



Got Milk?

Christmas is drawing near. In fact, we're approaching the day of eight-maids-a-milking. See a Notre Dame interpretation of the 12 days of Christmas.

Scene ♦ pages 12-14

Bad News Bears

How many quarters make up a whole? Five, according to the Chicago Bears. Get the scoop on quarterback Jim Miller's suspension.

Sports ♦ page 16

Friday

DECEMBER 3, 1999

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOL XXXIII NO. 62

HTTP://OBSERVER.ND.EDU

Power outage darkens SMC

Observer Staff Report

American Electric Power and security officials continue to investigate the cause of an early morning power outage that touched nearly all of Saint Mary's campus.

All buildings except Regina Hall and Moreau Center for the Arts lost electricity at approximately 1:15 a.m.

For students in residence halls, this meant everything from complete darkness to lack of heat to a non-functioning voice mail system. For one woman, the effects were far greater.

A student was trapped in the elevator of Holy Cross Hall for more than two hours. Saint Mary's security, repair persons and resident assistants on duty responded to the scene.

Elevator repair persons were called to manually

raise or lower the elevator to gain access to the doors. Contact with the student was maintained throughout the work, according to security officials. She suffered no physical harm as a result of the ordeal.

The loss of power inconvenienced students whose studies and activities were disrupted. Computer systems in the buildings with power were also down, cutting students off from this resource campus-wide.

Because of the immediacy of the situation of the woman in the elevator, the investigation into the cause of the power outage was delayed. The local power company had been contacted and was reportedly working on the problem, but at press time the power had not been restored, and no cause for the blackout could be identified.

MULTICULTURAL NEWS

AAA takes to the runway Saturday

By MARIBEL MOREY
News Writer

After three consecutive years of incidents of indecent exposure, Asian Allure is taking steps this year to ensure a glitch-free performance. The show, however, will go on.

Asian Allure '99

Saturday

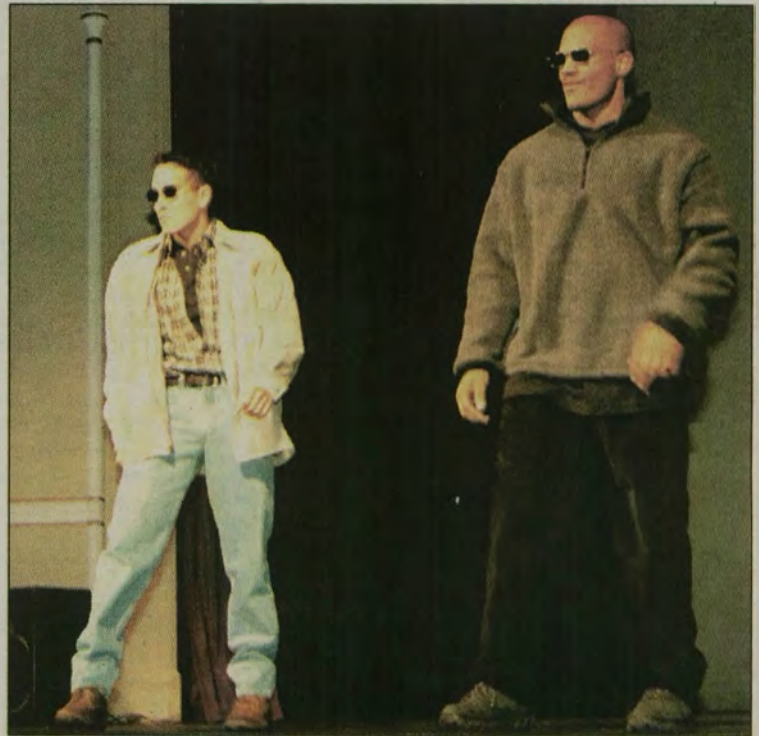
7:30 p.m.

Washington Hall

Three years ago, a topless student model covered her chest with crossed arms, mimicking a pose once coined by Janet Jackson at their annual fashion show. The next year, a ribbon covering a female student's chest fell off, leaving her breasts completely exposed.

Last year, a male participant removed his pants,

see ALLURE/page 4



Observer File Photo

Students strut their stuff on the walkway at the 1997 Asian Allure.

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Keough Hall residents went all out in decorating their dorm for the holidays. Most dorms on campus have been decorating all week in preparation for the holiday season. However, there is no snow in the forecast. See page 2 for week-end weather.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Profs: WTO protests have mixed aims

By BRIDGET O'CONNOR
News Writer

Cell phones and gas masks were the weapons of choice in Seattle for protesters at this week's annual World Trade Organization conference.

An estimated 30,000 activists converged on the city to protest the organization's record on workers' rights and environmental issues.

But developing nations, which comprised 100 of the 135 WTO member states, claim they cannot afford the types of changes protesters demand. These claims are not unusual, experts say.

"When international treaties declared slavery to be unfair trade practices over 150 years ago, nations who used slaves rather than the business interests that used slaves to raise profits in host nations, complained it would impede economic growth," countered Teresa Ghilarducci, associate professor of economics at Notre Dame and director of Higgins Labor Research Center.

WTO ministers from some developing countries, including India, claim the United States and other Western countries aim to use reforms as protectionist mechanisms, but Ghilarducci said these claims are

see WTO/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Watch out for strangers?

I talk to strangers. I know, you're not supposed to — didn't McGruff the Crime Dog drill that into everyone's head in grade school?

But maybe it's just where I was raised — a little town in South Dakota that no one besides my closest friends has ever heard of.

At home it's the norm to greet everyone you meet with a friendly hello — whether you know them or not. When I get in the car to drive back to Notre Dame, I have to break myself of the habit of waving to every car that passes by.

One of my friends who is more familiar with "city life" has attempted to educate me about the error of my ways.

"The first rule is to never make eye contact. Everyone knows that," he tells me. "Erin, you're asking to be mugged."

It's possible that my life has been too sheltered. The Notre Dame campus isn't exactly crime central (Security evidently spends most of its time dealing with bike thefts and sports injuries).

But despite that, I refuse to believe his "rule."

I can't help it — I don't want to live in a world where a friendly smile can cause harm.

In my psychology class today, our professor told us about a woman who was murdered in her New York City apartment. Thirty-eight of her neighbors heard her scream for more than half an hour, but not one of them called the police or attempted to help. Are people really so uncaring that they wouldn't help someone they don't know personally — even when that person is in dire distress?

I'd really like to think not.

My family went on a vacation in Denver when I was seven. I've forgotten every silly tourist attraction that we visited, but one incident stands out in my mind.

It was the end of a long day and we were on a busy Denver freeway that runs through a poor section of the city. We were slightly concerned when our car began to make a funny rattling noise. Although my mom glibly pretended nothing was wrong, my sister and I exchanged worried glances.

Five minutes later, our car could go no farther. In the days before everyone had a cellular phone, we were in trouble. As cars frantically rushed by, we scanned the area in every direction, looking for somewhere to go for help. Nothing. Finally my dad decided he had no choice but to walk towards an exit several miles back.

Surprisingly, however, at that moment another car pulled off the freeway behind us. A man got out and asked, "Can we give you a hand?"

Soon we were at his home. While the man took my dad to get parts to fix the car, his wife and their children treated us as old friends who had arrived for a long-anticipated visit.

I'm forever grateful they had the courage to reach out to a carload of strangers.

And I hope fear won't keep me from doing the same.

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

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THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME/SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

Hesburgh addresses U.S. Senate
December 5, 1969

Father Theodore Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame and chairman of the Civil Rights Commission, urged the Senate to kill a House amendment relating to "freedom of choice" desegregation plans in the South. Hesburgh warned that the amendment would be "an irreversible setback to the overall effort to achieve desegregation and equal opportunity."

Tim Brown wins Heisman
December 5, 1987

Senior multi-purpose back Tim Brown won the 53rd-annual Heisman trophy by a significant margin over Syracuse quarterback Don McPherson. Brown is the seventh Notre Dame player to win the Heisman and the first since quarterback John Huarte in 1964. Coach Lou Holtz said, "[Brown] is the best player I've ever seen."

OUTSIDE THE DOME

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Nebraska president defends fetal cell research

LINCOLN, Neb.

University of Nebraska officials are standing behind the use of tissue from aborted fetuses for medical research despite recent controversy.

NU has come under fire from state politicians and Creighton University counterparts for using fetal brain cells for Alzheimer's disease research.

NU President Dennis Smith said in a letter sent Tuesday to Governor Mike Johanns that he would not cease the studies conducted on brain cells at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

A Bellevue doctor who performs abortions provides the fetuses free to the Medical Center.

Johanns had written Smith to request an end to the research, which he called "particularly dis-



turbing." Smith and other officials said the issue was not about abortion rights but about academic freedom.

James Linder, interim dean of the College of Medicine at UNMC, said the research was not unique to Nebraska. He said fetal tissue research had a 20-year history in the United States and that 288 separate projects involving fetal cells are in progress in the country.

He said work with fetal cells at UNMC began in 1997.

"This is important research," Linder said. "If it wasn't, it wouldn't be going on."

Linder said he appreciated Johanns' feelings on the issue, but as a physician, Linder thought the research was necessary.

Gail Latta, president of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Academic Senate, said research using fetal cells was important to future developments in treating brain diseases.

Latta said politics should not be part of any research-related decisions. She said using fetal tissue in research did not encourage abortion.

"This research does not promote abortion in any way. It is not in any way linked to abortion," Latta said.

Texas A&M victim clings to life

AUSTIN, Texas

A 19-year-old Texas A&M student who was injured in the Bonfire collapse remains hospitalized in critical condition as operations to save his life continue. John Comstock, a biomedical engineering freshman from Richardson, underwent two surgeries Wednesday to remove decaying cells on his body which could have become infectious, said family friend Reverend Philip Postell. Doctors at College Station Medical Center amputated part of Comstock's leg Friday and removed infected tissue from his stomach in an operation Monday, he added. "The fact that they're keeping him alive this long is reassuring, but it's tough," said Postell, president of the Jesuit College Preparatory School in Dallas, which Comstock had attended. "There's only so much upbeat energy you can maintain and after a while you say, 'This is God's will and it's OK.'" Postell said Comstock has been unconscious since the Nov. 18 accident that killed 12 students and injured 27 others. He added that Comstock's legs were badly damaged in the collapse and he also suffered a broken wrist.

Va. Tech student missing in Florida

BLACKSBURG, Va.

A Virginia Tech student is missing in Key West, Fla., after she failed to reboard a cruise ship with her family last week. Rebecca Myers, a junior public and urban affairs major, was on a Royal Caribbean Cruise vacation with her family when she and her sister Sarah took an afternoon to shop during a stopover in the Florida keys. Twelve-year-old Sarah met their parents, Scott and Elaine, at noon Thanksgiving Day by herself. She told them her older sister had gone in search of a beach to take a nap. The family reboarded the ship and discovered about 30 minutes after leaving port Myers was not aboard. Cynthia Edwards, public information officer for the Key West police, said all officers are carrying pictures of Myers. Edwards said Myers' parents returned to Florida Sunday from Manassas, Va., Sunday to search. Edwards said the parents did not believe Myers would take off without telling them, but believe her to be safe. She said the police do not suspect foul play. Kira Pedersen, Myers' roommate, said she was afraid something might have happened to Myers, but said Myers talked about trying to get away in the past.

LOCAL WEATHER

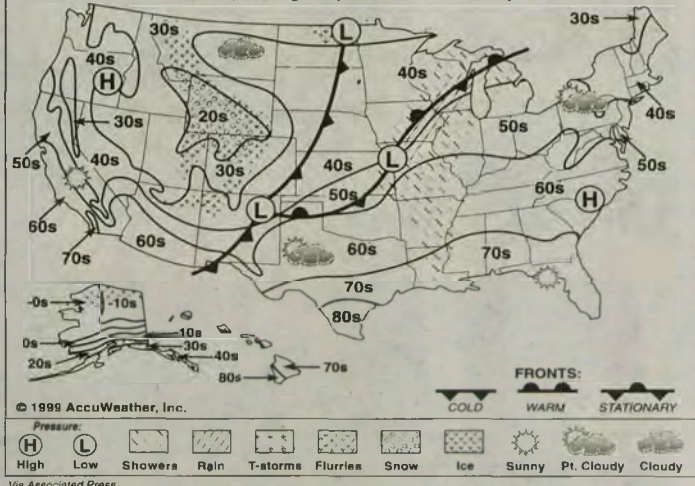
5 Day South Bend Forecast
AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions and high temperatures

		H	L
Friday		54	45
Saturday		58	46
Sunday		51	44
Monday		45	37
Tuesday		42	32

Showers T-storms Rain Flurries Snow Ice Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy
Via Associated Press GraphicsNet

NATIONAL WEATHER

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Friday, Dec. 3.
Lines separate high temperature zones for the day.



Atlanta	63	48	Laredo	80	62	Portland	48	38
Baltimore	58	40	Memphis	70	52	Sacramento	58	36
Boston	48	38	Milwaukee	53	41	St. Louis	60	48
Chicago	52	44	New York	54	42	Tampa	76	54
Houston	76	64	Pittsburgh	56	42	Wash DC	60	42

Sorin rector leaving for East Africa

By MAUREEN SMITHE
Assistant News Editor

When Father Steve Newton took the position as Sorin rector 11 years ago, he never anticipated staying long. As for next year, when he leaves the Golden Dome for East Africa, he plans on an extended stay.



Newton

"I'll be there for at least three years," Newton said. "However, I suspect this [visit] will [last] the rest of my life."

Specifically, Newton will be exploring treatment options for Africans struggling with addiction, a job similar to the one he now holds as executive director of Life Treatment Center in South Bend. "The problem rates are the same as they are here, but there are no treatment programs," he said, noting that he discovered this during his first visit there.

After Newton presented his suggested solutions for the poverty-stricken region and formed a federation to provide direct assistance to those who need it most, he still felt as if he could do more.

"I realized the need was strong and I was being called to help," he said. "As a Christian, I am obligated to."

Newton will concentrate his efforts in Uganda and Kenya. He will live "with the Holy Cross Community in Jinja, Uganda" in accommodations that lack "the comforts of my suite at Sorin Hall."

On a previous visit to the region, Newton spent five days in Nairobi without running water.

"The life of a priest in Africa is just a little better than the life of an ordinary person there," Newton said.

Despite his excitement, Newton will miss the life he has established here.

"I will miss very much the people," he said. "I've met the best people of my life at Sorin."

