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Students protest University investment

HEI accused of unfair labor practices, Chief Investment Officer says company is not 'anti-union'



Students protesting the alleged unfair treatment of workers at HEI, a hotel chain Notre Dame invests in, wear orange jumpsuits. Observer File Photo

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Sophomore Roman Sanchez and junior Liz Furman were two of several students who distributed flyers outside the Junior Parents Weekend Mass to raise awareness about the University's investment in HEI Hotels and Resorts — a hotel chain with alleged unfair labor practices.

"Parents were there and a lot of them are alumni," Sanchez said. "A lot of them give money to the school."

Furman added, "And they should probably know where their money is going."

But Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) stopped the stu-

dents in their campaign and the flyers were confiscated.

The disciplinary action

Assistant Director for NDSP Dave Chapman said the demonstration was terminated because the students did not have permission from the Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH).

Du Lac, the student handbook, states, "All demonstrations must be registered in writing with the Associate Vice President for Residence Life."

"They were asked if they had permission and they said no, they did not. They said they didn't know that they

see HEI/page 9

Tonk hired as director of energy department

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Former director of Strategic Planning for the University Heather Tonk will assume the role of director of Sustainability in order to continue Notre Dame's goal for a more energy conscious campus.

"I'm really excited about the opportunity and that the University feels so strongly about this initiative," Tonk said. "Not all universities are willing to invest this kind of money and resources to focus on this, and we are in a unique position to be a leader in this field and in the Midwest."

After graduating from Notre Dame in 1998 with a degree in chemical engineering, Tonk worked in engineering and management before her desire to participate in non-profit work brought her back to the University.

Tonk will transition from her current position as the director of Strategic Planning into the Office of Sustainability to replace interim director Robert Zerr beginning April 1.



Tonk

see TONK/page 9

ND offers variety of campus jobs

Student employment available at several locations, offers opportunity to make money during the semester

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
News Writer

College students are infamous for being short on change.

So what to do if you need a new weekend outfit or a video game?

Notre Dame offers many on-campus jobs, from food services to the Phone Center.

LaFortune Student Center employs about 200 students in food services, Jim LaBella, general manager of the Huddle, said.

LaBella said over 75 percent of those students work at the

Huddle Mart.

"It's a fun place to work, and you get to see your friends," he said.

Student shifts are all two hours, and students can sign up for as few or as many shifts as they want. Most students work 10-12 hours per week. Students are paid according to the University's standard pay rate, which is a \$7.25 basic rate, \$7.65 intermediate rate and \$8.15 skilled rate. Students also get a \$3 meal voucher for every shift that they work.

Sophomore Alyssa Sappenfield works at the

see JOBS/page 8



A student works in LaFortune Student Center, one of many jobs offered on campus. GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Center creates programs for social research

By CARLY LANDON
News Writer

The Center for Social Research (CSR) — located in Flanner Hall — is a new center that aims to help University faculty, students and staff of all disciplines conduct research on social questions.

"Our Center strives to improve the quality and efficiency of social research at Notre Dame," CSR director Christian Smith said. "As a

University-wide resource, the CSR supports all faculty, students and staff who conduct social research across the schools, colleges and academic disciplines."

According to Smith, a group of Notre Dame faculty and students saw many other top research universities already have social research programs in place.

They created a proposal and brought it to the Strategic Academic Planning

see CENTER/page 8

Lecture discusses relationships

By CARLY LANDON
News Writer

"There are a lot of complaints that there's not a lot of dating going on here at Notre Dame, yet we see a lot of undergraduates getting married. What's going on?" senior Nella McOskey said as she introduced "It's Complicated," — a presentation held Wednesday at Legends.

Questions such as why relationships on campus are so hard to find and maintain were examined as part of the Gender Relation Center's Signature Series and Theology

on Tap.

Three speakers offered relationship advice through personal anecdotes, published research on relationships and their own observations on healthy relationships.

Senior Laura Lauck, a psychology major, spoke about making a relationship on campus work. Tom Patterson, a graduate student, discussed making a relationship a vocation through marriage and Megan Brown, a University Counseling Center staff psychologist discussed the indicators of a successful relationship.

"The reality is that not

everyone is hooking up, not everyone is getting a ring by spring and some people are dating," Lauck said.

One audience member called Lauck the "success story of Notre Dame" and asked for her secret. She cited the importance of respect in any relationship.

"I want to emphasize the importance of balance in a relationship by showing how my significant other and I have exercised balancing in navigating our own relationship," Lauck said.

Patterson, an engaged grad-

see LECTURE/page 9

INSIDE COLUMN

End of absence

As we get closer and closer to the highly anticipated April 8 return of Tiger Woods to golf, the speculation of how smooth it will be continues to grow.

The start of the Masters will mark the end of his leave of absence from golf, a period of time that lasted nearly four months. If he has taken his mistakes and turned them into motivation on the golf course, then the Tiger Woods of old will make a reappearance.

Ever since November when this scandal broke, people have displayed emotions of shock, disappointment and anger over Woods' actions. With the exception of feelings of shock, all of these are quite understandable. But no one should be surprised by Tiger Woods' actions. Just because he is one of the world's top athletes does not mean he is a good person. Just because people thought he had a nice smile during Gatorade or Gillette commercials does not mean he is a good person.

The public had a severe case of the Kobe Bryant syndrome when it comes to Woods. Before the star Lakers guard was accused of sexual assault in 2003, the public assumed that he was as good of a person as he was a basketball player. No one considered the fact that the face of the NBA after Michael Jordan's retirement could be an adulterer or worse. Similar to Woods, people saw Bryant in commercials supporting the Ronald McDonald House of Charities and used that as the basis for their inflated perception of him.

Regardless of how many women Woods has been with, the public will forgive and forget the mistakes he has made in the past — as long as he wins. Once again parallels can be drawn between Bryant and Woods. After Bryant was acquitted, he continued to be a top performer in the NBA. Seven years after the allegations were made, few people remember Bryant's admitted adultery, alleged sexual assault or even the \$4 million ring he gave to his wife as an apology for his unfaithfulness.

The same will be true for Woods. If he returns to the PGA Tour and dominates the competition once again, people will soon forget his "transgressions." Woods' name will once again conjure images of him earning the Green Jacket for winning the Masters or his patented fist pump.

People can argue about what this says about our society, but in the end there is one clear truth: winning cures everything.



Andrew Owens
Sports Wire Editor

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU WERE A SUPERHERO, WHAT POWERS WOULD YOU HAVE?



Alex Meyer
freshman Walsh

"Super strength."



Allison Wettstein
freshman Lewis

"The ability to change DuLac."



Molly Millet
freshman Lyons

"I'd be able to fly and be invisible."



Ryan Anderson
freshman Duncan

"Definitely tele-
portation."



Sydney Speltz
freshman Lewis

"The ability to change water into wine."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com



GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Students participate at the Native American Student Association Art Battle Wednesday. The contest was held in the Dooley Room of LaFortune. Artwork created at the event will be displayed in the LaFortune Sorin Room today.

OFFBEAT

Man sentenced to 15 years for breaking into prison

VIERA, Fla. — A Florida man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for violating his probation by trying to break into the Brevard County jail.

A judged sentenced 25-year-old Sylvester Jiles of Cocoa on Monday. He was convicted in January of trespassing on jail property and resisting an officer.

Authorities say Jiles tried to climb a 12-foot fence at the Brevard County Detention Center in August. He was caught and hospitalized with severe cuts from the barbed wire. He

had been released a week earlier after accepting a plea deal on a manslaughter charge.

Jiles had begged jail officials to take him back into custody, saying he feared retaliation from the victim's family. Jail officials said they couldn't take him in and told him to file a police report.

Teacher arrested for allegedly teaching while intoxicated

THERMAL, Calif. — A Southern California school teacher has been arrested for allegedly teaching while drunk.

Toro Canyon Middle

School teacher Tonya Neff was taken to the Indio jail Tuesday afternoon and booked for investigation of felony child endangerment.

Administrators at Thermal's Toro Canyon Middle School told the Riverside County Sheriff's Department that the 47-year-old teacher was apparently intoxicated on campus.

Sheriff's Sgt. Mike Tapp says Neff had taken prescription drugs and alcohol and an alcoholic beverage was found inside a container.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A lecture titled "The Palace of Justice: A Colombian Tragedy" will be held at 12:30 p.m. today in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

"Unsteady Flow and Flow Control in Turbomachinery Applications" will begin at 3:30 p.m. today. The seminar will be held in 126 DeBartolo Hall.

"Tornadogenesis" will be held at 4 p.m. today in 184 Nieuwland Science Hall.

A lecture titled "Ancient Slavery and 19th-Century Abolition" will be held at 5 p.m. today. The location of the lecture is TBA.

"Food From Around the World: International Potluck Dinner" will be held at 6 p.m. today in the Wilson Commons.

A panel discussion titled "Yin Yu Tang: A Chinese Home Restoration Project" will begin 6:30 p.m. today. The discussion will be held in the Annenberg Auditorim in the Snite Museum of Art.

Immigration Monologues will be held at 6:30 p.m. today in Vander Venet Theatre at Saint Mary's College.

"Reconstructing Michael Jackson's Image: Exploration of Body, Spirit and Society" will be held at 7 p.m. today. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. today in the Eck Visitor's Center Auditorium.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 47 LOW 23	HIGH 33 LOW 24	HIGH 44 LOW 27	HIGH 56 LOW 39	HIGH 55 LOW 39	HIGH 49 LOW 36

Atlanta 66 / 50 Boston 58 / 42 Chicago 44 / 26 Denver 48 / 36 Houston 68 / 48 Los Angeles 63 / 50 Minneapolis 43 / 24 New York 60 / 46 Philadelphia 64 / 48 Phoenix 80 / 56 Seattle 53 / 43 St. Louis 52 / 30 Tampa 77 / 65 Washington 69 / 54

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

New advertising resolution passed

By MEGHAN PRICE
News Writer

Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) worked on finishing this academic year's issues at the second to last meeting before turnover on April 1.

"There is always the chance that next year's administration will throw out what we do," Megan Griffin, SGA vice president, said. "But, we can't let that stop us from making decisions and doing everything we can right up 'til the end."

As one of its final acts, the board passed a resolution concerning the advertisement of

SGA. Jennifer Hoffman, SGA president, brought the issue before the board. She said many people on Saint Mary's campus have no idea what SGA does.

Hoffman said the SGA sponsors a large number of the events that take place on the campus but are not recognized.

"Students wonder what their SGA board is doing for them," Hoffman said. "So we are passing this resolution that events sponsored by SGA have to state so."

Many board members said it was important for students to know what SGA has done for

them, so that they will know what it can do for them. The resolution declares any group receiving funds for an event from the board must say "Sponsored by Student Government Association" on all advertisements for the event.

The board also gave funding to two clubs during the meeting. It is sponsoring a political science event that will take place on April 7. The club will be showing the film "Frost/Nixon" concerning post Watergate issues and is open to all students.

SGA also sponsored an event hosted by Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Studies honor society.

Sophomore Cassie McDonagh, said the group is holding a conference aimed at studying and deconstructing the social norms of beauty.

A particular issue the conference will be dealing with is child prostitution. McDonagh said they will be showing a documentary film on the subject, called "Very Young Girls." The event will be open to the campus and public.

Next week's meeting will be the last of this administration, and the last chance for clubs to receive funding for this academic year, Hoffman said.

Contact Meghan Price at
mprice02@saintmarys.edu

"There is always the chance that next year's administration will throw out what we do. But we can't let that stop us from making decisions and doing everything we can right up 'til the end."

Megan Griffin
vice president
Student Government
Association

Mammograms offered on campus

St. Joseph Regional Medical Center's mobile unite to visit Saint Mary's

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Encouraging women to have their yearly mammogram performed, Saint Mary's College will offer the Mobile Mammogram Unit from St. Joseph Regional Medical Center.

The unit will be available to perform mammograms from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursday, Debby Kelly, director of Human Resources at the College, said.

The unit will be located in the parking lot between the Student Center and McCandless Hall.

"It's a unit that travels around in the local area, and they go to local businesses and they allow women to come there and get their annual mammograms," Kelly said. "What makes it really nice is it's really convenient for people who work here because they don't have to leave their job and travel to the doctor's office or the hospital to have the test. They can just walk right over to the unit."

Kelly said the unit resembles a tour bus but had the necessary equipment to perform mammograms.

According to Kelly, this is the second year the unit has visited campus, and the College plans to continue to offer this opportunity once per semester.

"I think we're going to plan to have them come twice a year, every year ... That way, you know usually

people are supposed to have their mammograms once a year, and that way they can just schedule and have them here," she said. "It's just really convenient."

A yearly mammogram is recommended for women ages 40 and up in order to be proactive about breast cancer, Kelly said.

"The mammogram, what it does is it analyzes the breasts of the women and the purpose is to detect breast cancer," Kelly said. "They're taking X-rays of your breast and they can detect cancer way in advance of when you might be able to feel it if you were doing a self-examination."

Kelly said although students are invited to make an appointment if they feel the need, mainly faculty and staff will utilize the unit.

"I think it's important for every woman who reaches age 40 [to start] getting them annually because like with any cancer if they detect it earlier, the odds of

being able to treat it and have the woman survive are much greater the earlier you catch it," she said.

According to Kelly, faculty and staff will only have a \$15 co-pay with the College's insurance plan. Kelly said students should inquire about pricing when making an appointment due to differences in medical insurance.

"There is a cost associated with it," Kelly said. "It's not something the College is paying for, but it would be covered by insurance, so if a student has health insurance and they are eligible and their insurance

provides for mammograms then they could certainly make an appointment."

Women interested in obtaining a mammogram on the mobile unit should call 574-247-5400 to schedule an appointment.

"Women really are encouraged to have the mammograms annually," Kelly said. "So if they're not able to take advantage of the mobile unit here, I still encourage them to get their mammograms."

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

"I think it's important for every woman who reaches age 40 [to start] getting them annually because like with any cancer if they detect it earlier, the odds of being able to treat it and have the woman survive are much greater the earlier you catch it."

Debby Kelly
Director
Human Resources

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Professors discuss water problems

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

Building infrastructure that is conducive to providing water and sanitation is crucial for living conditions of those in less developed nations, Notre Dame professors David Lodge and Molly Lipscomb said Wednesday.

Lodge, director of the Center for Aquatic Conservation, and Lipscomb, assistant professor of Economics and Econometrics, presented a lecture titled "Discussions on Development: It's the Water, Stupid," cosponsored by student government's Global Water Initiative and the Ford Family Program.

Lodge started off the lecture by discussing the link between what humans desire, and what nature produces for our use.

"In the end, humans are concerned about well being," he said. "All things that we need for human well being are in some way related to what nature provides. Ultimately, the value originates in nature."

