elaborate ideas of success and happiness, but he struggles to find them in his frustrating and unsuccessful career.

Willy's two son's Biff and Happy provide further illumination into the fragile dynamics of the Loman family. Biff, the oldest son, has failed to live up to his potential in everyone's eyes, including his own. He wanders from one job to the next, never quite finding happiness or contentment. In Biff's own words, "I don't know what I'm supposed to want".

The younger of the two sons, Happy, has seized upon his father's dream for success in business. He does relatively well and enjoys many of the trappings of success and happiness. Yet for all of his success, Happy hardly lives up to his name. Rather, he is just as lost as his brother Biff, who can at least acknowledge his

frustrations. The disappointment of his own life and the lives of his sons come together, crippling Willy under the pressure of keeping it all together.

Rees delivers a convincing performance as Willy, although it is at times difficult to remember that he is playing a 60-year-old man.

Derek Defensor and Chris Stare do well as Biff and Happy, but the stand-out performance is delivered by Kelly Hunt as Linda Loman.

Hunt delivers an earnest performance as a wife trying to hold her crumbling family together. More than any of the other performers, Hunt seems to have reached the heart of her role. It is her performance that succeeds in engaging the audience at an emotional level. You cannot help but feel for Linda and sympathize despite her role in encouraging Willy's delusions.

Overall, the play is well done. It does seem to drag on toward the end, though that is due more to the script than the actors themselves.

Unfortunately, despite the best effort of the cast, the message of "Salesman" is difficult to relate to and audiences may find the story unrewarding. Willy's struggles are often hard to sympathize with from the perspective of a college age audience.

Though Biff and Happy provide an example of where we all hope not to be in 15 years' time, the overall spirit of the performance falls flat. At certain points, it is almost annoying that not a single character succeeds in overcoming his self-pity.

This is not to say that those who are interested in the greater tradition of American theatre will not find the performance enjoyable. Rather, the average student may feel uninspired.

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

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Pitino eyes Arizona job

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Arizona coach Russ Pennell will play this weekend by the book.

Rick Pitino's book.

He's savoring every moment in Indianapolis, from the open shootaround to the usually dreaded news conferences, fully understanding Friday night's game against top-seeded Louisville could be his first and only chance to lead a team into the regional finals.

So the man with the interim title spent Thursday blunting questions about his uncertain future by focusing on the present. Or what Pitino once described as the precious present.

"Just the opportunity to walk through this journey this year is incredible. It's stretched me, it's forced me to think outside the box. It's very unconventional what we've gone through," Pennell said. "If this is the only opportunity, so be it. Life goes on."

At Arizona, basketball success has exceeded all expectations this March.

The tumultuous season began in October with the retirement of Hall of Fame coach Lute Olson, a move that suddenly put a career assistant, Pennell, in charge of a program with 24 straight tournament appearances.

There were times Pennell found himself on tenuous ground.

Arizona opened the Pac-10 season going an uncharacteristic 2-5, and many thought the longest NCAA streak in the nation would end after the Wildcats lost five of their last six games heading into Selection Sunday.

Instead, they were one of the final teams chosen for the field and proved they deserved the bid last weekend by beating fifth-seeded Utah and 13th-seeded Cleveland State in Miami. That got them a ticket back to Indy, the same site where the Wildcats upset

Pitino's heavily favored Kentucky squad to win the 1997 national title.

Now Pennell faces Pitino's Cardinals (30-5), a team that looks a lot like Arizona.

"It's the closest I've ever seen two teams in the type of pressure (defense) they apply," Pitino said. "They do one thing different — they bring their center out to the corner sometimes. But it's almost identical to what we're trying to accomplish."

That's where the similarities end.

No. 12-seeded Arizona (21-13) is the lowest left in the field and wasn't supposed to make it past one round, much less round two, and now looks like a longshot to get past Louisville.

The Cardinals are still expected to be in Detroit for next weekend's Final Four after winning the Big East regular-season and tournament titles, taking the No. 1 ranking in last week's poll and claiming the top overall seed in the tourney. That means anything less than a national title won't suffice.

Yet in a Midwest Regional packed with tradition and familiar coaches, Pennell is the exception. A year ago, he was still doing color commentary on Arizona State radio broadcasts.

The four teams playing in Indianapolis have combined for eight national titles and three of the coaches here — Pitino, Michigan State's Tom Izzo and Kansas' Bill Self — have national championship rings. Pennell does not.

Pitino also owns a sterling 8-0 record in regional semifinals, but Pennell sees things differently. "I'm undefeated (in the tournament). Better record," he said, drawing laughter, after going 2-0 last weekend.

Pennell isn't the only who was being asked about his future Thursday.

So was Pitino.

If Kentucky coach Billy Gillispie is out, as rumors

suggest, Pitino's name will almost certainly resurface as a possible candidate in Lexington. Again. It's a distraction the Cardinals don't need this weekend.

Then Pitino was asked about another possibility: replacing Pennell at Arizona.

"I wouldn't answer any question about any other job because it would be disrespectful to Louisville," Pitino said. "Anytime you hear a player stand up here and say, 'I'm not going pro, I'm coming back,' he's gone. Any time a coach says he's not interested in a job, he's dead interested in a job. All I can tell you is that for eight years, I've given every ounce I've had to the University of Louisville and I will continue to do that."

The speculation appears to be having no impact on the Cardinals.

They reduced a scheduled 50-minute practice to 30 minutes and performed what amounted to a Midnight Madness workout — an impromptu dunk contest with an array of half-court shots. Players also chatted with the large contingent of fans who made the 100-mile drive to Indy, where Louisville won its first national title in 1980.

Forward Terrence Williams reflected on his days cutting lawns and one of the best smiles in college basketball.

Clearly, there's no pressure in Louisville's locker room.

"Even though it's a serious game, you want to win, but you can still smile while playing hard, trying to win the game," he said. "So I want to be the rare guy that smiles all the time."

Pennell concurs.

Despite the possibility that Friday night could be his last game with the Wildcats, and perhaps ever as a head coach, Pennell isn't worrying about what could happen.

He'd rather take care of business on the court, just like Pitino.

NFL

NFL player prevented from visiting dying mom

Associated Press

DALLAS — A police officer was placed on administrative leave Thursday over a traffic stop involving an NFL player whom he kept in a hospital parking lot and threatened to arrest while his mother-in-law died inside the building.

Officer Robert Powell also drew his gun during the March 18 incident involving Houston Texans running back Ryan Moats in the Dallas suburb of Plano, police said.

"I can screw you over," he said at one point in the videotaped incident. When another officer came with word that Moats' mother-in-law was indeed dying, Powell's response was: "All right. I'm almost done."

Dallas Police Chief David Kunkle apologized to the family and announced that Powell would be on paid leave pending an internal investigation.

"When we at the command staff reviewed the tape, we were embarrassed, disappointed," Kunkle said. "It's hard to find the right word and still be professional in my role as the police chief. But the behavior was not appropriate."

Powell, 25, a three-year member of the force, stopped Moats' SUV outside Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano after Moats rolled through a red light.

Police officials said Powell told his commanders he believed he was doing his job, and that he drew his gun but did not point it. Kunkle said Powell was not necessarily acting improperly when he pulled his weapon out, but that once he realized what was happening should have put the gun back, apologized and offered to help the family in any way.

"His behavior, in my opinion, did not exhibit the common sense, the discretion, the compassion that we expect our officers to exhibit," Kunkle said.