Students that live with Newton express similar sentiments.

"I think his leaving stinks from a selfish point of view because he is the coolest rector you could have," said sophomore Timothy Fallon. "But, in the bigger view, he is being put to much better use of who he is and what he can do."

"I think we all will miss him. My roommates and I think he is a great guy," said freshman Mike Crnich.

Newton plans on occasional returns to the United States, primarily for fundraising. Despite the distance, Newton said he will maintain strong contact with his friends at Notre Dame.

"Now with e-mail it will be easier," he said.

At this point, Newton does not know who will be the next Sorin rector.

Conference to honor McNerny

◆ Notre Dame professor has influenced many through teaching and writing

By ERIN LARUFFA
News Writer

Most people do not have the opportunity to attend conferences held in their honor.

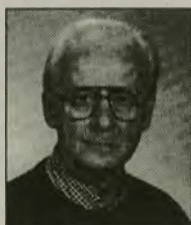
Ralph McNerny, however, a Notre Dame professor of philosophy and medieval studies, will do just that in McKenna Hall on Saturday.

"It's very unnerving in a way," McNerny said. "It's very flattering, of course."

Philosophers from universities around the United States will participate in the conference. They will lecture on topics ranging from 16th century natural philosophy to the role of Catholic philosophers.

McNerny, who has taught at Notre Dame since 1955, specializes in medieval philosophy and the works of Thomas Aquinas.

"He has been one of the three or four most important figures in the last century [in keeping alive the neo-Thomist movement]," said philosophy professor David Solomon, referring to the 20th century movement



McNerny

based on the ideas of Thomas Aquinas. Solomon has been largely responsible for organizing the conference.

McNerny's respectability within the philosophical community has earned him six honorary degrees from universities around the world.

Currently, McNerny has the honor of giving the Gifford Lectures in Scotland.

He has published many philosophical books, including his recent translations of Aquinas' writings.

McNerny, however, has not limited himself to philosophy. He has also written 63 fiction books, including a series of mysteries set at Notre Dame.

McNerny authored the Father Dowling mystery series, which was made into a television series that ran for three years.

"I have three or four mysteries a year that come out and I do non-mystery fiction as well," McNerny said.

McNerny has started two magazines, which Solomon said are "two of the most important Catholic magazines."

In the 1980s, McNerny founded Crisis, which he described as "a journal of Catholic lay opinion." About four years ago, he began the Catholic Dossier as a forum to place Catholic doctrine in its correct context.

McNerny also has tremendous influence through his teaching at Notre Dame.

"He has taught an entire generation of Ph.D.s," Solomon said. "He is just about the most productive person any of us have ever known," said Solomon.

McNerny actually spent two years in a seminary, where he was first exposed to philosophical teaching. Although he decided against

continuing to the priesthood, it seemed natural for him to pursue a career as a philosopher.

"Philosophers are always wondering if there is such a thing as philosophy," he said.

Philosophy is an important subject for students because it deals with the larger questions of life, McNerny said.

"It's not some technical thing that you then go out and use," he said. "It is really pondering questions that are inescapable for everyone."

He taught for a year at Creighton University before coming to Notre Dame, which he had never visited until after he was hired.

"I love it here. I can't imagine being anywhere else," McNerny said. He also added that it is difficult to age in a setting with so many enthusiastic young people.

"It's hard to grow old in this kind of situation," said McNerny. "You watch generation after generation come in."

All six of McNerny's children attended Notre Dame. He also hopes one of his 15 grandchildren will attend the University next year.

"[Notre Dame] is unique," he said. "It stamps people, usually for the good."

Additionally, McNerny is the director of the Jacques Maritain Center at Notre Dame. The center consists of a library collection dedicated to the work of Maritain, a

French philosopher who considered himself a friend of Notre Dame.

The conference, which will celebrate McNerny's life and career, coincides with Notre Dame Press' publication of "Recovering Nature: Essays in Natural Philosophy, Ethics, and Metaphysics in Honor of Ralph McNerny."

"[Ralph McNerny] is just about the most productive person any of us have ever known."

David Solomon
philosophy professor

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We are opening an ecumenical House of Prayer near Notre Dame and are looking for volunteers.

Our mission is to have a place where volunteers could go for prayer and also pray for those who call with requests.

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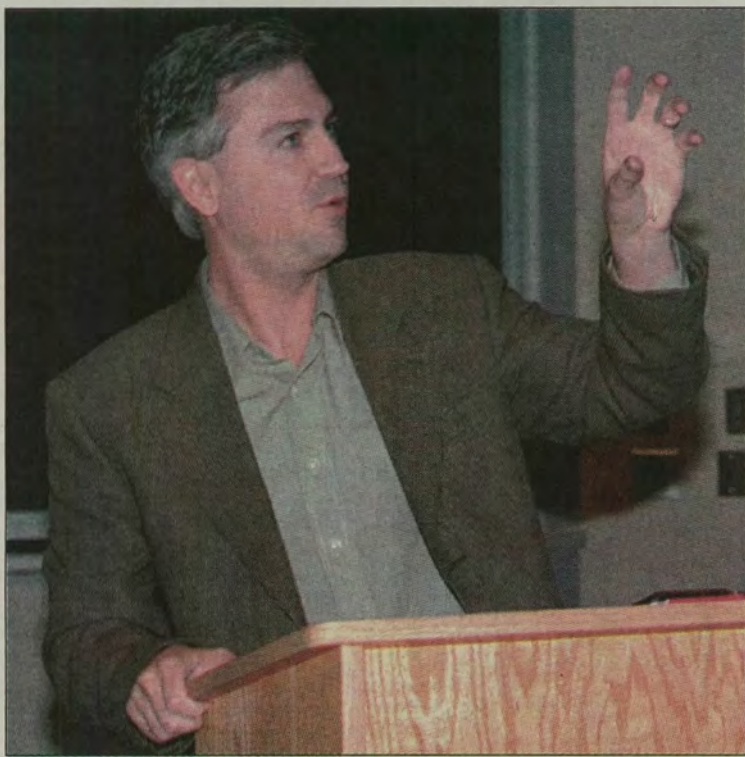
- New York: Jan., 4
- Atlanta: Jan., 17
- Chicago: Jan., 24
- DC: Jan., 28



Hibbs examines 'Seinfeld,' other shows about 'nothing'

'Characters must never learn from what they are doing.'

Thomas Hibbs
philosophy professor, Boston College



SHANNON BENNETT/The Observer

The twisted personal lives of Seinfeld and friends are a way of thinking through what nihilism means by creating a state of perpetual adolescence, according to Hibbs.

By JOHN HUSTON
News Writer

The sitcom "Seinfeld" uses comedy to camouflage its nihilism, said Thomas Hibbs, professor and chair of philosophy at Boston College, in a lecture Thursday night on "Nihilism in Popular Culture: Seinfeld, The Simpsons and Ally McBeal."

Hibbs said that "Seinfeld" is "a way of thinking through what nihilism really means." Applying his ideas to today's culture, he explained how the nihilistic humor in the show comments on modern relationships and family life, as well as society in general.

Hibbs relies on Nietzsche to define nihilism as the devaluation of important values, as a life "devoid of fundamental meaning or final purpose."

Compared to the basic, classical structure of older sitcoms, such as "The Honeymooners" or "I Love Lucy," "Seinfeld" marks a decisive break, said Hibbs. While older shows depended on a resolution of a dilemma in order to end the episode happily, the catastrophe in an episode of "Seinfeld" is frequently left unresolved. "[Seinfeld] goes for the art of the unhappy, but the very funny," said Hibbs.

The role of the modern family also comes under nihilistic analysis, he said. While older shows concentrate on the family unit, Seinfeld focuses primarily

on single individuals. Whenever a familial situation is addressed, it is usually with a feeling of impossibility or unfeasibility.

Shows like "The Simpsons," which Hibbs also classifies as nihilistic, combine family and nihilism through character development. Homer is more a child than a father figure. Homer is "barely rational" and "inarticulate" and demonstrates a "primitive, subhuman state of nature."

While the nihilistic sitcom formula "destroys the possibility of the family," Hibbs said it is secondary to the relationships themselves. "Cold calculations replace love and romance," he said.

The characters on "Seinfeld" deal with trivial things in relationships, said Hibbs. For instance, Jerry breaks up with a woman because she has "man's hands." If not complaining about relationships, the characters display the "sense of being literally trapped. Love becomes sadomasochistic. It becomes a one-up on the other person," said Hibbs.

A state of perpetual adolescence drives the "Seinfeld" characters as well. The goal, Hibbs said, is to attain the advantages of an adult while retaining the responsibilities of a child. The characters can never achieve this, or anything else they want, which leads to the show's overwhelming skepticism about the

pursuit of happiness, he said.

These "adolescent power struggles" also aid the "irrational obsessions" that lead to the destruction of the characters' love relationships.

"The amoral tone of 'Seinfeld' doesn't mean there aren't any rules," Hibbs said. "There's a medley of rules with no seeming relation to one another."

"Characters must never learn from what they are doing — they must remain what they intrinsically are," Hibbs said. They are doomed to a life of repetition.

In the show's final episode, "Seinfeld" and his friends are sitting in jail, talking about the buttons on George's sweater. "Haven't we had this conversation before?" George asks, which is a reference to a line from the first "Seinfeld" episode.

"There's no way out for them," Hibbs said. The characters are stuck in a life of eternal recurrence — a situation that Hibbs said the show applies to the real world.

His most recent book, "Shows About Nothing," examines "Seinfeld," "Ally McBeal" and "The Simpsons," along with movies such as "Seven," "LA Confidential" and "Pulp Fiction" to explore the growing nihilism in pop culture.

Hibbs is also the author of "The Practice of Virtue: Aquinas on the Good Life" and "Narrative in Aquinas: An Interpretation of the Summa Contra Gentiles."

Allure

continued from page 1

exposing his thong underwear.

To guard against incidents such as these, Asian Allure will have dress rehearsals for at least the next two years in preparation for each show, according to Nancy Wong, co-president of the Asian American Association [AAA]. Any participant who adds something to the program the night of the performance that was not presented in the rehearsal will be fined.

Student Activities officials would not comment on the incidents.

Saturday's performance will have a unique twist, and Wong said participants are expecting a sold-out show.

"This year's is different because there isn't such a contrast between the modern fashion show and the cultural groups," said Monica Wisner, AAA co-president. Through comedy, the masters of ceremony will take the audience through a simulated tour of

Asia.

The fashion part of the show will have the guys checking out the girls because, "that is what makes the audience cheer," Wong said.

Asian Allure was created by the AAA because, according to Wisner, "The president [of the AAA] in 1996 wanted an event to share the culture but also to do something that is modern enough to attract other people."

"This year's is different because there isn't such a contrast between the modern fashion show and the cultural groups."

Monica Wisner
AAA co-president

"I haven't slept for the last few days," Wong said, noting how much time is put into the event.

According to Wong, Asian Allure was nominated last April for outstanding club program under the ethnic division at the University's second annual club recognition banquet.

The show, "The Asian Image: Mark of the Millennium," will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Washington Hall.

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Train crash kills 11

SYDNEY

Rescuers worked into the night Thursday searching for bodies in the tangled wreckage of two trains that collided in mountains outside Sydney, killing seven passengers and injuring more than 50. A commuter train carrying 450 people rounded a blind corner during the morning rush and slammed into the back of the transcontinental Indian Pacific, which was carrying 159 passengers, state rail authorities said. "Seats went flying, people went flying, goods went flying," said Michael Irik, who was aboard the commuter train. The front of the commuter train was mangled and carved open by the impact. All of the dead had been riding in the first car. "When I saw the carriage in front on its side and an arm sticking out that was all black and not moving, I knew there was death there and I had to go," said survivor Danielle Diamond.

German lawmakers open probe on Kohl

BERLIN

In a growing scandal centered on former Chancellor Helmut Kohl, German lawmakers opened a probe Thursday into secret payments and suspicions of graft that could permanently tarnish his legacy as the leader who reunified his country and pushed for European integration. Kohl, who ran Germany with a fatherly hand and his conservative party with near-total control, admitted this week that he had managed secret party accounts, but he has repeatedly denied receiving bribes or kickbacks. Testing that assertion, parliament will now examine whether government decisions were influenced by covert payments to Kohl's Christian Democrats while he was in charge. The probe was triggered by recent revelations about a covert \$530,000 payment to the treasurer of the Christian Democrats while Kohl was chancellor and party chairman in 1991.

China denies detentions

BEIJING

A Chinese official on Thursday denied reports that Beijing authorities have detained more than 35,000 members of the Falun Gong spiritual movement since the government banned the group four months ago. The figure instead represented the number of times followers were stopped by police, said Qian Xiaolian, a spokesman for the State Council, China's Cabinet. A Hong Kong-based human rights group, the Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China, reported Monday that Li Lanqing, a vice premier and member of the Communist Party's supreme decision-making body, said in a speech that 35,792 detentions took place in Beijing between July and October. In denying that report, Qian said the number was actually a tally of each time police preventing holiday gatherings by the group took away or told a Falun Gong follower to leave.

AUSTRIA



AFP Photo

Rescue teams and firefighters remove rubble from an apartment building that exploded Thursday in Wilhelmsburg, Austria. The collapse, caused by a natural gas explosion, trapped as many as 40 people.

Building explodes, traps victims

Associated Press

WILHELMSBURG

An explosion leveled a three-story apartment building Thursday, and rescuers worked into the night searching for victims believed buried in the ruins.

At least one person was confirmed dead while about 200 firefighters, soldiers, police and dogs searched through the mound of rubble. One woman was brought out alive after medics amputated both of

her legs to free her.

The blast in this town 30 miles west of Vienna could have been caused by an ignition of natural gas, authorities said.

It was unclear how many people were inside the building, which contained 12 apartments, when the blast occurred about 6:35 p.m. Firemen earlier said two dead had been found but later corrected the report.

Officials first estimated that 30 to 40 people may have been buried in the

ruins, but Austrian television reported later that many of the residents had been out of the building at the time of the blast. Rescuers said some people who don't live in the building also may have been visiting friends there.

The governor of Lower Austria state, Erwin Proell, said on state television that the explosion could have been caused by a hole drilled by mistake into a gas pipe during work to install anti-lightning devices.

After people noticed the odor of gas, they were ordered to leave the building and a nearby kindergarten. However, residents were allowed to return to their homes after repairs were made. The blast occurred about a half-hour later.

Officials said that it was unlikely that many survivors would be found.

