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Saint Mary's set to inaugurate Mooney



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney fields questions in her office Thursday.

New president confronts College's enrollment, visibility challenges

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Assistant News Editor

Saturday's presidential inauguration of Carol Mooney officially marks new leadership and a new course of direction for Saint Mary's College.

Mooney, a 1972 Saint Mary's graduate and its 11th president, was selected to replace predecessor Marilou Eldred in December 2003 and has already served at the

See Also
"A New Era"
pullout

helm of the College for one semester.

The inaugural weekend will include a day-long academic symposium moderated by faculty members and a formal induction ceremony. The campus will host dozens of guests including Saint Mary's alumnae and representatives from other colleges and universities.

While a celebratory and hopeful mood for the future of the College surrounds the inauguration, Mooney is well aware of the challenges the position entails.

First among these is Saint

Mary's recent struggle to garner national attention and attract applicants. This year's freshman class had roughly 50 fewer students than the previous year's.

"It's difficult to convince a 17-year old young woman that [she wants] to be in an all-women's college in northern Indiana," Mooney said.

The new president has placed recruitment and increasing the visibility of the College at the top of her to do list.

"Marketing is a sort of dirty word in academia but we do really need to attack enroll-

ment, our admissions, increasing our classes," Mooney said. "That's something I know we will be attacking soon."

Efforts so far have included changes in recruiting techniques and publications. The College has also created a new office at Saint Mary's — the vice president for enrollment management. The position's duties will include overseeing admissions, financial aid and retention at the College.

"We're fairly far along in the

see FUTURE/page 4

Former ND associate provost transitions into SMC role gracefully; reaches out to students

By NICOLE ZOOK
Assistant News Editor

If she is under any stress as her big day approaches, Carol Mooney does not show it.

Sitting in the Sister Madeleva room in LeMans Hall, she gracefully shared answers and smiles with journalists from several television stations and newspapers Thursday, revealing no sign of strain regarding her inauguration as the eleventh president of Saint Mary's College this weekend.

"I am thrilled," she said. "It's a privilege, and it's humbling — but I couldn't be happier."

Mooney, a 1972 graduate of the College and 1977 graduate of the University of Notre Dame Law School, was a law professor at Notre Dame before serving as a Notre Dame vice president and associate provost. Her formal inauguration into her role as the first lay alumna president at Saint Mary's will take place tomorrow and Sunday.

"In one sense a transition occurred last spring, when I

was trying to do one and a half jobs," she said. "Notre Dame was wonderful to me. I got many opportunities, but I've never had a second glance back. ... It was hard to leave, but I've not had a moment's regret about doing so."

Mooney said that her transition from Notre Dame to Saint Mary's will hold some differences, the most marked being the smaller size of the College compared to the University.

"The biggest difference is just the size of the two institutions," she said. "It gives me the oppor-

tunity, I hope, to get to know most people at Saint Mary's. That's just not really possible at Notre Dame."

Mooney will be working with both a smaller student population and fewer staff members than in her former role at Notre Dame, which she said will lead to closer relationships. She looks forward to that aspect of her future at Saint Mary's.

"A person has a lot of constituencies to pay attention to," Mooney said. "Students, faculty, parents, alumni, donors, benefactors — even the general

community. And I find that fun, a challenge."

Mooney has already begun to solve her challenge in the short months she has been working at Saint Mary's. She said she works well with the presidential staff and has reached out to students throughout first semester. In the fall, she invited each residence hall to an open tea or dessert night.

"I decided that was a good way to try to get out into each of the residence halls, so I went

see MOONEY/page 4

Sri Lankan Notre Dame student addresses tragedy, loss

Junior recalls scenes of tsunami's devastation

By MEGHAN MARTIN
News Writer

Five weeks ago, Notre Dame junior Dinal Edirisinghe wanted nothing more than to spend Christmas at a beach in his native Sri Lanka, something that his family had done for years. His parents, however, had decided that they would celebrate the holidays in Amman, Jordan, where his father manages a textile factory.

"I complained to my parents about spending eight days in Jordan and not going to the beach in Sri Lanka," Edirisinghe said. "If we were in Sri Lanka, we would have gone to our ancestral home in Galle [a city in the south of the country] for Christmas day. But we were lucky. We weren't in the country that day."

Instead, Edirisinghe and his mother were on their way to catch a flight to Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital, when they received a phone call from his father warning them not to

board the plane. It was Dec. 26, and Edirisinghe and his mother turned on the BBC to learn that a tsunami had hit their country, devastating miles of coastline and instantly leaving tens of thousands of people homeless. Edirisinghe and his mother listened in shock.

"My initial reaction was, let's see if we can get home and do something," he said. "But if we did so, we would need to get back to the capital, and that would divert resources. We decided, why do that? So we remained in Jordan for a few more days."

While the Edirisinghe family's frantic efforts to contact friends and relatives in Sri Lanka proved largely futile in those first few days following the disaster, news reports provided them with information about the extent of the destruction.

Twenty-seven thousand Sri Lankans, they learned, had been reported dead.

"I'm sure there are 41,000

see SRI LANKA/page 6



Above, damage from the tsunami washes up on a Sri Lankan shoreline. At right, Sri Lanka native and Notre Dame student Dinal Edirisinghe.

◆
PHOTOS BY THE
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AND CHUY
BENITEZ



INSIDE COLUMN

Here's to you, Culligan man

With everybody back at Notre Dame after a long winter break, most students can tell you something that they missed while away from school. Many people are glad to be back with their friends. Others missed

Steve Coyer

Sports Wire Editor

South Bend specialties like Eggs Benedict at the dining hall or the smell of ethanol in the evening.

For me personally, I am most grateful to have my nearly infinite supply of crisp clear Culligan water back. For those of you who don't know, Culligan spring water is delivered in five-gallon containers and can be found in many offices and dorm rooms on campus. Not only is it the most pure and refreshing water I know of, it also is delivered by some of the most unsung heroes at Notre Dame.

These workers ... no, that is not the right word ... I mean, legends deserve to be recognized and I'm here to tell their story. Forgive me if I seem to exaggerate but I assure you, these men do exist.

Every two weeks my three roommates and I go through about 30 gallons of Culligan water (six containers) and at the end of those two weeks we anxiously await the arrival of a certain person. He arrives when we least suspect and brings with him a large handcart laden with 40-pound jugs of water.

Sometimes his name is Ben; other times it is Dan. Regardless, he is always the Culligan man to us.

Weather conditions have never stopped them from making the delivery. Snow, fog, freezing rain and big puddles are no obstacle for these warriors.

Although my room is located on the third floor, this is hardly a challenge for the Culligan man. Even when the elevator doesn't work, he has been known to haul the water up the stairs barehanded.

And his feats don't stop once he gets to the room. While it would be sufficient to leave the water outside our door, the Culligan man personally takes each of the five gallon jugs and places them next to our cooler. When one of my roommates tried to lift two of the jugs at once he failed entirely ... clearly he underestimated the strength of the Culligan man.

This pattern of Culligan water delivery happens all over campus. To some it might seem mundane and routine. To me, it is so much more. My roommates and I have come to rely on a constant supply of Culligan water and we have a deep appreciation for the men who deliver it to us.

And I'm sure most people on campus have their own "Culligan man," a person they rely on week after week and who never gets any real recognition. So for all those unsung heroes, this one's for you.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Steve Coyer at scoyer@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

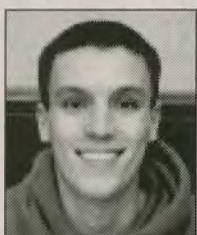
The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE BEST THING ABOUT WINTER BREAK?



Anne Kroeger
sophomore
Badin

"Having no obligations."



Steve Friend
sophomore
Fisher

"Showering without shoes."



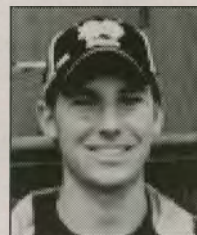
Taryn Lewis
freshman
McGlinn

"Skyline, Chipotle and the Cincinnati Bengals."



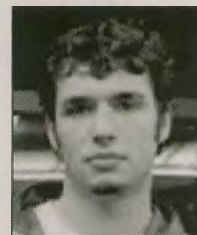
Sarah Muscarella
freshman
Pangborn

"Not having parietals."



Craig Peters
sophomore
St. Ed's

"Family, friends and the heat."



Michael Keller
sophomore
Dillon

"Knowing I'm coming back to 260 Flex Points."



RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Hungry students armed with hoods and umbrellas brave the freezing rain as they make their way into South Dining Hall for dinner Thursday night, after storms soaked campus.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame women's swimming team takes on Michigan and Illinois at 6 p.m. tonight and at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The soon-to-be-released Miramax film "The Choir" ("Les Choristes") will be shown at 7 and 10 p.m. tonight in the Browning Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The film is nominated for a Best Foreign Film Golden Globe Award and will be presented in French with English subtitles. Tickets must be reserved by calling 631-2800.

The men's basketball team will compete against St. John's Saturday from at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center Arena.

ND Cinema will present the film "Sex is Comedy" Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

Kristi Anseth, winner of the 2004 National Science Foundation Waterman Award, will lead a seminar called "Synthetic Hydrogel Niches for Cartilage Regeneration" at 3:30 p.m. Monday in 138 DeBartolo.

The Town Hall Meeting "And Still We Rise ... Remembering is Not Enough" will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the student lounge of the Coleman-Morse Center. The event is in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day.

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

OFFBEAT

Clean underwear saves man lost in woods

ROGERS, Ark. — There's another reason Mom is right when she says you should always have a fresh pair of underwear. A city attorney learned last week that they can attract rescue helicopters.

Ben Lipscomb found himself lost in the flooded backwoods while out duck hunting with his Labrador retriever.

He only managed to make it out by tying his white briefs to the end of his gun barrel and waving them at an Arkansas

State Police helicopter.

Decked out in full camouflage hunting gear, Lipscomb was practically invisible as the helicopter made several passes at dusk.

"They had passed over me a couple of times," he said after he was safe and sound back behind his desk at City Hall. "I knew I had to do something to get their attention."

New Geneva toilets cost \$300,000 each

GENEVA — Switzerland is renowned as one of the richest, cleanest and most efficient countries in the

world.

Now, authorities in Geneva are bringing the city's public conveniences up to scratch — at a cost of \$13 million for just 35 new toilets, Swiss daily Le Matin reported Tuesday.

Each sparkling new facility is designed by a different architect at a cost of \$313,000 — about the same as a one-bedroom, city center apartment.

Three of the toilets have already been installed.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 23 LOW 3	HIGH 13 LOW 0	HIGH 12 LOW -5	HIGH 10 LOW -2	HIGH 17 LOW 12	HIGH 21 LOW 15

Atlanta 50 / 36 Boston 48 / 27 Chicago 16 / 3 Denver 30 / 8 Houston 56 / 32 Los Angeles 69 / 47 Minneapolis -1 / -20 New York 49 / 26 Philadelphia 48 / 26 Phoenix 67 / 44 Seattle 36 / 24 St. Louis 24 / 10 Tampa 74 / 60 Washington 50 / 28

Dallmayr publishes book on peace talks

Special to The Observer

In his "Querela Pacis" (The Complaint of Peace), the 16th century scholar Desiderius Erasmus employed a conventional literary device of his time to endow peace with a personality and voice. Fred Dallmayr, Packey J. Dee Professor of Political Theory at the University of Notre Dame, has taken up the theme in his book, "Peace Talks — Who Will Listen?" which recently was published by Notre Dame Press.

In Erasmus' work, Peace challenges the reader to explain how "if I, whose name is Peace, am a personage glorified by the united praise of God and man, as the fountain, the parent, the nurse, the patroness, the guardian of every blessing which either heaven or earth can bestow ... can I believe [proponents of war] to be otherwise than stark mad; who, with such a waste of treasure, with so ardent a zeal, with so great an effort, with so many arts, so much anxiety, and so much danger, endeavor to drive me away from them, and purchase endless misery and mischief at a price so high?"

Dallmayr articulates Erasmus' challenge in more contemporary terms, applying it to the evolution of international law and global ethics and alluding to similar expressions

in such widely varied writings as those of Francisco de Vitoria, Immanuel Kant, Hannah Arendt, Confucius, Ibn Arabi, and Jalal ad-Din Rumi.

According to Calvin Schrag of Purdue University, Dallmayr provides "a vibrant contemporary voice in the proliferating multicultural conversation of mankind" which "makes the strongest case yet for a peace-making culture that would be able to restrain the war machine mentality of our present age."

Robert C. Johansen, professor of political science and senior fellow at Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Studies, said that Dallmayr's book "opens our minds and hearts to an urgent, timely message of how to think about making peace. With penetrating insights and fascinating exploration, he shows that this message, which must be heeded if our species is to survive with dignity, has timeless roots that he vividly brings to light while drawing deftly on traditions at once ancient and modern, Western and Eastern, and from the global North and South."

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1978, Dallmayr specializes in modern and contemporary European thought as well as in comparative philosophy and non-Western political thought, cross-cultural dialogue, and global human rights.

Course to examine coming trends

'Ten Years Hence' to look at next decade

Special to The Observer

The year was 1995 and the world was at relative peace, President Bush had been out of office for two years, gasoline was considered expensive at \$1.30 per gallon, and dot.coms were becoming all the rage.

Few would have thought that 10 years later the United States would be waging war on two fronts, President Bush's son would be starting a second-term in the Oval Office, gas would be going for \$2-plus, and dot.com would be more like dot.bomb.

While no one in '95 could have

predicted these specific events, perhaps general patterns could have been foreseen, which is the premise behind a new course at the University of Notre Dame that will examine what's on the horizon between now and 2015.

Titled "Ten Years Hence," the 1.5-credit course will bring eight forward-thinkers to campus throughout the spring semester to explore issues, ideas and trends likely to affect society and business over the next decade. Specific topics will include biotechnology, religious fundamentalism, economic demography, oil and peace, futurism and work, and natural resources.

"We hope to give students, faculty and guests a sense of the near future and the possibilities that lie in store for us by the

year 2015," said James S. O'Rourke, a management professor and one of the course's instructors. "The speakers we have lined up will assist students in understanding emerging issues related to demography, science, sociology, economics, anthropology, commerce and technology, and how they will affect our lives over the next 10 years."