Moats' wife, who was in the car along with other relatives, said Powell pointed his weapon at her.

"He was pointing a gun at me as soon as I got out of the car," Tamishia Moats told The Dallas

Morning News.

Ryan Moats told KRLD-FM in Dallas in a phone interview Thursday that after the officer pointed the gun at his wife, he pointed it at him. "I just tried to stay as still as possible to not scare him or do anything to make him react," he said.

He earlier told the newspaper he thought Powell should be fired but backed off that in his radio interview.

"All I know is what he did was wrong," Moats said. "He stole a moment away from me that I can never get back. I'm really not the judge on what should happen to him."

The Moats family did not immediately return messages left by The Associated Press. Powell did not respond to requests for comment through the Dallas police union.

Video from a dashboard camera inside the officer's vehicle, obtained by Dallas-Fort Worth station WFAA-TV, revealed an intense exchange in which the officer threatened to jail Moats.

He ordered Tamishia Moats, 27, to get back in the SUV, but after pausing for a few seconds, she and another woman rushed into the hospital. She was by the side of her mother, 45-year-old Jonetta Collinsworth, when she died a short time later from breast cancer.

"Get in there," said Powell, yelling at Tamishia Moats as she exited the vehicle. "Let me see your hands!"

"Excuse me, my mom is dying," Tamishia Moats said. "Do you understand?"

Ryan Moats explained that he waited until there was no traffic before proceeding through the red light.

When Powell asked for proof of insurance, Moats grew more agitated and told the officer to go find it.

"My mother-in-law is dying! Right now! You're wasting my time!" Moats yelled. "I don't understand why you can't understand that."

As they argued, the officer got irritated.

"Shut your mouth," the officer said. "You can either settle down and cooperate or I can just take you to jail for running a red light."

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. We have many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's Assistance for Pregnant Students/Office of Student Affairs website at: osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assistance-for-pregnant-students.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit Support Services for Victims of Rape & Assault at: http://osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assault/

Don't you think that someone's choice of junk food says a lot about his personality?

Get over yourselves, non-science/engineering majors...your life is not that hard.

Find yourself a girl, and settle down Live a simple life in a quiet town

Steady as she goes Steady as she goes So steady as she goes

Your friends have shown a kink in the single life You've had too much to think, now you need a wife

Surely some revelation is at hand; Surely the Second Coming is at hand.

The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out

When a vast image out of Spiritus Mundi

Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert

A shape with lion body and the head of a man,

A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,

Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it

Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.

The darkness drops again; but now I know That twenty centuries of stony sleep Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle, And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, March 27, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Women's Lacrosse IWLCA Top 20

team	record	points
1 Northwestern	9-0	400
2 Maryland	8-0	365
3 Penn	7-0	365
4 North Carolina	7-2	319
5 Duke	8-2	296
6 Georgetown	5-3	291
7 Princeton	5-1	289
8 Syracuse	6-2	274
9 NOTRE DAME	8-1	234
10 Virginia	6-3	223
11 Vanderbilt	4-3	210
12 Boston University	5-3	178
13 Loyola (Md.)	6-1	140
14 Stanford	6-2	128
15 Penn St.	4-4	86
16 Dartmouth	3-3	78
17 Ohio St.	7-1	78
18 James Madison	4-3	59
19 Cornell	5-2	55
20 New Hampshire	6-3	52

NCAA Softball ESPN.com Division 1 Top 25

team	record	points
1 Florida	32-2	498
2 Washington	27-3	476
3 Stanford	29-1	448
4 UCLA	24-3	438
5 Alabama	26-4	432
6 Oklahoma	25-8	354
7 Georgia	20-4	353
8 Northwestern	15-7	349
9 Arizona St.	28-5	340
10 Tennessee	24-6	332
11 Michigan	20-9	312
12 California	22-7	264
12 Ohio St.	22-3	263
14 Missouri	26-4	244
15 Arizona	28-7	228
16 Louisville	26-3	188
17 LSU	20-6	186
18 Massachusetts	13-6	144
19 North Carolina	26-7	143
20 Florida St.	22-8	84
21 DePaul	13-7	80
22 Texas A&M	23-11	56
23 Fresno St.	17-12	44
24 Iowa	24-5	41
25 Cal Poly	19-6	37

NCAA Men's Golf Golf World Division 1 Top 15

team	points
1 Georgia	572
2 Southern California	540
3 Oklahoma St.	530
4 Clemson	455
5 Stanford	446
6 Illinois	435
7 Florida	418
8 Alabama	406
9 Arizona St.	397
10 Indiana	346
11 Georgia Tech	287
12 South Carolina	282
13 Texas	276
14 Tennessee	260
15 Arkansas	241

NCAA BASKETBALL



Connecticut's Stanley Robinson hugs Hasheem Thabeet in celebration of the Huskies' win over the Purdue Boilermakers, 72-60. This win qualifies the Huskies for the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament.

Huskies defeat Boilermakers, 72-60

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — After cruising through the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament, Connecticut found itself in trouble for the first time.

Thanks to Hasheem Thabeet, the top-seeded Huskies weren't in trouble for long.

Thabeet, the Big East player of the year, scored 15 points, had 15 rebounds and blocked four shots, and Connecticut overcame a sluggish first half to defeat Purdue 72-60 in the NCAA West Regional semifinals on Thursday.

One day after a Yahoo! Sports report alleged UConn committed NCAA recruiting violations, the

Huskies (30-4) reached the regional finals for the fourth time since 2002.

Coach Jim Calhoun and the Huskies had won their first two NCAA tourney games by an average of 41 points, but they struggled to score against the defense-oriented Boilermakers.

UConn jumped out to an early 11-point lead, then went cold and let the fifth-seeded Boilermakers (27-10) claw back into the game.

Leading 30-25 at half-time, the Huskies turned to the 7-foot-3 Thabeet in the second half. Thabeet scored Connecticut's first eight points of the second half, then blocked a shot to

set up a fastbreak layup by A.J. Price, who scored 10 of his 15 points after half-time.

That play was part of an 8-0 run that gave the Huskies a 42-31 cushion with 13:37 to play.

But the Boilermakers wouldn't go away. They answered with a 7-0 burst, and soon they had pulled within four.

Thabeet dunked to push the lead back to 57-45 with 6:28 to play, and that was pretty much it for Purdue.

Craig Austrie added 17 points for the Huskies, who will play either Memphis or Missouri for a berth in the Final Four.

Calhoun and his players

had promised on Wednesday that they wouldn't be distracted by the Yahoo! Sports report claiming the school broke NCAA rules during the recruitment of former player Nate Miles.

Using its superior size and ability, UConn jumped out to an 8-0 lead in the first three minutes.

Forward Stanley Robinson dunked on an alley-oop pass from Price, and then Austrie stripped Purdue point guard Lewis Jackson in the backcourt and swooped in for a layup.

Purdue coach Matt Painter called timeout, and the Boilermakers soon began to rally.

IN BRIEF

UConn investigated for recruitment violations

HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Connecticut and the NCAA have discussed an investigation into alleged recruiting violations by the school's men's basketball program, a university official said Thursday.

The official, who requested anonymity because he is not authorized to speak publicly about the allegations, said the school was in contact with the NCAA Wednesday, after Yahoo! Sports reported that an agent who had once been a student manager at UConn helped steer recruit Nate Miles to the school.