"This is a hopeless situation," Proell said. "There are practically no hollow pockets in the mound of rubble."

IRELAND

New Belfast cabinet makes history

Associated Press

BELFAST

On a day of historic firsts and defining moments, Irish Republican Army supporters sat down with their Protestant antagonists on Thursday in a new Northern Ireland government.

That first meeting produced no decisions but encouraged great hopes that three decades of bloodshed may truly be at an end.

Also Thursday, the IRA confirmed it had appointed a senior member to meet soon with a Belfast-based disarmament commission. The outlawed group issued brief statements to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast and to RTE, the Irish state broadcasters in

Dublin. It did not name its appointee.

"I welcome the IRA's announcement. It shows that on day one the IRA have kept their word and that augurs well for de-commissioning," said Britain's top official in Northern Ireland, Peter Mandelson. "It seems we are at the end of a terrible era of violence and suffering, and at the beginning of a new era of life here."

Seamus Mallon
Catholic Deputy leader

In that cautious spirit, the day passed in Belfast without the sort of big celebrations that followed the IRA cease-fire of 1994, which didn't last, and without the kind of mass protests that killed a short-lived attempt at power-sharing in 1974.

"It was a good start," said Martin McGuinness, the former IRA commander who now is responsible for education. He called the meeting "cordial, respectful and businesslike."

"It is now possible to believe the day of the gun and the bomb are in fact

over," President Clinton said in Seattle. It was Clinton's man, former Sen. George Mitchell, who prodded the parties to make the concessions necessary to form a government.

Earlier in Dublin, the Republic of Ireland amended its 1937 constitution to drop its territorial claim to the British province. Britain and Ireland also signed treaties to create all-Ireland and British-Irish institutions envisaged in the Good Friday accord of 1998.

"As we look into a new millennium, the people of Ireland and Britain are redefining their relationships as partners and equals," said Irish President Mary McAleese, a Belfast-born Catholic who had lunch at Buckingham Palace with Queen Elizabeth II.

Market Watch: 12/2

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+40.67	833.36	
	-1.22	
	Nasdaq:	
	3452.78	
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	637.16	
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	S&P 500:	
	1409.04	
	+11.32	
11,039.06	Composite Volume:	
	1,099,100,450	

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TUX CORP INC	TUX	-13.63	-3.2550	17.70
INTEL CORP	INTC	+1.63	+1.2475	15.50

WTO

continued from page 1

mistaken.

"The protestors have moved beyond protectionism," she said. "They don't agree with Patrick Buchanan's formulations that we must stop trade in order to save American jobs the foreigners are taking away."

Other experts disagree. Notre Dame associate professor of economics James Rakowski said that, while the protestors are well-meaning, they do not share the same interests as workers in developing nations. The reality facing the workers is very different than what the protestors know.

"I think that although they're loathe to admit it, they are well intentioned and they've clothed it in a new language — it's old-fashioned protectionism," he said.

From butterflies to bombs

While protestors intended their actions to sharpen focus on trade issues, much attention focuses on the violence and ensuing crack-down by Seattle police.

Protest organizers aimed to cause large-scale disruption to meetings, but non-violent activism quickly led to destruction. The scene went from one of monarch butterfly costume-clad marchers stubbornly, yet peacefully, delaying the start of the conference to widespread destruction of property and businesses.

Several members of an anarchist group called Black Clad Messengers admitted to taking part in the uprising. They focused their destructive efforts on major national retailers in Seattle's commercial downtown area.

This generated a response from thousands of police officers and nearly 200 National Guard members. When the original group of protestors realized what was taking place, many attempted to defend property and condemned violent behavior.

While condemning the vio-

lence, President Bill Clinton joined protestors in calling for sanctions on countries that would not conform to certain workers' rights and environmental provisions.

"President Clinton mentioned that clean technologies promote growth — he could have mentioned that high road labor practices also promote productive growth based on innovation rather than competition based on who can lower wages faster," Ghilarducci said.

A call for 'openness'

Clinton's comments were an important validation for the protestors. However, some WTO officials, including Supachai Panitchpakdi, Thailand's commerce representative who is scheduled to take over leadership of the WTO in 2002, believe that his comments may have alienated the targeted audience. Panitchpakdi told reporters he believed Clinton's stance could jeopardize a new round of talks.

Experts say, however, that the focus of his and the protestors' concern is essential to a fair and successful WTO.

"As far as I'm personally concerned, to have a consideration of large-scale trade absent any employment concern and environmental consequences is simply wrong," said Robert McIntosh, professor emeritus of biological sciences at Notre Dame and editor of the American Midland Naturalist, an environmental journal published by the University.

Though not an expert on the specific circumstances facing the WTO, McIntosh thought the issues raised through the protests show that the organization is a "tool of corporations and government agencies interested in trade" which kept citizens' groups "out of the loop."

One of Clinton's focuses was on the secretive manner in which the WTO conducts its proceedings. He called for openness and public inclusion in the organization.

"I think that openness is



AFP Photo

Anti-World Trade Organization activists protest outside the King County Jail in Seattle Thursday. Hundreds of people were jailed in violence that marred massive protests against the WTO's environmental and worker safety standards, which critics assail as being too weak.

the key issue because it is who has power — voters or corporations," said Ghilarducci. "'Openness' refers to the anti-democratic structure of the WTO that says that a nation's laws can be dismissed if corporations insist it impede their trading."

McIntosh realizes that defenses put forth by developing nations should be taken into consideration, but he said they are not sufficient reason to forego addressing larger questions at hand.

"You don't expect the Congo, for example, to have the same types of controls [as developed nations]," he pointed out. "But without some effort to ameliorate [the problems] I don't think anyone would argue that you will achieve [progress on these issues]."

EXPRESS

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Publicity ads push Bradley's campaign budget limit

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Jumping dangerously close to the legal spending limit, Bill Bradley on Thursday scooped up about \$400,000 in Iowa TV time to ensure prime exposure in the three weeks leading into the Jan. 24 caucuses.



Bradley

Although the money is not spent until the ads actually air, Bradley's January orders at five Iowa TV stations brought his advertising costs in the state to around \$880,000 — a total that butts up against the \$1.1 million spending limit even before travel, staff

and other campaigning expenses are factored in.

Bradley, who's made campaign finance reform a central tenet of his campaign, reserved another \$55,000 worth of time on a nearby Illinois station — a way of reaching Iowa viewers without counting fully towards Iowa spending limits.

"We expect to compete well in Iowa with the caps in mind — on an organizational level, on a media level, on a caucus-preparation level," Bradley spokesman Eric Hauser said.

Bradley is not alone in taking full advantage of convoluted spending rules for candidates who accept federal matching funds.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona, another campaign finance reform champion, is using time-tested tactics to try to compete with Gov. George W. Bush and Steve Forbes, both of whom declined federal funds and can

spend as much as they want.

To date, the Texas governor has reported raising \$57 million. Forbes, a millionaire publisher, has reported raising only \$4 million, but in 1996 he ended up contributing \$37.5 million of the \$41.7 million he spent on his first presidential campaign.

McCain is fighting back with tactics that make a farce of the \$660,000 federal spending cap in New Hampshire.

Among the techniques allowed under Federal Election Commission law:

♦ Claiming that any expense in New Hampshire is for "fund raising," which immediately allows candidates to count only half of the expense against the state's \$660,000 limit.

Candidates can do so even if the spending has nothing to do with licking envelopes and seeking contributions, up to a maximum deduction of \$6.5 million during the primary campaign.

♦ Airing television ads on Boston television stations, which reach into vote-rich southern New Hampshire, yet applying only a fraction of that spending to the New Hampshire limit.

A \$100,000 ad buy in Boston, for example, counts as only \$16,800 in New Hampshire spending, since TV ratings show that only 16.8 percent of the Boston-area audience lives in New Hampshire.

In the past three weeks, Bradley has bought \$550,000 worth of time on Boston TV stations, while spending just \$178,000 in New Hampshire. His rival for the Democratic nomination, Vice President Al Gore, has spent \$285,000 for television time in New Hampshire but nothing yet in Boston.

♦ In a twist, McCain also is expected to account for some of the television ads he runs on New Hampshire's main televi-

sion station in the runup to the primary as if they were intended for viewers in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts doesn't hold its primary until March 7, more than a month after New Hampshire's Feb. 1 primary. But such accounting would allow the candidate to charge about 80 percent of the ads' cost against the \$2.5 million limit for the Massachusetts primary — an allowance nearly four times of that in New Hampshire.

McCain officials refused to discuss specifics Thursday, referring a reporter to a campaign finance report due to be filed with the FEC on Jan. 31 — the day before the New Hampshire primary.

"We will disclose what we're spending everywhere when we file our report," said McCain spokesman Howard Opinsky. "It will be available at that time, but we're following the letter of the law in all of our expenditures."

Gingrich won't party with GOP

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Amid private GOP grumblings about whether he should be invited, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich says he does not plan to attend a celebration next year to mark the fifth anniversary of the Republican takeover of Congress he engineered.

In a letter published Thursday in the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call, Gingrich said he was both amused and amazed at recent reports that House GOP leaders were debating whether to invite him.

"No one called to ask if I was

interested or would even consider attending such an event," Gingrich wrote. "I am not and would not."

Gingrich, widely credited with masterminding the first House GOP majority in 40 years, stepped down as speaker and resigned from Congress after Republicans lost five House seats in last year's elections.

In July, he filed for divorce from his wife of 18 years and subsequently acknowledged through his lawyers that he had been involved in an intimate relationship with a 33-year-old House committee aide for the past six years.

Gingrich's letter came as congressional Republicans planning the five-year anniversary celebration were engaged in an internal debate

over the political implications of his recent troubles if they decided to invite him to participate in the event.

"He's trying to get out of the controversy and he did it masterfully," said Sen. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga., a longtime associate of Gingrich and one of the planners of the January celebration.

In the letter, Gingrich said he decided to leave Congress to remove himself from the spotlight so congressional Republicans could focus on the issues that produced their electoral successes.

"A celebration of five years of Republican control of Congress is really an opportunity for the current Republican leadership to set the stage for the fall 2000 elections," Gingrich wrote.

"No one called to ask if I was interested or would even consider attending such an event."

Newt Gingrich
house speaker

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Toy Story 2 (G) Digital	Pokémon (G) Digital		
[11:00 1:30] 4:00 6:30 8:50	[1:20] 3:50 6:20		
[11:30 2:00] 4:35 7:00 9:20	Dogma (R) Digital		
[12:00 2:30] 5:00 7:30 9:50	[1:55] 4:45 7:35 10:25		
End of Days (R) Digital	Anywhere But Here (PG-13) Digital		
[11:20 2:15] 5:10 7:45 10:20	[11:45 2:20] 5:05 7:40 10:15		
[1:40] 4:15 7:15 9:55	The Bone Collector (R) Digital		
The World is Not Enough (PG-13) Digital	[2:40] 5:15 7:50 10:35		
[12:40] 3:40 6:40 9:40	Double Jeopardy (R) Digital		
[1:10] 4:10 7:20 10:10	[12:10 2:50] 5:35 8:10 10:35		
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[2:10] 4:55 7:25 10:05	8:45		

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Blue Streak (PG-13)	Runaway Bride (PG)
1:50 4:40 7:30 9:50	1:10 4:40 7:10 9:40
Bowfinger (PG-13)	Inspector Gadget (PG)
1:40 4:20 7:20 9:45	1:20 4:30 6:40 8:50

Gene therapy results in death

◆ Treatment for a rare disease leads to first gene therapy-related death

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA

In a setback for one of the most exciting fields of medical research, investigators confirmed that a young man who died during a gene therapy experiment in September was killed by the treatment.

The preliminary report on the death of Jesse Gelsinger of Tucson, Ariz., found that an infusion of corrective genes, encased in a weakened cold virus, triggered an extreme immune-system reaction that caused multiple organ failure, said James Wilson, director of the University of Pennsylvania Institute for Human Gene Therapy.

Gelsinger, 18, is believed to be the first person to die as a direct result of gene therapy.

The case has stirred debate over using patients in gene-therapy experiments who are not close to death. Gelsinger had a severe gene disorder controlled by drugs and diet but was relatively healthy when he began the therapy.

In addition, the results could delay experiments that use viruses to transport the corrective genes into the body — currently the most common treatment method.

In the Penn trial, the corrective genes were encased in a weakened cold virus, which researchers had thought was safe for humans since even a full-blown cold virus usually causes no damage.

"People say, 'I have a disease and I want gene therapy. I don't care about the risks.' Then someone dies and everyone says, 'How could you let this happen?'" bioethicist Arthur Caplan of the University of Pennsylvania said Thursday. "It will slow it for a while, then the pressures will build again, and it will get going even faster."

Gelsinger died Sept. 17, four days after researchers injected the

modified cold virus and engineered genes into an artery leading into his liver. He suffered from ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency, a genetic disorder that leaves the body unable to produce enzymes that remove ammonia from the body. Ammonia is a byproduct of protein processing.

Most victims of the rare disorder die as infants. Gelsinger had a mild form that he kept in check with medications and low-protein foods.

Researchers said they still do not understand precisely why Gelsinger died. Seventeen other patients had been through the procedure without ill effects; and none of the studies on animals indicated that there would be an immune reaction such as the one that killed Gelsinger, Wilson said.

The preliminary investigation suggests that the cold virus should not be injected into the bloodstream or liver the way it was done in Gelsinger's case, Wilson said. But it has caused no problems in some other patients.

Gelsinger's father, Paul, has said his son knew there was a chance he

could die from participating in the study, but he accepted the odds because he wanted to help himself and others.

In gene therapy, working genes are inserted to compensate for genetic flaws. It is a growing field of research that holds promise in curing ailments from heart disease to cancer.

After Gelsinger's death, the university study was stopped and the Food and Drug Administration ordered a halt in the enrollment of new patients in two experiments by Schering-Plough to use gene therapy to treat liver cancer and colorectal cancer. Those studies, like the Penn experiment, used relatively high doses of the cold virus to pass new genes into the liver.

Several clinical trials are also under way that directly inject corrected genes into a person's organs — so-called naked DNA infusions. Naked DNA does not carry the added risks of using a virus.

ValuJet conspiracy trial underway

Associated Press

MIAMI

A federal jury on Thursday began deliberating the case of an airline maintenance company and two former employees who are charged with conspiracy and lying on repair records leading up to the 1996 ValuJet crash that killed 110 people.