The series will begin at 10:40 a.m. Jan. 14 (Friday) in Jordan Auditorium with a lecture by Eric Peterson titled "Seven Revolutions." The senior vice president for the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Peterson directs the Seven Revolutions Initiative, a broad-based effort to forecast key trends out to 2025.

Professor places 14th in contest

'Market maestro' Plummer shines in Barron's stock challenge

Special to The Observer

Carolyn Plummer, the University of Notre Dame's "market maestro," finished in 14th place in a nationwide stock-picking contest sponsored by the weekly investment magazine Barron's.

A violinist and associate professor of music, Plummer scored a 13.4 percent return in the 10-week Barron's Challenge in which 69 college

professors invested an imaginary \$100,000 portfolio.


By comparison, the Dow rose 6.1 percent, the Nasdaq climbed 14 percent, and the S&P was up 8.2 percent over the course of the contest from Oct. 1 to Dec. 15.

Though she emphasizes she's no expert, Plummer is a longtime investor, who, when not making music, often can be found analyzing financial reports and studying expert

opinions.

Plummer's twin sister, Kathryn, a viola professor at Vanderbilt University, also participated in the Barron's Challenge and — thanks to some tips from the more experienced Carolyn — topped her twin with an 11th-place finish on a 15.6 percent rate of return.

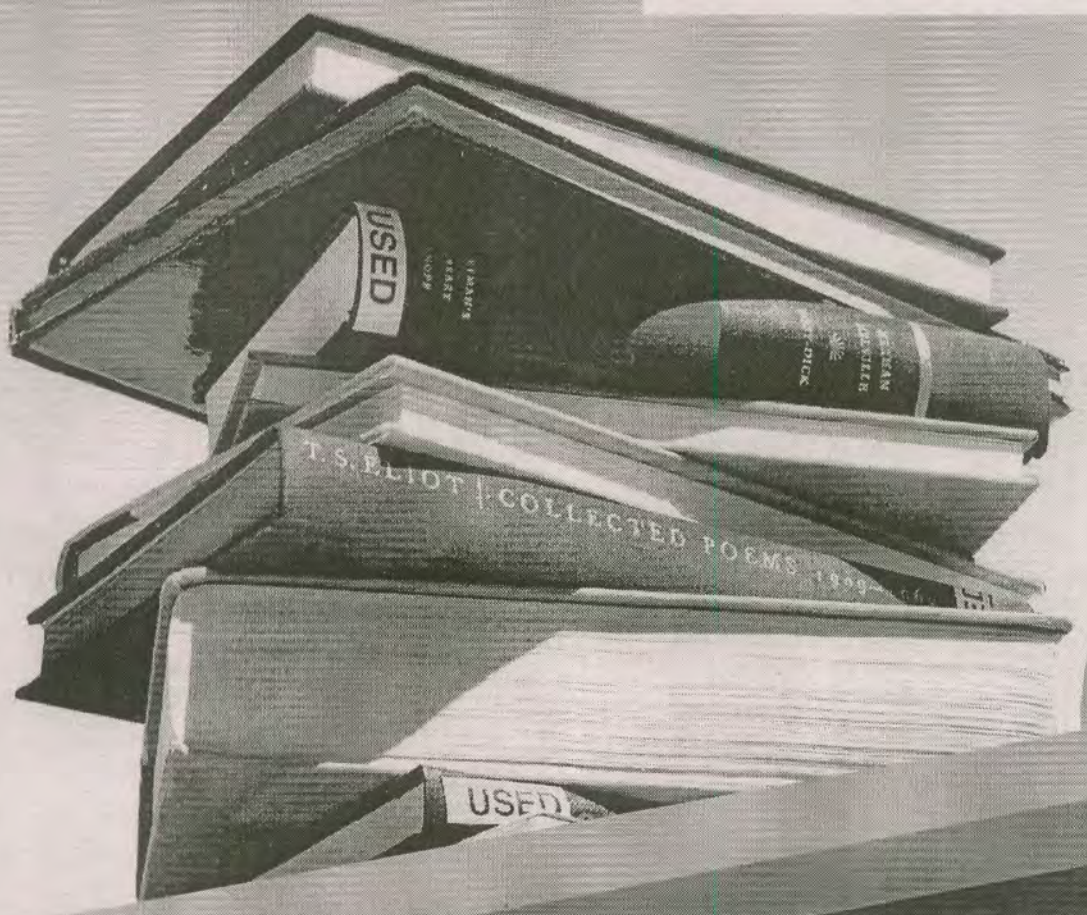

The magazine also conducted a separate contest for college students.



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Mooney

continued from page 1

there and whoever wanted to show up showed up," Mooney said. "I've been to a number of events — I've been to a basketball game [this winter], and I love having students stop and see me. I'll be at the dance Sunday night. I'm looking forward to that."

The "Now and Then"-themed event was planned by students in honor of Mooney's time as a Saint Mary's student herself. She looks fondly on her years as an undergraduate student, when she loved "my courses and my friends."

"I thought I got an absolutely first-rate education here," Mooney said. "I had great courses here. I was an English literature major and I worked really hard here."

Mooney will be personally handing out raffle prizes and getting to know students who attend the dance. She also said she is eager for today's academic symposium, which she herself insisted on.

"I wanted to showcase the academic excellence at Saint Mary's, so we're having two outside speakers, four Saint Mary's faculty, and two students are speaking," she said. "I'm very excited about that."

However, Mooney seemed most animated about the ceremony Saturday afternoon.

"I think what I'm most looking forward to is actually the installation ceremony itself," she said. "It's kind of like a wedding ceremony. I imagine I will cry. I cried all the way through my wedding vows, and there's a bunch of 'I do's' here, and I probably will start crying again. And that's okay."

Mooney said her entire family will be attending, including her husband and four daughters ranging in age from 22 to 26, all of whom attended Notre Dame. The two youngest daughters are still students there, and will make the trek across the street to celebrate with their mother. Also attending will be dignitaries and presidents from several other colleges, and Saint Mary's classmates Mooney invited from all over the United States.

"I really wanted to share this with all of them," she said. "It's just great."

Despite the many activities of the weekend and the hectic mood on campus, Mooney remains calm and pleased with her role at her former and future College.

"I'm really happy to be here," she said.

Contact Nicole Zook at
zook8928@saintmarys.edu

Future

continued from page 1

admissions process here, and looking at our numbers right now we're quite hopeful that we're going to have a significantly larger class," Mooney said.

Even the recognition Saint Mary's has received in past years has been somewhat tainted. Saint Mary's has finished No. 1 in the annual U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Colleges" in 10 out of the last 11 years. However, it was listed in a category called "Midwestern comprehensive colleges," which is composed of institutions offering professional degrees.

"The 'comprehensive college' rankings are really controversial here," Mooney said. "It's been wonderful to be No. 1 in that category 10 out of 11 years, but a lot of our alumnae are very disappointed that is the category that we are in."

According to Mooney, her

goal, and that of the College's, should be to aim for a top 50 national liberal arts college standing.

"That's where I think we belong. It doesn't mean you need to abandon your nursing or education programs," Mooney said. "I think that's the company we belong in, and that's where we should be."

The new president must also ensure the financial stability of the College. Due to lower enrollment and increasing operating costs, Saint Mary's is currently facing a budget deficit of \$1.5 million dollars that it plans to absorb over a two-year period. Departments have been forced to freeze travel funds and cut printing expenses.

According to Mooney, the administration will have to reach out to alumnae and

other potential donors to increase giving to the College.

"The way to do that is you build relationships," Mooney said. "You're out on the road, you get to know them, you talk to them. You tell them the story of Saint Mary's; you tell them about all the good things that are happening here. That's actually the fun part of the job."

Six months into her administration Mooney's presence is already felt on campus. She has visited every single residence hall and answered students' questions about her visions for the institution and her own experiences as an undergraduate. She has also spent afternoons with various departments and offices.

"I think that's the company we belong in, and that's where we should be."

Carol Mooney
Saint Mary's College
president

Contact Megan O'Neil at
onei0907@saintmarys.edu

Comet-busting craft emerges from safe mode

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — NASA's Deep Impact comet-busting spacecraft emerged from "safe mode" and was operating normally, the space agency said Thursday.

The spacecraft went into protective mode after launch Wednesday from Cape Canaveral, Fla., when it detected higher-than-expected temperatures in its propulsion system.

Safe mode shuts down all but essential systems while the spacecraft awaits new commands from controllers.

While in safe mode, Deep Impact did perform essential tasks

including deploying and locking its solar panels, NASA said. The craft was receiving power and was properly oriented in space.

"We're back on [the timeline] and look forward to our encounter with comet Tempel 1 this summer," said Rick Grammier, the Deep Impact project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

The spacecraft will release an "impactor" that is designed to collide with the comet and produce a crater the size of a football stadium. That should allow instruments aboard the spacecraft to study material beneath the comet's surface. The mission cost \$330 million.

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Fuel oil from the Selendang Ayu has reached a fishing community 50 miles from the wreckage of the grounded freighter, prompting new concerns about the effect of last month's spill in the Bering Sea.

State environmental workers found as many as two dozen clumps of oil — some measuring two feet in diameter — along a quarter-mile stretch of Captain's Bay at the southern end of Dutch Harbor, a community of 4,000 on Unalaska Island. It's the first

time the oil has reached such a populated area.

"Obviously the extent of contamination has grown substantially," Leslie Pearson, a spill response official with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, said Thursday. "It makes you wonder what other shoreline impacts there may be."

Since the oil was reported to the state Wednesday, the agency has been trying to assess the threat to the local water table and area seafood processing plants, Pearson said.

The 738-foot Selendang Ayu, a

freighter carrying soybeans and 442,000 gallons of fuel oil and diesel, broke apart Dec. 8 off Unalaska Island after efforts to stop the disabled vessel failed. Six of the ship's crew members were lost at sea when a rescue helicopter crashed.

Salvage crews have recovered nearly 43,000 gallons of oil and water from the ship, but most of the fuel is believed lost. Smaller balls of oil have been spotted in remote areas.

About 600 dead birds have been spotted near the spill site, said Petty Officer Thomas McKenzie of the Coast Guard.

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University of Notre Dame Department of Music Presents

MUSIC FOR TWO GAMBAS AND ORGAN

Mary Anne Ballard, viola da gamba
Elizabeth MacDonald, viola da gamba
Craig Cramer, organ

Music by

JOHANN SCHENCK
AUGUST KÜHNEL
DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE
JAN PIETERSZON SWEELINCK

8:00 p.m.
Friday, January 14, 2005

Reyes Organ and Choral Hall
Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts

General admission \$10; faculty/staff \$8; seniors \$6; students \$3
phone 574-631-2800 for tickets

WORLD & NATION

Friday, January 14, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Malaria threat emerges in Asia

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — Health officials plan to go door to door and tent to tent with mosquito-killing spray guns beginning Friday to head off a looming threat that one expert says could kill 100,000 more people around the tsunami disaster zone: malaria.

The devastation and heavy rains are creating conditions for the largest area of mosquito breeding sites Indonesia has ever seen, said the head of the aid group anchoring the anti-malaria campaign on Sumatra island. The pools of salt water created by the Dec. 26 tsunami have been diluted by seasonal rains into a brackish water that mosquitoes love.

While the threat of cholera and dysentery outbreaks is diminishing by the day because clean water is increasingly getting to tsunami survivors, the danger of malaria and dengue fever epidemics is increasing, said Richard Allan, director of the Mentor Initiative, a public health group that fights malaria epidemics.

Black Hawk helicopter crashes

BOGOTA, Colombia — A U.S.-donated military helicopter crashed Thursday while flying in thick fog during a nighttime counternarcotics mission in southwest Colombia, killing all 20 soldiers aboard, the army said.

The Black Hawk helicopter, used in the U.S.-funded anti-drug effort called Plan Colombia, went down just after midnight near the village of Manguipayan, 340 miles southwest of the capital, Bogota.

Early investigations indicate the crash was caused by bad weather, the army said in a statement. An army official said the problem was "thick fog."

NATIONAL NEWS

Search ends in mudslide zone

LA CONCHITA, Calif. — Authorities ended the search Thursday for victims of the deadly mudslide and warned residents not to return to the town because of the danger of another collapse.

The death toll stood at 10 in the beach community devastated by Monday's torrent of dirt and trees, and everyone on the list of missing people had been located. 13 homes were destroyed and 18 others were damaged.

"The La Conchita community is a geologically hazardous area," Sheriff Bob Brooks said. "It has been historically, it is today, and it will remain so. We do not recommend that people return to this area or the people who stay here remain here."

FDA reconsiders Mevacor sales

BETHESDA, Md. — Vast numbers of people would take a cholesterol drug if it were offered over the counter even though they don't meet the medical criteria, federal health advisers were told Thursday.

The cholesterol drug Mevacor has long been available by prescription. Drug companies are now asking the Food and Drug Administration for permission to sell a low-dose version directly to consumers for the first time.

The advisory committee that is meeting through Friday will make a recommendation to the FDA, which usually follows its panels' advice.

LOCAL NEWS

Indy man gets 95 years for murder

INDIANAPOLIS — A Marion County judge this morning sentenced Steven D. Halcomb to 95 years in prison for killing his former wife, Karen Jo Smith, a woman whose body has never been found.

Smith's loved ones left the courtroom teary-eyed but smiling after Superior Court Judge Jane Magnus-Stinson gave Halcomb the maximum 65-year sentence for murder and another 30 years for being a habitual offender.

Defense in prison scandal rests case

Attorneys end their case without accused ringleader of abuses taking stand

Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — The defense for Spc. Charles Graner Jr. rested its case Thursday without the accused ringleader of abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison taking the stand.

The jury of four Army officers and six senior enlisted men was expected to begin deliberating after closing arguments Friday.

Graner's lawyers had indicated earlier that Graner would probably be the final witness, and that he would offer his version of what occurred in a scandal that stirred outrage against the United States around the world.

But defense lawyer Guy Womack said the other witnesses provided all of the evidence necessary to make the case that military and civilian intelligence agents controlled Abu Ghraib and ordered Graner to soften up detainees for questioning.

"We came in with a checklist of things we wanted to present to the jury," Womack said. "Once we accomplished that, there was no reason to continue."