Yahoo reported Wednesday that Miles, a 6-7 guard from Toledo, Ohio, was given lodging, transportation, meals and representation by sports agent Josh Nochimson, and that a UConn assistant coach knew about the relationship between the player and the agent. The story cited interviews, documents obtained under Freedom of Information laws and other sources.

Astro's Tejada issued probation for lawsuit

WASHINGTON — The prosecutor's words were delivered in the matter known as "The United States of America vs. Miguel O. Tejada," spoken during Thursday's 23-minute hearing in which the Houston Astros shortstop was sentenced to one year of probation for misleading Congress.

The message — famous or not, you must tell the truth — also could be interpreted as a warning to another baseball star, Roger Clemens. His case, involving sworn testimony to the House of Representatives, is currently before a grand jury in the very same federal courthouse where Tejada appeared.

"People have to know that when Congress asks questions, it's serious business," Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Durham told the court. "And if you don't tell the truth — and we can prove you haven't told the truth — then there will be accountability."

Blackhawks beat Sharks in final shoot-out, 6-5

CHICAGO — No quibbling from the Chicago Blackhawks. They'll take a victory over one of the best teams in the NHL this season, even if they had to go to a shootout to get it.

After squandering a 4-1 lead, Chicago got shootout goals from Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews to beat the San Jose Sharks 6-5 on Wednesday night and move back into sole possession of fourth place in the Western Conference.

"We did it the hard way," Chicago's Martin Havlat said. "But we got two points. It doesn't matter who we played."

San Jose's Joe Thornton powered past Brent Seabrook and beat Nikolai Khabibulin to tie it at 5 with 2:08 left in regulation.

Andrew Ladd had two goals for Chicago, and Dave Bolland added three assists. Devin Setoguchi scored two goals for the Sharks, including one with 5:07 left that cut Chicago's lead to 5-4.

around the dial

MLB

Chicago White Sox vs. Chicago Cubs
3:05 p.m., WGN

NCAA Basketball

North Carolina vs. Gonzaga
10:00 p.m., CBS

MEN'S GOLF

Irish hope to recover at FAU

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

The Irish look to bounce back from a disappointing finish in the E-Z-Go Invitational as they head to Delray Beach, Fla., to compete this weekend in the first annual Florida Atlantic University Spring Break Championship.

"We definitely had a hiccup last week, but surprisingly [the team] probably learned a lot more last week than even playing well over Spring Break, so in terms of development we're still on course," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said.

"We've really just focused on trying to learn this college game and get better every week and make good decisions and let the scores take care of themselves."

Kubinski will travel to Florida with the team after missing last week's event due to flu-like symptoms.

"It was tough to watch the scores and know that you

could probably help the guys out in a small way or two that may add up to a few shots on the scorecard and in the end give them some confidence," Kubinski said.

The Irish will compete against three teams ranked in the top 50 — No. 7 Illinois, No. 40 Michigan and No. 46 Iowa. Also, six golfers competing in the Spring Break Championship are ranked in the individual top 50, including No. 11 Mike Van Sickle from Marquette.

Sophomore Jeff Chen, who has been at the top of the Irish scorecard in the last two matches, will not be competing in the Spring Break Championship, so Kubinski looks to others to lead the way, especially junior Doug Fortner.

"I really look for [Fortner] to bounce back," Kubinski said. "He felt like each round he had those two or three holes that just killed him, so if he irons those out he's going to be around par or

better. I think he can do that here."

Other regulars in the Irish lineup are sophomore Dustin Zhang and freshman Max Scodro, who look to rebound from substandard performances in the E-Z-Go Invitational.

"[Scodro] hit so many greens last week, and had just amazing ball-striking, but he putted as poorly as he has in his career," Kubinski said. "He's worked hard in the last few days, and watching him today, he's rolling the ball very nicely, so he's very capable."

Rounding out the lineup for the Irish this weekend are junior Carl Santos-Ocampo and freshman Tom Usher.

"[Santos-Ocampo] is back in his home state. He played very well throughout the summer in tournaments across the state," Kubinski said. "And it's going to be breezy here, and [Usher], from England, has a lot of experience playing in those conditions."

The Irish will compete in the three-day tournament will begin Friday at the Gleneagles Golf Club in Delray Beach.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

"We've really just focused on trying to learn this college game and get better every week and make good decisions and let the scores take care of themselves."

James Kubinski
Irish coach

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Irish Sports Weekend



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Sun. 3/29 vs Illinois @ 1:00pm

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Outdoor track season begins

By ALEX WEST and
NATHANIEL LEE

Sports Writers

Once the successful indoor track season came to a close three weeks ago, the Irish set their sights to the start of the outdoor season against some top collegiate talent.

The Irish kick off the 2009 outdoor track season out west with the Stanford Invitational in Palo Alto, Cal. for the distance runners and Arizona State Invitational in Tempe, Arizona for the sprints and the field events.

Irish coach Joe Piane said he isn't concerned about this being the first outdoor meet of the year.

"There isn't much difference between indoor and outdoor

meets," Piane said. "Some runners are just running different distances."

Junior Joanna Schultz and senior Mary Saxer headline the Irish women's team. Both were indoor season All-Americans, Schultz in the 400-meter dash and Saxer in the pole vault.

Piane said he thinks that the two women's success has not come as a surprise to them or the team.

"Everyone knew that [Schultz and Saxer] were studs to be with," Piane said. "This doesn't change anything about their perception by their teammates."

On the men's side, senior Patrick Smyth and junior Matt Schipper earned All-American honors in the 3000-meter race.

Smyth and junior pole vaulter Matt Schipper represented the Irish at the NCAA Indoor Championships last weekend.

The fields at both invitationals contain some of the best teams from around the country, including No. 1 Texas A&M and top 25 team Arizona State.

"[The competition] is outstanding," Piane said. "Our team will be extremely challenged. This is one of the biggest distance events in the country."

The Stanford Invitational begins on Friday afternoon with preliminary races and concludes on Saturday with the finals. The Arizona State Invitational begins on Friday as will with the primary event being the hammer toss. Saturday morning contains the preliminary races and field events with the finals being in the afternoon.

Contact Alex West at awest@hcc-nd.edu and Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu

"Our team will be extremely challenged. This is one of the biggest distance events in the country."

Joe Piane
Irish coach

SMC TENNIS

Belles open MIAA schedule Saturday

By NATHANIEL LEE

Sports Writer

Saint Mary's opens its MIAA conference schedule Saturday against Alma at the MSU Indoor Tennis Facility in East Lansing Michigan.

The Belles (4-5) are looking to rebound after a tough defeat to No. 16 Indiana Wesleyan.

"We were a bit disappointed in a few of our pre-season results," Belles coach Dale Campbell said. "However, I think it's a good thing, because we have high expectations and we did perform against tough nationally ranked teams."

The Belles have been paced at singles by sophomore Jillian Hurley, who holds a 4-5 record at first

singles, junior Camille Gebert's 6-3 record at second singles, and sophomore Jessica Kosinski's 4-5 performance at third singles. At first doubles, Hurley and Gebert have a 4-5 record.

"We are really looking forward to playing in the conference," Campbell said. "We are expecting to match up against Alma well. We beat them last year, but they have improved between seasons."

Campbell said the Belles are looking to make a splash in the tough conference, and expose the young squad members to a high level of play.

The match against the Scots (5-5) will begin Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu

Looking for more Sports coverage?
Check out The Casual Observer at
observersportsblog.wordpress.com.