In her closing argument, defense attorney Jane Raskin said the ValuJet crash alerted the aviation industry to the dangers of handling hazardous materials but did not result from a crime by the jet repair contractor, SabreTech.

There was an unfortunate lack of required training for SabreTech employees, she said. "If we had it all to do over again, we would have done better."

After her arguments, the jury met for about 30 minutes before leaving for the day. They were set to resume deliberations Friday

morning.

Earlier, federal prosecutor Caroline Miller likened SabreTech's perspective to the lame excuses of a child.

"SabreTech is in denial about what happened here, and maybe that's understandable," she said. "It's hard for them to face the truth."

The case concerns 144 oxygen generators removed by SabreTech from other ValuJet planes and delivered to the ill-fated flight without any markings indicating they were hazardous.

Crash investigators blamed the explosive-tipped generators, put aboard the plane by ValuJet workers, for starting a 2,200-degree cargo fire that brought down the DC-9 on May 11, 1996, in the Everglades.

Mechanic Eugene Florence, a defendant, signed a work card stating he had installed shipping caps on the generators but admitted days later that he had not.

The other defendant, Daniel Gonzalez, a vice president of maintenance, was accused of pressing Florence and other mechanics to sign the paperwork in a small room at a session attended by ValuJet representatives anxious to get a new plane in service.

If convicted, Florence faces up to 15 years in prison. Gonzalez would face up to 10 years.

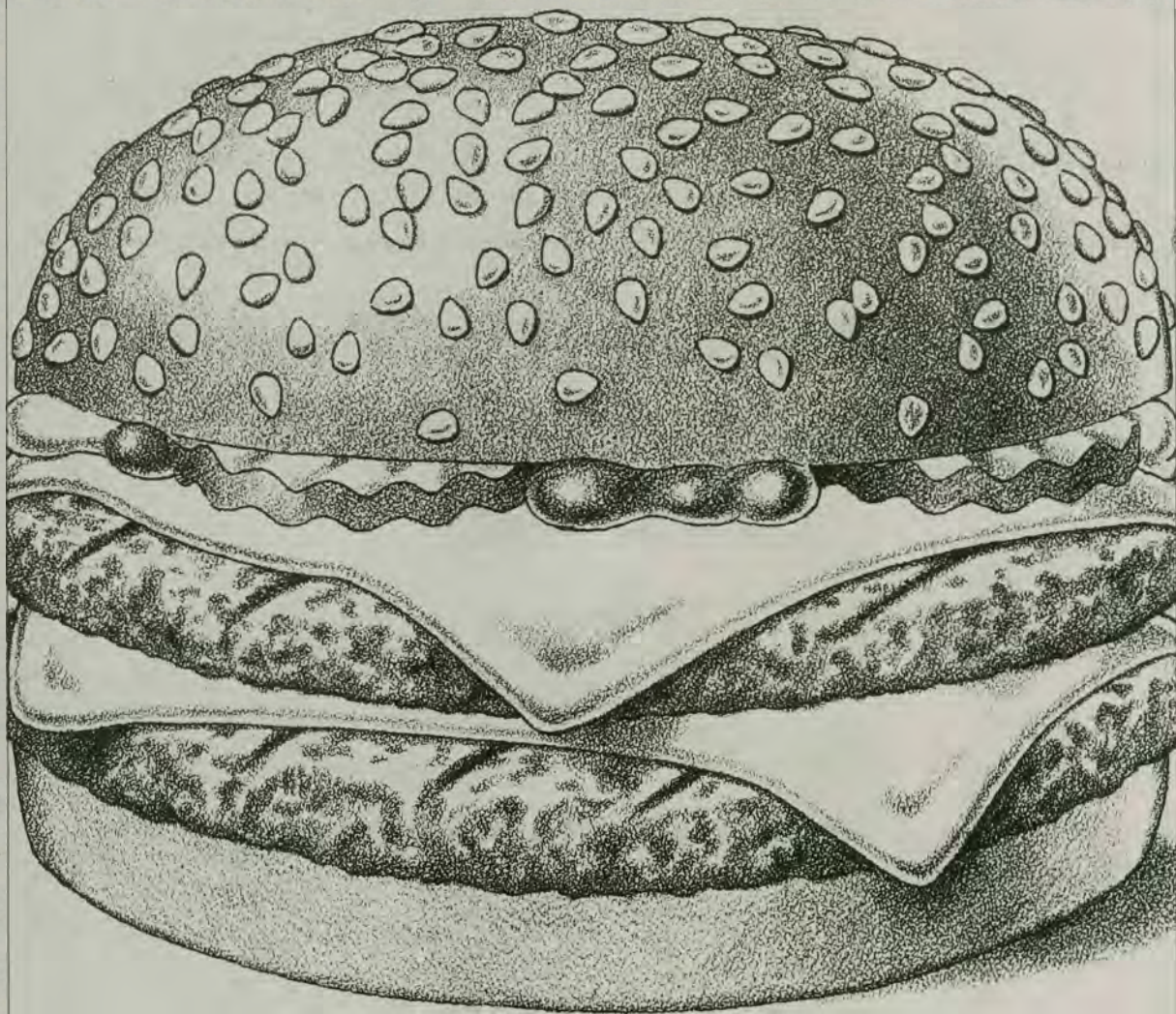
SabreTech also faces 17 counts of hazardous materials violations and could pay up to \$5.8 million in fines, as well as restitution for victims' families.

ValuJet, which has changed its name to AirTran, and SabreTech have settled most lawsuits brought by victims' families, but a handful are set for civil trial.

SabreTech also has been charged in state court with murder and manslaughter in the crash.

SabreTech is no longer in business. Its maintenance operations were sold by Sabreliner, which has retained the SabreTech name.

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Polar Lander mission finally ready for Mars landing

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif.

After two NASA missions to Mars over the past six years ended in sudden failure, the stakes are especially high Friday for the Mars Polar Lander, and the list of things that can go wrong is long.

"It's about as do-or-die an event as they come," flight operations manager Sam Thurman said.

The Polar Lander is set to touch down Friday afternoon roughly 500 miles from the Red

Planet's south pole. Scientists hope to learn about Mars' climate by studying layers of dust and possibly ice during the 90-day mission. Instruments will measure vapor in the atmosphere, while a claw on the spacecraft will collect samples to be cooked and analyzed for water.

But there are many mission-ending scenarios: The spacecraft's parachute or descent thrusters could fail. It could land on a rock that causes it to tip over. Or it could touch down into the quicksand-like permafrost in the never-explored south polar region.

In September, NASA's \$125 million Mars Climate Orbiter vanished as it approached the Red Planet. Investigators blamed the loss on scientists' failure to realize that English-style units of measurement — feet and inches — had not been converted to the metric system.

And in 1993, the Mars Observer, a \$1 billion NASA spacecraft, disappeared just before going into orbit around the Red Planet. It is believed to have exploded as its fuel lines were being pressurized.

"The tension on the team is up by several factors because of what happened," said Richard Cook, spacecraft operations manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

In the weeks since the Mars Climate Orbiter's failure, controllers for the \$165 million Polar Lander mission have reworked and reviewed plans to deal with the myriad of things that could go wrong at the end of the 157-million-mile voyage.

They have put together hun-

dreds of contingency plans for nearly every possible glitch.

"When we're working on contingency plans, we're thinking gory details about everything that can go wrong," Thurman said.

The Polar Lander will deploy a parachute and fire a dozen retro-rockets, slowing from about 15,400 mph to 5 mph as it lands on the surface.

A few minutes before landing, it will break off communication with Earth. The highest priority is making sure the probe can re-establish contact.

NASA said there is a 50 percent chance that even if the spacecraft lands safely and deploys its camera, weather mast and antenna, it will fail in its first attempt to contact

home.

Communications will also be complicated by the loss of the Mars Orbiter, which was to have relayed scientific data between Earth and Mars.

NASA hopes instead to relay data through the Mars Global Surveyor, which has been orbiting Mars since 1997.

If the first signal from the Polar Lander doesn't arrive as expected about 38 minutes after the 12:01 p.m. PST

landing on Friday, controllers will use the Deep Space Network, a collection of giant antennas on Earth.

They will listen Friday and Saturday for signals at pre-arranged times.

And if by Sunday the Polar Lander hasn't yet contacted Earth, it is programmed to send data at a higher frequency that can be received and relayed by the Mars Global Surveyor.

"It goes through a series of steps," said operations project manager Richard Cook. "We just need to wait for the spacecraft to try those different things."

Once communication is established and the science begins, backup plans are available for everything from a less-than-desired landing position and power problems to computer shutdowns and malfunctioning sensors.

And just to be certain, the scientists at JPL have their good luck charm. For more than 35 years, jars of peanuts appeared on desks before launches. The tradition had faded in recent years, but for the Polar Lander, the nuts will be back.

"[This mission] is about as do-or-die as they come."

Sam Thurman
flight operations manager

The ND HOBY Giving Tree

Hoby has set up trees in North-South dining halls and LaFortune with ornaments that have a child's name and age on it. Please take an ornament and buy an appropriate gift for the less fortunate. The names have been provided by Catholic Charities. Any gift will be greatly appreciated.

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VIEWPOINT

THE
OBSERVER

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Friday, December 3, 1999

THE OBSERVER

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archives to search for articles published after August 1999

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Michelle Krupa.



BAKE NECESSITIES

U.S. sanctions deny necessities of life

A silent but deadly war is being waged against the people of Iraq. Since Aug. 6, 1990, millions of Iraqis have been the innocent victims of economic warfare waged by the U.S. government in the form of economic sanctions. Once dependent on imports for 70 percent of its food and medical supplies, Iraq, a country of 22 million, is now essentially cut off from the rest of the world.

Susan Gordon

*For a More
Just and
Humane
World*

Sanctions deny the Iraqi people access to the basic necessities of life, including food, medicine, education, employment and clean water. Importation of adequate chlorine and spare parts to repair water treatment and sewage plants destroyed during the Gulf War is banned under the sanctions, consequently tap water is unsafe and raw sewage runs through many streets and is dumped into the rivers. Children, the weakest and most vulnerable, suffer the most. According to UNICEF, 4,500 Iraqi children under the age of 5 die each month, primarily from preventable and treatable diseases. This situation is well beyond a state of emergency and demands our immediate attention.

As a mother of two, I am especially sensitive to the impact of the sanctions on the Iraqi children. My heart breaks for the millions of mothers who have had to sit by helplessly and watch their children die for lack of food and medicine. And I am filled with rage against my government leaders who have the power to lift the sanctions and ease the suffering, but who choose to do nothing. I am disappointed in the lack of public outcry in opposition to the sanctions from Americans and can only hope that it is misinformation or the

lack of information that keeps most people from caring enough to speak out. The story of the human suffering resulting from the U.S./U.N. imposed sanctions regime needs to be told and, unfortunately, our media are not telling it.

The need to witness and to draw attention to the truth regarding the sanctions is one reason I feel compelled to travel to Iraq. On Nov. 25, I will participate as a member of a five-person Colorado Springs delegation to Iraq. We will be sponsored by Voices in the Wilderness, a Chicago-based organization working to end the sanctions. We will be travelling throughout Iraq for approximately 10 days visiting hospitals, private homes, U.N. offices and both governmental and non-governmental organizations. We will have the opportunity to meet and speak with our Iraqi sisters and brothers and hear first-hand of their suffering.

The sanctions policy is an indiscriminate weapon utilized in total disregard of international law. The sanctions violate Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Children, as well as the very charter of the U.N. More importantly, they violate my own conscience which is guided first and foremost by God's law.

My government is contributing to the slow starvation of thousands of Iraqi children each month. These are children who are no more or less valued and cherished than our own. Madeline Albright says the cost is worth it. I don't agree. As a person of faith and a person of conscience, I must do everything possible to nonviolently resist these illegal and immoral sanctions. This includes traveling to Iraq in open and public defiance of the sanctions law, which according to the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control, is punishable by up to 12 years in jail and \$1 million

in fines.

There are many ways you can get involved in the effort to stop the sanctions. And I beg you, PLEASE do something. Write your congresspeople, write a letter to the editor, attend an organizing or informational meeting. If it's more information you need, check out Voices in the Wilderness' Web site at www.nonviolence.org/vitw. Each of us traveling to Iraq would welcome the opportunity to talk with any individual or group before and/or after our trip.

Because the five of us are members of the Catholic faith community and because our trip may coincide with the pope's proposed visit to Iraq, we have asked for and received our bishop's support. We will be carrying with us a letter signed by Bishop Richard Hanifen and other priests from our diocese, expressing their opposition to the sanctions and solidarity with the people of Iraq. We will also be delivering a symbolic amount of medical and school supplies for the children of Iraq in defiance of the sanctions law.

Finally, your thoughts and prayers are always needed and welcome. I embark on this journey only after much soul-searching, thought, prayer and struggle. There is still a part of me that is very uncertain and afraid, but I suppose it is my faith that allows me to embrace this fear and move forward, knowing that God is always near.

Susan Gordon is a Notre Dame graduate of the Class of 1984. For a More Just and Humane World is a bi-weekly column sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns. Comments and discussions are welcome at ND.ndctrsc.1@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Center for Social Concerns or The Observer.

DILBERT



SCOTT ADAMS

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"They are slaves who fear to speak,
for the fallen and the weak."*

James Russell Lowell
American poet

Approaching the millennium with hope

In the year 999, thousands nervously crammed onto the Vatican grounds as the pope celebrated midnight mass on Dec. 31. Many had sold their possessions, believing that the end of the world would come when the year 1000 arrived. To the relief of everyone present, the 10th chronological century passed peacefully into the next millennium. The years following have yet to see the coming of the end of the world.



Gary J. Caruso

Capitol Comments

Today, as we approach the transition into the next millennium, the world's religious "goofies" are at it again with predictions of doom and destruction. Jerry Falwell, for example, announced months ago that he has stored "plenty of canned goods and ammunition." Militia groups and those with generally "unusual" beliefs are bracing for the big Y2K meltdown. Fringe groups from across the political and religious spectrums will make this New Year's celebration one to remember.

But fringe groups are not the only ones who at times have acted with careless, rigid, reckless or downright inhumane treatment against others. Upon reflection of the past millennium, we Catholics at times have had our share of goofy moments and crusading causes. Most notably were the inquisitions, beginning with Pope Gregory IX and running beyond Pope John XXII.