Graner, a 36-year-old reservist from Uniontown, Pa., is the first soldier to be tried on charges arising from the Abu Ghraib scandal. He had appeared glum in recent days, but outside court he said: "I feel fantastic. I'm still smiling."

He is charged with offenses including conspiracy, assault and committing indecent acts and could get 17 1/2 years in a military prison.

Among other things, Graner is accused of stacking naked detainees in a human pyramid and later ordering them to masturbate while other soldiers took photographs. He also allegedly



Army Spc. Charles Graner Jr., left, walks with his attorney Guy Womack during a break in his court martial. He is being tried in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal. AP

punched one man in the head hard enough to knock him out, and struck an injured prisoner with a collapsible metal stick.

In testimony Thursday, a former guard at Abu Ghraib testified that intelligence officers wanted detainees roughed up there, and that Graner did not take part in a number of the abuses he is accused of committing.

But the witness, former Spc. Megan Ambuhl, admitted under cross-examination that she had had a brief sexual relationship with Graner and remains a close friend.

"And you don't want

your friend to go to jail?" asked Maj. Michael Holley, the prosecutor.

"No, sir," she answered.

Ambuhl, who made a plea deal with prosecutors regarding her own actions at Abu Ghraib, testified that intelligence officers directed the prison's guards to rough up and sexually humiliate detainees, and that the guards were praised for their efforts.

On one occasion, she said, an intelligence officer known as Steve told guards to "break" a prisoner known as al-Qaida, who was believed to have valuable information.

"Steve told us that we

were doing a good job and that breaking al-Qaida would save a lot of lives," she said.

Another time, she said, two military intelligence officers told Graner to physically abuse a prisoner in a shower.

Ambuhl also said she lied to investigators who sought to search her personal computer for photos and other evidence of abuse.

Sgt. Kenneth Davis later told the jury about an incident in which intelligence officers stripped three detainees accused of raping a teenage boy at Abu Ghraib and forced them to crawl around the prison floor.

Gaza Strip suicide bombing kills 4

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Palestinian militants set off a large truck bomb as gunmen stormed an Israeli base at a vital Gaza crossing Thursday, killing at least four Israelis and three Palestinians in an attack that defied peace efforts by new Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas.

The attack, which hospital officials said wounded five Israelis, was by far the largest since Abbas won an election Sunday to succeed Yasser Arafat as head of the Palestinian Authority. Abbas has been trying to persuade militant groups like Hamas

and Islamic Jihad to agree to a cease-fire, but so far with no success.

The bombing also came just hours after a West Bank Hamas leader said the Islamic group might consider an end to attacks against Israel. Hamas was one of three militant groups claiming responsibility for the attack, dubbing it "Shaking Castles."

Palestinian officials were not immediately available for comment.

The attack took place just before 11 p.m. Gaza time at the Karni crossing, where all the farm produce and other goods enter and leave the Gaza Strip. The militants entered the crossing in a bomb-laden truck min-

utes before it was to close, the Israeli military said. As the explosives detonated, at least two gunmen stormed the Israeli positions.

It was not immediately clear whether the bombing was a suicide attack. One report said the gunmen blew themselves up, but another said they opened fire and were killed by Israeli soldier.

Early Friday, Israeli helicopters fired three missiles at a building in Deir el-Balah in central Gaza, Palestinian security officials and the Israeli military said. The building, which was empty, is used by Islamic Jihad, they said. One person was slightly wounded.

Sri Lanka

continued from page 1

tragedies [now],” Edirisinghe said. “There are probably also thousands upon thousands of survivors. I had five cousins vacationing in coastal areas. One cousin held his twins and hung on to a tombstone as the waves went through. ... Another guy held his son above his head ... as the water was gushing [by]. Those are just some of the stories.”

More stories of both tragedy and survival revealed themselves after Edirisinghe and his mother arrived in Colombo — two days after they had initially been scheduled to return.

“There was a train we heard about called Queen of the Sea,” he said. “I rode on it when I was young.

Waves came and took the train off its tracks. One boy survived — he was seven. ... But he buried the rest of his family.”

While Edirisinghe and his parents had escaped the tsunami, they returned to Sri Lanka to find that close friends had been reported missing in the wake of the tragedy.

“Before Notre Dame, I thought about entering the law faculty in Sri Lanka,” Edirisinghe said. “A friend who had advised me on the decision was washed away.

She was 28.”

Amid the loss and confusion of such tragedy, Edirisinghe said his first instinct was to do anything he could to help in the relief effort. His first task was to deliver more than 500 letters from Sri Lankan workers in his father's Jordan textile factory to the company's headquarters for distribution to family and friends at home.

“I have a little ritual when I get off the plane. I touch the ground and do the sign of the cross,” Edirisinghe said. “And then we [deliver] the letters.”

Edirisinghe's house in Colombo was untouched by the wave, which allowed him and many of his friends to contribute to the relief effort.

“I went home and packed up all the clothes I had and sent them [to the places where they were needed],” Edirisinghe said. “Everyone did that.”

During his time at home before returning to Notre Dame to begin the spring semester, Edirisinghe said that he was rarely able to see friends who had also returned home for the break. Many of them had gone to the town of Beruwela to pass out dry rations and assist aid workers.

“It's amazing to see how people are doing such things on their own,” he said. “And the way the international community responded was unbelievable ... the whole world is helping out.”

The New York Times report-

ed Wednesday that donor countries pledged \$717 million to a relief appeal made by the United Nations after the disaster. Edirisinghe said that help from both outside groups and Sri Lankan citizens has combined to create a sense of hope amid the despair of his country's situation.

“There are 25 people who work in my father's factory whose families are no longer. They left the country for three years to send money back to their parents and families in Sri Lanka. What is the purpose of their [lives] anymore if their loved ones aren't there?” he said. “The best way to honor the dead is to help the living. The worst moment is the turn of the tide.”

In a country as rife with political, ethnic and religious conflict as Sri Lanka has found itself in recent years, Edirisinghe said only hope would allow the divided nation to repair its differences and begin the slow recovery from this tragedy.

“I think the best way you can honor the people who have died,” he said, “is to make sure they have not died in vain — to make something good come from it.”

The northern and part of the eastern regions of Sri Lanka have been held for more than two decades by Tamil rebels, who have clashed with the Sri Lankan government over the leadership of their homeland in the north. The Associated Press reported that 65,000 people

have died from the civil war alone, before the tsunami struck the island in December.

Edirisinghe said that the situation appears to him as though history is repeating itself.

“The last time something huge like this happened is in legend. Twenty-three hundred years ago,” he said. “They say the sea came into the land and the mother of Sri Lanka's greatest king, Dutugemunu, was a sacrifice to the gods. ... She was sent to another king and their son was the one who united the country, because it was then divided into four parts.”

The story, Edirisinghe said, gives people hope.

“A lot of people now say this is like history repeating itself. That incident was followed by Sri Lanka's brightest time. It is when the sea came in that Sri Lanka found its greatest moment. So a lot of people are hopeful,” he said. “Don't get me wrong, though, they are still very depressed.”

Edirisinghe returned to Siegfried Hall to finish his junior year this month. His role now, he said, is to educate as many people as possible about Sri Lanka's situation in the wake of the tsunami. He has already gathered a number of

friends and colleagues to plan fundraising and awareness events on Notre Dame's campus. A film screening is already in the works.

“I see myself as a messenger, as bringing out the message,” he said. “Here there are people who genuinely care. To see that, all I had to do was look in my e-mail inbox only four days after the tsunami. People even contacted my rector and have stopped me on the quad to see how I'm doing. ... I feel fortunate and humbled.”

Still, the transition from the devastation of Sri Lanka to the everyday college life of Notre Dame has not been without its moments of tension.

“It's like coming into two different worlds: you come to Notre Dame and everyone's so happy and everything's so ordered,” Edirisinghe said.

“Sri Lanka was like one big funeral. There's such a lot of sadness on an island that's so beautiful.”

Yet, with the collective efforts of international aid groups and everyday citizens, Edirisinghe is hopeful for the future of Sri Lanka.

“It may be the darkest hour,” he said, “but it will pave the way for the brightest light.”

Contact Meghan Martin at mmartin@nd.edu

“The best way to honor the dead is to help the living. The worst moment is the turn of the tide.”

Dinal Edirisinghe student

“It's like coming into two different worlds: you come to Notre Dame and everyone's so happy and everything's so ordered. Sri Lanka was like one big funeral.”

Dinal Edirisinghe student

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AMEX	1,400.60	+3.62
NASDAQ	2,070.56	-21.97
NYSE	7,028.67	-46.97
S&P 500	1,177.45	-10.25
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SUN MICROSYS INC (SUNW)	-0.65	-0.03	4.58
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IN BRIEF

Feds extend US Airways financing

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — US Airways will have the cash it needs to keep flying through June after a bankruptcy judge approved a deal Thursday between the struggling airline and the federal Air Transportation Stabilization Board.

An interim financing deal had been set to expire Saturday, but U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Stephen Mitchell gave his blessing to an extension through June 30.

By then, the airline, the nation's seventh-biggest carrier, hopes it will have found a new investor to provide hundreds of millions of dollars needed to emerge from bankruptcy protection.

The extension comes after US Airways, a unit of US Airways Group Inc., extracted more than \$800 million in annual concessions from its labor unions. Most unions reluctantly agreed to accept pay and benefit cuts, but Mitchell last week imposed an estimated \$269 million in concessions on the International Association of Machinists when that union failed to reach a deal.

Airline to begin serving Hawaii

DALLAS — Southwest Airlines Co. will sell seats on ATA Airlines flights to Hawaii and other U.S. locations starting next month, the Dallas-based carrier said Thursday.

All connections between the two airlines would be made at Chicago's Midway Airport, leaving travel to the islands inconvenient for West Coast customers. Southwest CEO Gary Kelly said his airline would consider adding connecting cities in the West, mentioning Las Vegas as a possibility.

The airlines will start selling seats on each other's flights Sunday under a so-called code-sharing agreement. The code-share flights are to begin Feb. 4.

Besides Honolulu, other ATA destinations that will be linked with some Southwest flights through Chicago are New York's LaGuardia Airport; Newark, N.J.; Boston; Reagan National Airport outside Washington, D.C.; Ft. Myers, Sarasota and St. Petersburg, Fla.; Minneapolis; Denver; and San Francisco.

Retailer begins new campaign

Wal-Mart introduces initiative to counter criticism of employment policies

Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Wal-Mart chief executive Lee Scott led a media charge Thursday to counter criticism that the world's largest retailer is a behemoth that takes advantage of its workers and stifles competition.

Scott said he wants Wal-Mart workers to know the company was speaking up for them, and he wants Wal-Mart to have a better handle on how it is perceived by the public.

The company bought full-page ads in more than 100 newspapers around the nation to highlight its message that it provides opportunity for advancement and that its stores provide mainly full-time jobs with a broad benefits package.

"We want to get those myths off the table, set the record straight," Scott said in a phone interview. He was in New York City for a round of media interviews.

But a union critic of the discount chain said Thursday the company was ignoring social costs created by its megastores. The United Food and Commercial Workers Union, which has been striving for years to organize Wal-Mart workers, said the company was bending the truth.

Union spokesman Greg Denier said Wal-Mart may count about three-fourths of its workers as full time, but said those employees do not get full 40-hour weeks. He said the health insurance the company touts is too expensive and does not provide enough coverage for illnesses that are short of catastrophic.

Wal-Mart has 1.2 million employees in the United



Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. chief executive Lee Scott speaks at the 33rd annual shareholder's meeting in Fayetteville, Ark. Scott went on the offensive against critics.

States, making it the nation's largest private employer. Scott said Wal-Mart gives communities stable jobs, and workers have advancement opportunities and benefits that include stock purchases, a 401(k) retirement plan and discount cards.

Scott said the company wants to take its message directly to its customers and their communities. "Customers trust us, and they want to know their trust is well-placed," he

said.

That's true of some Wal-Mart shoppers but not most, said Jim Rice, chief credit officer at Bernard Sands Retail Performance Monitor in New York.

"I don't think a majority of shoppers pay attention to either the charges or to Wal-Mart's defense," Rice said. "If Wal-Mart has good selection and good prices, they'll keep shopping."

But Rice said Wal-Mart was right to respond to its

detractors.

"Any time you don't answer (criticism), you're going to suffer damage," Rice said, noting Wal-Mart often has let its critics speak and not mounted a defense. "This will have a positive effect."

Shares of Wal-Mart Stores Inc. fell 44 cents to \$53.64 on the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, when most stocks were pressured by higher oil prices and concerns over the economy.

Small businesses will hire in 2005

Associated Press

NEW YORK — At this time last year, Randy Herz wasn't planning to add any new employees at his estate planning and asset management firm. He thought it would be more prudent to invest money in technology.

Now, Herz said he expects to hire three or four people by the end of the first quarter, joining his current payroll of seven at offices in Farmington, Conn., and Boca Raton, Fla.

"A number of our business areas have started to expand to the point where we need to add on additional staff," said Herz, who attributed the improvement to clients who have more money and who are more focused on making decisions about their finances and estates.

The growing economy has helped some small business owners decide that it's time to start hiring again or, in the case of new companies, hiring for the first time. They've held off

expanding their staffs while they waited for the right business conditions — sales, cash flow and a sense of confidence and optimism in their customers and clients.

These business owners are part of the hiring trend across the country. The nation's employers, many of whom are small businesses, are adding jobs at a steady pace, said William Dunkelberg, chief economist with the National Federation of Independent Business, an advocacy group representing small company owners.

"It looks like everything is proceeding nicely and smoothly," Dunkelberg said after the Labor Department reported that employers created 157,000 new jobs during December. That number was fewer than Wall Street wanted, but Dunkelberg said an even and sustainable pace rather than a torrid one is healthier for the economy.

Improving business for customers of Steritech Group Inc. has allowed the Charlotte, N.C.-based pest pre-

vention and food safety firm to increase its hiring plans, human resources director Mark Moser said.

While Steritech's business has grown in the past few years, the company was conservative in its hiring because many of its customers are in the hospitality industry that was hit hard after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, Moser said.

Moser said the company has continued to hire service workers, the staffers who perform the work for customers, but "we wanted to make sure that industry was back on its feet before we made an investment in support personnel" such as office workers.

Steritech, which has about 550 employees nationwide, expects steady growth in hiring this year, Moser said.