Spring Visitation Weekend Prospects Arrive on Campus

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions would like to recognize and welcome the 136 prospective African American, Asian American, Latino and Native American students visiting campus to attend this year's Spring Visitation Weekend

The University of Notre Dame Welcomes the Following Students:

Marisabel Agosto	Alta Loma, CA	Alison Mackey	Carlsbad, CA
Kael Anderson	Clive, IA	Arcelia Magana	Escondido, CA
Michael Appau	Catonsville, MD	Kimberly Mahoney	Lancaster, CA
I-Ming Archbold	New Milford, NJ	Claudia Martinez	Mesquite, TX
Alyssa Arias	Mesa, AZ	Siobhan Martinez	Los Angeles, CA
Martin Arredondo	San Fernando, CA	Patrick Mathews	Seattle, WA
Tenintanimi Ayo-Ariyo	Carson, CA	Sydney Mbachu	Parkville, MD
Monique Batson	Old Hickory, TN	Omar Medina	Gonzales, CA
Brittany Beavers	Bellaire, TX	Sadat Meghani	Memphis, TN
Margaret Elice	Brownsville, TX	Michael Memari	Chula Vista, CA
Mariah Boyd	Raceland, LA	Adam Mendonca	Houston, TX
Jordan Brown	Laplace, LA	Kassie Molinar	Upland, CA
Robert Bucayu	Santa Maria, CA	John Nguyen	Sugar Land, TX
Myriha Burce	Chicago, IL	Tam Nguyen	Houston, TX
Felipe Campos	Laredo, TX	Vu Nguyen	Las Vegas, NV
Albert Chang	Aurora, CO	Minh-Duyen Nguyen	Wichita, KS
Ramon Cordova	Irving, TX	Shantel Northbird	Cass Lake, MN
Annette Corona	Granada Hills, CA	Selina Okonkhua	Atlanta, GA
Carlos Cortes	Bayonne, NJ	Nicole Osorio	Knoxville, TN
Devyn Coskey	Las Vegas, NV	Alexander Padilla	Rialto, CA
Victor Cruz Jr.	Los Angeles, CA	Jason Park	Arlington Heights, IL
Jahneille Cunningham	Pembroke Pines, FL	Rachel Parra	Hurst, TX
Steven Davis	Billings, MT	Jesus Perez	Covina, CA
Jordan Davis	Oriando, FL	Hernan Perla	Bayshore, NY
Nia Daye	Bayonne, NJ	Alexandria Perry	Canton, OH
Nicole DeMont	Glendale, CA	Javier Pineda	San Diego, CA
Roneal Desai	Cerritos, CA	Calvin Poku	Murphy, TX
Caroline Dikibo	Houston, TX	Ryan Pounds	Oxnard, CA
Hakim Effiom-Dauw	St. Petersburg, FL	Kelly Rada	San Antonio, TX
Jason Elizalde	Corpus Christi, TX	Andreina Rascon	Queen Creek, AZ
Nicole Endsley	San Antonio, TX	Amy Richmond	Bloomington, IN
Chiamaka Esomonu	Union, NJ	Julianne Rizzo	Clovis, CA
Mayra Estrada	Bakersfield, CA	John Roberts	Ardsley, NY
Alexandra Gahungu	Cypress, CA	Oziel Rocha	Pico Rivera, CA
Nayeli Gallardo	Greenfield, CA	Maria Rodriguez	Chula Vista, CA
Dana Galvan	El Paso, TX	Blaise Ross	Hallstead, PA
Cinthya Garcia	Houston, TX	Carlos Sahagun	Hammond, IN
Sabrina Garcia	Montclair, CA	Vanessa Samaniego	Whittier, CA
Leticia Garcia-Romo	Salinas, CA	Diego Santana	Austin, TX
Amanda Garza	Laredo, TX	Michael Savage	Mundelein, IL
Briana Goncalves	San Diego, CA	Zachry Schwiethale	Port Angeles, WA
Carolina Goncalves	Pembroke Pines, FL	Olivia Scott	Charlotte, NC
Mariah Gonzales	Fresno, CA	Kayla Sierra	Tampa, FL
Aaron Gonzalez	Burleson, TX	Chase Sippel	Diamond Bar, CA
Susan Gonzalez	Mc Allen, TX	Julian Smith	Nashville, TN
Bree Gray-Jordan	Conley, GA	Laura Stokes	Penfield, NY
Nicole Guido-Estrada	Palm Desert, CA	Camille Suarez	Panorama City, CA
Gary Guillermo	Los Angeles, CA	Brandon Taylor	Merrillville, IN
Jasmin Hainey	Chicago, IL	Arianna Thompson	Houston, TX
Tasia Harris	Columbus, OH	Juana Torres	San Antonio, TX
Chamberlain Hill	Woodberry Forest, VA	Anh-Ton Tran	Spring, TX
Brian Hollins	Rockville, MD	Jonathan Tran	Tarpon Springs, FL
Renae James	Hartford, CT	Long Tran	San Jose, CA
Jasmine Johnson	Miami, FL	Phi Tran	Tucson, AZ
Purterson Justilien	Jacksonville, FL	Thuy Tran	Westminster, CA
Se Kim	Los Angeles, CA	Alfredo Trejo	Edinburg, TX
Patricia Kwan	Alameda, CA	Mario Vazquez	El Paso, TX
Colleen Lee	Douglaston, NY	Courtney Velasco	Bakersfield, CA
Grace Lee	Sparks, NV	Sylvianne Velasco	San Antonio, TX
John Lee	Colorado Springs, CO	Dana Venerable	Brick, NJ
Joseph Lee	Wood Ridge, NJ	Luisa Vera	Sanford, FL
Kevin Lee	Tucson, AZ	Francisco Villelobos	Rosemead, CA
Kyu Lee	Oakland Gardens, NY	Brandon Vo	Corona, CA
Laura Lhotka	Waubun, MN	Brendan Ward	Spring Lake, NJ
Kuijun Liang	Las Vegas, NV	Jeffrey Wei	Granger, IN
Aaron Lorton	Prescott Valley, AZ	Emerald Woodberry	Toledo, OH
Julio Luquin	Escondido, CA	Tina Yue	Brooklyn, NY

ROWING

Irish set for rematch at Mich. State

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Hoping to build off an outstanding performance in Oak Ridge, Tenn., on March 14, the Irish will travel to East Lansing Saturday to challenge No. 7 Michigan State.

The Irish will conclude the weekend by taking on Indiana and Purdue in Indianapolis, Ind. Sunday. Both teams are perennial contenders for the national title.

"We have a very good team that is going to get a lot better," Irish head coach Martin Stone told UND.com.

The Irish faced the Spartans in two varsity eight races in Tennessee but lost both with open water.

The team also matched up with Boston University and No. 6 Virginia. Led by coxswain Kelsey Otero and senior captains Christine Trezza and Lauren Buck, the first varsity eight boat won the opening race for the Irish by defeating BU by a margin of one seat.

The Irish didn't look back, as the second varsity eight crew cruised to a victory over the Terriers, winning the five-minute piece by an open water victory.

"I thought the [varsity] fours did a fantastic job and the novices also did very well," Stone said.

Despite their early success, the Irish left the waters with a bitter taste in their mouths due to the losses to the Spartans as well as two losses to Virginia.

But the Irish will have a chance to redeem themselves this weekend in their rematch against the Spartans.