As we evolve into a more sophisticated society, the lessons learned are oftentimes lost during the heat of a recent moment. Our sights must be set on the future, and our leaders must revolutionize our actions so that people, not doctrine are our primary concern. Vatican II under Pope John XXIII forever changed and somewhat modernized the Church. That modernization, along with the drastic decline of religious serving the Church, helped fuel a freedom Catholic university administrators have enjoyed until the recent efforts of bishops to have the Vatican control higher educational institutions.

It is ironic that Notre Dame, for example, strives to portray itself as "the" Catholic university in the United States by strictly and conservatively adhering to Church dogma. Using such an approach is a tactical and convenient method to justify denying those who seek a nondiscrimination clause that includes sexual orientation.

While some portray the Notre Dame administration as mini-inquisitors in modern-day clothing, others agree with the administration that the Church's mission is not negotiable. We "cafete-

ria Catholics" would like to think that the Church could be like a big tent that can include everyone. However, the realization is that at any given moment actions are taken according to the philosophical rigidity of current leaders. We "K-mart Catholics" are not as cheap with our religion as dogmatic Catholics would like to portray us, and we seek the coming of a new John XXIII who can update Church dogma with some practical application.

Fighting AIDS in Third World countries is an issue our Church must soon address in a reasonable way before this great plague rivals the Middle Ages. Not weighing the positive medical consequences of contraception in these ravaged countries belies past explanations. All sexual contact is not solely intended for procreation. Thinking that the absence of a contraceptive device validates a couple's urges, especially while in the state of marriage, is a naive and hollow excuse that defies biology. Furthermore, maintaining the position that the impeding of the procreation process is wrong, even when an epidemic rages with the under-educated population of the Third World, is in itself backward thinking. Ignoring the need to educate and immediately stop the spread of AIDS is almost like condemning the least educated to death.

Twenty years ago, Right-To-Life supporters vehemently opposed

artificial insemination and experimentation of animal tissues. Today, pig hearts are implanted into humans, thus giving them added years of quality life. Many families have only begun with

the help of artificial insemination. Think how it must feel for that son or daughter who is alive today to contemplate what may not have happened had the thoughts and fears of two decades ago been set in stone. To my way of thinking, some "cafeteria scientists" are to be congratulated.

Discrimination and AIDS are but two of many issues the Church and society must approach in more imaginative ways during the next millennium. Unfortunately, changes will take time — maybe not until the next John XXIII-type of thinker is elected Pope. It may be a generation or two away. It may be a century or two from now. Regardless, we should celebrate the passing of this millennium with the hope that the future holds remarkable achievements yet to come when our future leaders adapt accordingly.

Gary J. Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is currently serving in President Clinton's administration as a Congressional and public affairs director and worked at the U.S. House of Representatives for 17 years. His column appears every other Friday.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Women are not to blame

This is in response to Gabriel Martinez's column yesterday. I should say up front that I am one of the people Martinez calls "damaged goods."

I do not dress provocatively. I do not wear low-cut shirts, high-cut skirts, fishnet stockings or anything skin-tight. I dress like a completely comfortable 21-year-old.

I do not go to debaucherous room parties. I do not drink. I do not smoke. I admit I do swear sometimes. My friends are not slutty. They are not easy. I am not easy. I would make a caring wife and a caring mother and I am a caring sister. I am a good person, despite being "damaged goods." Dozens have not "handled me," but more than one has.

It wasn't my idea. I was gang raped. I assure you it had nothing to do with the way I was dressed at the time. These "pigs" did not attack me because I "looked easy." I didn't send them any "signals," consciously or unconsciously. They attacked me because they felt like it, because they needed to feel strong and powerful and dominant.

Women do not send the kind of signals Martinez suggests; we act according to what we believe and what we feel and what we want to do. Men perceive they are receiving these signals because they want to think that they are desirable; they need to believe in these to inflate their egos and to justify their oppressive, macho behavior. Many men, both "good guys" and "pigs," believe that women

were placed on this Earth for their pleasure and will not listen when anyone tells them differently.

Women cannot bring unwanted sexual attention on themselves, and they are not in charge of making sure that men respect their modesty and their limits. Men are responsible for their own renderings of women's dress, dancing styles and drinking habits.

The law supports this idea. Any rape victim can tell you that it is certainly not legal defense to say that the victim was wearing a miniskirt, so she was asking for it. It is equally ridiculous to suggest that men look at a woman dressed in a certain manner and decide she "looks easy" and therefore is just playing hard to get when she says no. In fact, it is exactly this attitude that causes women to receive unwanted advances. It is a woman's right to dress as she pleases and act as she pleases without harassment from men. As a woman I was insulted by Martinez's assertion to the contrary.

As a rape victim, I sat down and cried that he would ever suggest a woman is to blame for any unwanted sexual attention.

As Martinez says, a woman's clothes can provoke a man's reaction. The problem, however, lies not in the clothes, but in the reaction.

Anonymous
December 2, 1999

The Irish Guard must go

This in no way represents the official views of the band as a whole, its officers or the directors, but as a member of the band of the Fighting Irish, I am very upset with the way the Irish Guard has conducted itself in public this year, which reflects poorly on all of us band members who march behind them.

It seems like a weekly occurrence getting a handful of complaints via mail, e-mail, phone calls and letters to The Observer about the Irish Guard. As an auxiliary group to the band, they have done nothing but tarnish the golden image of the band by misrepresenting us when they knock over helpless children, the elderly and students' fiancées.

Where were you guys this year when at Michigan two large men cut right in front of a row of band members marching back to our busses? That's right, you were busy knocking over some little old lady who happened to be standing along the side of the road. You guys can't even protect the band, your first and foremost duty.

If the Irish Guard was actually good for something other than providing a few cheap thrills for girls hoping to get flashed, then it might be a different story. In 1949, director of bands H. Lee Hope conceived the idea of the Irish Guard for adding color to the band while maintaining the dignity befitting the nation's oldest university band. I seriously doubt the black and blue marks that the Irish Guard's victims have received are the type of color he was talking about. As for maintaining dignity, nice try!

It comes down to two things. The Guard is not doing its job and they are only making it

harder for everyone else to do theirs. The marching band has been the best and has worked the hardest this year than in any year before; everyone will tell you that. At rehearsals, everyone in the band is giving 110 percent while guard members screw around and do everything except for what they are supposed to be doing, which wastes everyone's time.

The Irish Guard has been disbanded in the past for different reasons. I think it is time for it to happen again. There are so many musicians that show up to

band camp in August who don't make the band and are heartbroken and would die for the opportunity to march in the band. Why don't we let 10 more well-deserving musicians in, disband the Irish Guard and kill two irritating birds with one easy-to-throw stone?

I realize the Irish Guard is a tradition, but is this a tradition we really want, painting Notre Dame and the band in such a poor light? I know this is going to roll some heads and I am glad because I know many band members are thinking exactly what I'm thinking but are afraid to say it.

I know I am speaking for the silent majority. This needed to be said by someone and I have no problem with that someone being me.

Antonio Di Pasquale
Junior
Dillon Hall
December 2, 1999



The twelve days of Christmas

Scene presents the holiday spirit found throughout campus teeming with examples of each of the gifts given in the Twelve drummers drumming ...



Bang Bang! Boom Boom! For more than 154 years, the Notre Dame drum line hasn't missed a beat. From football to basketball, year after year, the drummers keep a drumming.

KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

... Eleven pipers piping ...

Peppily piping, the piccolos provide a melody to match the dozen drummers' beat.



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

... Ten lords - a - leaping ...



Walking into the winter wonderland of the Joyce Center, the Notre Dame hockey team offers a warm welcome.

MARY CALASH/The Observer

... Nine ladies dancing ...

Bounce. Bounce. Bounce. The Notre Dame women's basketball team prepares for its game with the grace of a "Nutcracker" ballerina.



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

mas, Notre Dame style

mpus. From athletes to students, Notre Dame is
e popular carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

... Eight maids - a - milking ...



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Got milk? These dining hall service assistants have plenty waiting for Santa come Christmas Eve. They've decked the South Dining Hall in full season fashion.

... Six geese - a - laying ...



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Six geese - a - laying ... In the water. These geese opted to stay in the lakes and await the snow rather than head south for the winter.

Golden rings adorn the fingers of many Notre Dame students come Christmas day. These jewels of school pride top everyone's wish list.



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

... Seven swans - a - swimming ...



MIKE HARRIS/The Observer

Spillsh-Splash I was taking a bath. Swimming serenely like swans, the women's swim team splashes its way into the holiday season, goggles and all.

... Five golden rings ...

... Twelve days continued ...

... Four calling birds ...



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Four chicks from Lewis Hall cheerfully chit-chat the night away. Perhaps they are making final plans for the rare four-week winter holiday. Or maybe they're talking to Santa. Who knows?

... Three French hens ...



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Joyeux Noel! French professors Vicki Toumayan, Marie-Claire Escoda-Risto and Odette Menyard aren't chicken to give out an F or to wish a merry Christmas.

... Two turtledoves ...



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

Ahhhh. Isn't that cute? The mistletoe can be a great place to meet that special someone, so be aware of all things hanging from ceilings and doorways ...

... And a partridge in a pear tree.

So maybe she's not a partridge. And maybe it's not a pear tree. More like ... a Virgin in a pine tree. Our Lady of the Lake watches over the Notre Dame community, to remind all to keep the spirit of Christmas alive throughout the year.



KEVIN DALUM/The Observer

NBA

Police seek to question Smith

◆ Teenager may have threatened ex-girlfriend with gun

Associated Press

CHICAGO

Leon Smith, the troubled teen-ager with the Dallas Mavericks, was being sought for questioning by police Thursday after they received a report he threatened his ex-girlfriend with a gun at her Chicago high school.

The allegations are the latest bizarre twist involving the 19-year-old who jumped straight from high school to the pros.

Authorities have not issued an arrest warrant for the 6-foot-11 Smith, but said they want to talk to him about the alleged confrontation, police spokesman Edward Alonzo said.

Police have not said that the Smith they are looking for is the Dallas player, but NBA players union director Billy Hunter confirmed the connection.

Mavericks coach Don Nelson, in Chicago on Thursday night for a game against the Bulls, declined to comment.

Smith's Arizona-based agent, Matt Muehlebach, did not return a call seeking comment.

Smith allegedly went to John Marshall High School on Chicago's West Side early Wednesday morning and confronted the 16-year-old girl. Smith threatened the girl

and then told her he would shoot her brother if she told him about it, Alonzo said.

Smith then produced a handgun and showed it to the girl, who fled, police said.

The girl reported the incident to police.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported Wednesday that Smith and his ex-girlfriend, a star basketball player at Marshall, had recently broken up. Chicago police had no such details.

"We would just like to talk to him at this point," Alonzo said.

If Smith was indeed involved, it would be just the latest troubling episode for the teen-ager who lived in various group homes while spending 14 years as a ward of Illinois.

He's been estranged from his parents since he was 5.

Less than three weeks ago in Dallas, Smith was arrested and put in a psychiatric ward after police found him overdosed on aspirin.

Smith was charged with criminal mischief after he allegedly smashed the rear window of a sport utility vehicle owned by a friend.

When officers arrived, they found Smith passed out on the floor of his apartment and wearing green war paint on his face, a police report stated.

Smith's friend told police Smith had taken more than 250 pain relievers.

Smith was taken to the

psychiatric ward of Parkland Health & Hospital System in Dallas.

Smith declared himself eligible for the NBA draft after averaging 25.5 points, 14.5 rebounds and eight blocks as a senior at Chicago's Martin Luther King High School.

San Antonio took him with the final pick in the first round, then traded him to Dallas.

Under NBA rules, all first-round selections get three-year guaranteed contracts.

Smith's deal was worth \$1.447 million.

Problems began almost immediately when during his first practice in July Smith clashed with assistant coach Donnie Nelson about running laps.

Team officials then unsuccessfully tried to convince Smith that he would be better off spending the season overseas or in a developmental league.

Last week, Hunter and Purvis Short of the players' union traveled to Dallas to meet with Smith.

They spent four days with the rookie, helping him with such basics as obtaining a photo identification card.

The Mavericks planned to have Smith play a season in a minor league or in Europe, but Smith balked.

The team is keeping him on the injured list with a lower back strain, and Hunter has complained that Mavericks management has kept Smith isolated from the rest of the team.

NFL

Authorities find Carruth played role in murder plot

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

The Carolina Panthers cut off Rae Carruth's salary Thursday night, one day after authorities said he played a pivotal role in an alleged plot to try to kill his pregnant girlfriend.

The Panthers, who placed Carruth on a paid personal leave after Cherica Adams was critically wounded in a drive-by shooting Nov. 16, said Thursday night they were changing his status to a leave of absence without pay.

"Rae obviously has a lot of concerns to address," coach George Seifert said. "We are not making a judgment on the case, but the situation makes it impossible for Rae to fulfill his contractual obligations."

Also Thursday night, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police made a fourth arrest in the attack on Adams, who was shot four times from a passing vehicle as she drove through a Charlotte neighborhood. Stanley D. Abraham Jr., 19, of Charlotte, was arrested on charges of conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, attempted murder and shooting into an occupied vehicle — the same charges as Carruth and the other two defendants face. No bond for Abraham was immediately set.

Seifert said Panthers owner Jerry Richardson made the decision to stop paying Carruth after consulting with team officials as well as NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue and Gene Upshaw, head of the players' union. Seifert said Tagliabue and Upshaw supported Richardson's decision.

Team officials said their move was based in part on a clause in standard NFL player contracts that stipulates that players must be able to perform services for their team. They also said that if Carruth is exonerated, he would get whatever

money the team owes him.

George Laughrun, Carruth's attorney, said his client was trying to come to terms with the increasing likelihood that he would not be able to put together the money needed to post his \$3 million bond.

"He has adjusted as well as anybody could," Laughrun told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Thursday night. "His attitude is, 'Let's wait and see what happens.' He understands what he's facing. He understands the long road we're up against."

Carruth, a wide receiver drafted by the Panthers in the first round in 1997, is in the third year of a four-year, \$3.7 million contract that calls for him to get a 1999 salary of \$652,500. That works out to \$38,382 for each of the 17 weeks that players are paid during the season.

The team's decision to cut off Carruth's salary came one day after Laughrun failed in his bid to get his client's bond lowered to \$100,000. Carruth is being held at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg jail.

When Laughrun went before District Judge Phil Howerton to seek a reduction of the bond amount, prosecutors opposed the move by saying Carruth played a key role in the crime.

They also said eyewitnesses and direct evidence put Carruth and the two other defendants at the scene of the attack.