Lodge said what humans need is interlinked in a complex web with the services provided by the ecosystem. These services are impacted by indirect drivers of change, such as globalization, trade and governance through direct drivers of change.

Of these ecosystem services, water is the most important. Ten percent is directed for domestic use, 20 percent to industrial use and 70 percent to irrigation.

According to Lodge, one of the main problems is domestic water is not only unsanitary, but sometimes it is not readily accessible.

"In many parts of the world, drinking water does not come from water treatment," he said. "Almost half of the earth does

not have drinking water near their dwelling."

Lodge also said while developed nations are privileged with sewage infrastructure, much of the rest of the world is not so lucky.

"For more than 30 percent of the world there is no sanitation or physical separation between human sewage and potential water supply," he said.

Lipscomb initiated her portion of the lecture by highlighting two of the United Nation's Millennium Development goals. One was to cut in half the number of people without access to clean water from 1990 to 2015, and the other was to do the same for sanitation.

"We're doing pretty well in the provision of access to clean water, but Asia and Africa are clearly lagging," Lipscomb said.

Lipscomb said more could be done in this area.

"If not accompanied by improved sanitation, the health impacts could be as bad as poor access to water," she said.

Lipscomb said sanitation is extremely important, as poor sanitation can result in not only contamination of surface water, but problems with roads and persistence of bacteria and pests.

While legislation and funding to improve water infrastructure has been easy to come by, the same for sanitation has been overlooked.

"It's hard politically to get sanitation funding," Lipscomb said. "It's easy to get water funding. The problem is they are interlinked."

The solution, she said, is going to involve a lot of organizations.

"You need to provide incentives for private investment in this public good," she said.

Contact Sam Stryker at
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"Almost half of the earth does not have drinking water near their dwelling."

David Lodge
director
Center for Aquatic
Conservation

STUDENT SENATE

Resolution set to aid Haitian students

By SCOTT ENGLERT
News Writer

Student Senate passed four resolutions during its meeting Wednesday night.

Rachel Roseberry, chair of the Committee on Social Concerns proposed a resolution to help encourage aid to Haiti at the University.

In light of the recent tragedy in Haiti, the resolution asked the University to admit students displaced by the earthquake.

Jeff Lakusta, chair of the Committee on University Affairs, said the resolution offers a way to aid those in need.

"Not only is it a unique way to help but it seeks to fulfill our Catholic mission," Lakusta said.

The resolution passed unanimously.

The next resolution, also passed unanimously, aimed to amend the student body con-

stitution.

While dealing primarily with technical parliamentary details, the resolution also proposed to add a workshop for incoming student government senators. The event is intended to smooth the transition for new senators.

Nick Ruof, chair of the Committee on Residence Life, proposed a third resolution on the organization of home football games.

Kevin Doyle, athletic liaison of the Committee on Athletic Affairs, said the resolution, passed unanimously, seeks to unify the undergraduate student body.

The final resolution — proposed by Shawnika Giger, chair of the Committee on Multicultural Affairs — passed unanimously.

Among its proposals, the resolution targets specific offices to increase diversity programs, calls for more

"Not only is it a unique way to help but it seeks to fulfill our Catholic mission."

Jeff Lakusta
chair
Committee on
University Affairs

resources for Multicultural Student Programs and Services and encourages admissions to "increase its focus on promoting minority enrollment and maintain

retention rates consistent with that of the racial majority students."

"We have identified specific offices ... to directly address these issues," student body president Grant Schmidt said.

Lewis Senator Cristi Yanker also supported the resolution, praising the importance of increasing diversity.

"So we can have diverse students and people coming up with great thoughts," Yanker said.

Contact Scott Englert at
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"We have identified specific offices ... to directly address these issues."

Grant Schmidt
student body
president

Lecture educates about trauma

By MEGHAN MANNING
News Writer

Many countries embroiled in conflict are not equipped to deal with victims of trauma, a mental health specialist said Wednesday in a lecture at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

Judith Bass, assistant professor at the Department of Mental Health at John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health educated students, faculty and researchers on modern methods of responding to trauma in conflict societies.

Bass has investigated trauma

in Uganda, Cambodia, Iraq and Brazil.

"Four hundred fifty million people worldwide are affected by mental, neurological and behavioral problems, [yet] over 90 percent of countries do not have the proper systems to handle them," Bass said.

She examined the complexities involved in identifying trauma and in implementing the proper solutions to assist its victims.

"Mental health of citizens fundamentally impacts all aspects of society, such as economic stability and peace-building, but is often ignored in high-conflict environments,"

she said.

Bass said the key to understanding trauma is recognizing that it is "not a single event, but rather a constellation of symptoms that individuals have been exposed to."

Her presentation highlighted an array of modern methods to evaluate mental health, and she also discussed considering the socialization of violence, where children soldiers are both experiencing and perpetuating systems of abuse.

Junior Caitlin Aguiar, who has participated on mission trips to the Dominican Republic and Kenya, was one of several student attendees at the event.

"I was really interested in how she stressed the need to do research in areas before applying social and therapeutic systems," she said. "It seemed that her efforts really understood the importance of this in order to use resources in the most effective manner."

In the question and answer session following the event, Bass responded to an inquiry on how her team's research is being implemented to help victims.

"We are trying to identify what works in association with humanitarian organizations, and critique what doesn't in order to improve those systems," Bass said.

Bass told The Observer after the event that she hopes her investigations will ultimately prove two things: "that it is possible to do good research in high-conflict areas, and that not every method works for every problem."

She said theoretical investigations can be applied toward peace-building, and a more effective promotion of healing can occur for victims of trauma.

Contact Meghan Manning at
mmanning3@nd.edu

The US premiere of

Monseñor, the Last Journey of Óscar Romero

Thursday, March 25th

8 pm, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Browning Cinema

Romero Days

Ticket information: performingarts.nd.edu

For more details about the 2010 Romero events, visit: kellogg.nd.edu/romero

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bay of Bengal island submerged

NEW DELHI — For nearly 30 years, India and Bangladesh have argued over control of a tiny rock island in the Bay of Bengal. Now rising sea levels have resolved the dispute for them: the island's gone.

New Moore Island in the Sunderbans has been completely submerged, said oceanographer Sugata Hazra, a professor at Jadavpur University in Calcutta. Its disappearance has been confirmed by satellite imagery and sea patrols, he said.

"What these two countries could not achieve from years of talking, has been resolved by global warming," said Hazra.

Scientists at the School of Oceanographic Studies at the university have noted an alarming increase in the rate at which sea levels have risen over the past decade in the Bay of Bengal.

Russians plan to honor Stalin

MOSCOW — Posters of Josef Stalin may be put up in Moscow for the first time in decades as part of the May 9 observance of Victory Day — the annual celebration of the defeat of Nazi Germany.

This year, the 65th anniversary of Germany's defeat, a contingent of U.S. troops is expected to march on Red Square, a striking sign of vaunted "reset" of American-Russian relations.

But Moscow city authorities may be preparing a less-welcome kind of reset with the posters, an honor denied since the Soviet dictator's crimes were publicly exposed more than half-a-century ago.

NATIONAL NEWS

Monkey continues to avoid capture

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — In the hours after a monkey on the lam fell into a woman's pool and then swiped some fruit from her backyard tree, fans of the wily primate cheered it for avoiding capture.

"It's something that you can kind of cheer for," said Amy Ellis, a Pasco County employee who has become a fan of the monkey on Facebook. "Every day there's so much bad news. He's kind of like a little hero."

The rhesus macaque monkey has avoided capture for nearly a year. Authorities don't know where the animal came from, but some believe it could have gotten separated from a troupe of wild monkeys in an Ocala-area state park, some 118 miles north of St. Petersburg. Another possibility: the animal could have escaped from an owner who doesn't have a permit and is therefore not registered with authorities.

Federal test scores improve slightly

Reading scores for fourth and eighth grade students held mostly steady last year, continuing a stubborn trend of minimal improvement across most racial, economic and geographic groups.

Scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, a series of federally funded achievement tests, rose in two states and the District of Columbia in grade four and in nine states for grade eight in 2009. Overall, the fourth-grade average remained unchanged while eighth graders rose one point.

The average score for both grades was only four points higher than it was in 1992.

LOCAL NEWS

Utilities fight tree-trimming practices

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's main electric companies say no major changes are needed to the regulations that oversee their tree-trimming practices despite numerous complaints from property owners.

The utilities argued in a filing with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission that they have carried out tree trimming according to industry standards to keep power lines clear of tree limbs. The filing comes after the commission held several public hearings around the state last year following complaints about drastic tree cutting to keep limbs away from power lines.

Inmate hopes for exoneration

Condemned Texas man facing death penalty seeks reprieve for DNA testing

Associated Press

LIVINGSTON, Texas — Texas death row inmate Hank Skinner doesn't deny he was in the house where his girlfriend was fatally bludgeoned and her two adult sons stabbed to death in 1993, but he insists that DNA testing could exonerate him.

Skinner, scheduled to die Wednesday in Huntsville for the New Year's Eve triple slaying more than 16 years ago, visited with his French-born wife as he waited for the U.S. Supreme Court or Texas Gov. Rick Perry to decide whether to stop his execution.

He and his attorneys contend his lethal injection should be halted for DNA testing on evidence from the crime scene in the Texas Panhandle town of Pampa. Results of those tests could support his innocence claims, they said.

"It's real scary," Skinner, 47, said recently from death row. "I've had dreams about being injected."

"I didn't commit this crime and I should be exonerated."

The former oil field and construction worker contended a toxic combination of vodka and codeine left him incapacitated and he had neither the mental capacity nor physical strength to kill his girlfriend, Twila Jean Busby, 40, and her two adult sons, Elwin "Scooter" Caler, 22, and Randy Busby, 20.

Prosecutors have argued that Skinner isn't entitled to testing of evidence that wasn't tested before his 1995 trial. Courts over the years since his conviction have rejected similar appeals.

Texas is the nation's most active capital punishment state and a target for death penalty opponents. The state executed 24 prisoners last year and Skinner's would be the



AP

Inmate Hank Skinner makes a call in his visiting cage at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Polunsky Unit.

fifth this year.

Criticism escalated in the past year amid questions about evidence that led to the 2004 execution of convicted arson-murderer Cameron Todd Willingham. Prosecutors insist evidence in that case was solid. But an arson expert concluded the investigation was so flawed its finding the fire was set deliberately could not be supported. And when the Texas Forensic Science Commission was to take up the expert's report, Perry — under whom 212 Texas inmates have been executed — replaced most members of the panel.

Among evidence presented to jurors in Skinner's case was the blood from two victims on his clothing. His bloody handprints also

were found in the bedroom of Busby's slain sons and on a door leading out the back of the house. Prosecutors also suggested Skinner, who had a serious hand wound, cut his hand when a knife slipped during one of the murders. Skinner said he cut it on broken glass.

Police were summoned when the mortally wounded Caler appeared on the front porch of a neighbor's home. The bodies of his mother and half brother then were discovered in their home. Officers followed a blood trail four blocks to a trailer home of a female friend of Skinner. He was in a closet.

Skinner and his lawyers said the actual killer could have been Twila Busby's

uncle, Robert Donnell, who died in 1997. Donnell, described in court documents as a "hot-tempered ex-con" known for getting more violent when he drank, attended the same New Year's Eve party Busby attended. Skinner couldn't go because he was passed out.

"Take the time necessary to be scientifically certain of Mr. Skinner's guilt before permitting him to be executed," Skinner's attorneys, led by University of Texas law professor Rob Owen, urged the governor.

To the Supreme Court, they argued there were "troubling, unresolved questions about whether Mr. Skinner could have committed the murders."

Military to scrutinize firing of gay members

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates is going to make it tougher for service members to get fired for being gay by insisting that each case be scrutinized by more senior-ranking officers.

The plan, to be announced Thursday, is considered a stopgap measure by the Obama administration until Congress decides whether to repeal the 1993 law, which bans openly gay service.

Under the new guidelines, firings of enlisted personnel who violate the ban must be approved by officers who hold a rank equivalent to a one-star general or above. Testimony provided by third parties also should be

given under oath, the plan says.

The details were described by U.S. military and defense officials who agreed to speak on condition of anonymity because no announcement had not been made.

The officials said the goal was to ensure that the existing law was applied fairly and consistently across the military. The plan also is aimed at eliminating flimsy testimony supplied by third parties.

Gates has said he wanted to find ways to implement the existing law more "humanely" and eliminate cases in which gay service members are outed by someone carrying a grudge.

In the meantime, Gates has ordered an internal assessment on how the Pentagon could lift the ban without

damaging morale or hurting recruitment. That study is due Dec. 1.

Gay rights groups say the move is a step in the right direction but that Congress must still act to lift the ban.

"At the end of the day, service members would still be leaving the services under 'don't ask, don't tell' every day, so what we need is repeal," said Aubrey Sarvis, executive director, Servicemembers Legal Defense Fund.

President Barack Obama has said the ban unfairly punishes gays and has called on Congress to lift the ban. Gates agrees but says he wants to move slowly and has ordered the lengthy assessment to ensure a repeal of the ban won't negatively impact troops or their families.



The University Counseling Center CONGRATULATES



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MARKET RECAP

Stocks				
Dow Jones	10,836.15	-52.68		
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:	
1,231	140	2,584	1,035,825,421	

AMEX	1,875.44	-20.66
NASDAQ	2,398.76	-16.48
NYSE	7,408.16	-70.60
S&P 500	1,167.72	-6.45
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,848.66	+33.63
FTSE 100 (London)	5,677.88	+4.25

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC. (C)	+0.48	+0.02	4.15
BANK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+2.57	+0.44	17.57
STANDARD & POOR'S (SPY)	-0.49	-0.57	116.84
SPRINT NEXTEL CORP (S)	+2.87	+0.11	3.94

Treasures			
10-YEAR NOTE	+4.05	+1.49	3.83
13-WEEK BILL	+3.85	+0.05	0.135
30-YEAR BOND	+2.68	+1.23	4.72
5-YEAR NOTE	+6.55	+1.58	2.57

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.30	80.61
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-14.90	1,088.6
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.95	96.45

Exchange Rates	
YEN	91.8150
EURO	1.3335
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0242
BRITISH POUND	1.4901

IN BRIEF

Citigroup to pay for unreported loans

WASHINGTON — The consumer lending arm of Citigroup Inc. will pay \$1.25 million for failing to report to federal regulators on more than 90,000 mortgage loans that it made.

CitiFinancial agreed to the penalty in a settlement with 35 state mortgage regulators announced Wednesday by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators.

The agreement followed an examination by the Massachusetts Division of Banks on CitiFinancial's compliance with state and federal consumer laws. That examination found the bank had failed to report 91,127 residential mortgage loans originated between 2004 and 2007.