Stone said he believes his team is showing poise and resilience as the season progresses.

"Overall, I think we had a good training week," Stone said. "We are still working on evolving our lineups. All three schools (we faced) were ranked in the preseason top 20 poll that was released last week. I told the team that although we are not ranked going into the season that we will have ample opportunity to race against the ranked crews."

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles shut out Franklin

Freshman pitcher Gillis remains unbeaten, adds three hits

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's took care of Franklin College Thursday, sweeping a doubleheader without allowing the Grizzlies (3-13) to score a run.

The Belles (14-2) dominated the first game with a 13-0 win and continued on to a 3-0 victory in the second game.

Freshman pitcher Monica Palicki (6-2) threw the first game, and was aided greatly by the barrage of Belles hits that came early and allowed her to pitch with the lead.

The Belles scored five runs in both the fourth and fifth innings, bringing the run total to 13, enough to give Saint Mary's a run-rule victory. Palicki allowed only two hits in the shutout.

In the second game, which required the defense to be at its best, freshman Angela Gillis (8-0) pitched the Belles to victory. Gillis also notched three hits with a home run.

In the win, junior short-stop Maureen Healy had a pair of hits, scored one run, stole a base and recorded a run batted in.

Despite the impressive

performances, the team still has work to do as they enter the conference schedule.

In particular, the focus of late has been on base running.

"We play well together as a team but sometimes we make mental errors on the base paths," freshman third basemen Kate Mitchell said.

Saint Mary's will begin its MIAA conference games on Monday as the Belles travel to Calvin College to face off against the Knights in a doubleheader. Calvin has been struggling this season, winning its first game of the season on Wednesday against St. Catherine (Minn).

The first pitch of the Calvin matchup is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

Contact James Michalski at jmichal2@nd.edu

"We play well together as a team but sometimes we make mental errors on the base paths."

Kate Mitchell
Belles third basemen

Write
sports.
E-mail
Matt at
mgamber@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL WEEK
2009
March 22-28

friday, 27

Badminton Tournament

9pm-1am, Rolfs Sports Recreation Center

Bollywood Film "Taare Zameen Par"

6pm-9pm, Montgomery Auditorium

Saturday, 28

Children's Day

4pm-6pm, University Village Community Center

Equality Health Symposium and Banquet

2pm-7pm, Jordan Hall of Science

Symposium: 2-4pm, Room 105

Informational Hour: 4-5pm, Galleria

Banquet: 5-7pm, Galleria

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Observer

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish look to protect win streak

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

No. 9 Notre Dame looks to continue its seven-game win streak and improve on its 8-1 record as the Irish host two Big East opponents, No. 6 Georgetown Friday and No. 13 Loyola Sunday.

The Irish come into the weekend with a 1-0 conference record after an 18-9 win over Rutgers on March 17. The team currently leads the Big East along with Syracuse.

"Our ultimate goal is to win the Big East, so we're taking both the games really seriously," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "We're very excited and motivated to have the opportunity to play two of the best teams in the conference this weekend."

The Hoyas, who knocked Notre Dame out of the Big East tournament last year, come into their first Big East game of the season with a 5-3 overall record.

The Hoyas are battle-tested, though, having played the top three teams in the country so far this season, including a victory over No. 3 Duke last week.

Loyola will also be playing its first two Big East games this weekend, with its first against Rutgers Friday before taking on the Irish Sunday. The Greyhounds are going into the weekend with a 7-1 overall record. Notre Dame

and Loyola have played three times since Loyola joined the Big East in 2006, with the Irish winning all three meetings.

Despite the difficulty in preparing for two opponents in one weekend, Coyne does not see it as a problem.

"Earlier in the season we played Northwestern and Ohio State on the same weekend so it was a good opportunity for us to have the quick turnaround and have to refocus on your

second opponent," she said. "I think we're in a good place with preparation."

Leading the Irish offensively is junior attack Gina Scioscia, who was named Big East offensive player of the week Monday for her performance in the Rutgers game. She recorded four goals and 10 assists in the victory. Scioscia leads the team in assists with 20 and in points with 44.

"I'm psyched for Gina that she got [Big East player of the week]," Coyne said. "It's great recognition, and I think Gina's having a fabulous season."

Defensively, the Irish are led by senior captain Shannon Burke. Burke was named to the preseason All-Big East team, and was put on last week's Big East honor roll.

"I think [Burke] should have gotten Big East defender of the week," Coyne said.

Friday's matchup with Georgetown will begin at 8 p.m. in the Loftus Sports Center, and the Loyola game has a 1 p.m. start time on Sunday, also at Loftus.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

"We're very excited and motivated to have the opportunity to play two of the best teams in the conference this week."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

MEN'S TENNIS

Squad set to play outdoor matches

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

No. 27 Notre Dame will start and end their outdoor home schedule this weekend as they face off against No. 40 South Florida and No. 7 Illinois.

The Irish (9-9) have played all of their outdoor matches up to this point as part of the Pacific Coast Doubles in La Jolla, Calif. and the Blue Gray Classic in Montgomery, Ala.

The team hopes to rebound from the back-to-back losses to Boise State and No. 19 Wisconsin that knocked them out of the Classic.

"We cannot use the excuse that we have not adapted to outdoor play as a reason for the losses to Boise State and Wisconsin," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We spent the entire week of spring break in California. We should be ready for the outdoor portion of our season."

History is on Notre Dame's side for both matches this weekend, as the Irish hold a

3-0 all-time series lead against South Florida and a 21-19 series lead against Illinois.

The Bulls (9-5) are coming off a 4-3 loss to Louisiana State.

The doubles game for the Irish, which Bayliss said has been a focus in practice this week, will have to deal with the Bulls' talented No. 28 doubles team of Thomas Estrada and Lucas Jovita.

Senior Brett Helgeson and sophomore Tyler Davis will likely face off against Estrada and Jovita.

The Fighting Illini (13-3) are coming to South Bend on a hot streak. They have won eight of their last nine, including a 4-3 victory over Wisconsin. Stiff competition in doubles will come from Illinois' No. 41 duo of Marc Spicijaric and Marek Czerwinski.

The Irish host South Florida on Saturday and Illinois on Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Both matches are scheduled to start at 1 p.m.

Contact Chris Michalski at jmichal2@nd.edu



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NOW LEASING

Ryan

continued from page 24

ahead for good in both games.

"I just happened to be going to the net at the right time," Ryan said. "Game to game you want to put yourself in the same position — sometimes you're gonna get chances and sometimes you're not. I think I just kind of got lucky to be in the right place at the right time."

Senior linemate Erik Condra, though, said there was a little more than luck at work for Ryan.

"If he gets his nose dirty and he gets into the play, he's as a good a player as anybody in the nation," Condra said. "And he's getting dirty. He's getting those dirty goals when we needed them."

Ryan agreed that his role on the line, which scored a combined 35 goals on the

year, is to provide the muscle.

"Ryan [Thang] is a goal scorer and Erik's a great passer," Ryan said. "So I need to be in the corners winning those one-on-one battles, getting the pucks to those guys so they can make plays."

Ryan has made plenty of plays himself this season, as well. He has netted 12 goals, including five game-winners so far this season.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said Ryan has come on as the games have gotten more important.

"He's been playing pretty solid hockey here in the second half," Jackson said. "That line is going to be very important to us on Saturday night."

Saturday night, when the Irish take on Bemidji State in the first round of the NCAA

Tournament, is a chance for Ryan and his teammates to finish what they started last year.