"Rae Carruth was the instigator here," Assistant Mecklenburg County District Attorney Gentry Caudill said. "We are a heartbeat away from a double-murder case."

Adams and her baby, who was 10 weeks short of full term when he was delivered by emergency Caesarean section shortly after the shooting, remained in critical condition Thursday at Carolinas Medical Center.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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HI CHAS.

THE LAST ISSUE OF THE
OBSERVER IS WEDNESDAY,
DEC. 8.

If you want to wish your friends a
happy holiday in the classifieds, the
deadline is
2 pm Tuesday, Dec. 7.

Hey Brooke, Hey Julia
Brooke have fun at the dance
Julia take care of Chuk don't let him
hurt himself
I forgot to give him the tickets. I will
leave them in an envelope on my
tack board.

Pete ... you stopped watching foot-
ball to make popcorn and watch
Maverick? Tool

Daily,
I'm counting on you to punch
HARD. No wimpy stuff.
Go for blood.
Krupa

My favorite girls - hope you all have
fun at the formal. Take pictures!

Matt, MDeath in unision: "Bear'butt"
is our favorite person in the
WHOLE world! She is just so cool.
We wish we could be more like
her."

Is that enough of a dialogue for
you? I sure hope so because that's
all you're going to get.

It's a pretty poor mind that can only
think of one way to spell a word!
-The SinNott

Hey Erin! I hope you're not giving
KHS too much of a headache. See
you in a couple weeks!

Do you know the way to San Jose?

NFL

Bears start fifth QB of season

Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill.

Switching quarterbacks is hardly a new experience for the Chicago Bears. Now, after Jim Miller's four-game suspension for violating the NFL drug policy, they're doing it again out of necessity.

When they play the Green Bay Packers at Soldier Field Sunday, the Bears will turn back to opening-game starter Shane Matthews, who has been recovering from a hamstring injury and hasn't played in five weeks.

It will be Chicago's fifth switch of starting quarterbacks this season.

"That's never the thing you want to do," Bears coach Dick Jauron said. "You want to stay in rhythm. 'We're confident Shane will step up.'"

The starter's breakdown this season goes like this: Matthews six games, rookie top draft pick Cade McNown three and Miller the last three before his random drug test showed traces of Nandrolone, a substance banned under the NFL's steroid policy.

Matthews, who had been cut

four times before winning the starter's job, led the Bears to a 3-2 record in the opening five games before injuring his right hamstring during the fourth quarter of the fifth game against Minnesota.

McNown, who had been getting one series a game to get him acclimated to the NFL, filled in as a starter for two games before Matthews returned Oct. 31 against the Redskins.

Matthews reinjured the hamstring in that game, and McNown then got his third start the next week against the Packers.

But McNown sprained a knee ligament during the first quarter at Lambeau Field and was replaced by Miller, who led the Bears to victory, then took over as starter the next three games, averaging 327 yards passing as Chicago lost two of three.

Now, it's back to Matthews,

who admits his hamstring is still not completely healed and might not be until the season is over. He's been the Bears' third quarterback the past two games.

"There might be some rust, but it's my job to pick up where I left off last time I was playing," Matthews said.

"We're going to miss Jim," receiver Curtis Conway said. "We have four critical games to play and we've got to get our heads in it. Shane was the original starter, and I think everybody has all the confidence in the world in him."

Glyn Milburn, the Bears' all-purpose runner, receiver and kick returner, said it takes a slight adjustment to a new quarterback.

"With Jim we got used to a certain style and it will change some," Milburn said. "Anytime you change, it's a little different because they are all unique in the styles they use."

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

LA shortstop faces assault charges

Associated Press

LAHAINA, Hawaii

Los Angeles shortstop Mark Grudzielanek faces an assault charge for allegedly punching a bar bouncer earlier this week.

Grudzielanek, a former All-Star player, was in Moose McGillicuddy's on Front Street late Tuesday night when a bouncer asked him to leave, Sgt. Donald Simpson said Thursday.

Grudzielanek then allegedly punched the bouncer several times in the face, opening a 2-inch cut over his left eye.

Grudzielanek was placed

under citizen's arrest and held until police arrived.

He was charged with misdemeanor third-degree assault and released early Wednesday morning after posting \$200 bail. He is scheduled for a Dec. 22 hearing in Lahaina District Court.

Dodgers spokesman Shaun Rachau said Thursday he spoke with Grudzielanek's agent, Seth Levinson, and "according to him, there's no merit to the case and it will ultimately be dismissed."

Rachau said Grudzielanek, of North Palm Beach, Fla., was not available for comment.

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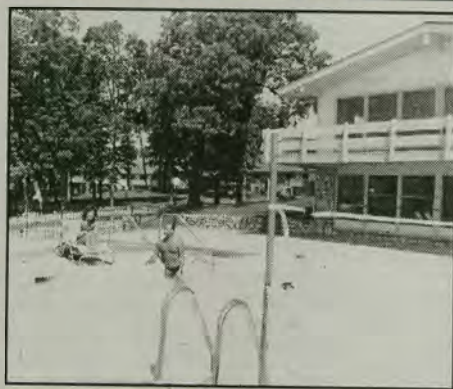
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NBA

Bryant completes Lakers' line up

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

With the return of Kobe Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers finally have all their pieces in place. The way they played without him, that could mean trouble for the rest of the NBA.

Bryant had 19 points, six rebounds and three assists in his first game of the season Wednesday night as the Lakers beat Golden State 93-75 for their fourth straight



Bryant

victory.

"I felt good getting out there and playing, it was a rush," said Bryant, who drew plenty of raves from the crowd of 17,689 at Staples Center. "My timing was off. My wind was good. I felt tired at first, then I got my second wind. My legs were a little heavy."

"I expect to be rusty for a bit. I haven't played for so long."

Bryant, who averaged 19.9 points, 5.3 rebounds and 3.8 assists last season, was sidelined since breaking his right hand Oct. 13 during the pre-season opener.

"It was nice to have Kobe's energy," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "He's just a wild, impulsive kid right now. He's still feeling his way."

When asked how he would

grade Bryant's first game, Jackson replied, "I would say by the end of the year, we would give this a D or a C. It was sub-par. He's still in pre-season form, I think."

Shaquille O'Neal, who had 28 points, 23 rebounds and four blocked shots despite sitting out the fourth quarter, thought Bryant played well considering it was his first game in seven weeks.

"He got a lot of rust off," O'Neal said. "He did OK. This was his first night in this building. He's going to play a lot better. He's going to be fine."

The Lakers performed a lot better than expected with Bryant on the sidelines, winning 11 of 15 games.

"We did a good job without him, now we expect to do a lot better with him," said Glen Rice, who along with Bryant and O'Neal, provide the Lakers with an imposing offensive trio. "He's got an ability to penetrate, get the ball up the floor quickly. It's going to be fun."

The Lakers (12-4) will get a good idea of where they stand Friday night when they face the Portland Trail Blazers (14-3) at the Staples Center.

"Friday's going to be the true test," said O'Neal, the NBA's player of the month in November with averages of 28.7 points, 13.4 rebounds, 3.36 blocked shots and 3.0 assists.

Jackson said Bryant, who came off the bench and played 30 minutes against the Warriors, would not start against Portland.

One area where Bryant clearly needs to improve is defense; he was beaten several times by the Warriors.

NCAA FOOTBALL

CBS airs 1963 Army-Navy game

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA

Watching sports on television changed forever on a December day 36 years ago.

It was early in the fourth quarter of the 64th Army-Navy football game. Army quarterback Rollie Stichweh broke a tackle from 1 yard out and ran in for a touchdown. A few seconds later, television viewers watched it again — the first instant replay.

"This is not live!" CBS announcer Lindsay Nelson said. "Ladies and gentlemen, Army did not score again!"

The rest is history. On Saturday, the rivalry will be renewed for the 100th time.

In 1963, the Army-Navy game was the nation's biggest football game with one of the largest TV audiences for a sporting event. A perfect opportunity to try out a revolutionary TV idea, decided young TV director Tony Verna, who had attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

"I think it's hard to imagine viewing sports without the instant replay," Verna, 65, said this week from his office in Pacific Palisades, Calif. "After that, every sporting event had to use it or people would complain."

Verna was only 29 when he launched instant replay, but he was already well regarded and trusted with top athletic assignments. (The Army-Navy game in 1963 was considered more important than the first Super Bowl, held in 1966; CBS sent Verna to a European ice

skating event instead).

Verna said he started thinking about a way to show replays out of frustration after missing too many key plays.

"I'd say, 'What happened on that play?' and someone would say [Eagles receiver Tommy] McDonald had tripped," Verna said. "What if we could let people see that again?"

At the same time, Verna also had the problem of the devastatingly long pauses between plays.

"In those days, when [Eagles quarterback Norm] Van Brocklin threw the ball and walked back to the huddle, it was boring," he said. "You could eat a

ham sandwich it was so slow." His idea was to film games on videotape, then cue up a play much like can be done now on a home VCR. Video replay had been used by ABC on its halftime shows but never during a live game.

There were problems: Videotape was cumbersome to use on location and hard to come by. Verna ended up borrowing an old tape of "I Love Lucy" — he had to give it back, so there is no video record of the first instant replay — and placing a refrigerator-sized tape machine with the onfield camera crew.

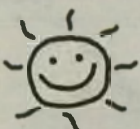
In addition, videotape showed static for a few seconds or longer when it cued up.

The problem was how to show a few seconds of football footage without any static. In about 50 practice runs before the game, Verna was unable to get a perfect cut but decided to try it anyway.

"I think it's hard to imagine viewing sports without the instant replay. After that, every sporting event had to use it or people would complain."

Tony Verna
CBS TV director

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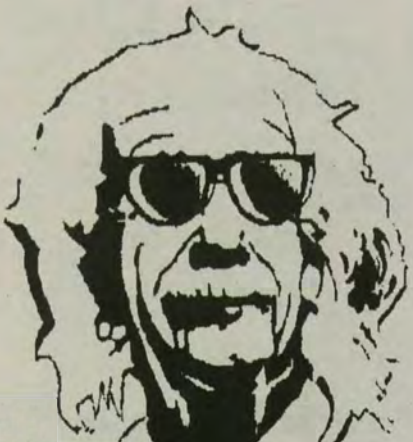
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NFL

Peter suits up for practice to test arm

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

Jason Peter is back on the practice field for the Carolina Panthers, trying to salvage what is shaping up as his second disappointing season in as many years in the NFL.

"It's not exactly what I had pictured," Peter said Thursday before going out to once again test a surgically repaired left arm, one that doctors said nearly seven weeks ago should be fixed in four.

Peter said he wasn't sure if he would miss his seventh consecutive game Sunday when the Panthers (5-6) take on the NFC West-leading St. Louis Rams (9-2).

"I don't know what's going to happen," he said. "I think if I do play at all, it will be very limited."

Coach George Seifert said it was too soon to make a decision on Peter's status for Sunday. But Seifert said the most likely scenario would be that Peter would sit out for one more week.

Peter, a defensive end taken with the 14th overall selection in the 1998 draft, missed two games as a rookie because of biceps and neck problems, helping limit him to just one sack in his first year as a pro.

He had just 1.5 sacks this year in four-plus games before being sidelined by numbness and tingling in his left arm and hand. The injury occurred when Peter's arm was twisted awkwardly while he was trying to make a tackle during Carolina's victory at San Francisco on Oct. 17.

Doctors diagnosed the problem as a disc that was putting pressure on a nerve. Peter had surgery to have the disc shaved down Oct. 26, and he began rehabilitation the next day.

When the projected four-week recovery period ended, Peter tested the arm at practice, only to find that one good shot to his head by a teammate created the same feelings of tingling and numbness in the arm. The only difference now is

that instead of the problem lasting for more than a week, the tingling goes away in a matter of seconds.

Peter's frustration became evident Nov. 22 when he told a few reporters that he was concerned that he might not play again this season.

On Thursday, however, he softened that stance.

"I want to play," he said. "There was some speculation that I had thrown in the towel, but I didn't mean that at all. I want to get back in as soon as I can."

Peter said he met with specialists last week who assured him that the injury is fixed. Peter said they told him the only reason he continues to experience tingling is that there is still some swelling in the area, and that the tingling will go away as the swelling does.

"That's what they tell me, so I believe them," he said. "They're the doctors. It gave me a lot of confidence."

Wednesday was the first day he had pads on and took part in full-scale contact work since the injury. He has been outfitted with large roll of padding that looks like a collar, a brace designed to prevent his head from snapping too far to either side.

"I was a little scared at first," he said. "I didn't know how my neck would react the first time I got contact. But it held up well. It's stiff today, but that's just expected. We knew that would happen."

The Panthers did not work out in pads or conduct contact drills Thursday, and Seifert has no more such practices scheduled this week.

Seifert said that when Peter does return, it is unlikely to be as a starter. Rather, he will be worked into the lineup on a gradual basis.

Peter, meantime, continues to wait.

"There's still a lot of football to be played," he said. "Depending on these next couple of games here, even if it's just one or two games at the end, I'll be happy with that rather than not playing at all."

Vermeil defends Rams' strategy

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS

Dick Vermeil doesn't like being called a bully.

The St. Louis coach has bristled this week at suggestions his NFC West-leading Rams have run up the score in recent weeks.

"People that know me know I'm not trying to enhance my ego or status or our offense's status by scoring at the end of the game," Vermeil said.

The evidence: Marshall Faulk ran 18 yards on a sweep with 1:11 to go three weeks ago in a 35-10 victory over Carolina, and last week James Hodgins scored from the 1 with about three minutes left in a 43-12 victory over New Orleans. The defense: In the first case, Vermeil said he believed his running game hadn't gotten enough work and blamed the Panthers for poor tackling. On Sunday, he said he backed off and used only running plays. Hodgins is a backup fullback who had only three carries for 5 yards all season.

"It was just like the same offense I ran at Hillsdale High School," Vermeil said of his first head-coaching job. "I didn't expect to score."

In any case, Vermeil isn't expecting criticism from Panthers coach George Seifert, whose team entertains the Rams Sunday, or Saints coach Mike Ditka. Vermeil has done his homework, and pointed out that Seifert-coached teams have scored 50 or more points four times, and 40 or more on 18 occasions. As for Ditka, Vermeil brought up the Bears' 46-10 victory over the New England Patriots in the 1986 Super Bowl.