At Harbor Sweets, a Salem, Mass.-based candy maker, "we probably have not grown at the rate we might have if we had felt more confident in the economy," owner Phyllis LeBlanc said.

Bush proposes Pell Grant award raise

12 percent increase will aid college students

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush is proposing to raise the maximum Pell Grant award by \$500 over the next five years and fix a persistent shortfall in the nation's chief college aid program, The Associated Press has learned.

That would put the maximum grant at \$4,550 by 2010 — up 12 percent from the \$4,050 offered today.

The White House declined to disclose whether the president wants to increase the grants received by more than 5 million low-income students, but congressional and education officials familiar with the details of his proposal said Thursday that Bush will call for raising the Pell Grant award \$100 a year for five years.

Pell Grants, the government's largest form of financial aid, help low-income students afford college. The grants range from \$400 to \$4,050, depending on students' financial need, their cost to attend school and whether they are enrolled part-time or full-time.

News of an increase comes as Bush prepares to send a new budget to Congress next month that the administration promises will include cuts in domestic programs. Presidents frequently emphasize spending increases for politically popular programs to take the sting out of painful trimming they've done in the federal budget.

While welcomed by both Democrats and Republicans, the Pell Grant increase Bush is expected to propose Friday during his visit to Florida Community College at Jacksonville is shy of his pledge when he first ran for president.

On the campaign trail in 2000, Bush vowed to raise the maximum award to \$5,100. Despite soaring college costs, it's been stuck at \$4,050 for three years.

"Four years after making — and breaking — a campaign promise to raise the value of the Pell Grant, I hope President Bush is finally willing to make good on that promise," Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., ranking Democrat on the House Education Committee, said in a statement issued Thursday.

"I also hope he is ready to offer a serious solution to the shortfall in funding for Pell Grants. ... My concern is that the president will rob Peter to pay Paul — increase money for Pell Grants by cutting funding for other important education programs. That is not a workable solution."

Terry Hartle, senior vice president of the American Council on Education, which represents colleges, said his group would be happy with any increase in the Pell Grant award, especially if it is coupled with eliminating a growing deficit in the program.

"If true, these proposals would mark the most significant development in the Pell Grant program since it was created 30 years ago," Hartle said. "The higher education

community would vigorously applaud this action."

When the economy is slow, more students enroll in colleges and the Pell Grant program typically runs a deficit, Hartle explained. Students eligible to receive the grants are sent the money even if it exceeds congressional allocations, he said. Because the economy has not been robust in recent years and more people have gone off to college, the deficit has grown to roughly \$4 billion, he said.

"It's a shortfall on paper, but when Congress looks to increase the Pell Grant they do so with the knowledge that the program is roughly \$4 billion in the hole," he said. "Eliminating the shortfall would make it much easier for Congress to increase the maximum grant."

The White House on Thursday hinted that Bush was planning action on the Pell Grant program deficit.

"The president has been strongly committed to Pell Grants and insuring that more students are eligible," deputy White House press secretary Trent Duffy said. "There is a serious shortfall in the program and the president is committed to addressing it."

Although Congress did not raise the maximum grant last year, lawmakers did increase Pell Grant money by \$458 million, to about \$12.4 billion. However, Congress also decided not to block the Education Department from updating tax deduction tables used to calculate aid eligibility.

If the Education Department updates the tables, it would cause about 1 million prospective Pell Grant recipients to have their eligibility reduced by an average of \$300, according to Brian Fitzgerald, staff director of the Advisory Committee on Financial Assistance, which advises Congress. The update would save the Pell program about \$300 million a year.

Retail chain settles profiling case

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Macy's has agreed to a settlement in a case in which black and Hispanic customers alleged the company targeted minorities in trying to catch suspected shoplifters, the retail chain confirmed Thursday.

The company agreed to make sure its security officers adhere to store policy and do not engage in racial profiling. A settlement with state Attorney General Eliot

Spitzer is expected to be signed Friday, said Macy's spokeswoman Carol Sanger.

Spitzer spokesman Brad Maione declined comment.

Under a tentative agreement, Macy's would pay the \$600,000 for the state's costs of examining complaints from black and Hispanic customers who said they were more often detained, questioned, searched and handcuffed than white customers, according to a law enforcement official familiar with Spitzer's investigation.

Macy's has agreed to adopt several measures including appointing a worker to investigate complaints and to train and supervise security personnel, the source said. It will also train security officers and sales people on how to avoid any profiling, and hire an outside auditor to perform unannounced reviews, according to the source.

The case involved the company's Macy's East branch, which has stores across the Northeast.



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National Intelligence Council releases year 2020 report

Associated Press

LANGLEY, Va. — And now, a look into the future: al-Qaida, out; murky and scattered new terror cells, in. Hollywood, out; India's "Bollywood" in. America as sole superpower, out; China and India as world players, in.

At least, that's what U.S. intelligence future-gazers predicted Thursday.

"How we mentally map the world of 2020 will change radically," said the National Intelligence Council Chairman Robert Hutchings at the release of his panel's new report, Project 2020. Newly arriving powers "have the potential to render obsolete the old categories of East and West, North and South."

The unclassified forecasts offer a range of scenarios about the world 15 years out. Officials caution they

are not meant to be predictions certain to come true but rather long-term outlooks designed to stimulate debate at the start of a new administration, in the weeks months before President Bush won.

The council predicts an emergence of new global players — almost certainly China and India — but whether these new players fit into the world cooperatively or competitively remains an important uncertainty for the United States.

Council Vice Chairman David Gordon said the changes ahead could be "a very bumpy ride." Among them, he said, the integration of 1 billion low-paid workers will cause global shifts in rich and poor countries alike. Changes will be experienced politically, economically and even culturally, as Korean pop singers gain interna-

tional popularity and India's Bollywood movie industry outshines Hollywood.

"Of course, the United States is in good shape to participate in this world, but it will be a world that will be much more competitive for us," Gordon said.

Hutchings said this new order will raise the stakes for Arab countries, which may join in globalization trends or experience further alienation and humiliation. Terror threats, too, will change.

While radical extremism will continue to grow, the report says al-Qaida is expected to be superseded by similarly inspired, decentralized groups. Hutchings said he

expects the innovation in terror attacks to come from new elements of surprise, rather than unconventional weapons.

The groups' members will be tapping technology that provides instant connections for communications and training, posing a significant intelligence challenge to organizations including the CIA.

"Our greatest concern is that terrorists might acquire biological agents or, less likely, a nuclear device, either of which could cause mass casualties," the report said.

The council treads carefully on the success of democratization — an issue Bush has made the cornerstone of his foreign policy. It

predicts democratic progress in key Middle Eastern countries, including Iraq and Afghanistan, which may be an example for Muslim and Arab states still ruled by repressive regimes.

However, Russian and Central Asian countries could slip backward, according to the report.

The National Intelligence Council reports directly to CIA Director Porter Goss but remains separate from the agency. It is responsible for preparing National Intelligence Estimates for policymakers. Although its products are generally highly classified, significant details have emerged on its overblown estimate of Iraq's weapons capability.

A team of analysts, consulting with over 1,000 international experts over the last year, assembled Project 2020, which follows projects 2010 and 2015.

"How we mentally map the world of 2020 will change radically."

Robert Hutchings
National Intelligence
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Friday, January 14, 2005

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OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO
(574) 631-7471

Fax

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 obscad@nd.edu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4324

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu

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TODAY'S STAFF

News	Sports
Eileen Duffy	Dan Tapetillo
Nicole Zook	Eric Retter
Mary Kate Malone	Ryan Kiefer
Viewpoint	Scene
Alyssa	Maria Smith
Brauweiler	Illustrator
Graphics	Graham Ebetsch
Graham Ebetsch	

Celebration at Saint Mary's

Saint Mary's certainly has reason to celebrate. After six months of having College President Carol Mooney at the helm, she will be officially inaugurated Saturday during a public ceremony.

But Saturday's spectacle doesn't tell the whole story. The College's accompanying week of inaugural events has been well-attended by students, faculty and staff — showing that the occasion is not just in honor of an individual but also truly a community event.

In an unprecedented move, the College even elected to excuse students from classes today to allow them to attend an all-day symposium focusing on women's colleges, spreading the spotlight beyond campus and putting the inauguration into a national context.

The College was right to do so. While this is a time to celebrate Mooney, her accomplishments thus far and the path that lies ahead, this is also a time to celebrate being a thriving women's institution. Many of the week's events have focused on the rich and unique history of Saint Mary's itself, looking at a time when

Mooney was herself a student and taking a closer look at where the College is now.

This is a golden opportunity for Saint Mary's students — one that comes around so rarely it needs to be taken advantage of now. The events this week are as much about each individual on campus as they are about Mooney and the College. Because events on the scale of an inauguration occur so infrequently, it is important for students to take part in every opportunity they can.

Attending today's symposium, Saturday's events and even the dance Sunday, which Mooney helped to plan, will strengthen not only the student body's connection with Mooney, but its sense of its place in history.

A presidential inauguration is the perfect time to commemorate the tradition of Saint Mary's — a tradition built on history, reputation and the strength and uniqueness of all those who know what it is to be a Saint Mary's woman. In planning and executing a full week of events for the whole community, the College gave its rich past and its future leader the recognition they deserve.

The Observer Editorial

Presenting last year's 'Bonehead' awards

January brings with it an end to the previous year and a fresh start on the calendar. As the winter solstice fades into the fog of the holiday season, nearly everyone resolves to achieve that which has alluded him in the past. This year, many members of the Notre Dame Board of Trustees simply need to ask themselves, "What have I done?"

Seldom in Notre Dame's history do the impulses of a few power-drunk Donald Trump "Wonna Bees" ride roughshod over the institution with such bone-chilling effects. The "retirement" of University President Monk Malloy behind closed doors could be publicly explained as the passing of a torch after his substantial service. The premature public firing of the first-ever ethnic minority head coach of any Notre Dame athletic team wins for the trustees the 2004 Bonehead of the Year Award.

Last year, Notre Dame was not alone. The administrations, boards of trustees and athletic departments of other major universities ran closely behind Notre Dame for the title of "Bonehead." These institutions need to reexamine how their actions sent horrible messages to their alumni and the American public in 2004. Unfortunately, both of my alma matters ranked first and second last year — the University of Notre Dame and the University of Pittsburgh.

Be it resolved for the coming year that the majority of followers on the Notre Dame Board of Trustees note and never more repeat their leaders' pressuring of the athletic department on such an ill-advised public relations disaster as the firing of the head football coach before his contract expires, especially if that coach is a "first ever" at the University. In 2004, Notre Dame announced to the world that academics no longer rank over athletics and the business considerations with its large sums of bowl money.

Notre Dame also showed the world

that it never was serious with coach Tyrone Willingham. He was always their second choice as a result of the athletic department's fiasco with the on-again, off-again hiring of a head football coach whose incorrectly listed details on his resume eventually led the university back to Willingham. As a result, Notre Dame proved that it is not tolerant enough to allow its "first ever ethnic minority head coach of any university sport" to prove himself within the allotted time of a five-year contract. Had it honored all five years of the contract, the University could evaluate the coach on a season of play operating entirely with his recruits in his own system.

Ironically, a decade before when Notre Dame tried to rhyme its reputation into a graduate research university with a new slogan, it did fulfill its half of the five-year contracts of two prior failed head football coaches — one, an assistant with no college head coaching experience and the other, a high school coach also with no college head coaching experience. The incoming head football coach may resolve for 2005 to change the term "contract" to "covenant" on his agreement with the university so that the Holy Cross order recognizes its fine print.

To the fans and administration of the Bonehead Award runner-up, the University of Pittsburgh where I earned a masters degree, be it resolved that you soul search your conflicted minds in the coming year. Never has any university gone from such lax academic standards as when it won a football national championship in the mid-1970s to such strict academic standards in recent times. As a result, the athletic standings of its

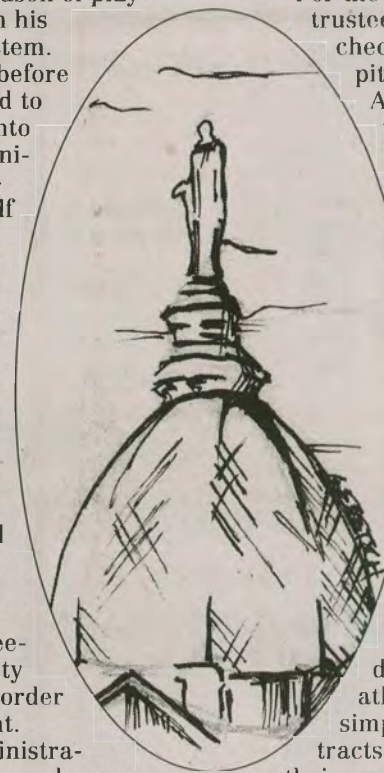
teams suffered for decades.

Now that Pitt has balanced high academic standards for its athletes with winning teams, why not give the next head football coach what you refused to allow the departing coach — the entire season before complaining. The efforts to remove Walt Harris in mid-season was a disgrace, especially in light of his dramatic wins and selection in a major bowl. Be it also resolved that you stop acting like a wife abuser and enjoy your successful football and basketball teams, not to mention your professional Pittsburgh Steelers.

For the future, Notre Dame trustees also need a reality check to avoid repeating new pitfalls in 2005 and beyond. As it stands, Notre Dame will never win a national football championship without going undefeated, so the athletic director needs to examine future schedules with an eye on pacing the team through its premier match-ups each season. With a playoff system, Notre Dame's odds of competing in a national championship game dramatically increase, so the new University president needs to push for the "plus one" bowl format. Of course, if academics still rank above athletic wins and revenues, simply honor athletic contracts while scholars research their projects.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hottline@aol.com.

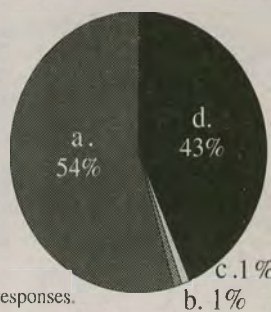
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



OBSERVER POLL

What are you planning to do to aid the tsunami victims?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| a. Donate money | 54% |
| b. Volunteer | 1% |
| c. Raise money | 1% |
| d. Nothing | 43% |



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 69 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it by yourself."