The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act requires all mortgages be reported. These reports are used to ensure compliance with fair lending laws and regulations.

The failure to report the loans was caused by an internal error that arose after systems adjustments made following changes to the law in 2004, Citi said. In a statement, Citi said the error was unintentional, and no customers were harmed.

Kmart settles age discrimination suit

HONOLULU — The federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission says Kmart Corp. has settled an age discrimination lawsuit involving a 70-year-old pharmacist at a Honolulu store.

The EEOC said Wednesday that Kmart will pay \$120,000 and furnish other relief to settle the suit filed last year in federal court.

The suit said the woman was subjected to harassment and humiliation, as well as retaliation when she complained. She eventually resigned.

The lawsuit claimed a pharmacy manager at the chain's North Nimitz Highway store subjected the woman to age-based insults. It said the manager told the woman she was "too old to work" and she should retire.

In settling the suit, Kmart also agreed to hire an equal employment opportunity trainer.

CHINA

Google continues to lose favor

Internet giant's decision to move headquarters offshore upsets government

Associated Press

BEIJING — Google Inc.'s business ties in China unraveled a little more Wednesday amid a widening backlash to the U.S. Internet company's decision to move its Chinese search engine offshore in a challenge to the country's online censorship laws.

While the stand is winning Google praise in the U.S. and other countries, it's threatening to turn the company into a pariah in China.

A high-profile Communist Party newspaper skewered Google in a front-page story. And more of its partners and advertising customers in the country appeared to be distancing themselves from the company.

Google, based in Mountain View, Calif., still hopes to expand its non-search operations in China, but its refusal to play by the government's censorship rules could make that unrealistic.

By challenging the often tetchy government, Google appears to have violated an unspoken rule of doing business in China, especially in the Internet industry — whose control Beijing sees as crucial to maintaining its authoritarian rule.

"Everybody in the Internet space operates under the good graces of the government, and if the government's not happy with your partner, you probably are going to have to change," said T.R. Harrington, founder and CEO of Shanghai-based Darwin Marketing, which specializes in advertising for China's search engine market.

Investors already seemed to have concluded that Google won't be bringing in as much revenue as they once anticipated. And Google's losses could turn into a windfall for China-based Baidu Inc., which already held a



A bouquet of flowers sits on the logo of Google China's headquarters, which the company plans to move offshore in order to avoid the Internet censorship of China's government.

commanding lead in the country's search market.

Google shares gained \$8.33 Wednesday to close at \$557.33, but they have fallen by more than \$30, or nearly 6 percent, since the company's Jan. 12 announcement about its intention to stop censoring search results in China. About \$10.5 billion of Google's market value has evaporated in the decline.

Meanwhile, Baidu's U.S. shares have climbed 57 percent during the same period, closing Wednesday at \$608.50, up \$13.62. The surge has added nearly \$8 billion to Baidu's market value.

Setting up a search engine on Chinese soil four years ago helped Google build new business rela-

tionships. But those alliance have started to fracture since Monday, when Google started to redirect search traffic from mainland China to an uncensored Hong Kong service on Monday. Though part of China, Hong Kong has a semiautonomous status due to its history as a British colony, and Google is not legally required to censor results there.

Tianya.cn, a popular portal that claims 32 million registered users, said it was taking full control over social networking and question-and-answer services operated jointly with Google. A company spokesman declined to say whether the government exerted pressure but said

in a statement that the takeover was being done to "guarantee each product, normal business and good operations."

Google officials in the U.S. didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Industry executives said that Google's China revenues were diving as companies shied away from placing new ads with the search engine. Deals with China's top two mobile companies were also in doubt.

In Hong Kong, executives with China Unicom Ltd., a unit of one of China's biggest mobile phone companies, hinted that it would shelve plans to offer two cell phones running Google's Android software.

Housing market still at risk of collapse

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The recovery in the housing market is at risk of collapsing.

Home sales are sliding, prices are stalling and foreclosures are rising. And mortgage rates are likely to go up after next week, when the Federal Reserve ends a program that has driven them down.

The trend could threaten the broader economy, economists warn. People whose home equity is stagnant or shrinking are less likely to spend freely.

In a move that will help at least some homeowners avoid foreclosure, Bank of America unveiled a \$3 billion

plan Wednesday to help some of its most troubled borrowers. It said it will forgive up to 30 percent of their total mortgage balance. About 45,000 borrowers are expected to qualify, the bank said.

The plan is part of an agreement the bank reached in 2008 with state attorneys general involving high-risk loans made by Countrywide Financial Corp. before Bank of America acquired it.

Still, it's the first time a lender has announced a broad plan to reduce mortgage principal when home values drop well below the amount owed. Bank of America collects more Americans' home loan payments than any other company.

Only a few months ago, the housing

market had been showing signs of strength as it recovered from the most painful downturn in decades. Much of the improvement, though, came from government programs that held down mortgage rates and provided tax breaks for buyers. Since the fall, sales have sunk. And the government support is running out.

The latest sour news came Wednesday, when the Commerce Department said sales of new homes fell last month to their lowest point on record. It was the fourth straight drop.

"While bad weather could well have suppressed the February result, it was dismal no matter how one tries to slice and dice it," wrote Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist at MFR Inc.

Jobs

continued from page 1

Huddle Saturday and Sunday.

"It's nice, but working behind the cash register is really repetitive," she said. "At the same time, you get a lot of customer interaction, and some of my friends come by to visit."

LaBella said generally the most desired place to work in LaFortune is Starbucks. He said many student baristas put their work experience from Notre Dame on their résumés, and then get jobs at Starbucks near their homes in the summer.

Legends of Notre Dame also offers a wide variety of employment opportunities at both the night club and the restaurant, including positions like market-

ing assistant, club staff, waiter/waitress, graphic designer and Disc Jockey.

General Manager Aaron Perri said about 100 students work for Legends.

The Legends hiring process for the upcoming school year begins in April. Perri said Legends likes to hire students for a yearlong basis, not by semester.

"I like to say Legends is one of the best jobs on campus," Perri said. "You're in an upbeat environment, a highly social atmosphere with some of the best entertainment in the country. You're getting paid to be here, and sometimes you get to meet the performers or be close to them."

Legends abides by the University's standard pay rate, with an increase each year the

student works there.

Senior Christopher Tulisak is a Marketing Assistant on Legends' Marketing Team. He helps create promotional campaigns for each weekend's shows and events.

"There are a lot of different angles from which you can [tackle the promotion] at," Tulisak said. "It's very rewarding to see a bunch of people come to a show that you promoted."

Operations Manager of Reckers Mike Miller said the eatery is a fun place to work because of the social interactions both with fellow workers and with customers.

"Reckers is fast-paced, especially late at night," Miller said. "Once students are confident with their skills, they can have more fun with the job. Some

places on campus you're a lot more removed behind the lines, you don't have that contact."

Students generally work four or more hours per week, but there is no set minimum, Miller said. However student managers must work a minimum of 10 to 11 hours per week. "The starting pay is \$7.40," Miller said. "What happens is every year there's a determination of what pay increases are available."

The Phone Center is another opportunity for students to earn a little money.

"Starting pay for callers is \$8 an hour," Laura Fischer, assistant director of the Annual Fund, said. "Callers are able to get a merit-based raise each semester, but that is not guaranteed."

At least four hours each week

is required to work at the Phone Center, but many students work more often than that.

Student-run organizations on campus include Irish Gardens, the campus flower shop located in the basement of LaFortune, Alumni Hall's Dawg Pizza, and Siegfried Hall's Pizzeria Siegfried.

Sophomore Pete Elliott works in Pizzeria Siegfried on Monday nights. His responsibilities include making pizzas, coordinating deliveries and maintaining the overall cleanliness of the facility.

"I love the job. I get to see a lot of people and they treat you well because they don't want to mess with their pizza," he said.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

Tonk

continued from page 1

"Heather is really passionate about sustainability," Office of Sustainability Education and Outreach coordinator Rachel Novick said. "She has proven through her other positions at the University that she is very effective at consensus building and getting things done on the ground."

The Office of Sustainability is a relatively new office for the University, and part of her position as its director will involve determining exactly what the department will mean for Notre Dame, Tonk said.

"There is tremendous interest in sustainable initiatives across the campus from faculty and staff as well as from students and alumni," Novick said. "Our biggest challenge

is harnessing that enthusiasm from such a large and diverse constituency."

Student involvement is a major contributor to the work of the Office of Sustainability.

"We are continuing to refine how we communicate with students, how we involve them and how we really do our best to make sustainability as relevant and as much a part of the fabric of Notre Dame life as possible," Novick said.

The office employs student interns and integrates student environmental clubs in many of its projects, Tonk said.

"One of the things I am personally more excited about is that the Office works strongly with the students," Tonk said. "I am really looking forward to hearing new ideas and what they want for the University that they love."

Novick also cited the particular need to work closely with the Department of Utilities to

improve the buildings on campus and construct the University's energy plan.

Director of Utilities Paul Kempf called the relationship between his department and the Office of Sustainability a "good partnership," and he said Tonk is "a great hire for that position."

"I see them as taking a leadership role for all things sustainable for the University," Kempf said. "And energy is a major part of that. We appreciate that they can take that leadership role and let our group take a technical role."

Novick said some other goals for the Office are enhancing its relationship with the sustainability commissioners in residence halls and continuing building a relationship with student government.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Center

continued from page 1

Committee. Seeing the value in providing this crucial research infrastructure, the Committee approved the proposal and the Center for Social Research began.

"Faculty and students use a host of tools to gather and analyze the data on which they build their social research projects," Smith said.

"The Center for Social Research was founded with these scholars and their research needs in mind. Its expert staff can assist with the entire process, from research design to datasets acquisition and management, statistical problem solving, and grant budget administration."

The Center assists research projects throughout their life cycle — from the grant proposal to final publication. It offers four core services to faculty and students: statistical consulting, survey research, data management and grant administration.

"We want to be a resource of first resort for all social researchers," CSR associate director Kate Mueller said. "If your inquiry is something we can't handle, we will do our best to refer you to other

resources within or external to the University."

Smith spoke on his goals for the Center in its first year at the University, listing assisting researchers as his top goal.

"My main goal for the year is for the CSR to increasingly partner with additional faculty, students and staff to support their research," Smith said. "Sometimes, social researchers need help with research design, statistical analysis, survey implementation or other Research that require particular expertise or attention."

Michael Clark, the CSR Statistical Consultant, offered an "Introduction to R" course. Wednesday night. This is a short non-credit course

designed to aid faculty and students in learning to use the various statistical computing programs that the Center offers. It will be held again April 15.

In the future, the CSR plans to grow its resources for students.

"Over time, we plan to expand the spectrum of non-credit short courses offered. We are also in the process of hiring even more staff with different sets of expertise, such as survey research design," Smith said.

Contact Carly Landon at clandon1@nd.edu

"If your inquiry is something we can't handle, we will do our best to refer you to other resources within or external to the University."

Kate Mueller
associate director
Center for Social Research



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Upcoming Shows

<p>Sunday, April 11 Cheech and Chong "Get It Legal" Comedy</p> <p>Monday, April 19 Author David Sedaris Best-Selling Author</p> <p>Friday-Saturday April 23-24 Avenue Q Tony® Award Winner! For Mature Audiences</p>	<p>Saturday, May 1 South Bend Symphony "Grand Finale" James Tocco, Piano</p> <p>Sunday, May 2 Late Nite Catechism at Palais Royale</p> <p>Tuesday, May 11 Goo Goo Dolls Alternative Rock Con-</p>
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HEI

continued from page 1

needed permission,” Chapman said. “The report was filed and forwarded to ORLH, as we always do. The flyers were confiscated.”

As a result of the incident, the students were disciplined by ORLH and are awaiting the University’s decision regarding their punishment, Sanchez and Furman said.

“We understand that as a private institution, Notre Dame can do whatever they want, basically,” Furman said. “But our question is, is that really in line with the kind of learning experience they want students to have here, with having freedom of expression so restricted? The lack of freedom of expression on this campus is unreasonable.”

The incident inspired several alumni to write a Letter to the Editor in the March 18 edition of The Observer.

John Lavelle, of the Class of 1987, who was one of the authors of the letter, said the

University should not apply its policies to discourage student expression.

“My perspective as a lawyer and a graduated alumni is that there ought to be a space at Notre Dame to express these views,” Lavelle said. “The University shouldn’t be cracking down on students who express views just because they take a position that might be embarrassing to [the University].”

Lavelle also questioned whether the policy requiring permission was universally enforced.

“I think that you would look at the way this policy is kind of selectively enforced or creates the opportunity for selective enforcement, where the University is simply exercising it in a way to prohibit expressive conduct,” Lavelle said.

Chapman said the only reason the policy would not be enforced is if NDSP was not notified of a demonstration.

“If we were not called about it or we don’t know what’s going on, then we can’t do anything about it,” he said.

The concerned students are currently persisting in their

mission to promote awareness about the University’s investment in HEI by wearing orange jumpsuits to classes this week.

Issue behind disciplinary action

HEI is an investment firm that acquires, develops and operates hotels under well-known names such as Marriott, Sheraton and Hilton. The company has more than 5,000 employees, Chief Investment Officer Scott Malpass said.

Notre Dame’s real estate portfolio is invested in many properties, such as office, retail, residential and hotels, which includes HEI. The University assesses every firm it invests in and their commitment to social responsibility, he said.

“They are very good. They are a very good company. Their reputation in the industry is fabulous,” Malpass said.

Sanchez said he and other students are protesting against the University’s investment in HEI because the company does not align with Catholic Social Teaching, which calls for workers’ rights and the right to unionize.

Malpass said HEI is not “anti-

union” in any way, and currently owns hotels that have unions.

“The union has come to campus and fed the students all kinds of information that isn’t true about HEI,” he said. “Our students think that HEI is a terrible place, that they are abusing their employees. We are not against unions. HEI runs union hotels.”

Malpass also said HEI had a third party survey their employees’ job satisfaction. The industry average score is 75 percent satisfied, while HEI scored in the 80 to 90 percent range, he said.

“I have spoken to ... employees, including general managers of the hotels, wait staff, housekeeping staff and front desk personnel,” Malpass said. “They were all complimentary of the company.”

In the past, the labor union UNITE HERE has targeted HEI for allegedly disallowing employees to join a union. UNITE HERE has filed multiple allegations against HEI, but none have proven, Malpass said.

“The filing of multiple allegations is a typical practice from UNITE HERE and HEI is one of many companies the union has

unfairly targeted,” Malpass said. “To date, there have been no findings by any court, government agency or arbitrator against any of HEI’s hotels.”

Malpass said he encourages students to pursue their mission in other areas.