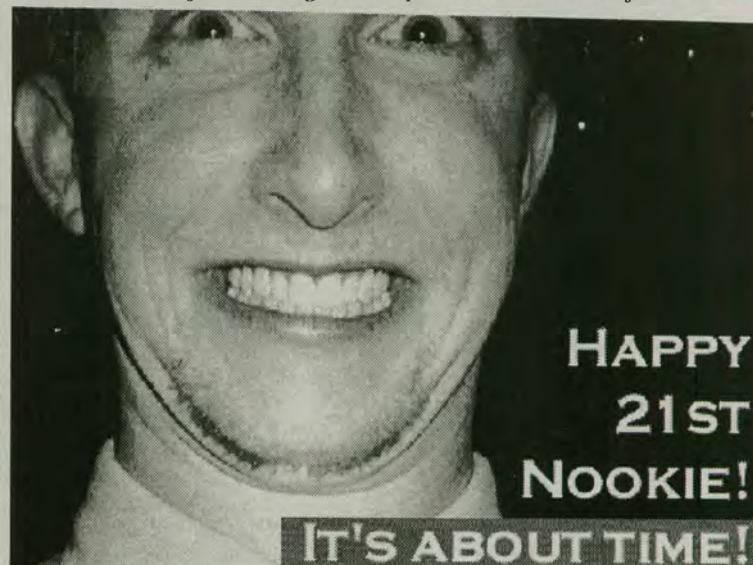
Rams tight end Roland Williams said the proof is in the

conservative play-calling.

"We're professionals," Williams said. "We're not throwing bombs and trying to run reverses. We're just running our

offense."

Seifert, whose team will attempt to keep the Rams from clinching the West on Sunday, tiptoed around the subject.



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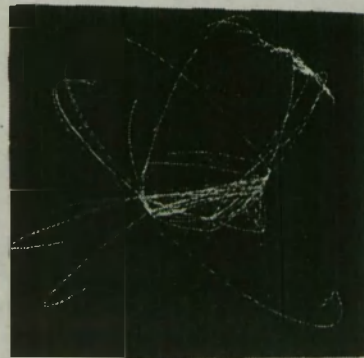
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 RB Brandon Royster 5'11" 190 lbs. from Fairfax, Va.
 RB Derron Parquet 6'0" 210 lbs. from Metairie, La.
 WR Michael Jenkins 6'5" 200 lbs. from Tampa, Fla.
 WR Ronnie Rodamer 6'4" 190 lbs. from Morgantown, W.Va.
 WR Tab Perry 6'3" 205 lbs. from Milpitas, Calif.
 OL Alex Barron 6'6" 260 lbs. from Orangeburg, S.C.
 DL/OL Greg Pauly 6'6" 270 lbs. from Waukesha, Wis.
 DL Bobby Williams 6'5" 250 lbs. from Smyrna Beach, Fla.
 LB Mike Goolsby 6'3" 230 lbs. from Joliet, Ill.
 LB Keyaron Fox 6'3" 200 lbs. from Westlake, Ga.
 LB/RB Brandon Holmes 6'3" 210 lbs. from Atlanta, Ga.
 DB Nate Curry 5'11" 175 lbs. from Miami, Fla.
 DB Garron Bible 5'11" 190 lbs. from Kingwood, Tex.
 DB Abram Elam 6'1" 195 lbs. from West Palm Beach, Fla.

*Information from Mike Frank, recruiting expert from Omaha, Neb.
 The Observer/Joe Mueller

Recruits

continued from page 24

said assistant coach Jerry Rosburg, whose duties also include organizing and administering the recruiting process. "We wouldn't bring someone to campus just to check them out. We've done most of our leg work in that regard."

Several recruits are expected to visit this weekend, including quarterback Jared Clark (Sarasota, Fla.), wide receiver Ronnie Rodamer (Morgantown, W.V.), linemen Alex Barron (Orangeburg, S.C.), and Greg Pauly (Waukesha, Wisc.), who all have attended the Notre Dame summer football camp. The coaches are also allowed to contact the recruits once a week by telephone during the months of September, October and November.

With the NCAA rules restricting contact with the high school players, Rosburg believes that, in particular, the summer camp presents a valuable opportunity for the coaches to evaluate potential recruits. Of the 21 members of this year's freshman class, 10 attended the camp prior to signing with the Irish.

"It's become an important evaluation tool for all schools because we have less and less opportunity to evaluate and contact players," Rosburg said regarding the camp. "So we, like everyone else in America, try to bring them to our summer camps to get to know them better."

Coming off a 5-7 season and with possible NCAA violations due by the end of the year, this is an important recruiting year for the Irish. The past two class-

es have ranked in the top 10 in the nation according to recruiting experts, yet the results on the field have not been up to par.

"I can assure you that the response to Notre Dame has been very positive," Rosburg said. "The people out there know what Notre Dame stands for both academically and athletically. The interest level has been very good."

"Notre Dame has enough positive things to sell that when it all comes down to the end, they'll see what Notre Dame is," Rosburg added. "They'll have a good impression of what Notre Dame is all about."

At least one well-respected known recruiting expert, Tom Lemming from Chicago, believes that the on-field performance this season will actually help the Irish in the recruiting wars.

"A lot of times a bad season can even enhance recruiting," Lemming said. "Players feel that they can have a chance to play right away."

There are plenty of concerns for an Irish team coming off its first seven-loss season since 1963. The two biggest areas to fill for the Irish come at quarterback and cornerback.

The only returning quarterbacks are Battle and Gary Godsey, who was recruited as a tight end but spent his freshman year as the third-string signal caller. At cornerback the combination of Clifford Jefferson, who allowed eight touchdowns, and the graduation of Deveron Harper leaves a void in the defensive backfield.

The Irish may get some help this weekend as two quarterbacks, Clark and Carlyle Holiday (San Antonio, Texas) as well as a pair of cornerbacks in Garron

Bible (Kingwood, Texas) and Abram Elam (West Palm Beach, Fla.) are expected to visit.

The weekend's festivities begin Friday night with the annual football banquet honoring the team. While awards like most outstanding offensive and defensive players will be presented, the highlight of the banquet may be the guest speaker, Regis Philbin. Philbin, the host of "Live! With Regis and Kathie Lee" and the newly popular television game show "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire" will try to add some personality to the evening's series of events and lure the prospects to attend his alma mater.

At least one prominent member of the Notre Dame football team understands the importance of having a nationally recognized alum assist in selling his program. "We're putting all the pressure on Regis Philbin," head coach Bob Davie said on Wednesday. "We're going to have a great banquet and a great recruiting weekend if Regis can deliver for us, which I'm sure he will."

Following the banquet, the recruits will be get to experience the social and academic life at Notre Dame. Current players will serve as hosts to the recruits to explore the campus and to experience the social and academic atmosphere at Notre Dame.

Two years after his official visit, it's now Battle's turn to show the recruits the full Notre Dame experience.

"I don't want to mislead anyone and let them come here if they're not happy," Battle said. "We'll let them know how it's going to be and go from there. It's not an easy place and we tell the recruits that when they get here."

Venite Adoremus

Correction: The campus-wide Eucharistic Adoration vigil mentioned in Tuesday's issue of the *Observer* (p13) will begin on Monday, December 6 at 11:30 pm and conclude on Tuesday, December 7 at 10:00 pm (benediction at 9:45 pm). It will take place in St. Paul Chapel of Fisher Hall. Sorry for the confusion over date and location. The author freely admits to being a bit sleep deprived:-) See your liturgical commissioners to sign up, or call Laura at 4x2378.

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HOCKEY

ND set to play host to MSU

MATT OLIVA
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame hockey team returns to CCHA play this weekend, twice matching up with Michigan State.

The Irish (5-2-2, 3-5-2 in the CCHA) play host to the league-leading Spartans Saturday night before traveling to East Lansing for Sunday's game.

The Spartans have started out fast with a 11-4 overall record, 10-2 in the CCHA. Michigan State leads the CCHA in overall defense — allowing 1.73 goals per game — and power play percentage, while ranking fourth in scoring and penalty killing.

Freshman Ryan Miller has posted a 5-1 record, with a 1.40 goals-against average, a .934 save percentage and three shutouts. Junior Joe Blackburn has equally impressive statistics with a 6-3 record, 2.04 goals-against average, a .905 save percentage, and one shutout.

Offensively, the Spartans have several strong players. Senior forward Shawn Horcoff leads the CCHA with 26 total points, scoring six goals to go along with his 20 assists, while sophomore forward Adam Hall ranks fifth with 12 goals and eight assists. Hall is tied for first in the CCHA in goals scored, including four game-winning goals.

The Irish will look to several players offensively to continue their recent production. Senior left-wing Andy Jurkowski has seven points in the last nine games, while senior right wing Joe Dusbabek has added five points in the last seven games.

Also coming on recently is sophomore center Brett Henning, who has four points in his last five games.

Freshman goalie Tony Zasowski leads the Irish defensively, turning in six strong performances this season. He has a 3-2-2 record as a starter to go along with a 2.10 goals-against average and .925 save percentage. Zasowski's efforts this year include a 19 save shutout and five 2-goal games. His CCHA goals against average of 2.31 ranks eighth best in the league.

VOLLEYBALL

Irish net spot in NCAA tourney opening round

By MATT OLIVA
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame volleyball team travels back to California this weekend for the opening round of the NCAA tournament.

The Irish earned a berth in the Central Sub-regional and will face Ohio State at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion Saturday. It marks the eighth straight season that the Irish have qualified for the national tournament.

The Irish bring a 20-8 record into the tournament against the Buckeyes. The Irish faced the Buckeyes once before in NCAA action at the 1996 tournament, when Ohio State defeated Notre Dame in five games at the Joyce Center in the second round. In 1999, Ohio State is 16-11 overall and finished an even 10-10 record in the Big Ten Conference.

The Buckeyes are led by all-Big Ten honoree outside hitter Jen Flynn, averaging 3.29 kills per game and 2.42 digs per

game. Big Ten honorable mention selection Rosie Snow is first on the team in kills per game with a 3.56 mark and in digs per game with a 2.69 average. Setter Katie Virtue was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Year.

"I don't know a lot about Ohio State, but we'll probably learn as much as we can in the next couple days and just take it one game at a time," Brown said.

The Irish will look to Big East player of the Year Mary Leffers to lead them in the tournament. The middle blocker set Big East records for most blocks (67) and highest hitting percentage (.475) in conference matches and is currently ranked fifth nationally in blocks per game.

Leffers is joined by junior Denise Boylan on the all-Big East first team, while junior Christi Giron and sophomore Kristy Kreher were named to the all-conference second team. Boylan ranks fourth in the Big East in assists per game in conference matches and has led

the Irish to a .280 hitting percentage and a phenomenal .359 hitting percentage in Big East matches.

The winner of the Notre Dame-Ohio State match will face the winner of the UCLA (25-3)-Eastern Washington (24-7) contest on Sunday at 5 p.m. Notre Dame faced Eastern

Washington a year ago for the first time in the first round of the 1998 NCAA Tournament at Stanford, defeating them in four games before falling to the Cardinal. Should Notre Dame and sixth-ranked UCLA face each other on Sunday, it would be the first meeting between the two schools.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish prepare to take on No. 10 Tar Heels in tourney



MIKE HARRIS/The Observer

Sophomore guard Ericka Haney passes the ball in Notre Dame's 77-57 win over Butler. The Irish travel to Virginia to take on the No. 10 Tar Heels in the Wachovia's Invitational Saturday.

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

The Irish will have their hands full when they travel to Virginia to take on the Tar Heels of North Carolina Saturday in the first round of the Wachovia's Women Invitational Tournament in women's basketball action.

At 4-1 this season, the No. 10 Tar Heels will pose a formidable challenge as the Irish will try to capture the championship title in the four-team tournament.

"They're a tough team and they're really athletic," said freshman guard Alicia Ratay. "We're going to have to come out strong and keep our intensity up to win."

The Irish are coming off a 77-57 routing of Butler in Notre Dame's home opener on Thursday. Led by center Ruth Riley and Ratay, the Irish took control of the front and back courts from the outset of the game.

Ratay came up within 16 points to lead the offense, while Riley was big on defense, tallying seven blocked shots in just 19 minutes.

"I was forcing shots in our loss to Illinois," said Ratay. "The difference in the game against Butler was that I was just letting

the shots happen. We kept giving the ball to Ruth because she was having an awesome game."

Guard Niele Ivey added 13 points in the victory.

The Irish (2-1) struggled in their second game to put an effective defense on the court, but showed no signs of weakness Thursday, as they went on a 16-0 run midway through the first half to break open the game.

The Irish will look to continue their strong play against the Tar Heels.

"We're trying to focus on rebounding against North Carolina," said Ratay. "They crash the boards really well and so we're going to need to work to stop them."

The Tar Heels enter the tournament after a close win over the Sun Devils of Arizona State. In a game that was decided by a basket at the buzzer, the Tar Heels had trouble putting the unranked Sun Devils away early.

In order to beat the Tar Heels, the Irish will have to contain potentially-explosive forward LaQuanda Barsdale. Barsdale scored a game-high 24 points against the Sun Devils and has proved to be a force both offensively and defensively throughout the entire season.

This is the first meeting between the Irish and the Tar Heels. The winner of the Notre Dame-North Carolina matchup will face either Liberty or Richmond in the final round on Sunday. The Irish met the Flames and the Spiders once each and were victorious in both games.

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December 6
8:00 in SUB office

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Irish

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Vanderbilt is undefeated and has won at home against Belmont, Tennessee-Martin and East Tennessee State. If the Commodores defeat the Irish, they will become only the second Vandy squad since 1986 to open the year 4-0.

While the Commodores have yet to lose a game, they haven't faced a ranked opponent. The Irish, on the other

hand, have played four top-25 teams.

One challenge for the Irish will be containing forward Dan Langhi, who was named a pre-season All-American. The 6-foot-11 Langhi is averaging 19.7 points per game this season, and scored 33 points in the Commodores' 68-63 victory over the Irish in 1998.

"He's got a lot of skill levels," Palmer said. "Whoever matches up against him is going to have a tough time."

The Irish have 6-foot-10 sophomore Troy Murphy to

counter Langhi at the dominant big man position. Murphy leads Notre Dame with 26 points per game, and has had five double doubles so far this year.

Other players down low for Notre Dame are forwards David Graves and Harold Swanagan, along with Palmer and freshman Jere Macura off the bench.

Macura, currently being treated for vertigo according to Palmer, should return in shape by tip-off.

"He's a tough kid," Palmer

said. "He should be all right."

Vanderbilt also has a talented back court duo in senior guards Atiba Prater and James Strong.