Ben Franklin
inventor

U-WIRE

Intern your way to success

Listen up, people, especially you freshmen, and most especially you little over-achieving fresh meat straight out of high school. I want to share a little chunk of wisdom my brain decided to drop on me belatedly. College is a game. Well, it's part of the game. It can be a luxuriously-furnished and pocketbook-breaking day-care center for the undecided, or it can be the launching pad for your success. It just depends on how you play it.

I highly suggest the launching pad option, but it's not that simple. The launching pad image is, of course, the one we're all familiar with. It's part of that formula for success every parent and politician swears by as though it's the Bible of capitalism. Go to college, ace the classes, graduate cum laude, get a lucrative job, get the house with the white picket fence with the freshly baked Norman Rockwell American dream pie cooling off on the windowsill for those picture-perfect 2.5 kids.

College is that mythical magic factory of success. But as most of us know, and many will soon figure out, that's not how it works.

A bachelor's degree is about as rare nowadays as a millionaire (or the game shows manufacturing them). Not that I completely agree with the assessment, but I once saw the message "UCLA diploma" scribed on the inside of a toilet stall with an arrow underneath pointing to the roll of toilet paper.

Obviously this was a message for the undergrads, pardon the pun, but I never quite saw toilet paper the same way after that. There is truth, though, to the idea that in the current job market, an undergrad diploma carries little more worth than mulch.

But it doesn't have to. That's the part I just figured out, in my classically belated way, on the eve of graduation.

Of course, I realize that the overwhelming majority of you reading this will not be struck with soup-puking psycho-panic convulsions and rectal hemorrhages by what will follow. According to a survey by Vaultreport.com, 80 percent of all graduating seniors will have completed at least one internship by the time they've shuttled their mortar boards (that square thing on top of your head at graduation, dude) skyward.

Oliver Lukacs

*University of
California-Los
Angeles
Daily Bruin*

So I'm writing this for the 20 percenters, who need a catcher in the rye.

Here's how the game works. In its crudest form, college is a filtration system. The smart ones understand this and will hate me (sorry, guys) for revealing the dirty little secret that the most important part of college, even more than getting a diploma, is getting a really good internship.

No one tells you this directly to your face, and that's how the filtration system works. Once everyone gets wise to this — and I'm really taking one for the team here — the competition for internships will stiffen. I just wish somebody had stressed this to me before the eve of graduation.

For you hard-nosed materialists demanding proof, according to a survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employees, on a list of the top 10 places employers find new hires, guess where internship programs rank? No. 1.

But don't listen to me; hear it from an accredited school of hard-knocks swami. "A good internship can be almost as important as a diploma," said Dario Bravo, a UCLA Career Center "God of Information" and probably one of the most important people you'll ever meet.

It is a lamentable but undeniable truth that it is who you know, and not what you know, that determines your chances of success in that jungle outside of UCLA. This is an uncomfortable truth, and one that is certainly repugnant to the high-minded principles of academia.

I want to be clear that I'm neither knocking nor mocking this prestigious and world-class institution. Getting in is no picnic, as we all know. Getting in, however, is just the beginning of the game.

Just remember that outside the gates of this noble institution is a harsh world that plays by its own rules, and like it or not, the name of the game is survival.

This column originally appeared in the Daily Bruin, the daily newspaper of the University of California-Los Angeles, on Jan. 12.

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

U-WIRE

Can bloggers redeem journalism's reputation?

The drama at CBS is the latest punch to deepen the dented credibility of the media.

The broadcast news giant just couldn't achieve the accuracy — something journalists should kind of have a knack for — that one blogger nailed with a post about forged National Guard documents.

Now that CBS and Jayson Blair have made "media" synonymous with "liar," it seems a profession that's nothing without its readers' trust is losing its foundation.

But the press' salvation is the very eye that's catching its mistakes: bloggers.

The media can hate these Internet quasi-reporters for exposing their shortcomings. They can embrace them for restoring the transparency that's been clouded by profit- and competition-minded executives, producers and reporters.

Better yet, they can hire them.

Bloggers aren't going away, and there's no reason that they should. They're scooping stories almost daily and gaining access to the same sources, all without press passes. At the Democratic and GOP national conventions, there were pseudo-news-rooms full of people whose only credentials were

inquisitive minds and laptops; that's reporting in its purest form.

On his blog, pressthink.org, New York University Department of Journalism Chair and media critic Jay Rosen articulated this trend with a clarity that editors and producers should have realized long ago.

"We need to keep the press from being absorbed into The Media. This means keeping the word press, which is antiquated," he wrote. "But included under its modern umbrella should be all who do the serious work in journalism, regardless of the technology used. The people who will invent the next press in America — and who are doing it now online — continue an experiment at least 250 years old."

The thousands of bloggers like Joshua Micah Marshall of talkingpointsmemo.com are the ones excelling in journalism, and they're not technically journalists. But if they were sitting at the cubicles of The New York Times, they would be the rookie reporters putting the senior staffers to shame.

Their motivation is simple — they want to know what's going on — and that will always spawn better journalism than Mary Mapes' desire to stick it to the president.

The media industry, not the press, creates its own

headaches. It's a machine that for decades has grown in experience, but also in corporatism. Accuracy used to be the goal of all journalists, and that's why readers trusted them. Now, credible journalism is as oxymoronic as military intelligence.

The problem that bloggers don't have is that they're not distorted by increasing profit or kowtowing to advertisers or breaking the biggest story. They don't need 12 competing flashy graphics on the screen to gain points in the ratings; they're writing what they think, and so be it if people read it.

The ombudsmen and public relations people can try to assuage the skeptics, but CBS has proven that the skeptics are onto something. The silver lining for the media is that their skeptics can do what their journalists have obviously lost the touch for.

Four people and a legendary news anchor are leaving CBS. Maybe Andrew Heyward should go blog-surfing and see if anyone wants a job.

This column originally appeared in The Daily Athenaeum, the daily newspaper of West Virginia University, on Jan. 13.

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

**Courtney
Balestier**

*West Virginia
University
The Daily
Athenaeum*

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Interested in working for Viewpoint?

Contact Sarah Vabulas
at viewpoint.1@nd.edu

Pikmin, Samus Aran, the Prin

Sequels receive good reviews; music on Nin

REVIEWS BY J

Pikmin 2

How does a company follow up an underground, system release, smash hit?

By releasing a sequel that surpasses the original, of course. "Pikmin 2" is one of those few games that takes a completely original idea and then builds on it to make it even better.

The story of the game directly follows the events of "Pikmin" and its hero, Captain Olimar. But this time around he has help from his sidekick Louie. Olimar and Louie must collect "treasure" to help pay off the debt of the corporation they work for with the help of sprite-like animals known only as Pikmin. Basically, Louie and Olimar lead them around like a general leads an army.

Unlike in the original "Pikmin," in "Pikmin 2" you have an unlimited amount of time to pay off the debt. This creates a more relaxing atmosphere and allows leisure to enjoy every aspect of the game. Tasks are more easily accomplished with the addition of Louie by splitting the task force of Pikmin and taking on two different problems at once.

The addition of two new types of Pikmin also makes the game more rounded, providing a better chance of survival in the tough world. The origi-

nal "Pikmin" had three different types of Pikmin with different abilities. The new types, added with the old, create a balanced squad ready to face any trouble the planet can throw at you, from carnivorous plants to rushing water, and from electrical fences to snake-bird hybrids.

Visually the game is very reminiscent of the original "Pikmin" with only minimal improvements to the graphics. But the game still looks great and screen

transitions are extremely smooth. The only problem with the visuals, which may not even be a problem for some gamers, is the massive amounts of color on the screen. It might eventually give you headaches, but other than that, brightens the mood and enhances the style of the game.

The soundtrack to the game is quirky, with a definitive children's music feel to it, but this only enhances the game. It creates a background of fun that easily entrances the player. The sound effects also display a childlike quality, from the mechanical voice of the spaceship to the singing voices of the happy Pikmin.

The controls of the game handle very



Photo courtesy of ign.com

well, using the c-stick for easy command of the Pikmin, while basically simplifying the game into easy to use one-button moves. Not overdoing the controls makes this game great for everyone from the most advanced gamers to people who have never played before.

Another huge addition to the game is the multiplayer option. Playing solo or with a teammate is great, but going head-to-head in a Pikmin battle royal is

even more intense. The GameCube doesn't skip a beat, even with so much action on the screen at once.

"Pikmin 2" is a great game with very few flaws. Its major downfalls are the fact that it is slightly repetitive, overstimulating to the point of headaches, and childish (although a lot of people love that). This is a great buy for people who love fun games that you can get a lot of play time out of with minimal effort.

Metroid Prime 2: Echoes

On the surface, this game is aptly named, because it is basically the same game with a different story. But once playing the game, you will realize it is more than just an "echo" of the original.

While "Metroid Prime 2: Echoes" has many of the same properties that made the first "Metroid Prime" a hit, it is the equivalent of a remix that is just as good as the original. The basic premise of the single player game is the same. The gamer plays an intergalactic bounty hunter name Samus Aran who must use the first person perspective combat to explore and defeat the enemy. But the game is not just combat. Puzzle solving using scanners to open doors and find key codes as well as using Samus's morph ball and grapping hook abilities to get to hard to reach areas, make this a great adventure game as well.

You are stripped of all abilities at the beginning of the game and must traverse through a hostile world, finding all of your items and re-upgrading your armor. You can even upgrade your armor and weapons using technology native to the aliens and to the planets you are currently on. If you don't

upgrade, you won't be able to beat the game. Once completely upgraded, you become an unstoppable force capable of completing the hefty tasks the game lays upon you, which of course include killing the big bad guy and saving the planet.

The biggest addition of the game, which prevents it from being just a clone/remix, is the addition of multiplayer death-match and capture the

flag. The game's multiplayer allows you and up to three of your friends to fight for dominance over the level. There is nothing like fighting with your friends to be the first to get the rocket launcher and take control of a heated game.

Visually, the game is exactly the same as the original "Metroid Prime," but this isn't a bad thing. The graphics are still topnotch and show few signs of aging at all. The GameCube has the potential to make the game even more breathtaking, but the same engine was used in this game as the first.

One thing lacking in the cinematics is the lack of voiceovers for the movie



Photo courtesy of ign.com

clips. There isn't a single human voice in the entire game, which makes the game seem distanced and less engaging.

The audio track is very well done, establishing just the right amount of suspense and scariness to make seem almost movie like. The ambient noise and special effects noise though is where the game's sound shines through.

Overall, "Metroid Prime 2: Echoes" is a great game that is just as playable and fun as the original, but it has flaws. The lack of a good storyline and the jumbled plot take away from the action of the game, and the addition of multiplayer death-match instead of a co-operative play isn't enough to keep this game from essentially being a clone of a former great game. While it is a great sequel, that is all it is.

Metroid Prime 2: Echoes

Retro Studios, Inc.

Available for GameCube

Josh's Rating: A-



Prince and Donkey Kong return

Sendo's rhythmic innovation hits a bad note

DOSH TALLEY

Prince of Persia: Warrior Within

The follow-up to last year's Game of the Year absolutely buries its predecessor in all aspects.

While "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" was an amazing platformer with interesting puzzles and good combat, "Prince of Persia: Warrior Within" is foremost a fighting platformer with enough puzzles to make lovers of the first game stare in awe. After the events of the first game, the Prince is being hunted by Fate itself. To stop it, he must prevent the Sands of Time from being created by using them to travel back to the beginning of the timeline and destroy them before they were created.

Confused yet? Don't worry the game explains everything in more depth.

The biggest change from the first game to this game is the darker atmosphere. The entire mood of this installment is different than the original. The game has been revamped to make all the environments and enemies scarier, more deadly and spookier, and even included boss fights, which are a new feature to the game.

The game also gives a complete makeover to the Prince himself. The Prince has traded in his imperial blue robes and white pants for metal body armor and a red sash. The Prince has also added quite a few tricks to his repertoire. Most notably, he has figured out how to dual wield weapons, effectively doubling the damage in the game. He has also learned all sorts of new tricks to interact with the environment including sliding down curtains, movie style, and using pillars to propel himself at enemies.

To increase the level of combat in the game, the Prince now can also perform over two pages of combat combos to ravage his enemies with. The player can also string together their own combinations or attacks to make customizable combos and fight in a 360-degree environment. But one of the key factors of the first game is still around in the second, making the game

all that much better. The Prince can still control time, using it to outrun enemies and traps by slowing time down or rewinding time after a misstep on a ledge or another mistake. Developing both control over the combos and the Sands of Time is critical to the game because without either of these, you will not survive long enough to even think about beating the game.

Finally, the traps in the game are vicious enough to stop you were the enemies fail. Elaborate puzzles are used to escape them and get around large sections of traps. These puzzles involve climbing ropes, pillars, running on walls, back flipping off a wall during a free fall, and many others.

The visuals in the game are stunning and can be seen in three different view modes, including first person, third person, and landscape. The cinematics are gorgeous and help further the story in a totally engrossing way. This game pushes the GameCube to the edge of its capabilities and shows what exactly the system is capable of doing.

The soundtrack is also a huge part of this game, giving a great classical score during exploration and puzzles while also delivering a power driven rock score, preformed by Godsmack, during the combat sections of the game.

The game has another feature that may make the game more difficult, but is a great addition to the game. The game learns from

your movements and adapts to your style and plays accordingly. This makes the game extremely challenging but well worth all of effort. "Prince of Persia: Warrior Within" is an amazing game and a must buy for any fan of the action/adventure or platforming genre.



Photo courtesy of ign.com

Prince of Persia: Warrior Within

Ubisoft

Available for X-Box, GameCube and Playstation 2

Josh's Rating: A +



Donkey Konga

Ever played "Dance Dance Revolution?" Like to beat your own drum? Then try your hands at "Donkey Konga," an interactive music drumming game.

Okay, that sounded really bad. But just give it a chance. The game is probably not half as bad as you think it is.

It's actually a lot of fun when played with other people.

The premise of the game is that a song is played through the television with symbols that signify when to hit the drum. The game comes with a set of double bongos that allow you to strike the left bongo, right bongo, both

bongos or clap. Then you just choose a difficulty level and play along with the song.