“I applaud our students’ interest in the issues and concern for workers and workers’ rights to organize,” he said. “I continue to support efforts to raise awareness about unfair labor practices in general, but we have done a thorough review [of HEI] and it is clear that issue is simply the union.”

“UNITE HERE has got to our students and convinced them the HEI is a bad company even though the evidence doesn’t support that at all,” he said.

The bottom line — according to Sanchez — lies in Catholic Social Teaching.

“[Malpass] is going to say we’re biased and we’re going to say he’s biased, but the bottom line is Catholic Social Teaching says we should be biased to the worker,” Sanchez said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Lecture

continued from page 1

uate student at Notre Dame, discussed the choice to get married and highlighted the vocation of all human beings to love.

“Think about when we say, ‘You’re the one,’” Patterson said. “I think that is wrong

because there is not just one person in the world to love us. God is the source of all love so we want to hold that unique place for God. Thus the goal for us in our relationship should be how to participate in God’s love in a special way.”

Both Patterson and Brown stressed humility as a necessary characteristic of a working relationship.

“I think that part of that freedom in bringing God into a relationship is having that sense that I’m just a person, I don’t have all the answers,” Patterson said, “There is that humility piece that we have to have.”

Brown offered factors of good relationships and bad relationships based on research done on couples over the past 48 years.

“How we speak to each other, how we treat each other is important in relationships,” Brown said, “Rolling of the eyes or putting somebody down is poison to relationships. If somebody is doing this, they have got to go. It is unhealthy and it is not right.”

There are seven keys to making marriage work, according to Brown. She stressed factors such as

friendship, connecting every day, having a positive attitude and recognizing that some problems cannot be solved and need to be managed.

“It is difficult to walk away from a relationship that isn’t bringing us closer to God, but it’s something we all need to be able to do,” Patterson said.

Contact Carly Landon clandon1@nd.edu



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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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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Go three for three

Years ago, an advertising campaign hoping to bring people back to Mass featured billboards and other marketing tools asking the question, "Can't you spare an hour a week after all Jesus has done for you?" The signs more or less meant to guilt those who saw them into getting back into church on Sundays, assuming that the reader, overwhelmed with sudden appreciation for Jesus' willingness to die for him or her, would promptly find a place of worship to attend weekly, thereby somehow evening the score with Jesus. I suppose the signs were just meant as a starting point, a way of getting folks in the door who hadn't been regulars for a while, but I always wondered about the implied "lowest common denominator" aspect of the message. So after spending an hour a week at Mass, you'd be "square" with God? "OK, Jesus," I imagined a billboard-reading-Mass-attendee concluding, "Thanks so much for your sacrifice; I've taken care of my half of the deal. It's all good." Thankfully, that approach to encouraging fallen-away worshipers seems to have disappeared.

Well, this year I'm going to recommend — though not through guilt tactics — that beginning this weekend you go to church for more than one hour, but for much more. You won't be able to even the score with God — sorry about that — but you'll have an amazing opportunity to come face to face with the reality of our salvation, and realize just how eternally powerful God's part of the deal remains.

This Sunday begins Holy Week with the celebration of Palm, or Passion, Sunday. The time period beginning one

week from tonight on Thursday night and lasting until Easter Sunday is known as the "Triduum," a word which simply means "The Three Days." The Three Days together make up the single most sacred, significant event of our Christian faith. And it is one event, which is why just showing up on Easter Sunday will mean that you've missed most of the celebration. In fact, if you participate in the worship of Thursday evening, Friday afternoon and Saturday night or Sunday morning, you will notice that these liturgies aren't really separate events, but one continuous prayer that takes us through the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection. We "leave off" in between, keeping vigil with Christ until the next opportunity to come together to pray.

You won't find chocolate eggs or Peeps to help you celebrate the first two days. Holy Thursday and Good Friday have just never gotten off the ground commercially, but they remain celebrations nonetheless, expressing the unfathomable depths of Jesus' love in all its complexity.

Holy Thursday specifically focuses on celebrating the Last Supper on the night before Jesus died, just as we proclaim each Sunday at Mass. You'll notice, however, that rather than reading from one of the Gospel stories about Jesus sharing bread and wine with his disciples, we hear of Jesus' washing the disciples' feet. Jesus' love means humble service on this night, and he reminds us, "As I have done for you, you should also do."

Good Friday celebrates — yes, celebrates — Jesus' passion and death, his innocent suffering. The one who has already given his life completely over to others now dies a lonely, appalling and humiliating death, with a love we can barely comprehend even for those who

persecuted him; with a love reaching out to you and to me and to all time. Whenever we feel isolated, humiliated or overwhelmed with suffering, sorrow or the presence of death in our lives, we can turn in prayer to Jesus Christ.

As the Good Friday liturgy ends, it contains no hint of the joy to come. However, because we can't pretend that we're like Jesus' disciples and like his mother, who grieved, thinking Jesus' death ended the story, we keep the vigil of Friday night and Saturday knowing in our hearts of the Easter joy to come on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

The Easter Vigil on Saturday night proclaims the whole story of God's loving plan for our salvation, culminating in the words to the women at the tomb, "He is not here; he has been raised." On Easter Sunday, the readings underscore the beginnings of the disciples' transformation and indeed, that of the whole world, through Jesus' resurrection. Death and darkness can never overwhelm the newness of life we find in Christ.

At the Easter liturgies we baptize new Christians and renew our baptismal promises, recommitting ourselves to the humble service of Jesus, to placing all our suffering into the loving arms of Jesus and to sharing our new lives of resurrection joy with Jesus. But don't wait until Easter; begin this Holy Week on Passion Sunday and be sure you don't miss a moment of any of The Three Days.

This week's FaithPoint was written by Kate Barrett, director of the Emmaus program in Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

How is your NCAA Tournament bracket doing?

Northern Iowa killed it
I'm hanging in there
Very well — I know how to pick 'em
I might as well throw it away
I didn't fill out a bracket

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where 51 percent of the people may take away the rights of the other 49."

Thomas Jefferson
American statesman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A lack of opinions

I'm a little embarrassed to admit this, but sometimes, I eat lunch alone. Until recently, it's actually been quite pleasant. Today, though, when I sat at my tiny little table and opened up The Observer to my regular source of mealtime entertainment, I was devastated. "WHAT?" I said. "NO VIEWPOINT WAR?" What was I supposed to do? I sadly turned to my phone and began randomly texting my friends so that I did not appear to be a social outcast (amongst all of my fellow solo diners).

The Viewpoint war is No. 71 on Bob Kessler's fabulous blog, "Things Notre Dame Students Like," but frankly, it is something that this Notre Dame student LOVES. I occasionally find myself quoting my favorite letters to my friends, who never get my references because they are not Arts and Letters, and thus do not have the same massive amount of free time to read and re-read Letters to the Editor as I do. As repetitive and annoying as they seem on the surface, the importance that Notre Dame students place upon their obviously "correct" opinions never gets old, just like the fact that some writers think that they will actually convince readers to take their side. Highly exaggerated and/or irrelevant personal experience? Check. Tireless, contradictory references to Catholic doctrine? Check check.

Come on guys, The Observer is just not the same without you. Isn't there something worth arguing about? Alternative energy? The drinking age? Torture's always a good one. The more incendiary and outlandish, the better. Or really, anything at all. Just so I don't have to read the real news.

Jodie Sullivan
freshman
Pasquerilla East Hall
March 24

Christopher Hitchens is the next Obama

After the rampant outrage that resulted from President Barack Obama coming to campus last year, I'm surprised that no such protest has mounted against an even more egregious enemy to the University's mission — Christopher Hitchens. Among the things that Mr. Hitchens has said and stands for:

- ◆ Called Mother Theresa the "Ghoul of Calcutta" and wrote a book, quaintly titled "The Missionary Position," that sought to be an exposé of Mother Theresa's political opportunism.

- ◆ Is a self-proclaimed Marxist. Not like in the way that Obama is a Marxist, but like a Karl Marx Marxist.

- ◆ Considers himself not a mere atheist, but an anti-theist. He is the author of such books and articles as "God is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything" and "The Great Catholic Cover-Up: The pope's entire career has the stench of evil about it."

The difference between President Obama and Mr. Hitchens is not merely a difference in degree; it is a different in kind. Whereas President Obama happens to be a supporter of policies that run counter to church doctrine, Mr. Hitchens is openly and vehemently antagonistic toward the institution of the

Church as a whole. The God Debate is supposed to be exactly that, an open and fair debate. If, using the power of relativistic logic, Mr. Hitchens were to overwhelm his theist opponent Mr. D'Souza, could the vehement Mr. Hitchens possibly be allowed to win; though, I suggest we bring an assortment of mirrors and shiny objects to the event so that we can distract Mr. Hitchens with reflected light in order to prevent this outcome, just in case the debate gets out of hand. So the question we have to ask ourselves is this: At what cost to the Catholic integrity of our University do we advance our liberal education, or "illiberal" as D'Souza would call it, by inviting someone who is a vainly proud enemy of the Church? Is bringing someone who deals solely in antagonistic polemics really a responsible means to bring about intelligent and open discourse on the campus of America's most revered Catholic university?

Well, yes.

Sy Doan
junior
Stanford Hall
March 23

Students deserve preference

On Wednesday, I went to the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, eager to get my hands on a ticket to The God Debate. Tickets had become available at noon to Notre Dame students, faculty and staff, but I had class until 1:40 p.m. When I arrived around 1:50, I was disappointed to hear they had run out of presale tickets about 20 minutes earlier. They told me that I could purchase a ticket at a later date.

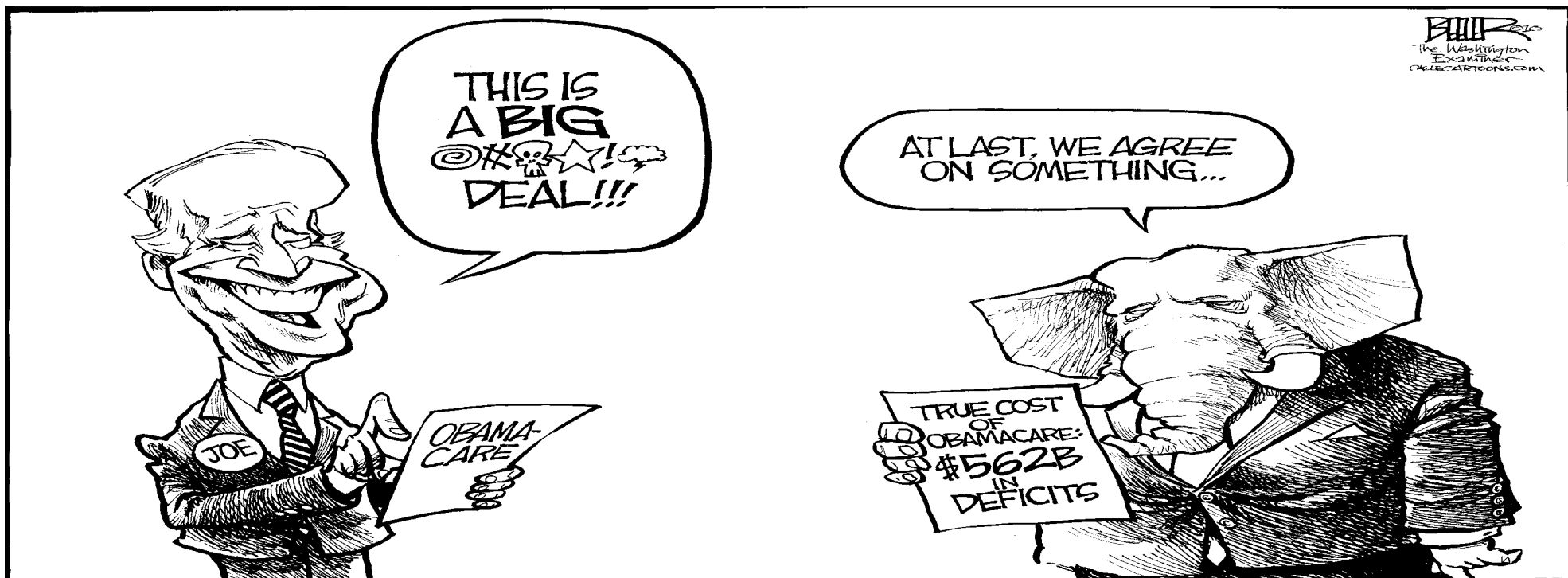
I think the University should be doing everything it

can to encourage students to attend these lectures. Therefore, I think only students should have been allowed to pick up tickets Wednesday. Distribution could have been opened up to faculty and staff Thursday. The timing was particularly unfavorable for students since many faculty members begin their lunch hour at noon, making it easier for them to get tickets before students got the chance. I would also like to know why some tickets are being held on reserve for

later purchase — why don't students get preference for these tickets? If Notre Dame wants to encourage intellectual engagement on campus, they should do more to promote student access to these tickets.

Jessica Hedrich
junior
Ryan Hall
March 24

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Do Spring right this year.
Be green.
Please recycle The Observer.



By CAITLIN FERRARO
Assistant Scene Editor

Lady Gaga is a controversial character who some might say has taken over the world. Her shocking statements, unbelievable fashions and innovative music are all responsible for her stardom. Gaga's latest work of art is the music video for her song "Telephone" featuring Beyoncé, which premiered March 11. As explained by Gaga, the video is a continuation of the "Paparazzi" video and features Gaga being bailed out of jail by Beyoncé.

In a radio interview with Ryan Seacrest, Gaga called the music video "a real true pop event." And an event it is. The costumes are outlandish and outrageous and the storyline is just out there. It can be classified as a short film of sorts as it is over nine minutes long and includes several scenes with dialogue. Gaga even said Quentin Tarantino films served as inspiration.

The video opens with a shot of the barbed wired fence of the prison featuring credits that reveal that Gaga wrote the video's concept with Swedish director Jonas Akerlund. Then there is the click of her heels as Gaga, donning a couture black and white dress, is led into the jail. Gaga is then harshly stripped and thrown into her cell.

The next scene cuts to the jail yard, where Gaga is led out in chains in another ridiculous — but fabulous — outfit. She is literally covered in chains and wear-

ing sunglasses made of cigarettes that are still smoking. Then, in a truly Gaga moment, another female inmate kisses her, adding another point to the shock value of the video.

Cut to another scene with the inmates strolling

about a cell. Who is that behind Gaga's right shoulder, bearing a striking resemblance to our leading lady? Why, that's Gaga's 17-year-old sister Natali Germanotta, who makes an appearance as another inmate. Suddenly a fight breaks out between some of the women as Gaga watches from the sidelines. Then the loudspeaker comes on overhead announcing, "Beyoncé on the line for Gaga." When Gaga picks up the payphone two minutes and 53 seconds into the video, the song finally starts! Notice the

'Telephone'

Director: Jonas Akerlund
Starring: Lady Gaga, Beyoncé, and Tyrese Gibson

("Queer Eye for the Straight Guy") reports on the nightly news about the mass homicide. The girls drive off into the sunset with the promise that the video is "To be continued..."