"We've been in the tournament the last two years," Ryan said. "And it kind of showed us what it takes to win it all. We went so far, we came so close, we just didn't get it. The experience has definitely helped us out, and we know it'll take four great games to win. I think we're ready to do it."

Ryan, who notched only two assists during last year's NCAA Tournament, said that this year he is ready to rise to the occasion.

"It's just a result of the situation," he said. "When you're playing in the playoffs and you're playing for the championship, that's what you work so hard for in the offseason and during the season."

So can Irish fans expect more game-winning goals from Ryan this weekend?

"I hope so," Ryan said. "If we get game-winning goals that means we win."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

"Sometimes you're gonna get chances and sometimes you're not. I think I just kind of got lucky to be in the right place at the right time."

Ben Ryan
Irish forward

Sweep

continued from page 24

claimed a 6-1, 6-3 win in No. 5 singles. In the only tightly contested match of the day, Krisik took her opponent to a third set in No. 2 singles before getting the win and completing an Irish sweep of the Hoosiers.

The win is Notre Dame's third in a row and moves the Irish to 17-2 overall.

The Irish return home to face No. 4 Baylor Tuesday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion before heading on the road for a four-match, five-day road trip that includes a rematch with top-ranked Northwestern.

After that, Notre Dame will adjust its focus to post-season play, beginning with the Big East championships scheduled for April 16 in Tampa, Fla.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish freshman Kristy Frilling returns a volley during Notre Dame's 5-2 win over North Carolina on Feb. 27.

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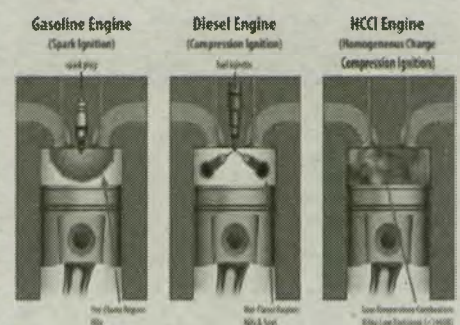
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Wednesday, April 1, 2009

3:30PM

McKenna Hall Auditorium



Pitt

continued from page 24

runs during Pittsburgh's 14-13 win over Akron Tuesday.

"They have probably one of the hottest hitters right now in the country," Schrage said.

The Panthers have won five of their last six and took two of three at Cincinnati. They beat Youngstown State 7-4 Wednesday.

The Irish (14-8, 1-2) have lost three of four and fell 6-5 to Oakland Wednesday at home. They also lost two of three against Seton Hall over the weekend.

Pittsburgh racked up nine hits against Youngstown State, two of them from sophomore designated hitter Joe Leonard. Leonard is batting .382 through Wednesday.

"Leonard's a big bopper for them right in the middle of the lineup," Schrage said.

Irish pitchers gave up eight walks and hit a batter Wednesday against Oakland and had trouble locating their pitches. As a team, the Irish have a 4.48 ERA and have walked 96 batters.

"It's going to be up to us to try to shut their hitting down," Schrage said. "Pitching usually wins, and our pitching has not been very good the past four games."

The strike zone against Oakland was small, but Schrage said the team prepares for that. When the pitchers practice indoors, he

said, the coaches will have them practice hitting a small or large strike zone.

"Small zones still have corners, and we've got to hit them," he said.

Sophomore Cole Johnson will start for the Irish today. Johnson is 2-0 with a 3.00 ERA.

The Irish bats have woken up late in the past four games, but sometimes not soon enough.

"It's all a question of whether or not we come to play and if we get ready to go from the beginning and jump out on teams," junior Matt Grosso said. "If

we do that we can be successful. But if we lay back and let it come to us, we might have some trouble like we did this week against Seton Hall."

Junior center fielder A.J. Pollock leads the Irish in hitting with a .391 average. He's also 12-of-15 stealing bases. Sophomore third baseman Greg Sherry, junior right fielder David Mills and senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes all hit over .350 as well.

Pitch selection, Schrage said, has caused the Irish problems this season. The team swings at too many bad pitches early in the count.

"We've been doing that all year, and that's been our biggest thing, swinging at pitches out of the zone with two strikes," he said. "Not real good pitches early in the count. It makes a big difference."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

"Pitching usually wins, and our pitching has not been very good the past four games."

Dave Schrage
Irish coach

One-four

continued from page 24

overtimes to dispose of No. 4 Alabama-Huntsville.

The Beavers (18-15-1) play in the CHA, the same conference as Alabama-Huntsville, so that bit of symmetry has Notre Dame aware of the possibility of a first-round upset.

"I have enough confidence in this group that they're going to make sure our team's ready to play, regardless of who the opponent is," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

Condra said he and his fellow seniors have shared their tournament experiences of the past two seasons with the underclassmen, and that those should help in preparing for Bemidji State.

"There's two things that can happen, and we've seen them both first hand. You can underestimate a team like we did Alabama-Huntsville two years ago, and we can't do that, and I don't think we're going to do that this year," Condra said. "And if you get down, you have to stick to what's going right for you, and not get individualistic. It happened

a little bit two years ago, but I think we showed against Michigan that it's not going to happen this year."

The Irish got a big taste of playoff hockey at the CCHA tournament in Detroit last weekend, when Notre Dame overcame a two-goal deficit to beat the Wolverines (29-11-0), 5-2, for the conference title. While the Beavers don't boast the same top-level talent that Michigan does, Jackson said his

team's first-round opponent plays a similarly up-tempo style.

"They really pursue the puck hard, and they're a fast team," Jackson said. "They're the kind of team that can get

underneath your skin if you're not smart with the puck or you're not good defensively."

Puck control was an issue against Michigan early in the game, and an Irish turnover led to the Wolverines' second goal. The Beavers will try to force Notre Dame's high-powered attack into playing faster than it would like, with the hopes of turning turnovers into goals.

"They're feisty, they're high flying and they're not going to lay back at all,"

Condra said. "They've got some speed, and they're going to be a tough team to play."

Leading the Irish, per usual, will be goaltender Jordan Pearce. The senior, who took Tournament MVP honors at the CCHA finals last weekend, is the nation's leader in victories, shutouts and goals-against average, and he made several big saves to keep it close before the offense got going against Michigan.

"You don't win a championship without great goaltending," Jackson said. "Without him, we wouldn't be where we are in the NCAA Tournament, and we wouldn't have won in Detroit. He's been the rock back there, he's been consistent from Day 1, and he does it on a nightly basis."

The winner of Saturday's matchup would play either No. 3 Northeastern or No. 4 Cornell on Sunday night for the Midwest Regional crown and a trip to the Frozen Four in Washington, D.C. on April 9. And while the Irish are heavy favorites to make a run to the nation's capital, Jackson said he isn't buying the hype just yet.

"We can't worry about a national championship until we focus on Bemidji," Jackson said. "If we start looking ahead, we'll be looking behind us."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

"If we start looking ahead, we'll be looking behind us."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

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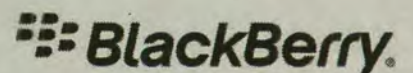
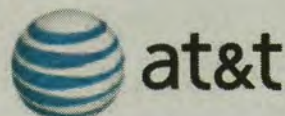
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Dear Notre Dame Students,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked Campus Ministry at Notre Dame to provide a pre-recording of the Liturgy of Easter Sunday to be broadcast to a national audience on NBC on Easter morning.