Pretty simple, right? Wrong. There are three difficulty levels ranging from Monkey (easy) to Chimp (standard) to Gorilla (hard). The game contains songs from a wide spectrum of genres and some decent "classics." With music from ska to pop to oldies and video game tunes, there has to be something you would enjoy on the game.

But the music is one of the big problems with the game. There just isn't enough of it, a large enough selection of good songs, or varied enough music for continual use. You can get really tired of some of the songs after playing them just once or twice.

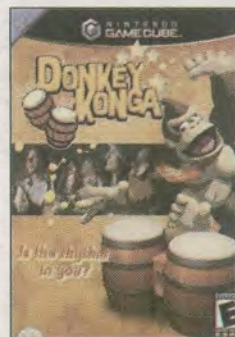
There is also a setting where you memorize the beats of a song and play them from memory. This seems like a useless section, because a lot of people won't care enough to memorize the music to attempt it. This could definitely have been replaced with more music for the regular version of the game.

Donkey Konga

Namco

Available for GameCube

Josh's Rating: B-



is pretty good because the songs are pretty true to the original versions of the songs.

Overall, the game could use a lot of work, mostly involving more and better music. Hopefully, more discs are released that are just extension discs containing more music.

Contact Josh Talley at
jtalley2@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of ign.com

NBA

Lakers beat Cavaliers despite losing Kobe in first quarter

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant went down hard and did not return, though the Los Angeles Lakers were able to defeat LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers without him.

Bryant sustained what the team called a severely sprained right ankle and had to be helped off the court early in a victory Thursday night. X-rays were negative, but Bryant will have an MRI on Friday.

Lamar Odom had 24 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, and Caron Butler added 21 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who won for the third time in four games.

James led Cleveland with 28 points, a season-high 13 rebounds and nine assists to just miss his first career triple-double. Jeff McInnis added 20 points and Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 13 points and 15 rebounds for the Cavaliers, who had their four-game winning streak snapped.

Bryant, the NBA's second-leading scorer with a 28.2-point average, was injured when he landed on Ira Newble's right foot while going for a rebound under the Cavaliers' basket with 5:39 left in the first quarter. Newble was called for a foul on the play.

Bryant immediately grabbed his ankle before teammate Brian Grant and trainer Gary Vitti helped him off the court and into the Staples Center tunnel, where Grant and injured Los Angeles forward Devean George carried him into the locker room.

Bryant had two points and three assists before leaving with the game tied at 15.

Bryant injured his right shoulder late in the first quarter of a game against the Cavaliers last January at Staples Center when he collided with former Cleveland guard Kedrick Brown, causing him to miss six games.

James visited the Lakers' locker room at halftime to check on Bryant.

Eric Snow's 3-pointer — his only snow of the game — gave the Cavaliers an 87-86 lead with 2:41 to play. But a basket by Odom and two free throws by Chuck Atkins put the Lakers on top 90-87 with 1:38 left.

Ilgauskas made a free throw to draw the Cavaliers within two points, but Atkins and Butler made two foul shots each to put the Lakers ahead 94-88 with 22.4 seconds remaining.

McInnis and James made 3-pointers to move the Cavaliers within one point with 9.8 seconds to go. Butler made a foul shot before James missed a 3-pointer that could have given Cleveland the lead. Odom's two free throws with 1.8 seconds to play completed the scoring.

Robert Traylor scored his first four points of the game during a 10-3 run that gave the Cavaliers a 67-61 lead. Atkins then got his first seven during a 10-4 Los Angeles spurt to finish the third quarter that tied the game 71-all.

After a basket by James gave Cleveland a 32-24 lead — largest of the game for either team — the Lakers went on a 16-5 run to put them ahead 40-37, and they led 49-47 at halftime.

Kings 107, Jazz 93

Peja Stojakovic scored 27 points and Chris Webber had 23 points and 15 rebounds in the Sacramento Kings' victory over the Utah Jazz.

Brad Miller had 21 points on 9-of-10 shooting for the Kings, who had just nine players in uniform for the second straight game when Mike Bibby sat out with a sprained ankle. The Kings then lost Greg Ostertag and Maurice Evans to injuries during the game, but hung on through a physical game featuring plenty of hard contact and confrontations.

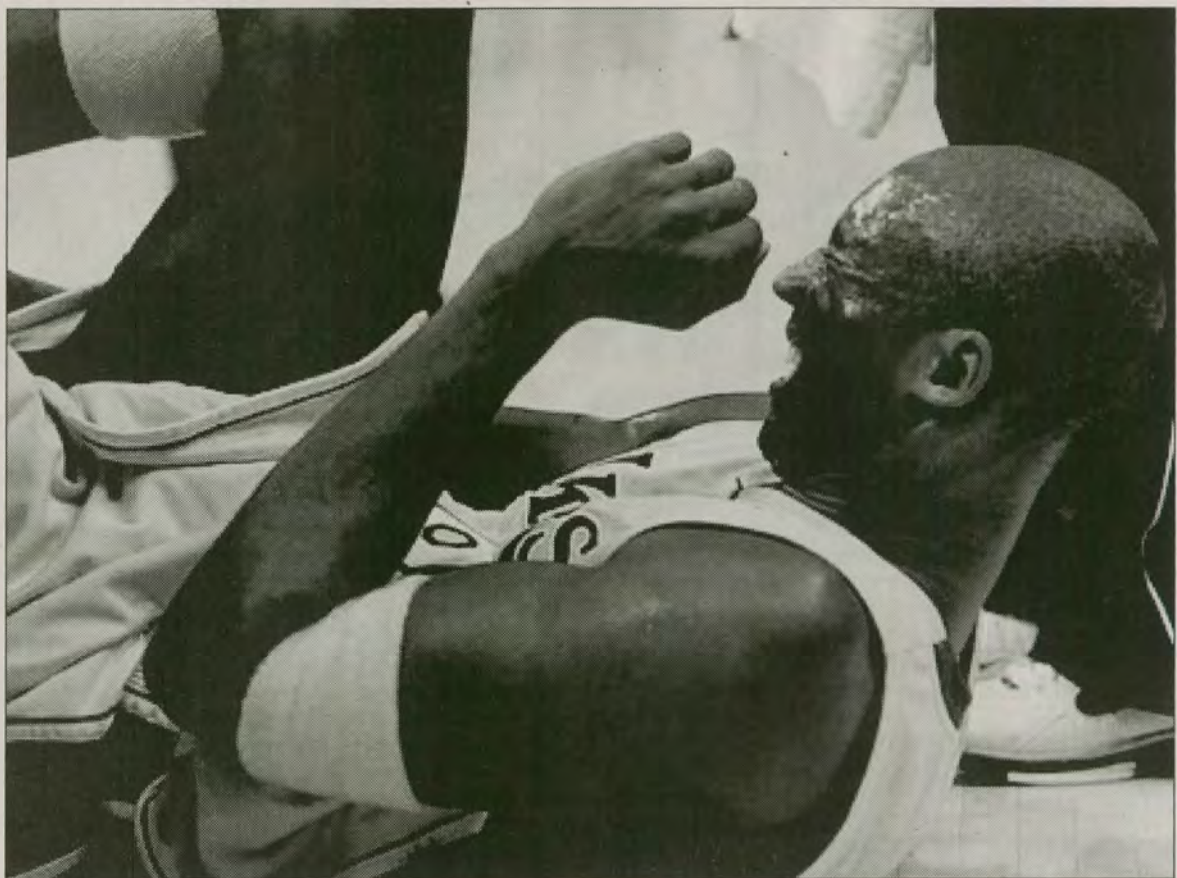
Matt Harpring landed a hard foul on Stojakovic in the third quarter, and Stojakovic responded with a one-handed shove. Both players got technical fouls, but their teammates prevented a serious scuffle.

With 2:09 to play, Utah's Carlos Boozer committed a flagrant foul against Evans, who fell hard to the ground while attempting a dunk. Evans remained on the court for a moment before walking to the locker room, and Webber got a technical foul for attempting to challenge Boozer.

Ostertag left the court in the second quarter with a towel over his face after getting hit by an elbow from Utah's Curtis Borchardt. He received stitches in his upper lip and returned to the bench for the second half, but didn't play.

Boozer had 15 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for the Jazz, who followed up surprising victories over Phoenix and San Antonio earlier this week with their 10th loss in 12 games.

Utah had an eight-point lead in the second quarter before the Kings made a 26-2 run led



Kobe Bryant grimaces in pain after severely spraining his ankle in the first quarter of the Lakers' game against the Cavaliers. He did not return, but the Lakers won 98-94.

by 10 points from Webber. Sacramento maintained the lead through the second half, with Utah never getting closer than six points.

Bibby sat on the sidelines next to new acquisitions Cuttino Mobley and Michael Bradley. The Sacramento newcomers were unable to play while awaiting Doug Christie's physical with Orlando, which will complete the clubs' trade.

Webber, who missed Tuesday's win over Denver to rest his sore knee, returned with a strong game on both ends, including a two-handed, behind-the-head dunk in the second quarter.

Miller also grabbed nine rebounds, and he capped his outstanding shooting with a 3-pointer with 15.3 seconds left.

Harpring scored 16 points for the Jazz, and Raja Bell had 11.

The Jazz will be without Andrei Kirilenko for at least another week, with coach Jerry Sloan deciding to give the All-Star forward another week of rehabilitation on his sprained knee.

Rockets 94, Nets 85

Bob Sura scored a career-high 35 points, including a game-clinching 3-pointer with 1:02 left in overtime, to lead the surging Houston Rockets to victory over the New Jersey Nets.

Juwan Howard scored eight

of his 12 points in the extra period, and a hobbled Tracy McGrady added 18 points for the Rockets, who matched a season-best three-game winning streak and moved two games above .500 (19-17) for the first time this season.

Jason Kidd narrowly missed a triple-double with 16 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, and Vince Carter had 17 points for the Nets, who dropped their third straight and fifth in the past six games.

Playing on a balky right knee that had been drained of fluid Tuesday, Sura nonetheless seized control of the Rockets' offense with McGrady struggling through a rare off night and Yao Ming rendered ineffective.

Sura helped Houston rally from an early first-quarter deficit, played solid defense on Kidd and hit nearly every clutch basket down the stretch.

With Houston trailing 77-76 following Carter's reverse layup, Sura found himself standing unguarded outside the arc. He nailed a 3, sending the crowd into a frenzy and letting his right arm linger in the air a little longer than usual — a sort of personal salute to his gutty performance.

Yao, however, nearly wasted Sura's effort by bungling a chance to seal the victory with

Houston holding an 81-79 lead. Yao missed two free throws, Carter rebounded and quickly brought the ball down the floor. He found Nenad Krstic cutting underneath the basket for a two-handed slam, tying the game at 81-all with 24.7 seconds left.

Houston's David Wesley missed a jumper as the shot clock expired, and the Rockets stole New Jersey's inbounds pass with 0.7 seconds to go to send the game into overtime.

From there, Howard and Sura took over.

The unheralded duo scored all of the Rockets' 13 points in the extra period, and even came up with smaller clutch plays to keep Houston ahead. Sura snuck into the lane to grab an offensive rebound and fed the ball to Howard for the go-ahead basket, and Howard then returned the favor by finding Sura for the 3-pointer that gave Houston a 90-85 lead with 1:06 left.

McGrady, who came into the game with an injured left thumb and bruised left big toe, exited briefly in the fourth quarter with a strained left quadriceps but returned quickly.

Yao was held to a season-low six points. He got into early foul trouble, took only two shots and went scoreless in the first half. He finished nine rebounds, two blocks and five turnovers.

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NFL

Young quarterbacks impress

Brady, Manning, Vick, McNabb are rising stars in new generation of quarterbacks

Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Michael Vick sat on his couch around this time last year, trying to pick a playoff quarterback to root for.

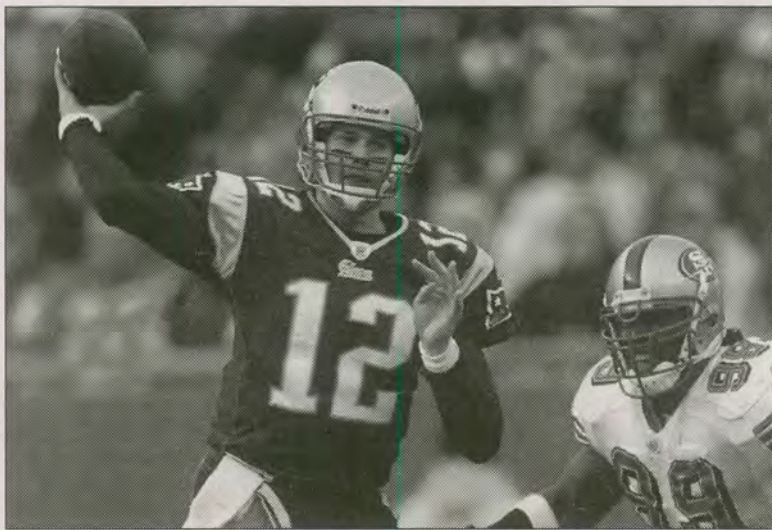
Vick had a tough choice. There was Donovan McNabb. Peyton Manning. Tom Brady.

"I was pulling for Donovan," Vick recalled this week. "He's my homeboy, but at the same time I was pulling for Peyton, pulling for Brady because those are all guys I'm cool with."

Perhaps there is a reason for that. Vick, McNabb, Manning and Brady are part of the new generation of quarterbacks, rising stars in the league that have yet to hit 30. This year, Vick is a part of the playoff bunch with his three friends, and they have helped make history.

From MVP Manning to rookie Ben Roethlisberger, none of the eight QBs in the Super Bowl quarterfinals is older than 28.

It is the first time since the AFL-NFL merger that all the passers are so young, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.



Patriots quarterback Tom Brady sends a pass down the field despite pressure from 49ers' defensive lineman Andrew Williams.

"That's a good thing," said coach Herman Edwards, who has 28-year-old Chad Pennington leading the Jets.

"A couple years prior to this we were always talking about, 'Where are the young quarterbacks coming from?' Now, all of a sudden you have them in the playoffs, and that's good for the league."

There are first-rounders and sixth-rounders, record-setters and jet-setters among the group. Their backgrounds are diverse, but there are a few reasons why they have come this far. Many franchises have decided to build their team around a young player while

hoping he becomes a future superstar.

The theory of having rookie quarterbacks sit on the bench for several years while learning behind a wily veteran has all but disappeared.