"Telephone" is incredibly unique. Granted it's wacky, but it's also fun and innovative. No one can



claim Lady Gaga is unoriginal. The video is fresh and creative, and makes the viewer want to sing and dance along with these two femme fatales.

The song itself is off "The Fame Monster" album and is her sixth consecutive No. 1 on the chart. Gaga's intention was to take a song that appears to be a shallow pop tune and make a meaningful video. So what is the meaning of the video? No one can say for sure. Perhaps, it's about trust. Or maybe it's about not backing down and doing what you want. (Unfortunately in this interpretation doing what you want includes murder). If it is the latter and Gaga's desire is a continual domination of the pop world, it's likely nothing will stop her.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at
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Weekend Events Calendar

thursday

25



Poker Night, Legends @ midnight

After the Best of Acousticafé Thursday night, Legends is hosting the third in a series of four poker nights this semester. Come out with your friends, enjoy some fierce competition and be sure to bring your poker face. There will be prizes for the winners and plenty of entertainment for everyone involved. This is a great way to wind down after a stressful week and you might even win a prize in the process. The games begin at midnight, so make sure you are there. If this Thursday doesn't work for you, be on the lookout for the final poker night at the beginning of April.

friday

26



"Up In The Air," DeBartolo 101 @ 8 and 10:30 p.m.

Ryan Bingham (George Clooney) is a traveling salesman of sorts, traveling around the country and laying off employees for companies that are too pathetic to do it themselves. Ryan has embraced his traveling lifestyle, spending more nights per year in hotels than in his dingy apartment in Omaha, Neb. Yet when new video technology threatens to make his job obsolete, Ryan is forced to reexamine his life and take stock of what is important. Along the way, he is forced to show newcomer Natalie Keener (Anna Kendrick) the ropes and develops a relationship with another frequent traveler Alex (Vera Farmiga).

saturday

27



Will Hoge, Legends @ 10 p.m.

Growing up in Nashville, Tenn., Will Hoge was greatly influenced by his father's and uncles' record collections. After attending Western Kentucky University briefly, Hoge decided that he wanted to become a musician. In the mid-90s, Hoge played with a band, Spoonful, but it broke up after failing to get a record deal. After touring and releasing a solo album by himself, Hoge was signed to Atlantic Records in 2002. His most recent album, "The Wreckage," was inspired by a serious scooter accident he suffered in August of 2008. He spent a year in physical therapy, inspiring him to write "The Wreckage."

sunday

28



Opening of BFA/MFA Theses Exhibition, Snite Museum @ 1 - 5 p.m.

The annual exhibition of work by senior and third-year graduate students from the art, art history and design departments will open this weekend. Showcasing the yearlong thesis projects which some art students choose to pursue in order to earn a bachelor or masters degree in fine art, the exhibit opening will feature a reception from 2 - 4 p.m. during which the departments will present awards. The exhibit is scheduled to run from March 28 until May 16 in the O'Shaughnessy Galleries of the Snite Museum, accessible through both the Snite Museum main entrance and O'Shaughnessy hall.

Contact Genna McCabe at gmccabe@nd.edu

By TATIANA SPRAGINS
Scene Writer

Pop music finds a new favorite artist every other month, as if "disposable" were a requirement for hit songs. Tracing back to pop culture, sometimes defined by the continuous need for renewal, it's interesting to look at pop music as a byproduct of this phenomenon. Suddenly, it all makes sense: the 15 minutes of fame, one hit wonders, complete change of style, music and personality for the sake of "revival," etc. That considered, I love pop music in the most superficial way possible — because that's what pop music requires: superficial and short lived adoration of superficial, disposable music. This is not to say that the superficial and temporary nature of our music culture is praiseworthy, but it is a consequence of its time.

There are, however, those artists that have managed to maintain a steady and successful career for years even in the least favorable industries. Madonna is the obvious one, and perhaps headed down a similar path is Beyoncé. Making sure to keep her personal life quiet and away from scandals, Beyoncé relies on her style and her talent to create both mass appealing hits (such

as my personal favorite, "Single Ladies") and her preferred R&B songs. After leaving Destiny's Child, Beyoncé went on to earn a total of 13 Grammys, and in 2008, she broke the record for most Grammys won by a female artist in one night (she won six).

On the other end of the pop music spectrum is Lady Gaga. After the party favorite "Just Dance," Lady Gaga has hit it off yet again with "Bad Romance." Her music isn't necessarily mind blowing, but it's catchy and danceable, fun and disposable. Perfectly pop. And to complete this musical style comes an artist unlike anyone we've really seen before, who makes even a walk in the park an outrageous fashion statement. Does anyone

even know what she really looks like?

Either way, both Gaga and Beyoncé have managed, each in

style into her music and videos. So what happens when these two stars unite? I expected a glorious pop collaboration, crazy, groundbreaking and magnificent. Their vastly different styles, although potentially disastrous, could also mean an epic mix of R&B with electro-pop. Almost as upsetting as "Me Against the Music" (Madonna and Britney), is "Video Phone" (Beyoncé ft. Lady Gaga) where we see Gaga completely stripped of her element in a highly Beyoncé-ified video, singing about making a film of questionable material on a cell phone. Not that lyrics have always been a forte of either Beyoncé or Lady Gaga, but this isn't just ordinarily redundant, it's a bit degrading. Opinions aside, it's just another



her own way, to get their names at the top of the list for today's favorite pop artists. Both have completely different styles and know how to incorporate this

pop song.

Alas! Lady Gaga and Beyoncé meet again. At first when I heard people talk about "Telephone," I thought they were talking about "Video Phone," because honestly, how much is there to say about phones? And, in my opinion, the result of this second encounter is much worse than the first. Perhaps this is because it emerged almost as a sequel to an already lame song, but then comes the video. Not only is the video outrageous, it has nothing to do with the song and it is just all-around upsetting. I'm all for superficial music if it makes a little bit of sense, if it's kind of clever, but "and I am sick and tired of my phone ringing, sometimes I feel like I live in Grand Central Station" is a little too empty minded for my taste.

Gaga and Beyoncé — it was a recipe for something remarkable. I hoped for remarkably awesome, but it was not meant to be and the outcome was nothing short of disappointing. Yet, once was not enough and the second time was even worse. I wonder if it was naïve of me to expect something good to come out of pop music in the first place, but who knows, maybe next time?

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NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Sweet 16 tips off tonight with four matchups

Cornell looks to topple Kentucky; Xavier meets K-State again; Huskies aim to stop WVU; Butler hopes to spoil ‘Cuse run

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Cornell has made itself the early tournament darlings of March. The Big Red win with seniors, goof off at news conferences, and have embraced every second of the sudden national spotlight. Kentucky plays richly talented teams in the SEC, is on national television as often as “30 Rock,” and counts the round of 16 as another step toward the national championship and not a reason to celebrate. Kentucky coach John Calipari has a roster dotted with potential one-and-done players. Cornell (29-4) might be a one-year wonder.

There is no more fascinating round of 16 matchup than top-seeded Kentucky (34-2) trying to end 12th-seeded Cornell’s NCAA tournament run on Thursday night in the East Regional semifinal. Or is it the other way around?

“I’m enough of a fan to understand why this is so intriguing to everybody,” Cornell coach Steve Donahue said Wednesday. “I get that. I don’t know if our guys really understand it. They believe that they’re a good enough basketball team, without all the other things that go along with it, to play with anybody in the country.”

The Big Red have already proven they can play — and soundly beat — any team around. Just ask NCAA tournament first- and second-round victims Temple and Wisconsin.

The Wildcats are a different animal.

Calipari recruits the type of players who are more likely to land in the NBA than work toward an MBA. Derrick Rose and Tyreke Evans both left Memphis after their freshman seasons under Calipari. He’s got John Wall, DeMarcus Cousins and maybe Eric Bledsoe who could bolt for the NBA after one season once Kentucky’s NCAA tournament run is finished.

Top high school recruits wait for Kentucky to knock at their doors for a recruiting visit. That makes expectations soar higher than unkempt Kentucky bluegrass.

Calipari has ruled the state this season with a thought in the back of his mind: A 20-win season and a trip to the Sweet 16 might not be enough to satisfy Big Blue.

Xavier vs. Kansas State

Time is supposed to ease the pain of past embarrassments. The way Kansas State guard Jacob Pullen sees it, though,

there are some things you simply can’t forget.

Locked in Pullen’s memory is the way he felt on New Year’s Eve 2007 — the night his team got blown out by Xavier, the same team the second-seeded Wildcats face Thursday night in the West Regional semifinals.

“They laughed on the court, played around,” Pullen said. “You don’t forget things like that. So when you get the opportunity to play against a team like that, you always remember that, no matter if it’s one person from that team or 10 people from that same team.”

K-State got payback for the 26-point loss — the worst of coach Frank Mart in’s short career — with a physical, grinding 15-point win this season in Manhattan.

Now, one of America’s hidden little rivalries resumes, this time with the stakes ratcheted up a few notches. Kansas State (28-7) is two wins from its first Final Four since 1964. Xavier (26-8) has never been.

“It rings a bell because they’re Xavier,” Martin said. “I know their program, firsthand. I understand the winning culture they have, the expectations they have. Then, we’ve played them. We got absolutely annihilated by them on national TV on Dec. 31.”

Martin’s familiarity with sixth-seeded Xavier comes thanks to his history as an assistant for Bob Huggins — first at Xavier’s crosstown rival, Cincinnati, then at Kansas State. When Huggins left for West Virginia, Martin took over Huggins’ program, along with his schedule.

It included two more in a three-game series against Xavier, and after the first of those — the Dec. 31, 2007, matchup — Martin might have been wondering what he got himself into.

His prized recruit and star player, Michael Beasley, forgot his shoes and didn’t make a basket until the final minute.

“Bill (Walker) lost his phone, I think. Clent (Stewart) didn’t have his shoes, either,” Pullen remembered. “It wasn’t the greatest trip we had made all season. But we still went out there and played. And we got beat.”

The Musketeers let them know about it, dissing the Wildcats by cracking jokes at the free throw line to turn a bad loss into something even worse.

Which might explain why this season’s game, still on some players’ minds nearly two years after the previous meeting, was such a physical affair. There were 57 fouls and 73 free throws, lots of hard screens and

rough play in the post. K-State fans braved a heavy snowstorm to attend the game, and when the Wildcats finished up the 71-56 victory, they snaked behind the media table to celebrate with the students—the kind of celebration normally saved for March, not December.

Washington vs. West Virginia

West Virginia’s Da’Sean Butler already was settled in his seat preparing for the news conference to begin while teammate Darryl Bryant — with his broken right foot — still was hobbling up the stairs of the riser.

“Hurry up,” Butler yelled out with a playful smile to emphasize he was kidding.

“I’m trying,” Bryant said, laughing as he carried his crutches and hopped to his seat on one foot Wednesday, a day after hearing something pop in his foot during practice.

Evidently nothing — not even the sudden news of losing their starting point guard — seemed capable of penetrating the seemingly unflappable upbeat mood of the second-seeded Mountaineers (29-6) a day before they faced the upstart 11th-seeded Washington Huskies (26-9) in the East Regional semifinal.

“I don’t see where the whole panic about everything will be. I think we’ll be fine,” Butler said. “We’ll continue to smile and be loose and enjoy ourselves because this is, well, wow.”

The Big East champions had reason to be confident. Following a 68-59 win over Missouri on Sunday, West Virginia was on an eight-game winning streak and led by a shutdown defense that held each of its past five opponents to under 60 points. They feature a clutch senior in Butler, who has made six game-winning shots this season and proved unstoppable in scoring 28 against Missouri.

And though Bryant’s loss depletes West Virginia’s depth at the position, the team has a capable backup in Joe Mazzulla. The junior already was playing an expanded role, averaging 5.5 points and 3.75 assists and nearly 25 minutes in his past four games.

All that will be tested against the Huskies, on an impressive roll of their own since discovering their up-tempo identity. En route to claiming only their second Pac-10 tournament title, the Huskies have won 14 of 16, including nine in a row. They opened the NCAA tournament with an 80-78 win over sixth-seeded Marquette and followed with a 82-64 rout of No. 3 New Mexico.”



Xavier's Jordan Crawford celebrates after the Musketeers defeated Pitt last weekend. Xavier faces Kansas State tonight.

Butler vs. Syracuse

After two games in the unfamiliar role of a higher seed, Butler is back where the Bulldogs are much more accustomed to being.

Welcome back to the underdog Bulldogs, who face top-seeded Syracuse on Thursday night in the West Regional semifinals.

The Bulldogs may eventually shed this image, but they don’t seem to be in much of a hurry to do so. Actually, they really don’t seem to care either way.

“You don’t ever look at the seed or the number next to the team’s name, otherwise, you’ll let that become a factor in your mind,” Butler coach Brad Stevens said.

Butler is unbeaten in the NCAA tournament as the higher seed. But that has only happened four times and the Bulldogs (30-4) are quite comfortable playing as one of the tournament’s lesser-known teams.

The No. 5 seed is the highest for the school in its 10 NCAA tournament appearances, matching the Bulldogs’ position in 2007, when they also reached the regional semifinals before losing to eventual champion Florida.

Back then Butler was a real unknown.

Now that the Bulldogs are in the tournament for the fourth straight year and in the regional semifinals for the third time in the last eight seasons, the Horizon League champions’ reputation has grown enough that they earned the No. 11 ranking in the last AP poll and the eighth in the coaches’ poll.

Yes, they’re still the team that plays in the fieldhouse that served as the set for the state championship game in the movie “Hoosiers.” Yes, the Bulldogs get little of the attention that Indiana and Purdue receive in the country’s biggest basketball state.

Eventually, the high-profile respect and reputation will follow if the Bulldogs keep winning.

“What would you say we need to do to become a legit team? Do you have to get to the Elite Eight?” Howard asked. “I guess it’s up for debate. Obviously somebody — especially the coaches — think we’re a pretty good team.”

As does Syracuse coach Jim Boenheim, who is trying to get the Orange (30-4) past this round for the first time since they won the national title in 2003.

The Orange know a little about being unheralded, too. They started the season unranked and ended it as a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament. Boenheim doesn’t want his players to forget how far they had to climb this season when they prepare for the Bulldogs, who have won 22 in a row.

“I don’t look at conference when you get into the NCAA tournament. The only thing that matters in the NCAA tournament is the teams you’re playing against,” Boenheim said. “They’re as good a team as I’ve seen all year.”