The estimate is that between 90 and 112 million viewers will watch this special Mass, including the elderly and those who cannot attend Mass on a regular basis. Notre Dame has an opportunity to offer a unique moment of evangelization for people across the country.

We invite you to attend this special Mass. Please come to the Basilica this coming Saturday morning, March 28, at 11:30 a.m.

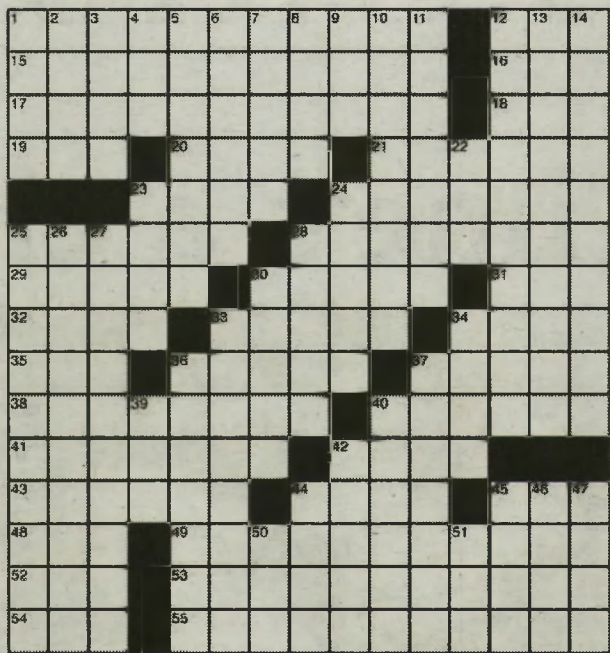
A special brunch will follow the Mass in the east side of the South Dining Hall at 1:15 p.m.



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Aids in artful deception
 - 12 Knowledge base?: Abbr.
 - 15 Correctly positioned
 - 16 Org. in the 1982 film "Enigma"
 - 17 Babble
 - 18 Where people wear gowns, for short
 - 19 "The Daughter of Time" novelist
 - 20 Big Daddy player on 1950s Broadway
 - 21 Gabfest
 - 23 Hit
 - 24 Sink
 - 25 How Viola is disguised in "Twelfth Night"
 - 28 Crude dwellings
 - 29 ___ of Galadriel (gift to Frodo Baggins)
 - 30 Go for ___
 - 31 "Livin' Thing" group, in brief
 - 32 Like some details
 - 33 Antigen attacker
 - 34 Year of the last known Roman gladiator competition
 - 35 Plot line
 - 36 Street show
 - 37 2003 memoir of a TV executive
 - 38 Back out?
 - 40 One may be backed up
 - 41 Wrote
 - 42 Something fit to be tied?
 - 43 Center of learning
 - 44 Switch
 - 45 Followers of closings: Abbr.
 - 48 Duct opening?
 - 49 1970s-'80s sitcom put-down/catchphrase
- Down**
- 1 Bailiff's concern
 - 2 Strauss's "___ Nacht in Venedig"
 - 3 Part of 16-Across: Abbr.
 - 4 "The Tudors" alrer, briefly
 - 5 Like straight shooters
 - 6 Square, in 1950s slang, indicated visually by a two-hand gesture
 - 7 High on amphetamines
 - 8 Dedicated compositions
 - 9 TV pooch
 - 10 Decoy accompanier
 - 11 Cave
 - 12 Pet with short legs and a hard coat, informally
 - 13 Big Apple excursion operation
 - 14 Reviews repeatedly
 - 22 Court figure: Abbr.
 - 23 Words after "if" or before "as well"
 - 24 Slate, originally
 - 25 Measure of a newborn's health, named for its developer
 - 52 Loch ___ on the River Shannon
 - 53 Recyclable
 - 54 Not be on target
 - 55 Components of some alarms

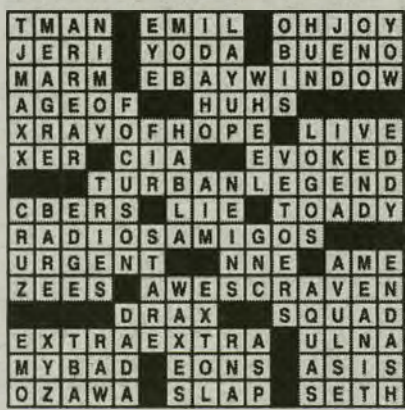


Puzzle by Paula Gamache

- 26 Extension of the terms of a marine insurance policy
- 27 American, for one
- 28 "Nice!"
- 30 Bitter
- 33 Wealthy Cayman Islands resident, maybe
- 34 Juniper product
- 36 One of Judaism's four matriarchs
- 37 It can be a stunner
- 39 Slowing, in mus.
- 40 Private detective Mike of Brett Halliday novels
- 42 Round of four
- 44 Real-estate ad abbr.
- 45 ___ Rivera, Calif.
- 46 Lead
- 47 Hyphenated IDs
- 50 ___ sponte (of its own accord, at law)
- 51 Real-estate ad abbr.

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Raven-Symone, 23; Nia Peeples, 47; Kenneth Branagh, 48; Michael Clarke Duncan, 51

Happy Birthday: Do things that will help your state of mind and build your confidence. This is a great year for restructuring your game plan to fit your lifestyle and your basic needs. It will be you who make your positive life changes. Be honest about your expectations and you will accomplish your goals. Your numbers are 2, 4, 17, 21, 24, 32, 38

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A surprise is heading your way. Contact people you have worked with in the past and you will get an interesting lead on something you want to pursue. Take advantage of everything and anything. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stress levels are high at this time of the year, with so much to do and so little time to do it. Calm down, make your to-do list and don't let anyone's nagging deter you. Less talk and more work will pay off. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make today a fun-filled day. Check out your travel plans for the holiday season or pick up gifts for special people. You should make a point of planning dinner with someone you find stimulating. Don't volunteer for something if you don't really have the time. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't be tempted to purchase something that claims to do the impossible. Use discretion. A change at work may upset you but, in the end, you will realize it's to your advantage. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make today a memorable affair. Include the ones you love in something that will enhance the upcoming festive holiday season. By coming up with cost-efficient ideas, you will gain popularity. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There is no time to waste. Finish all the things that need to be done before the year comes to a close. You don't want to be left in a vulnerable financial position. Harsh talks will lead to isolation not resolution. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let anyone weasel his or her way into your affairs. Maintain control. This is not the time to overreact. Keep the peace but be honest, not stubborn, about what you want. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will try to cause trouble for you. It is vital that you do what benefits you most and take a pass on things that don't. You are better off sticking with like-minded people who have similar goals. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Travel for business will pay off in terms of what you learn. Anger will be your downfall; diplomacy will lead to your success. Show your talents, not someone else's shortcomings and you will excel. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make adjustments at home that will suit your needs during the festive season. Help out someone elderly and you will benefit from your good will through the information and experience this person can offer. Make adjustments that may save you money in the future. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make changes based on someone else's emotional whims. Stick to your plans if you want to get things finished on time. Consider your motives and be sure the reasoning behind your action is sound. Act fast but smartly regarding money. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Past acquaintances will be your ticket to future opportunities. Set up talks or plan to attend a function that will allow you to network with people who have common goals. You will get help if you share your ideas. 4 stars

Birthday Baby: You are curious, inventive and have a vivid imagination. You are sensitive and intent on helping others. You are unpredictable and impulsive but also accomplish a lot throughout life.