Of the 32 starters on opening day, 18 were 28 or younger. Because of injuries or the need for a change, that number jumped to 21 when the regular-season ended.

"It's always been accepted as fact in this league that you need a great quarterback to go very far, and I think you can see the eight teams that are left believe that," Colts general manager Bill Polian said.

MLB

Owners approve the sale of the Brewers

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Major league owners unanimously approved the \$223 million sale of the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday from the family of commissioner Bud Selig to a group headed by Los Angeles investor Mark Attanasio.

Attanasio, 47, is committed to keeping the team in Milwaukee, thanks to a 30-year lease to play in Miller Park.

Although approval was assured beforehand, Attanasio said it was an emotional moment when he walked into the room and was given a standing ovation by the other owners.

"It's indescribable," Attanasio said.

The sale is to close Friday, when the ownership transfer will take place.

Attanasio grew up in the Bronx and has been a lifelong baseball fan.

"It's probably a labor of love," he said of his decision to buy the Brewers. "But what's better? I love the game of baseball, and it's a new challenge for me."

Attanasio has been a group managing director of the Trust Company of the West, a money

management firm, since 1995.

Selig's daughter, Wendy Selig-Prieb, has been in charge of the franchise since her father became commissioner in 1998. The team has struggled to be competitive in recent years but has made several player moves in the offseason thanks to the prospect of new ownership.

"We must field a competitive team," Attanasio said. "Frankly, I think we've taken a big step this year developing young players, who we need to continue to develop. We need to continue to put money into the farm system. And then frankly we need to figure out a way to get another \$10 million into the payroll over the next couple of years."

The club currently has a payroll of slightly more than \$40 million.

"We're going to look at different business initiatives that will help us raise the money" Attanasio said.

He said there already are examples of small market teams becoming winners.

"The A's, the Twins, the Marlins," Attanasio said. "The Marlins won the World Series with a \$50 million payroll. But where we want to start is to be a competitive team, then we'll go from there."

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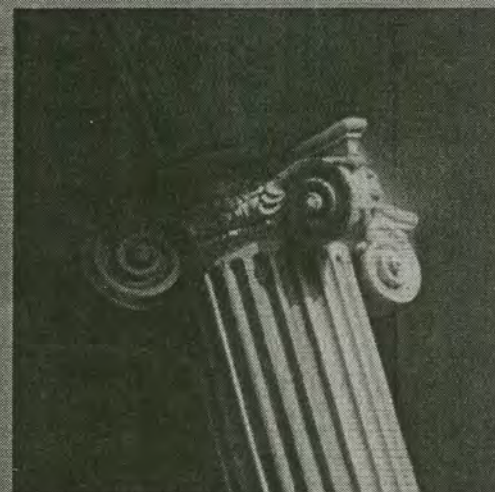
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SMC SWIMMING

Belles look to break early season slump

By JUSTIN STETZ
Sports Writer

After a long break, the Saint Mary's swimming team is looking to bounce back as it travels to Hillsdale College this weekend. The Belles currently stand in last place in the MIAA with a record of 0-2 after losses against conference opponents Hope and Olivet.

Saturday, the team will take on Alma College beginning at 1:00 p.m.

However, the Scots have suffered their own set of problems this year as they remain locked with the Belles at the bottom of the league, still searching for their first victory this season. All three of Alma's losses have been against conference rivals, by an average of 60 points in each meet.

Last year in their only head-to-head competition, the Scots were victorious over the Belles with an impressive 134-97 performance. A few bright spots for Saint Mary's during the meet came from Kelly Nelis, Katy Lebiecz and Sarah Nowak in the women's 400-yard medley relay as the group posted an impressive first-place score of 4 minutes, 29.11 seconds.

In the other events, Lebiecz concluded the 50-yard freestyle finishing in third place with a

time of 27.62. Then a sophomore, Nowak ended with a second-place finish in the 200-yard individual medley.

Following the Belles trip to Islamorada located in the Florida Keys, coach Gregg Petcoff remarked this was one of the best winter trips he had ever experienced with the team. So now for Saint Mary's, they must build upon what they have learned and come out ready against the Scots.

The team will look to captain Ashley Dyer along with Lebiecz and Nowak to carry the load for the Belles. Meanwhile, other swimmers such as Nelis, Rachel Boury and Katie Dingeman should help the team improve in the 400-yard medley, while freshman Noreen Sherred will look for her continued success in the 100-yard freestyle.

After Saturday's match, Saint Mary's will await Kalamazoo College who comes to town Jan. 21 to face the Belles.

The Hornets stand in third place in the MIAA standings, posting a mark of 2-1. After beating the Belles handily during last year's competition, Saturday's meet should be a good test for the Belles who look to closeout their season on a strong note.

Contact Justin Stetz at
jstetz@nd.edu

PGA

Wie struggles with quest to make cut

Associated Press

HONOLULU — After scrambling to salvage a 5-over 75, Michelle Wie plopped down in a chair and playfully stuck out her bottom lip as if she had just been scolded.

The 15-year-old quickly found one positive note from a tough time Thursday in the Sony Open.

"At least I'm not in last place," Wie said.

Wie finished better than 10 men among early starters on a blustery day at Waialae Country Club, but she was nine shots behind co-leaders Stewart Cink and Brett Quigley, and facing an uphill path to her dream of making the cut.

Still, she wasn't the only one who struggled.

The Kona wind, rare for these parts, gusted up to 25 mph and wreaked havoc on most everyone. Two-time defending champion Ernie Els had to birdie the last hole for a 71, while Vijay Singh stumbled home to a 69.

"It was hard hitting every shot — the drive, approach shot was difficult," Singh said. "It's tough for the boys over here, you know? Going to be tough for a girl here, too."

Wie opened with a 72 last year at the Sony Open, then followed that with a 68 — the lowest score ever by a female competing on a men's tour —

to miss the cut by one shot.

Given the conditions, her 75 wasn't that bad. And she hit several shots she didn't have last year, such as a knockdown driver to keep the ball low into a wind that caused palm trees to sway.

"I was very impressed, all the different shots she was playing," said Matt Davidson, a Q-school grad who unwittingly made his PGA Tour debut playing in front of some 3,000 people, enough to line every fairway from tee-to-green, standing six-deep behind the ninth green when they finished the round.

"I didn't feel like I was playing with a 15-year-old girl," Davidson said. "She's very polished. She has all the tools to be out here."

Brett Wetterich also played with Wie and had a 70.

Quigley and Cink each shot 66, and hardly anyone noticed. Almost everyone at Waialae came to watch the 10th-grader from Punahou School try to prove she can play with the boys.

Quigley birdied both par 5s, but really made up ground with a chip-in from 60 feet for birdie on No. 1, which plays into the wind and left even the strongest players reaching for a 3-iron for their second shot.

"That was stealing two shots there, for sure," Quigley said.

NFL

Colts to face muddy field

Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — The New England Patriots are preparing what may be the best defense against Peyton Manning and his speedy receivers: a slippery field.

The team left the Gillette Stadium grass uncovered through Wednesday's rain and Thursday's fog. With more rain or snow expected Friday and freezing temperatures for the weekend, the Indianapolis Colts' prolific offense could find the footing funky in Sunday's playoff game.

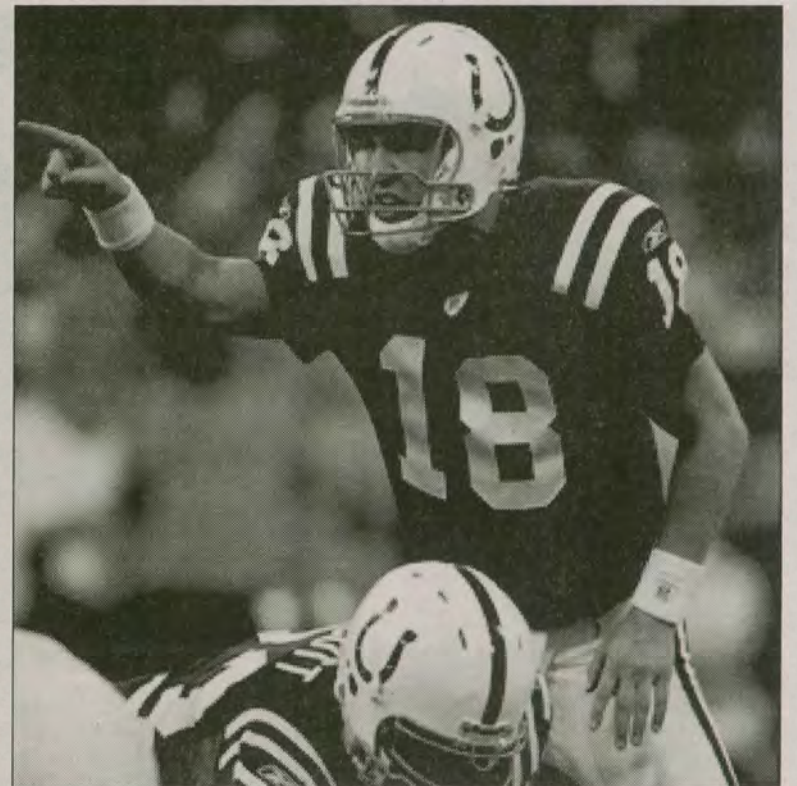
Patriots coach Bill Belichick knows a cold front may be as critical as his three-man defensive front in slowing down the Colts. But he certainly wouldn't turn the field into an ice rink or a quagmire just to help his team, would he?

"My job is not to pull weeds," he said Wednesday with an innocent-looking smirk. "I have a lot of other things to do. Or rake the field and all of that. I'm sure that will all be taken care of."

A coach like Belichick who delves into the smallest detail includes weather conditions in his planning, although he may not have the final say on field maintenance.

"I'm sure he's consulted on it," team spokesman Stacey James said Thursday, "but it's a collaborative effort between our stadium operations people and the grounds crew."

There's a 90 percent chance of rain or snow on Friday before a dry weekend with temperatures ranging from 20 to 34 degrees on Saturday and 16 to 33 degrees on Sunday with mostly cloudy skies. There'll be plenty of time for the moisture to turn to ice before the game's late



The Colts' Peyton Manning calls an audible in the team's game against the Broncos on Jan. 9th.

afternoon start.

There are heating coils underneath the field at Gillette Stadium that could keep the turf from freezing. Of course the coils won't stop all that moisture from making the field slick, maybe even muddy.

Colts coach Tony Dungy said the field conditions won't be a factor. But his team plays home games indoors in 72-degree temperatures, artificial turf and no wind.

"We feel like it's our nature" to play in inclement weather, Patriots linebacker Roman Phifer said. "We live up here. We play in it. We practice in it. So,

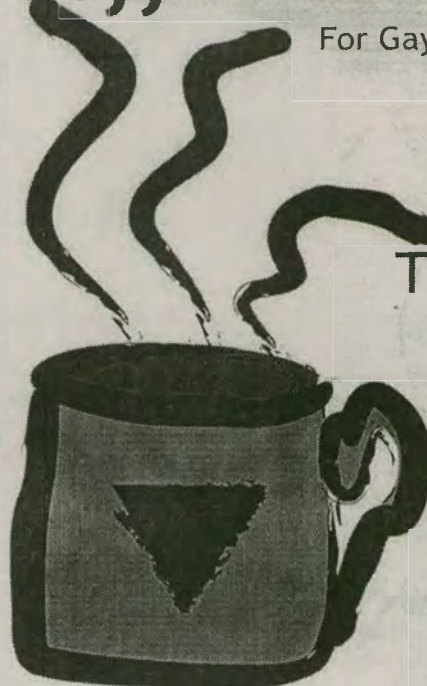
obviously, that's something that we're used to."

Other Patriots think a slippery field won't make a difference to the fifth highest-scoring offense in NFL history with 522 points and three receivers — Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokely — with more than 1,000 yards receiving.

"They beat people in cold weather. They beat people on turf," strong safety Rodney Harrison said. "They're going to catch touchdowns. They're going to run the ball. It doesn't matter what surface they're playing on. They could be playing on hot coals. It doesn't matter."

Coffee and Conversation

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The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal coffee at the Co-Mo.

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Irish to face familiar enemies at dual meet this weekend

By MIKE TENNANT

Sports Writer

Old foes are making a return

to South Bend this weekend, as the No. 21 Irish women's swimming team takes on No. 13 Michigan and Illinois.

The Irish will look to build

on a positive winter training trip to the Caribbean that pitted them against Michigan as part of the St. Lucia Invitational. The meet includ-

ed nine events in short-course meters.

Although the Wolverines outscored the Irish 209-170 at the invitational, the Notre Dame team has a positive attitude going into Friday's meet.

"We weren't expecting to do awesome, so we kinda surprised ourselves," freshman Caroline Johnson said.

Johnson and other Irish swimmers believe the trip was a complete success and feel their previous experience against the Wolverines will give them an edge this weekend.

"We know what to expect," Johnson said. "Practicing right after them, we know how hard they work."

Johnson won the 100-meter backstroke at St. Lucia with a time of 1 minute, 5.40 seconds, edging out NCAA qualifier Kaitlyn Brady of Michigan. Johnson was the lone individual winner for the Irish, and is ranked 34th in Division I in the event.

Also claiming a victory at St. Lucia over the Wolverines was the Irish 400-meter freestyle relay team. The team of sophomores Katie Carroll, Rebecca Grove, Ellen Johnson and junior Christel Bouvroun finished in a time of 3:59.18, which was more than a full second ahead of the Michigan team. The Wolverines took 15th in the event in last year's NCAA

Championships.

Irish teams also finished third and fourth in the relay. The team of senior Georgia Healey, sophomore Meghan Linnelli and freshmen Noémie Brand and Morgan Bullock finished with a time of 4:10.34, while the team of freshmen Katie Guida and Raine Paulson-Andrews, senior Katie Eckholt, and sophomore Krissy Archer finished in a time of 4:11.76.

The Fighting Illini are riding high into South Bend on the heels of a first-place finish last week at the Irvine Invitational relay meet in California. The Illini swimmers finished in the top three of all three meets throughout the two-day event.

The Irish are confident though, and feel prepared to face Illinois.

"They have a few good swimmers, but they're not as talented as Michigan, definitely," Johnson said.