The Orange will be without center Arinze Onuaku, who has an injured right quadriceps and missed Syracuse’s blowout wins over Vermont and Gonzaga in the first two rounds.

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I've got Julio Cesar coming out of the Club Ambiance regional.

In two weeks It'll be the longest day in the year...Do you always watch for the longest day of the year and then miss it? I always watch for the longest day in the year and then miss it.

The goose is loose.

I've been drunk for about a week now, and I thought it might sober me up to sit in a library.

But there are times when suddenly you realize you're nearer the end than the beginning. And you wonder, you ask yourself, what the sum total of your life represents. What difference your being there at any time made to anything. Hardly made any difference at all, really, particularly in comparison with other men's careers...But tonight... tonight!

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, March 25, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

Women's Division I Tennis ITA Poll

	team	previous
1	Northwestern	1
2	UCLA	4
3	NOTRE DAME	3
4	North Carolina	2
5	Florida	6
6	Michigan	7
7	Duke	8
8	California	5
9	Baylor	9
10	Clemson	10
11	Stanford	14
12	Tennessee	11
13	Southern California	12
14	Georgia	17
15	Florida State	13
16	Washington	18
17	Arkansas	15
18	Miami	16
19	VCU	NR
20	South Carolina	NR
21	South Florida	20
22	Mississippi	NR
23	DePaul	24
24	Yale	NR
25	Vanderbilt	19

Men's Division I Track USTFCCCA Poll

	team	previous
1	Florida	2
2	Oregon	3
3	Texas A&M	1
4	Arizona State	5
5	LSU	4
6	Texas Tech	7
7	Minnesota	12
8	Arkansas	6
9	Florida State	14
10	Virginia Tech	8
11	Nebraska	11
12	Indiana	10
13	New Mexico	22
14	Penn State	13
15	Oklahoma	9
16	California	16
17	Auburn	18
18	Georgia	24
19	Northern Arizona	17
20	Stanford	15
21	Arizona	21
22	Baylor	19
23	Kentucky	NR
24	Texas	25
25	Mississippi	23

Women's Division I Lacrosse IWLCA Poll

	team	points
1	Northwestern	399
2	Maryland	381
3	Duke	357
4	North Carolina	335
5	Virginia	301
6	Syracuse	295
7	Penn	274
8	Stanford	237
9	Georgetown	233
10	Towson	225

MLB



Yankees manager Joe Girardi looks on as the team practices in Florida. Girardi caught for Dwight Gooden, who was arrested for a DUI earlier this week. Gooden threw a no-hitter with Girardi catching while playing for the Yankees in 1996.

Former MLB star Gooden arrested for DUI

Associated Press

FRANKLIN LAKES, N.J. — Former Major League Baseball star Dwight Gooden has been charged with driving under the influence of drugs and leaving the scene of an accident.

The former pitcher for the New York Mets and New York Yankees had a child in his vehicle at the time of the two-vehicle crash around 9 a.m. Tuesday, Franklin Lakes police Capt. Joseph Seltenrich said.

Police wouldn't say whose child it was, but they said no one was hurt.

Gooden also was charged with child endangerment and motor vehicle violations, authorities said. They would-

n't release details, including the type of drugs.

Gooden, 45, was released on his own recognizance until a municipal court hearing. It was unclear whether Gooden, who has waged a well-publicized battle with alcohol and drugs, including cocaine, had an attorney.

The driver of the other car, Ronald Schmidt, of Franklin Lakes, said he recognized Gooden right away.

"I looked at him, and I knew it was Dwight Gooden," Schmidt told WABC-TV in New York. "I think he was surprised I recognized him, (and) he shook my hand."

Gooden, nicknamed Doc Gooden and Dr. K because of his phenomenal strikeout numbers early in his career,

had served as a senior vice president with the minor league Newark Bears baseball team, which plays in the Atlantic League. But he left in November 2009 when the Mets invited him to join them at spring training, an offer he ultimately turned down.

"He did great things while he was here," said Tom Cetnar, the Bears' senior vice president. "We're very saddened by the reports we're hearing. We don't have any details on what happened. Doc did right by us and the city of Newark."

Mets spokesman Jay Horowitz said the team "was aware of the situation," but he declined to comment further.

Gooden's dominant pitching helped lead the Mets to a

World Series title in 1986 and another National League East crown in '88, and he also was a member of the championship Yankees teams of 1996 and 2000. After making his major league debut in 1984 at the age of 19, he went on to win the Rookie of the Year award that season and eventually won 194 games over his 17-year career, which included a no-hitter for the Yankees in 1996.

Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who played with Gooden and caught his no-hitter, said he hoped everything was OK with his former teammate.

"Your heart goes out to him," Girardi said in Tampa, Fla. "He was a great teammate."

IN BRIEF

Probation extended six months for Orioles' Tejada

WASHINGTON — Baltimore Orioles third baseman Miguel Tejada will have to remain on probation for another six months unless he completes his required community service before then.

Tejada was sentenced last year to one year of probation, 100 hours of community service and received a \$5,000 fine for misleading Congress about an ex-teammate's use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Tejada's probation had been set to expire Thursday. However, prosecutors say Tejada still has 44 hours of community service to complete.

At a hearing in federal court in Washington on Wednesday, Magistrate Judge Alan Kay extended the probation for six months. If Tejada completes the remaining service hours sooner, his probation officer will recommend ending the probation early.

Twins sign lefty reliever Mahay to minor league deal

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Left-hander Ron Mahay and the Minnesota Twins have agreed to a minor league contract.

Mahay was cut by the Kansas City Royals with a 4.79 ERA in August, then signed with the Twins and had a 1-0 record and 2.00 ERA in nine innings with eight strikeouts and three walks. He made three appearances in the playoffs against the Yankees, allowing one run in 1 2-3 innings.

The Twins are reworking their bullpen following Joe Nathan's season-ending Tommy John elbow injury, scheduled for Friday by Dr. David Altchek, a team physician for the New York Mets.

Mahay might be able to provide depth. Left-hander Glen Perkins, a candidate for a long relief role, is out for at least a few days because of a strained back. The 38-year-old Mahay is 26-11 with a 3.86 ERA and four saves with eight teams in 13 major league seasons.

Woods plans to speak to reporters before the Masters

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tiger Woods will speak before he plays in the Masters. Woods is scheduled to hold his first press conference in nearly five months at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 5, according to a tentative interview schedule that Augusta National released Wednesday. It will be his first press conference in nearly five months, and his first time facing a room full of reporters since he crashed his SUV into a tree on Nov. 27, setting off shocking revelations of rampant infidelity.

The Masters only recently began conducting a press conference on Monday of tournament week, usually a player with only moderate news interest because most of the media isn't there yet.

Woods is the only player scheduled for an interview that day. Given the sensational nature of his downfall, what he says could trump the NCAA basketball championship game held later that night.

around the dial

NBA Basketball

Heat at Bulls
8 p.m., TNT

NCAA Men's Basketball

No. 12 Cornell vs. No. 1 Kentucky
9:57 p.m., CBS



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NFL

Sudden-death format tweaked for playoffs

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Losing the coin toss for overtime in the playoffs might be a little less painful next season.

Far more swiftly than anyone predicted, including the competition committee that made the recommendation, the NFL changed its overtime rules for postseason games Tuesday. Starting with the 2010 season, if a team wins the OT coin toss and then kicks a field goal, the other team gets the ball. If the game becomes tied again after that next series, play will continue under the current sudden-death rules.

If the team winning the toss immediately scores a touchdown, however, the game is over.

Team owners voted 28-4 on Tuesday in favor of the proposal at the NFL meetings, with Minnesota, Buffalo, Cincinnati and Baltimore opposing the change.

"We knew it would be a hot-button issue when we got here," Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian said.

Its passage was helped by commissioner Roger Goodell's support, and by a spate of statistics indicating the coin toss had become too prominent in determining OT winners.

Since 1994, the team that won the overtime coin toss won the game 34 percent of the time on the first possession. Overall, the team that correctly called the coin toss won overtime games nearly 60 percent of the time in the last 15 years, or since kick-offs were moved back 5 yards to

the 30.

Minnesota lost last season's NFL championship game in overtime to New Orleans. The Saints won the toss, drove downfield and kicked a field goal to win.

"I really believe the more you talk about the issue and see the stats and the change in our game, the more you see need for a change (in overtime)," said Atlanta Falcons president Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee. McKay and Polian, a member of the committee, cited the improvement in accuracy and distance for kickers as a major reason for the statistical differences. "Modified sudden death is an opportunity to make a pretty good rule ... even better. Statistically, it needed to change. It wasn't producing the 'fairest result.'"

There was no consideration of ditching sudden-death for another OT system. And while the new rule applies only for postseason games, McKay said even that could change. Several owners expressed interest in further discussions at their May meetings in Dallas.

"Our thought is to take our time and study it a bit and make sure everyone understands the implications there would be for that," McKay said.

Neither McKay nor Polian believes the Vikings-Saints game had much of a role in the vote to modify the rule.

"That's interesting," McKay said. "One of the teams that voted against was in the game and, last I checked, I don't think they won."

NFL

Owners change rules for vulnerable players

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — NFL players should be safer during games thanks to several rules changes passed at the league meetings. They also might be playing longer in regular-season overtimes.

The NFL passed rules Wednesday to further protect defenseless players, including ball carriers who lose their helmet during a play. Seven of eight overall rules proposals were adopted, then several owners said they also expect the modified overtime for the playoffs that passed the previous day to be revisited in May to include the regular season.

"It's a better system, so why not have a better system every game?" Philadelphia Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie said of expanding the new OT rule that allows a team losing the coin toss and allowing a field goal on the first series to then get a possession.

New York Giants owner John Mara added he expects discussion and possibly a vote on using the new OT system to occur at the owners meetings in Dallas in May. The change was proposed only for the postseason by the competition commit-

tee and was passed 28-4 Tuesday.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said the league wants to meet with the players and the networks for some input and further discuss the ramifications of expanding the OT change.

"We had a proposal for the postseason, we passed that with the understanding that it'll be discussed for the regular season," he said.

Goodell also mentioned scheduling only intradivision games on the final weekend of the season, and placing many such games in Week 16, as well. He said at the end of last season he was concerned about teams not playing their regulars after clinching titles and is hopeful such scheduling would help avoid that.

The 2010 schedule will be released in April.

The key rules change for player safety bars a defenseless player from being hit in the head or neck area by an opponent who launches himself and uses his helmet, shoulder or forearm to make contact. Previously, those kind of tackles were banned against receivers who couldn't protect themselves, but now it will apply to everyone.

MLS

League opens newest year facing challenges

Associated Press

Labor strife is resolved, the league's reigning MVP and perhaps best team reside near the glitz of Hollywood, a new \$200 million stadium is open in the league's largest market and the 16th franchise is about to debut.

Seems everything is going great for Major League Soccer, right?

Well, not quite everything.

A potentially crippling strike was averted when the players union and owners agreed on a new five-year labor contract last weekend.

But the league begins 2010 with its biggest name, David Beckham, perhaps on the shelf for the entire year because of injury, its second-biggest, Cuauhtemoc Blanco, returning to Mexico, and just two teams that turned a profit a year ago.

The ability of a league entering its 15th season to avoid a work stoppage was crucial to building on the momentum the MLS has gained in recent years. Sparkling debuts in Seattle and Toronto — the only two profitable teams from 2009 — along with a deeper talent pool and some important international signings have boosted the league's profile.

The old collective-bargaining agreement expired on Feb. 25 after a pair of brief extensions and talks were at a stalemate earlier this month when George H. Cohen, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, was brought in to help make headway. Players wanted free agency, while owners were steadfastly opposed to anything but the single-entity structure for all contracts the league has used since its inception in 1996.

The owners won out when it came to free agency, but players gained increased rights, better minimum salaries and guaranteed contracts for about 60 percent of the players.

"I don't think you can truly find any situation where a work stoppage is going to be beneficial," Seattle goalkeeper Kasey Keller said. "I can see how it got to a point where there were a couple of points that maybe it could have come down to that on both sides. In this situation both sides recognized that and made the changes that needed to be changed on that."

With labor peace, the league kicks off Thursday night when Seattle hosts expansion Philadelphia. Other games the first week are: Colorado at Chivas USA; Toronto at Columbus; Houston at FC Dallas; Chicago at New York in the regular season debut of Red Bull Arena; D.C. United at Kansas City; league champ Real Salt Lake at San Jose; and New England at Los Angeles.

The Galaxy is the team everyone will be keeping an eye on early in the season. They weren't expected to have Beckham until after the World Cup anyway. But his torn left Achilles' tendon, suffered while playing for AC Milan, ended his hopes of playing for England in the World Cup and

put his return to Los Angeles in question. Beckham's recovery time is expected to be about six months.

"He's sacrificed, I think, more than anybody in the world to have a chance at playing in a World Cup," said Los Angeles teammate Landon Donovan. "When you do that and something like this happens, it's awful."

Donovan was the league MVP a season ago and returns to Los Angeles after a highly successful loan with Everton in the English Premier League. Even without Beckham in the midfield, the Galaxy could be the favorite in the extremely deep Western Conference.

Philadelphia will be trying to live up to the success of Seattle and Toronto, whose debut seasons redefined the league's expectation for a new franchise. Philadelphia already has its own stadium, the 18,500-seat PPL Park on the banks of the Delaware River that makes its debut in late June. The Union will play eight of its first 10 games on the road until PPL Park is ready.

The Red Bulls make their home in the league's other new stadium. The \$200 million two-deck oval debuted with an exhibition last weekend and league officials immediately proclaimed it the nation's finest soccer-specific stadium.

Now that the nation's largest market has its own soccer gem, putting a winning product on the field would help. The Red Bulls hope to add a star later this year. Barcelona's Thierry Henry and Real Madrid's Raul Gonzalez

often are mentioned as possibilities.

The Red Bulls finished last season with a league-worst five wins and just 21 points.

Columbus is likely to be the class of the Eastern Conference again after winning its second consecutive

Supporters' Shield in 2009. The Crew's 49 points were one ahead of Los Angeles and Houston, but Columbus was ousted in the first round of the playoffs by Real Salt Lake.

The Crew's loss seemed like a fluky upset. That was until RSL beat Chicago in the Eastern Conference final and then won a classic MLS Cup championship, beating Los Angeles 5-4 on penalty kicks to win its first title.

RSL should be among the contenders in the West with dynamic young forward Robbie Finley and veteran midfielder Kyle Beckerman, along with the addition of Costa Rican forward Alvaro Saborio on a loan from a Swiss Super League team.

Houston was the equal of Los Angeles in 2009, but must find answers in the midfield for the loss of Stuart Holden and Ricardo Clark, who both signed overseas.