Strong is the team's second leading scorer and averages 4.3 assists per game, while Prater leads Vanderbilt in assists.

Dillon and Martin Ingelsby are the starting guards for Notre Dame, while freshman reserve Matt Carroll has a soft shooting touch.

Vanderbilt also has new head coach Kevin Stallings.

Although the squad only qualified for the NCAA tournament once in the past six years, Stallings may turn that record around. As a collegiate player and a coach, Stallings' teams have made post-season appearances 18 of 21 years.

"Coach talked about breaking the game up into four 10-minute quarters," Dillon said. "We're hoping to put Vandy back on their heels and set the tempo early on. We're going to set our game plan and stick to it no matter what Vanderbilt throws at us."

Soccer

continued from page 24

a team like Santa Clara four goals and expect to win."

To stop the potent Bronco attack, the center Irish backs — Jen Grub and Kelly Lindsey — must slow down the Santa Clara offense while goalkeeper LaKeysia Beene must make the big saves. Beene has played especially strong in the post season — making key saves against Stanford and Nebraska in the third and quarterfinal rounds, respectively.

"We need to have the kind of performance we have had from them the last two or three NCAA games. Grubb and Kelly Lindsey both need to have great games," Waldrum said. "Keysia needs to come up big for us against. Against Stanford she made some saves that won the game for us. Against Nebraska she came up big for us as well."

The Irish face one of the best 1-2 scoring combos in the nation in Aly Wagner and Mandy Clements. Wagner just missed making the 1999 World Cup team while Clements leads the nation in scoring with 71 points. Both Wagner and Clements are two of five finalists for the Hermann award, which is given to the country's top female soccer player.

Most of soccer analysts are not giving the fifth-seeded Irish much of a chance against the No. 1 Broncos. Collegesoccer.com has made Santa Clara a 4:1 favorite.

"We kind of feel like the pressure is completely on Santa Clara. For us the only pressure is what we are putting on ourselves," Waldrum said. "The feeling I am getting listening to most of the media talk around here is that most of them don't think we have a chance. We kind of like that."

The semifinals will be televised at 10 p.m. tonight on channel 46. The winner of the Santa Clara-Notre Dame game will face the winner of the Penn State-North Carolina game at 4 p.m. Sunday on ESPN.

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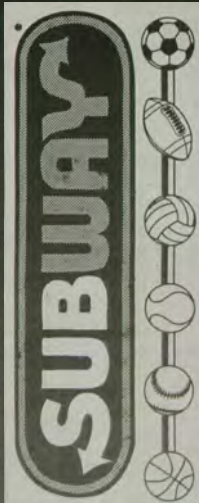
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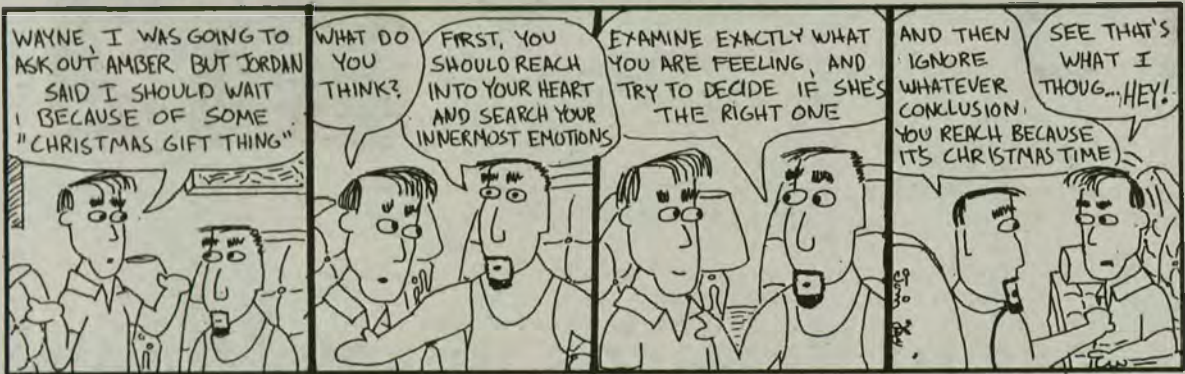
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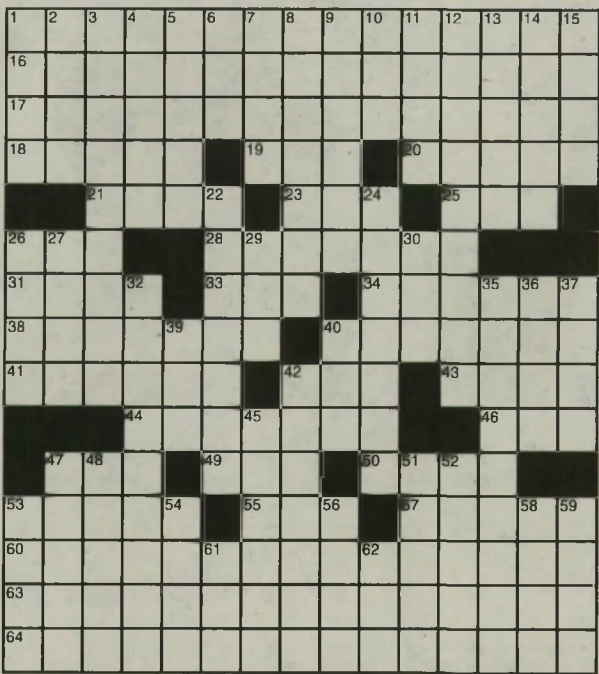
English major shock.

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Giving-up point
 - 16 Provides means of escape
 - 17 People at a special showing
 - 18 Saint-Germain's river
 - 19 Spring mo.
 - 20 Turn
 - 21 PC site
 - 23 Like Chianti
 - 25 Certain no.
 - 26 Grate expectations?
 - 28 Blanket
 - 31 Buddy
 - 33 X-ray spec
 - 34 Kind of pen
 - 38 Fast time
 - 40 A person may be taken in by taking it
- DOWN**
- 41 Old trail destination
 - 42 Trial and tribulation
 - 43 Boy armed with bows and arrows
 - 44 43-Across and others
 - 46 Fork in the road
 - 47 Govt. money dispenser since 1946
 - 49 41-Across borderer: Abbr.
 - 50 It's a wrap
 - 53 Hot stuff
 - 55 Initials in 19th-century lit.
 - 57 Folk music accompaniment
 - 60 Thin ice, e.g.
 - 63 Boer War participant

- DOWN**
- 1 Site of the ancient Olympic games
 - 2 Bird named for its call
 - 3 "Political Discourses" author
 - 4 Sheepish
 - 5 Rolls out the red carpet for
 - 6 Suffix with verb
 - 7 Big zero
 - 8 Rolled by
 - 9 Less enthused
 - 10 Strauss's "und Verklärung"
 - 11 Certain
 - 12 Testing operation?
 - 13 Roll out the red carpet for
 - 14 1961 Charlton Heston role
 - 15 Casting requirement?
 - 22 Of a sacred text
 - 24 Unprotected from the sun
 - 26 Common prefix with phobia
 - 27 ___-Pei (dog)
 - 29 Moving sight
 - 30 Mauna ___
 - 32 Cambridge University college
 - 35 Acting for
 - 36 Concerto instrument
 - 37 Scents organ



Puzzle by Martin Ashwood-Smith

- 39 Female antelope
- 40 "MS. Found in a Bottle" writer
- 42 Heavyweight champ before Dempsey
- 45 Point (southernmost point in continental Europe)
- 47 Brusque
- 48 Long-necked instrument
- 51 Take down a peg
- 52 Philippics
- 53 Nav. ratings
- 54 "Good Luck, Miss Wyckoff" novelist
- 56 Inuit's item
- 58 Leap at the ballet
- 59 Metal containers
- 61 Asian occasion
- 62 Austrian article

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ozzy Osbourne, Katarina Witt, Brian Bonsall, Andy Williams, Rick Mears

Happy Birthday: Open up and let the world know what you are trying to accomplish, and you will be successful. You can expect to experience new adventures that will lead to greater knowledge. Discover yourself and what you really want to do. Your numbers: 3, 18, 26, 31, 40, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Problems at home will escalate. Deception is likely at an emotional level. Your temper is not going to be easy to control. Don't jump to conclusions without having all the pertinent facts on hand. ☹☹☹

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are likely to overreact to emotional situations. It is best to step back from the situation rather than take sides or make hasty decisions regarding your response. Avoid serious talks. ☹☹☹

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will probably have problems with your partner if you are busy doing your own thing. You will pick up information that will enable you to change your professional direction in the new year. ☹☹☹☹☹

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be ready to argue with anyone and everyone. Someone you care about may not be completely honest with you. Control your temper if you wish to avoid separation. ☹☹

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Unhappiness is quite possible. Don't tell anyone your personal secrets. Expand your circle of friends by joining worthwhile groups. You should consider helping the homeless this festive season. ☹☹☹☹

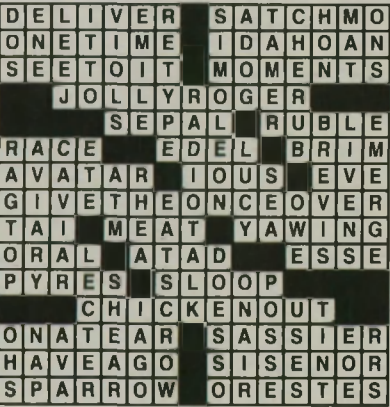
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make

Birthday Baby: The more you do throughout life, the more you will want to do. You are strong-willed and energetic. You will never be satisfied as a bystander, and the experience you acquire will contribute to your success.

(Need advice? Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, astromate.com.)

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SPORTS

Shooting for Success

Freshman Alicia Ratay looks to lead the Irish backcourt when Notre Dame takes on No. 10 North Carolina on Saturday.

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page 24

THE OBSERVER

Friday, December 3, 1999

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Irish look to avenge loss to Broncos in semifinals

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Associate Sports Editor

In the biggest game of the season so far, the Notre Dame women's soccer team faces the Santa Clara Broncos — a team that defeated the Irish 4-2 in the regular season.

Head coach Randy Waldrum said that his players are excited for a rematch with Santa Clara and look for revenge on the team that dealt them their worst loss on the season.

"I think they are really excited about it," Waldrum said. "I know that sounds surprising but as poorly as they did the last time they faced each other, they are anxious to get on the field and try to redeem themselves."

The Broncos jumped out to a 4-0 lead thanks to four goals in less than nine minutes, 19 seconds in the first half. The Irish battled back to score two second-half goals but a four-goal deficit is a steep hill to climb against any team — let alone the No. 1 ranked and undefeated Broncos.

Waldrum knows that his team can ill afford to fall behind the Broncos by four goals again.

"Most of what we have to do to get ready is psychological," Waldrum said. "We can't spot

see SOCCER/page 22



JOHN DAILY/The Observer

Jenny Streiffer (12), Jenny Heft (11), Mia Sarkesian, Nancy Mikacenic (14) and Jen Grub (6) celebrate Sarkesian's game winner against Stanford in the third round of the NCAA tournament. The Irish take on the Santa Clara Broncos tonight in the semifinals.

FOOTBALL

Recruits make first official visit

By TIM CASEY
Sports Writer

Several inches of snow blanketed the ground. Instead of wearing shorts, students were bundled up in winter coats.

There was no indication that winter would ever end. After growing up in Shreveport, La., it certainly was a unique atmosphere for a young recruited quarterback named Arnaz Battle.

But on that first weekend in December two years ago, after spending the past few days with the Irish football team, Battle had a good idea of where he wanted to spend the next four years of his life.

"Going into the locker room, seeing that sign [Play Like a Champion Today], seeing the gold helmets and the blue jerseys was what stuck out," Battle recalled of his recruiting visit. "It was nice to see first hand what I had heard all about."

As a high school senior in the winter of 1997-98, Battle was highly recruited by the majority of the top football programs in the country. In fact, before spending the weekend at Notre Dame, Battle had scheduled official visits to Tennessee, Nebraska, Georgia and Texas A&M.

But after spending the following weekend at Nebraska, Battle had already made his up his mind. So the current Irish quarterback cancelled his subsequent visits and decided on Notre Dame.

"I was pretty sure I wanted to come here after the banquet but I still wanted to take more visits," Battle said referring to the aptly named banquet weekend because it coincides with the Notre Dame football banquet. "But after visiting Nebraska, I knew this [Notre Dame] was the place for me."

Now, two years later, the scene remains the same on the first weekend in December.

Only the names have changed. On this, the first official visiting weekend for recruits, 18 high school seniors are expected to be on campus. This period extends until the end of January, excluding the Christmas vacation.

The first official day that players can sign their letters of intent is Feb. 2.

The recruits come from all over the United States; from large cities like Miami to lesser-known areas like Copperas Cove, Texas. Their personalities may differ, their idea of an ideal school may not be the same and it's a near certainty that they all won't be wearing the Blue and Gold next fall.

But the unanimous goal for the Irish coaching staff will be to try to convince each and every player that Notre Dame is the right fit for them.

"Anyone we bring to campus we would be very interested in,"

see RECRUITS/page 19

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish look to snap three-game losing streak

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's basketball team comes home to the Joyce Center to face the Vanderbilt Commodores with the goal of ending a three-game losing streak.

"Our No. 1 goal is to start establishing our winning streak again," senior guard Jimmy Dillon said. "We've played some tough competition."

The Irish, under first-year head coach Matt Doherty, began the season 3-0 for the first time in 11 years. They

opened with a win over then-No. 4 Ohio State in the first round of the Pre-Season NIT.

However, they dropped their next three contests to ranked foes Arizona, Maryland and Indiana, all on the road.

"We don't want to get into a rut where we're complacent with losing," senior forward Todd Palmer said. "We want to learn from a loss, but we don't want to expect to lose."

Notre Dame dropped behind early in its three losses, leaving too much ground to make up. The team lost to Maryland by five and to Indiana in overtime.

"I think it built more character on our team," Dillon said. "Last year we kind of questioned whether we would have hung with a Maryland or an Indiana."

see IRISH/page 22



Doherty

SPORTS AT A GLANCE



NCAA Semi-finals
vs. Santa Clara
Friday, 6:30 p.m.



vs. Vanderbilt
Saturday, 2 p.m.



at Wachovia Invitational
Richmond, Va.
Saturday-Sunday



Volleyball
vs. Ohio State
Saturday, 5 p.m.



vs. Michigan State
Saturday, 7:05 p.m.