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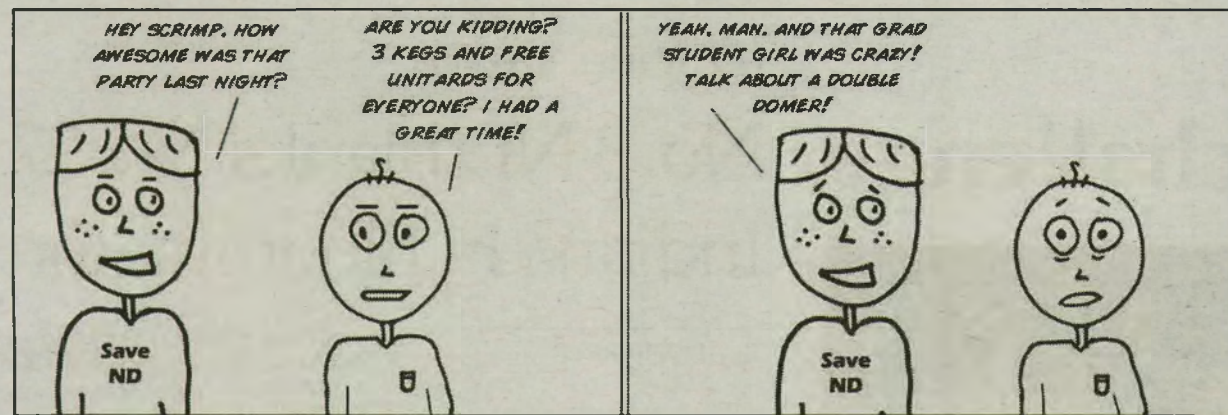
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DAVID CAVADINI



JUMBLE

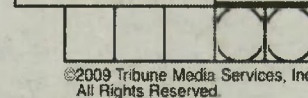
MIKE ARGIRION
JEFF KNUREK

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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

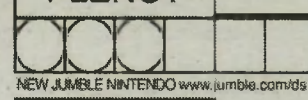
PRUPE



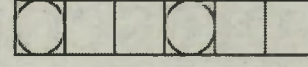
RUFOL



PLENOY



REVOND



Ans: " _ _ _ _ _ " _ _ _ _ HIM

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's | Jumbles: REBEL AGATE HOTBED REALTY
Answer: When he took a stab at new sports, he became a — "TRY" ATHLETE



THE OBSERVER

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HOCKEY

Third time's a charm

Irish to play in first round of NCAA's

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

A year after skating all the way to the Frozen Four as a No. 4 seed, No. 1 Notre Dame won't overlook No. 4 Bemidji State when the teams open NCAA Tournament play Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Grand Rapids, Mich.

"We realized that it doesn't matter — first or fourth seed, it's a one-game shot every game, and four seeds can make a run for it," senior captain Erik Condra said. "They've got nothing to lose, and they can put it all on the table like we did last year."

The Irish (31-5-3) have been on both sides of the one-four matchup in recent years. Last season, Notre Dame upset New Hampshire, and two years ago, the top-seeded Irish needed two

see ONE-FOUR/page 21



Irish sophomore forward Ben Ryan handles the puck during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Nebraska-Omaha in the second round of the CCHA tournament on March 14.

WU YUE/The Observer

Ryan scores winning goals in two straight

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

Back-to-back game-winning goals in the CCHA semifinals and finals would be a special moment for any player, but for Detroit native Ben Ryan, the moment was even sweeter.

"It's always great playing those guys (Michigan) because you know it's going to be a fun, fast game," he said. "Going back to Joe Louis was awesome just because I love the Red Wings and I'd been there for so many games growing up. That was a great experience."

The sophomore forward netted goals with 1:00 left against Northern Michigan in the semifinals, and 17:55 left against Michigan in the championship to put the Irish

see RYAN/page 20

ND SOFTBALL

Squad takes five-game winning streak on the road

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

After a successful homestand, the Irish will take to the road to face two Big East opponents this weekend.

Notre Dame (14-11, 1-1 Big East) has won six of seven at home since March 18, and currently holds a five-game win streak.

Now, the Irish will try to bring

their success along with them as they travel to Georgetown Saturday and South Florida Sunday.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said she thinks the recent wins prepared the team for the road trip.

"I think the girls feel good right now," she said.

This will be the first Big East road trip for the Irish, who split a doubleheader against conference foe St. John's on Sunday.

Gumpf said she did not feel Sunday's games were a good start to the Big East season. However, she said she feels the team is looking better.

"We know what we've got to do," she said. "We have to keep playing hard."

The Hoyas (5-20, 0-6) just joined the Big East this season and currently sit last in the conference standings. They have lost their last

six games, all against Big East teams.

South Florida (27-13, 6-2) is currently fourth in the Big East, one spot above the Irish.

Bulls catcher Cat Olnick and pitcher Cristi Eck were named to the Big East weekly honor roll Monday for their performances in six conference games in the week before.

"The reality is we're good enough to beat anybody and we've proven

that," Gumpf said. "But it depends 100 percent on how we play, not on how our opponent plays."

The doubleheader at Georgetown begins at 11 a.m. Saturday with the second game following directly after, and the USF doubleheader will begin at 11 a.m. Sunday with the second game right after.

Contact Laura Myers at lm Myers2@nd.edu

ND BASEBALL

Pitt bats present challenge

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

This is not the weekend for Notre Dame's pitching to be struggling — the Irish head to Pittsburgh for a three-game series starting today.

The Panthers (13-6, 2-1 Big East) hit .321 as a team and have nine batters hitting .300 or better.

"They're an extremely good hitting club when they're at their field," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "The main thing is our pitchers need to step up this weekend and shut down their hitting."

Their leadoff hitter, junior second baseman Chris Sedon, hits .444 and has a .753 slugging percentage and a .478 on-base percentage. He has successfully stolen 12 bases in 13 attempts and hit two home

see PITT/page 21



Sophomore right fielder David Mills is caught stealing in Notre Dame's 6-5 loss against Oakland Wednesday.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 3 ND blanks No. 27 Indiana in Bloomington

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

In familiar fashion, No. 3 Notre Dame rolled to victory over No. 37 Indiana 7-0 Thursday in Bloomington, Ind. The win is the fifth victory this season in which the Irish have swept all of the matches.

The No. 3 doubles tandem of senior Kelcy Tefft and freshman Kristy Frilling got the Irish off to a good start with an 8-1 victory over their opponents in the No. 1 doubles match.

Juniors Kali Krisik and Cosmina Ciobanu followed suit, claiming a second 8-1 victory to clinch the doubles point for Notre Dame. Junior Colleen Rielley and freshman Shannon Mathews

completed an Irish sweep in doubles competition with an 8-6 victory in the No. 3 doubles match.

In singles competition, Notre Dame quickly built its lead to 2-0 after Frilling overwhelmed her opponent in the No. 2 singles match 6-0, 6-1. Soon after, Ciobanu claimed her 13th straight singles victory with a 6-2, 6-2 win in the No. 3 singles match to give the Irish a commanding 3-0 lead.

Not to be outdone, Mathews clinched the match for the Irish with her convincing 6-2, 6-1 victory in the No. 4 singles match. Tefft cruised to a 6-2, 6-1 victory in No. 1 singles and sophomore Kristen Rafael

see SWEEP/page 20