Seattle will again be the most hostile place in the league to play with 36,000 expected for every home game, but it may not matter if the Sounders don't find a way to score more goals and take pressure off 40-year-old goalkeeper Kasey Keller.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

OSU hopes to avoid upset

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — When Northern Iowa crumpled up and tossed America's brackets in the trash by knocking off top-seeded Kansas last week, it figured to benefit someone.

The Ohio State Buckeyes, the No. 2 seed in the Midwest Regional, hope it works to their advantage somewhere down the road.

For now, however, they have their hands full with sixth-seeded Tennessee in the round of 16 on Friday night in St. Louis.

"We definitely thought it was crazy that it happened," star guard Evan Turner said of the Jayhawks' shocking 69-67 upset loss in the second round. "But it kind of got us geared into thinking it can happen to anybody. Definitely, anybody can lose. We just really focused on ourselves. We weren't like, 'Yes! Kansas is out!'"

With only 16 teams left, there aren't any pretenders. Ninth-seeded Northern Iowa meets No. 5 Michigan State in the other half of the St. Louis bracket.

Still, Ohio State coach Thad Matta conceded that the Jayhawks' absence might come to mind if his team makes it to the regional final.

"If you get to that position on Sunday, maybe you allow yourself to say, 'Kansas isn't here,'" he said Wednesday. "But you're still playing a team that beat Kansas, or the team that beat the team that beat Kansas. So they have to be pretty good, too."

And the Buckeyes know they

can't afford to worry about what's going on elsewhere.

"If you're going to win a national title, you've got to beat the best of the best," Turner said. "We just have to take care of business. Northern Iowa played a great game. They showed up for 40 minutes and got the job done."

Kansas' defeat is a cautionary tale for most of the top teams. That could have been US, they're thinking, just happy to have survived the first weekend of the tournament.

So far, Ohio State has had blinders on in the NCAAs.

"Our team's been really good at that so far," shooting guard Jon Diebler said. "Because with what has happened in the tournament, anyone can beat anybody on any given night. That doesn't mean that Northern Iowa is a better team than Kansas, but that night they were. So, again, we know we have a great opportunity right now, but at the same time we have a great team that we have to play against to get there."

Much like the past couple of months, the Buckeyes appear to be calm and loose headed into their fourth game with the Volunteers in the last four seasons. The two teams battled it out in a classic regional semifinal game during the Buckeyes' run to the national championship game in 2007.

Tennessee led by 17 points at halftime, only to have Ohio State — led by freshmen Greg Oden and Mike Conley Jr. — roar back to win 85-84.

"I remember saying to myself at halftime, we've got to get this thing under 10 with 10 minutes to go," Matta said. "And it was under 10 with 3 minutes gone in the (second) half."

David Lighty, a freshman sub on that Ohio State team and a front-line star on this one, said that comeback win provided a valuable lesson.

"As long as you stick to the system, and believe, and go out and play hard, anything is possible," he said. "It's not over until it's over. You're not going to have time left to sulk and be worried about, 'Oh my goodness, we're down 20!' and lose your composure and be nervous. That's how you come back from being down so much."

The next meeting will take place at the Edward Jones Dome, with Northern Iowa trying to continue its remarkable march against Michigan State in the nightcap.

Matta joked about the Buckeyes getting ready to play in such a huge venue.

Referring to Ohio State's 105,000-seat football stadium, he cracked, "We practiced over in the 'Shoe today."

"Because with what has happened in the tournament, anyone can beat anyone on any given night."

Jon Diebler
Ohio State guard





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University Counseling Center
(Individual counseling)
Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at mlaffert@nd.edu

Visit our web site at
corecouncil.nd.edu

NBA

Hawks win on Smith’s buzzer-beating dunk

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Josh Smith swooped in to slam through Joe Johnson’s missed shot just ahead of the buzzer and the Atlanta Hawks finally beat the Orlando Magic, clinching a third straight trip to the playoffs with an 86-84 victory Wednesday night.

The Hawks bounced back from an early 15-2 deficit and overcame going 8:45 in the fourth quarter without a field goal against a division rival that had routed them three times this season. For Atlanta, it came down to the final shot of regulation for the fifth straight game.

After Vince Carter hit a long 3-pointer with 9.9 seconds left to tie it at 84, the Hawks rushed down the court to set up Johnson for the potential winning shot. He drove the baseline and put up a one-hander, which bounced off the far side of the rim.

But the Magic failed to block out Smith, who soared through the air for a slam just before the red light went on. The officials checked the replay just to be sure — it showed Smith dunking it with 0.01 seconds remaining.

The teams combined for only nine baskets in the final period,

with Atlanta enduring a drought that didn’t end until Smith hit a baseline jumper with 1:38 remaining and the shot clock running down. Orlando, after hitting six of its first 10 shots, finished 27 of 72 for a dismal 38 percent.

Carter led Orlando with 20 points, while Dwight Howard chipped in with another monster performance: 19 points and a season-high 24 rebounds. Johnson led six Atlanta players in double figures with 17 points, while Smith chipped in with 15.

Atlanta thought it had wrapped up a long-expected trip to the postseason with an overtime victory against San Antonio on Sunday night. Then, an extremely remote scenario was discovered that could have kept the Hawks out: a possible four-way tie for the final three spots, with Atlanta losing on a tiebreaker.

But everyone knew it was just a matter of time. Besides, the Hawks have bigger goals than just making the playoffs, such as getting farther than they did a year ago, when Cleveland swept them in the second round. Atlanta had hoped to make a run at Orlando for the Southeast Division title, but the Hawks will have to make up a 3 1/2 -game deficit with only 10 games remaining.



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Write Sports. E-mail Douglas at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Mountaineers confident despite Bryant's injury

The Big East champions had reason to be confident. Following a 68-59 win over Missouri on Sunday, West Virginia was on an eight-game winning streak and led by a shutdown defense that held

In registering their fourth 25-win season in eight years under coach Lorenzo Romar, the Huskies have rebounded from a terrible start, in which they lost their first seven away from home and then got off to a 3-5 start in conference play.

Lakers cruise past Spurs

The Spurs led for much of the game, but after Bryant took over in the fourth, San Antonio wilted late against the best in the West. And the worst isn't behind the Spurs: Next up is LeBron James and East-leading Cleveland on Friday.



Paul Gasol had 10 points and 12 rebounds as the Lakers headed for Oklahoma City on Friday on their second-longest winning streak of the season. It's the last lengthy trip for Los Angeles before the playoffs begin next

month.

The Lakers left well-rested. Having played just twice in the previous seven days, Lakers coach Phil Jackson said before the game he expected some lively legs.

Sure enough, the Lakers had all the stamina at the end.

[illegible]

Hilling

continued from page 24

normally solid goaltender. Five of those shots missed the cage entirely.

From here the season only gets tougher. The loss ended the nonconference schedule for the Irish as they begin Big East competition with a showdown against Louisville Saturday.

Coyne noted the importance of this upcoming matchup, stating that only four teams qualify for the Big East tournament at the

end of the regular season, which heightens the importance and intensity of every regular season game in the conference.

No. 5 Georgetown, No. 7 Syracuse, No. 20 Rutgers and No. 19 Loyola are part of the Big East conference.

In order to make a strong showing in the Big East and NCAA Tournaments, the Irish will have to sharpen their play and turn the 50 minutes of inspired lacrosse they played Wednesday into a full 60 minutes.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu



Senior attack Gina Scioscia looks for an opening during Notre Dame's 15-10 victory over Duquesne on Feb. 27.

TOM LA/The Observer

SMC TENNIS

Team to face Alma in conference opener

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

Having won six of their last eight games, the Belles face off with Alma College in a battle of MIAA opponents this weekend.

Saint Mary's (6-3) will look to bounce back after Saturday's 6-3 loss to Indiana Wesleyan.

Junior Jillian Hurley won in three sets at the No. 1 singles position, while junior Franca Peluso won in two sets at No. 4 singles in the nonconference matchup. The No. 2 doubles combination of Hurley and junior Mary Therese Lee also won in two sets.

"Our doubles teams are coming together quickly and are close to pulling out some of the tight matches," junior Kate Grabarek, an Observer sports writer, said. "We have gotten extremely strong play from our No. 2 doubles team in juniors Jillian Hurley and Mary Therese Lee. Junior Franca Peluso and senior Camille Gebert lost another close match."

The match against Alma will mark the beginning of conference play for the Belles. Alma enters the match 0-1 in conference play and 5-4 on the season.

"Alma lost a close match 5-4 against Albion earlier this sea-

son and have added some new players to the roster so they will be a tough opponent," Grabarek said.

For the Belles, this time of year not only signifies the start of conference play, but also some changes to the way they practice.

"We have been working on little things and adjusting to being outside," Grabarek said. "With the Indiana spring weather you have to be prepared for anything. We went outside for the first time in Indiana last week, and then played our first match outside on Saturday."

No. 2 singles player Camille Gebert serves as the team captain and as the lone senior Belle.

"Camille is a terrific leader both on and off the court," Grabarek said. "She has been our captain for the past three seasons and has done a great job. She is a motivated person and very positive towards the team in general, which helps keep our spirits up even when we get down."

The Belles hope to get off on the right foot in conference play this weekend when they face off against Alma Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

Miller

continued from page 24

onds in the NCAA preliminary round. The junior believes her bond with the coach was key in getting her to this point in her career.

"Kate Kovenock is a selfless coach," Miller said. "After the meet I told her how all of our work together had paid off, and she told me the work was all mine. We're real lucky to have her."

Miller's teammate and friend Maxwell took a slight step down this season, earning an Honorable Mention All-American honor to denote her standing in the ninth-to-16th-

place range. Maxwell is nonetheless proud of what is still a remarkable achievement.

"Competing at NCAAAs and receiving an All American consideration honor was fun," Maxwell said. "It's nice to be able to reach that level in competition."

Maxwell's swim of 1:00.69 in the prelims and 1:01.09 in the finals was good enough to net her 14th place in the 100-yard breaststroke. After being named All-American at last year's meet, Maxwell believes she has work to do to regain that status.

"My goals for next year are to do better than this year. This year I didn't quite reach my goals, so I will try again

next season," Maxwell said. "Since I was not as happy as I could have been with the way my season ended, I'm looking forward to getting back into a routine and working on my training to get better."

The two individual performances by Miller and Maxwell served as the capstone to a season in which the Irish dominated their competition en route to a 14th straight Big East championship. With Miller and Maxwell coming back determined to add to their already impressive accolades, the future looks bright for the women's swimming team.

Contact Chris Allen at calen10@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Offense powers Belles run

By TIM SINGLER
Sports Writer

Hoping to continue their winning streak, the Belles head to North Park Sunday in a non-conference matchup.

Saint Mary's (9-5) has been on a roll, winning four out of its last five games, including the previous two.

The Belles will face a challenge as they take on the Vikings (8-2).

"We are starting to play together really well," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "We are still getting better every day, which will continue to help us with a tough conference schedule quickly approaching."

Offensive production has been key for the Belles this year. Senior outfielder Ashley

Peterson and junior outfielder Hayley Bojorquez lead the Belles in most offensive categories. Bojorquez is batting .417 with five home runs and 17 RBIs, while Peterson paces the team with a .457 batting average and 18 RBIs.

But the offense has some potential holes in it, which could lead to problems later in the season. Luckily for Saint Mary's, the team has had a full week of practice and rest as it prepares for a tough stretch of MIAA conference games.

"I am glad to have the time to work on a few keys areas, especially defense and hitting with runners in scoring position," Sullivan said. "After playing 14 games in 14 days, it's nice to have that break to reenergize."

In addition to the offensive

production, the Belles have had some consistent pitching to complement the offensive firepower. Sophomores Angela Gillis and Monica Palicki have thrown well all season.

The Vikings recently swept Concordia Chicago in a double-header.

"I got to see them play a bit in Florida and they are aggressive, but when we play as a cohesive unit, we can compete very well with them," Sullivan said. "They have quite a few seniors and upperclassmen, so even though we are younger, we should play well against them."

Saint Mary's will travel to Chicago Sunday for a double-header beginning at 1 p.m.

Contact Tim Singler at tsingler@nd.edu

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Sweep

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home.

“Our team did really well, we came out on fire,” sophomore catcher Kristina Wright said. “It’s only a matter of time before it’s going to explode. We’re doing well, and we know we’re coming out and that we’re going to win.”

Notre Dame is off to its best start through 26 games since 2001, and Wright said the team has been consistent in getting base hits and scoring runs.

Wright launched a home run in the second game, one of seven for the Irish on the day.

Game one saw junior Jody

Valdivia (16-2) reign from the circle to pitch four shutout innings for Notre Dame. Those four innings included 34 strikes on 43 pitches and only one hit in the top of the fourth. Freshman Jackie Bowe relieved Valdivia in the fifth, throwing a scoreless inning with one strike-out.

The Irish started the afternoon off strong with three runs off of three hits in the first inning. Senior infielder Heather Johnson homered to score junior infielder Katie Fleury, while

senior infielder Christine Lux followed up with a solo home run.

“Our chemistry this year has been the best it has in a long time,” Wright said. “We’re all close off the field and that translates onto the field. Trust is huge, and we’re out there playing for ourselves and for our team.”

“Our chemistry this year has been the best it has been in a long time.”

Kristina Wright
senior catcher

The second game proved to be more dramatic. Toledo leapt ahead in the second inning off of a two-run home run from McKenna Smith, followed by another score off an Irish error.

But Notre Dame came back in the fourth inning with a solo home run from Johnson. Wright homered for the third time in five games later in the inning to drive in three more runs and put the Irish up 5-3.

Pitzenberger managed to extend her streak by doubling in her last at bat, and later scored to bring the Notre Dame total hits to 12 for the game and 20 for the day.

The dominating Irish have a challenge coming up for Saturday when they take on Seton Hall in the first conference game of the season. Playing their best softball of the season, the Irish have their eyes set on a conference title and more.

“Seton Hall is huge because it’s our first conference game,” Wright said. “We’re really focused on keeping our hitting alive, keeping up the base hits. Our defense is solid, and our pitching has been doing really well. We want to keep doing what we’re doing.”



Junior pitcher Jody Valdivia delivers a pitch against Toledo Wednesday. Valdivia picked up both wins in the doubleheader.

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NCAA

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the national tournament, many of which boast experience on the junior championship and, for some, even the Olympic level.

“Among the 12, we for sure have some top guns,” Bednarski said. “Kelley Hurley and Gerek Meinhardt were former Olympians from Beijing and Sarah Borrmann was our [2008] NCAA sabre champion.”

Another fencer who seems primed for success at the national tournament is sophomore Courtney Hurley, who took gold at the Junior World Cup in January.

“There are a couple of others who are close to them in aspiration, maybe not experience yet but strength,” Bednarski said. “The competition is a team format, so it will be very important. They all have to play well.”

Bednarski said he was disappointed by the format of NCAA Tournament. He said the limit of 12 players does not allow the Irish to showcase the depth that led them to the No. 1 ranking this season.

“We are not happy about this format. We’d like to take more kids and show off our depth,” Bednarski said. “During the season we

showed we are top in the nation but now we must go into the different format, which leads to a more unpredictable result.”

Despite all the Irish have accomplished this season, in addition to the extensive experience of many Irish fencers, the NCAA Tournament brings a different type of pressure.

“[The tournament] is not individual in nature, you are fencing for a whole university, which builds excess pressure,” Bednarski said.

Despite having a target on their backs heading into the tournament as the No. 1 team in the nation, Bednarski said he is confident his team is prepared for the biggest stage.

“This group is extremely ambitious,” Bednarski said. “I would say as a group this is one of the strongest I’ve coached in my 15 years here.”

One of those groups included the 2005 team, which made history when it won the University’s third national championship in fencing since the combined national championships began in 1990. This year’s Irish will hope to make some history of their own when they begin NCAA Tournament play today at Harvard University.

Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu

Defense

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and right now it’s not.”

Freshman pitcher Patrick Veerkamp (0-2) took the hard-luck loss, yielding five runs — three earned — in two and one-third third innings of work. Veerkamp’s addition to the rotation comes on the heels of a shoulder injury to senior Cole Johnson.

Schrage said the focus in practice has been to speed up the pace of the game to allow the defense to stay on its toes. However, the Flames (3-13) made it difficult for the freshman hurler to find a rhythm on the mound.

“Well we didn’t throw strikes,” Schrage said. “We were trying to play a lot more up tempo. We do this free-bee thing, and we got to cut down on those.”

The Irish (8-12) had multiple chances to break the game open throughout the game, but their most promising opportunity came in the bottom of the first inning after the Flames took a quick 1-0 lead. Notre Dame plated two runs as the first three batters of the game reached base on hits, but Flames starter Tim Suminski settled down to get out of the jam. Suminski (1-0) held the Irish scoreless for the next five innings.

“We took a couple of

called thirds in some big spots, and that’s been another bug-a-boo for us, getting the two-out hit,” Schrage said.

Sophomore hurler Dustin Ispas came in to relieve Veerkamp in his first appearance since off-season surgery. The lefty threw one and one-third innings, giving up just one hit, but walked three and committed a costly error that led to four Flames runs.

Senior left fielder David Mills paced the Irish at the plate, belting a two-run home run in the seventh inning, his first of the year. Junior Mick Doyle also left the building with a solo home run of his own in the eighth inning.

Despite the lack of intensity in the field, Schrage said he was pleased with the effort put forth by his team, even including a pick-off at first base of freshman Frank Desico that ultimately ended an Irish rally.

“He’s a freshman, he’s trying to be aggressive,” Schrage said. “We talked yesterday about being aggressive and taking the extra base, so he was just following suit. He’s a freshman just trying to make things happen.”

The Irish travel to Tampa, Fla., to take on South Florida in the Big East opener Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

Across

1 Start in literature

5 Alpine feature

0 Stretch

4 Go into a new mode

6 Leer at

7 Almost-grad's "disease"

8 Have ____

9 "Table for ____?"

0 Bunny photo

1 Who wrote "Hell is full of musical amateurs"

2 One in chains, maybe

5 Like some promises

8 Cornwall feature

9 Bushed

0 Unconcerned with scruples

4 Title twin brother of 15-Down

7 1983's highest-grossing film

0 Alternative to a day at the races?: Abbr.

11 Northeastern toll road

42 Poetic times

43 Morales in Hollywood

45 Second-guessers' words

46 Bossy sort

52 What Bruckner's Symphony No. 7 is written in: Abbr.

53 Execute, archaically

54 Swell

57 Intl. group whose initials in English and French are reversed

58 "Shh! I know this"

60 Onetime Asian autocrat

61 Gridiron ploy

62 Net

63 Social worker's workload

64 Formal letter opening

Down

1 ____ prof.

2 Consider, with "on"

3 Ex-Yankee Martinez

4 Elvis Presley's "____ Can Dream"

5 U.S.D.A. part: Abbr.

6 Isabel, por ejemplo

7 Avidly accept

8 Rubbish

9 Quaint occupational suffix

10 Such that one might

11 Like the movies "10,000 B.C." and "2012"

12 Handle

13 Food box abbr.

15 Title twin sister in a series of children's books by Jean and Gareth Adamson

22 Words from the betrayed

23 Asian nannies

24 King Henry V, e.g.

25 River through Logroño and Aragon

26 Have an engagement (with)

27 Singer with the second video ever played on MTV

30 W.W. II battleground

31 Challenge for a hairstylist

32 U.S. ____

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SPARE BOAST FTD
TALON ADLIB ARE
AGOOD DELTA NEV
LONDON BROIL TAI
ADZ REL UNLOADS
GAO TOUT ISLA
CUTON DANIEL
BAKED ALASKA
NEARED MONKS
ECHO BING TOW
ALAMODE GIL ONA
TIM ROAST TURKEY
EPI ARTOO NOLAN
NSA MILAN APACE
SEN ACERS RESTS

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Puzzle by Caleb Madison

33 Some linemen: Abbr.

35 "____ idea!"

36 Spray setting

38 Full moon view?

39 Steve Martin comedy, with "The"

44 Bond girl Jill

45 Like some straw

46 Perfume

47 Nebraska tribe

48 Treatment for Parkinson's

49 Times and others

50 Fix, as a knot

51 These, to Julio

54 "____ Have" (#1 Jennifer Lopez hit)

55 ____ Little, "The Wire" antihero

56 PC things, which can be found at the starts of 14-, 22-, 37-, 46- and 61-Across

58 "Recipient" of a Bugs Bunny question

59 Wax things, for short

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

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Peyton Manning, 34; Alyson Hannigan, 36; Sharon Corr, 40; Louie Anderson, 57

Happy Birthday: You will face personal clashes that you must deal with if you are going to make any progress this year. This is a learning year that must be handled with will-power, integrity and the desire to bring about much-needed changes. Take opportunities seriously. Money, property and doing what's required of you will all play a role. Your numbers are 3, 6, 13, 22, 27, 36, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Money and home are highlighted. You can buy or sell property or enhance your assets. You may have to cut your losses but you will still come out ahead of the game and be well-positioned for future opportunities. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Travel, seminars or conferences will all pay off in the end. Utilize what you have to offer by presenting, promoting and networking with the people who can incorporate your expertise into their daily routine and budget. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Nothing will be secure or stable. You are in a good position but must protect what you want and what you have. Don't be unnerved by anyone who talks big or is trying to push you. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have to size things up before you make a move or create any friction with anyone at home or at work. A critical, negative attitude will be your downfall. Focus on work and how much you can accomplish on your own. An added responsibility can be expected. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Focus on what you have to offer and what you can get in return. A little creative accounting will help you save money later. An investment, settlement, rebate, gift or win is apparent and must be taken advantage of. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You know what you have to do to keep things running smoothly. Don't let anyone who intrigues you cause a financial setback for you. A change in a partnership now will lead to greater leverage in the future. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Nothing will go according to plan but it will be an exciting time to make creative, personal alterations to your life. Don't let emotions lead you off-target. Know what you want and what you can offer. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't be afraid to present what you have to offer. You will be well-received, no matter what you do, so take advantage of every opportunity. A trip to see someone who can offer you suggestions or introductions will change the way you think and do things. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love is in the stars and will leave you with mixed feelings about your past, present and future. Don't let uncertainties cause you to make a mistake. Finish one thing before you move on to another. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider your personal and professional options regarding partnerships. Some of the people in your life may be leaning on you too much and need a reminder to back off. Problems with friends, relatives and neighbors must be dealt with promptly. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put in extra hours or look for a new position with more to offer you. A high-energy approach to projects will lead to an enticing partnership. An emotional issue with someone from your past should be cleared up. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The more you interact with others, the more you will learn and the easier it will be to get the help you want. Don't limit what you can do because someone is putting restrictions on you. Fight for your rights. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are always up for a challenge. When it comes to home, family and friends, you are sensitive and emotional. You are serious-minded and hardworking.

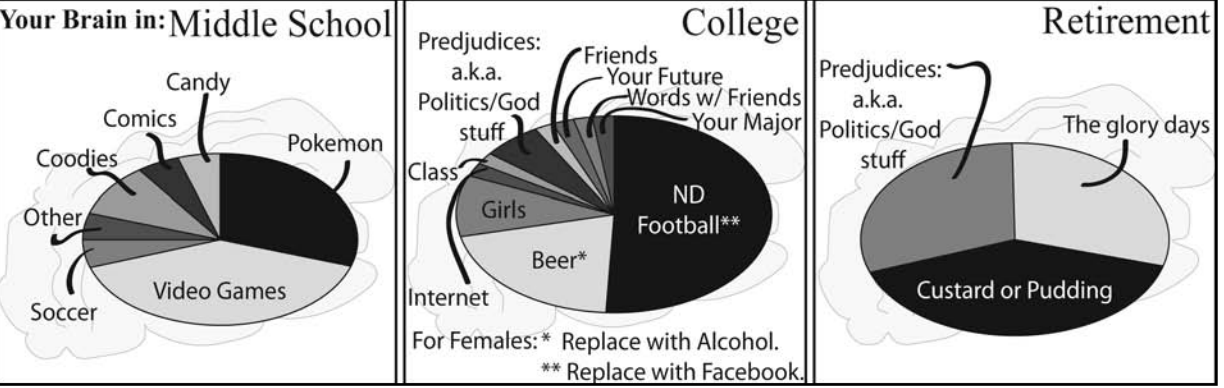
SCHAD & FREUDE

WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



T.I.N.D.

DAN POHLMAN



JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

INGGO

GHILT

REDUSS

REALOP

Ans:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DUSKY RIGOR MORTAR JACKAL
Answer: When the geologist made an important discovery, he became a — "ROCK" STAR

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

I'll go see my friend the mayor

BUILDING DEPT.

Permit denied

3/17

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

THE OBSERVER

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ND SOFTBALL

Double Trouble

Sophomore Valdivia throws pair of gems

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame kept its win streak going Wednesday as it won its seventh and eighth straight games in a double-header against Toledo at Melissa Cook Stadium. The Irish pounded out the hits, including seven home runs to win the first game 11-0 in five innings and overcome a 3-0 deficit to win the second game 8-4.

Junior utility player Sadie Pitzenberger tied a school record Wednesday by extending her hitting streak to 21 games, the same mark sophomore infielder Dani Miller set last season.

Coming off a home opener sweep Tuesday against Eastern Michigan, the Irish (21-5) were excited to keep the win streak going, especially at

see SWEEP/page 22



Junior utility player Sadie Pitzenberger dives back to first base in Notre Dame's 11-0 victory over Toledo Wednesday. Pitzenberger extended her record hitting streak to 21 games.

TOM LA/The Observer

BASEBALL

Defense struggles, ND falls

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Seeking their first winning streak in over a month, the Irish came up short in their final nonconference game before the start of Big East play. Notre Dame fell to the University of Illinois at Chicago 10-5 and committed three errors in the field, as the miscues on defense continue to play a deciding factor in its latest home stretch.

"That's been an overwhelming theme as far as making our pitchers throw extra pitches," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "I think we threw 15 pitches to the first hitter of the game. It was disappointing as far as how we play defense because I'm hoping that's part of our game that's getting better,

see DEFENSE/page 22

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Squad takes lead into final minutes before falling to Vanderbilt

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

Playing a team they had not beaten in the regular season for three years, the No. 11 Irish came out of the gates on fire but could not keep up the pace, falling to No. 19 Vanderbilt Wednesday. Irish coach Tracy Coyne said the final seven minutes decided the game — which ended in a 10-9 loss — as the Irish (4-2)

could not hold on to a two-goal lead.

"We tried to go into more of a possession game," Coyne said. "But we couldn't win the draw."

In a game as close as Wednesday's matchup, the draw is crucial, and Vanderbilt capitalized when it mattered most. The Irish also missed a few opportunities to strike late.

"We had a couple turnovers that were costly," Coyne said.

"And we missed a wide-open opportunity on offense."

Coyne said she was happy with the way her team performed for most of the game, but was disappointed they did not play a complete game.

"We came out and dominated for the first 50 minutes," Coyne said. "But it's a 60-minute game."

A late run by the Commodores sealed the victory, as they scored three goals between the 5:45 and 4:15

marks in the fourth quarter.

Heading into the matchup, the Irish were focused on improved attacking, a facet of their game they have not done particularly well most of the season, especially in their losses. But they managed nine goals from five different scorers against the pack-it-in defense of the Commodores.

Coyne said she has been especially satisfied with the collective effort of the defense and goalkeeping of freshman

Ellie Hilling.

Senior Gina Scioscia added two goals and an assist, junior Kailene Abt had three goals, junior Ansley Stewart had two goals and an assist and sophomore Maggie Tomastitis tallied three assists. Junior Shaylyn Blaney and sophomore Megan Sullivan each added one goal. Hilling saved five of 20 shots, a lower percentage for the

see HILLING/page 21

FENCING

Irish send 12 to Tournament

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

Sporting a 68-0 combined record and being recently crowned Midwest Regional champions, Notre Dame has met every test it has faced this year.

Starting today in Boston, the Irish will attempt to complete their season with an NCAA team championship.

"We are prepared pretty well," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "Every one of our rivals this year is tough, let's pray that we don't have injuries and we are in shape."

Notre Dame qualified the maximum of 12 fencers for

see NCAA/page 22



Sophomore epeeist Courtney Hurley takes the strip during a match at the Notre Dame Duals on Feb. 6.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Juniors find success at NCAA Championship

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

A year ago, the sophomore campaigns of swimmers Amywren Miller and Samantha Maxwell ended with quite different results.

"Samantha got All-American last year, and I got nothing," Miller, a junior, said.

This year, both swimmers tasted success at the NCAA Championship meet in West Lafayette, Ind., as Miller garnered All-American honors in the 50-yard freestyle, and Maxwell nabbed an Honorable Mention All-American nod in the 100-

yard breaststroke. Miller said she was overjoyed with her first All-American honor.

"It was just really exciting. I've been there the past two years ranked higher than I was this year and I came away with nothing," Miller said. "This year I went saying, 'What's the worst that could happen?' Everybody I wanted to be there to support me was there screaming for me, and that was the coolest part."

The addition of assistant coach Kate Kovenock, who coaches the sprinters on the team, helped Miller set a school record of 22.30 sec-

see MILLER/page 21