The meet will take place at 7 p.m. tonight and at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday. Irish diving, led by senior Meghan Perry-Eaton, will begin Saturday at 4 p.m.

This weekend will be the only time Notre Dame will face Illinois this season, while the Irish will face the Wolverines again one week from today in a dual meet in Ann Arbor.

Contact Mike Tennant at mtennant@nd.edu

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The Reviews Are Hot-Damon's Grill Puts It All Together

Hot, delicious food on a flaming grill... Sizzling fun in the clubhouse...No other restaurant in South Bend offers more variety.

Damon's Grill is like two restaurants in one. On one side, there's a quiet, relaxing dining room. And on the other side, a fun-filled clubhouse. A full-service bar separates the two distinct dining areas.

"Our branding slogan is 'It All Comes Together At Damon's Grill,'" said Shannon Foust, President/CEO of the casual dining chain with more than 135 restaurants nationwide.

The kind of folks that come together at Damon's Grill include those who enjoy exceptional quality, flame-grilled food and the opportunity to either relax and dine or be entertained by the sports and national trivia games on our big screen.

The two dining areas have distinctly different personalities. The music is quieter in the dining room, and in most of the restaurants, there's a fire in the fireplace in the wintertime. The dining room is ideal for quiet, leisurely meals and conversation.

On the other hand, the spacious clubhouse, with its multi-tiered, stadium-style booths and tables, is the perfect environment for fun and excitement. The clubhouse features four giant television

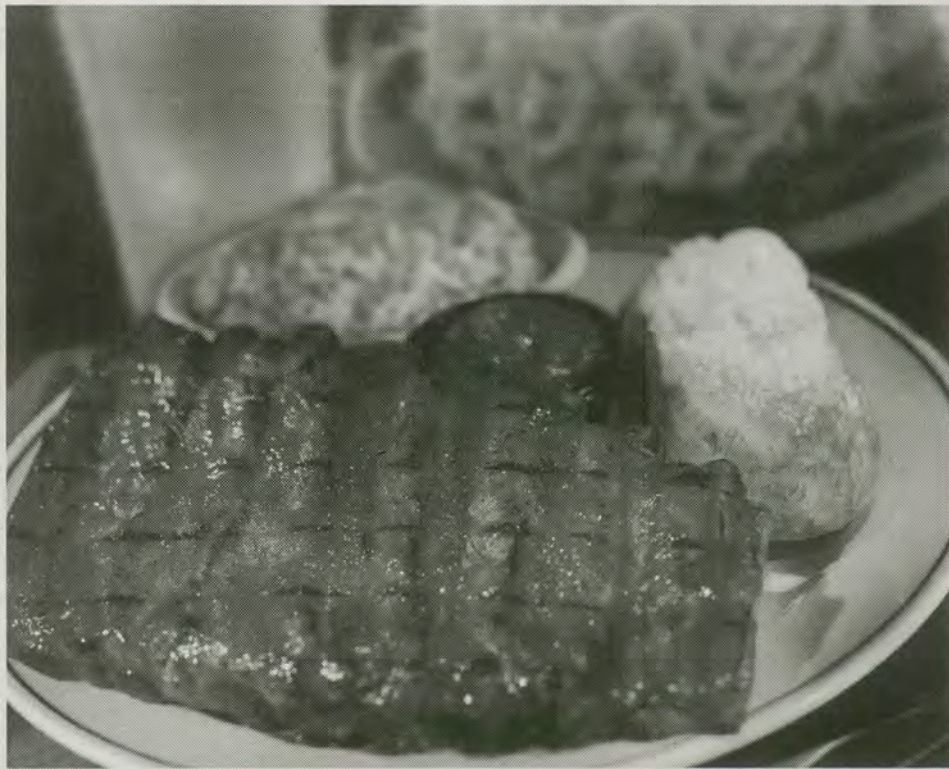
screens that feature sports events, news and national trivia.

According to Foust, Damon's Grill is linked by satellite to the National Trivia Network where guests compete against other players in over 3,500 restaurants and bars nationwide as well as players inside the Damon's Grill clubhouse and bar.

"Dining room and clubhouse guests come together on one very important point - the unique flavor of the ribs, steak, chicken and seafood prepared on Damon's open flame grill," Foust continued. "Our menu centers around our award-winning barbecued ribs. Side items, salads, desserts, and even the beverages that are on our menu are chosen because they pair well with the signature Damon's Grill flavor."

Damon's menu features a long list of appetizers too, including Damon's Famous Onion Loaf which has been on the menu since the founding days, 25 years ago. The Onion Loaf is made in-house from giant Spanish onions, hand-sliced, breaded and fried into a loaf. "It's our most popular appetizer," Foust said. "It takes extra time in our kitchen, but we think it's worth it to provide our guests with a premium, signature product that they can't get anywhere else."

Damon's unveils several special



promotions throughout the year, plus their annual RibFest. "RibFest is a celebration of our famous ribs heritage. We always feature our original ribs on the menu, although we sometimes spice up our other RibFest offerings according to popular food trends at the time. Over our 25 year career, many

food fads have come and gone. But in the end, basically, our original recipe ribs are the award winners and it always seems to remain the favorite," Foust said.

The reviews of Damon's Grill confirm that it's the hottest place to have it all in South Bend.

AROUND THE NATION

page 18

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, January 14, 2005

Men's College Basketball AP Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Illinois (58)	16-0	1,783
2	Kansas (13)	11-0	1,730
3	North Carolina (1)	13-1	1,636
4	Wake Forest	13-1	1,553
5	Duke	11-0	1,496
6	Oklahoma State	11-1	1,412
7	Syracuse	15-1	1,405
8	Georgia Tech	11-2	1,301
9	Kentucky	10-2	1,198
10	Texas	11-2	1,085
11	Mississippi State	14-2	909
12	Connecticut	9-2	904
13	Boston College	13-0	823
14	Washington	13-2	742
15	Michigan State	10-2	734
16	Gonzaga	11-3	723
17	Arizona	12-3	666
18	Cincinnati	13-1	631
19	Louisville	12-3	502
20	Pittsburgh	11-2	373
21	George Washington	10-2	370
22	Marquette	13-1	345
23	Alabama	12-3	259
24	Iowa	12-3	194
25	Oklahoma	11-2	143

Women's College Basketball ESPN/USA Today Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Duke (27)	15-1	986
2	LSU (11)	13-1	949
3	Baylor (1)	12-1	911
4	Stanford	12-2	809
5	Ohio State	14-2	800
6	NOTRE DAME	13-2	741
7	Rutgers (1)	10-2	690
8	North Carolina	12-2	689
9	Michigan State	13-2	669
10	Tennessee	10-3	668
11	Texas	8-4	632
12	Minnesota	13-2	614
13	Texas Tech	11-2	521
14	Boston College	11-1	464
15	Vanderbilt	12-2	436
16	Connecticut	8-4	376
17	Maryland	10-2	375
18	Georgia	12-4	324
19	UCLA	11-3	236
20	Purdue	10-4	216
21	DePaul	11-3	178
22	Iowa	13-2	145
22	Kansas State	10-3	145
24	Iowa State	11-1	90
25	Arizona State	11-3	82

Central College Hockey Association

team	CCHA	overall
Michigan	13-1-0	16-5-1
Ohio State	10-3-1	13-6-3
Nebraska-Omaha	8-7-1	10-9-1
Bowling Green	7-5-2	10-7-3
Northern Michigan	7-5-2	9-7-4
Lake Superior	6-6-2	7-11-2
Michigan State	6-8-0	11-10-1
Alaska Fairbanks	5-8-1	6-9-1
Ferris State	4-8-2	9-11-2
Miami (Ohio)	4-8-2	8-11-3
NOTRE DAME	3-9-4	5-11-5
Western Michigan	4-9-1	9-10-1

NFL



Randy Moss catches a touchdown pass before his controversial endzone celebration Sunday against the Packers. Moss was fined \$10,000 on Thursday.

Moss fined \$10,000 for TD celebration

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Randy Moss trudged out to his truck in the subzero cold, with a huge, black hooded sweat shirt covering almost his entire face. All that was showing was a carefree smile.

In his usual flippant manner, Moss showed no remorse for his latest misdeed.

Minnesota's controversial wide receiver was fined \$10,000 Thursday by the NFL for pretending to pull down his pants and moon the Green Bay crowd during a playoff win last weekend.

"Ain't nothing but 10 grand. What's 10 grand, to me?" said Moss, whose salary this season is \$5.75 million. He then jokingly suggested he might perform a more vulgar celebration next time.

Peter Hadhazy, the league's director of game operations, penalized Moss for unsportsmanlike conduct in a letter released by the NFL.

"Your actions were based on poor judgment, did not reflect well on you or the Vikings, and were insulting to many," Hadhazy wrote. "They have resulted in widespread criticism and need-

lessly detracted from Minnesota's dramatic play-off victory. Fans should look to you and your teammates to see how to compete and win in football. But when you lose your focus on playing and engage in sideshows as you did on Sunday, you forfeit much of this."

Moss also briefly bumped the goalpost with his backside before hugging teammates in the end zone following a fourth-quarter touchdown catch that clinched the Vikings' 31-17 victory over the Packers.

League rules mandate discipline for "obscene gestures or other actions

construed as being in poor taste." A fine for the first offense under those guidelines is \$5,000.

The NFL said Moss was fined more than the minimum because this isn't the first time he has been disciplined for unsportsmanlike conduct. He paid a \$25,000 penalty in 1999 for squirting an official with a water bottle.

Moss wasn't the only player fined on Thursday. The NFL also fined New York Jets linebacker Eric Barton \$7,500 for hitting San Diego quarterback Drew Brees in the head during last weekend's playoff game.

IN BRIEF

Southern California hiring Floyd

LOS ANGELES — Tim Floyd is being hired as Southern California basketball coach, taking the job Rick Majerus accepted then abruptly quit last month.

USC spokesman Tim Tessalone said Thursday that a news conference will be held Friday afternoon on campus to introduce Floyd.

The former Chicago Bulls and New Orleans Hornets coach will return to the college ranks, where he was 127-58 in eight seasons at the University of New Orleans, then 81-49 in four years at Iowa State.

Floyd, 50, was fired as Hornets coach last May after they went 41-41 and lost in the first round of the playoffs in his only season with the team.

Leinart delays announcing decision

LOS ANGELES — Heisman Trophy winner Matt Leinart has delayed announcing whether he will return to Southern California for his senior

season or turn pro, saying he will reveal his plans Friday.

"I need an extra day to continue gathering information," the USC quarterback said Thursday, the day he originally set as his deadline for the decision.

The NFL deadline for underclassmen to declare for the draft is Saturday.

Two other USC juniors, linebacker Lofa Tatupu and punter Tom Malone, also are expected to say Friday whether they will enter the draft.

Leinart, 21, obviously is having a difficult time deciding.

Early this week he said he has sometimes changed his mind almost hourly.

The redshirt junior and the Trojans didn't play their final game of the season until Jan. 4, when he threw an Orange Bowl record five touchdown passes in a 55-19 win over Oklahoma that gave USC a second consecutive national title.

Players, owners forge new steroid agreement

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — With some of its biggest stars under suspicion and lawmakers demanding action, Major League Baseball adopted a tougher steroid-testing program that will suspend first-time offenders for 10 days and randomly test players year-round.

The agreement was hailed by baseball management and its union Thursday as a huge step forward but was criticized by some as not going far enough because the penalties are less harsh than those in Olympic sports and amphetamines were not banned.

"I've been saying for some time that my goal for this industry is zero tolerance regarding steroids," commissioner Bud Selig said.

A first positive test would result in a penalty of 10 days, a second positive test in a 30-day ban, a third positive test in a 60-day penalty, and a fourth positive test in a one-year ban all without pay.

around the dial

GOLF

PGA Tour Sony Open 7 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Phoenix at Indiana 7:00 p.m., Fox Midwest

Dallas at San Antonio 8:00 p.m., ESPN2

Minnesota at Denver 10:30 p.m., ESPN

FENCING

Irish return to action against tough field in Kansas City

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

After a month away from the strips, a number of Irish fencers

will return to action today when they travel to Kansas City, Kan. to compete in the three-day North American Cup.

Many of the squad's top fighters are expected to make the trip

to bout in the fiercely competitive event, including epeeists Kerry Walton, Amy Orlando, Greg Howard, Jesse Laeuchli and Patrick Gettings, foilists Andrea Ament, Rachel Cota and

Frank Bontempo and sabers Mariel Zagunis, Valerie Provenienza, Angela Vincent, Patrick Ghattas, Matthew Stearns and Nicolas Diacou.

"It's a continental competition," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "It will not be easy for the kids, but we are sending the best. This is at their level, and they have to try to get good position in country."

Five Irish fencers placed in the top five at the North American Cup in Richmond, Va. Dec. 10-12 in most recent competition.

Zagunis took home second place in women's saber after falling to Columbia University rival Emily Jacobson 15-12 in the event finals, and Ament dropped a 15-11 decision to Harvard's Emily Cross in the women's foil finals to claim her own runner-up finish. Ghattas and Walton both picked up a third-place finishes in men's saber and women's epee, respectively — Ghattas lost a 15-14 semifinals heartbreaker to the eventual event winner Ivan Lee, while Wayne State's Anna Garina topped Walton one round shy of the finals. Orlando rounded out the quintet of top-five Irish finishes, securing fifth place in women's epee.

While the skill level at December's North American Cup was impressive, Bednarski believes this weekend's talent

display will trump that seen last month.

"I think that this [cup] will be stronger — the reason is the calendar," Bednarski said. "Now, after the whole preseason training, [the fencers] are starting the biggest heat — they are going for everything. All the best fencers from the continent are competing for their national teams and are already prepared, not like in December where some of them started a little bit later in training — now, everybody will be in form."

In addition to providing an opportunity for the bouters to qualify for their respective national teams, the North American Cup will offer one last opportunity to gauge the fencers before the Irish begin dual meet team competition Jan. 21 in New York.

"It's one of the last steps to check their form and to make final touches to prepare them well for the first dual meet," Bednarski said. "[Notre Dame] will have very strong opponents [this year] — they are the same like last year, or even stronger, so it will be interesting to see."

After fighting at the Cole Sports Complex in New York Jan. 23, the Irish return home to host the Notre Dame Duals Jan. 29-30 at the Joyce Center.

Contact Matt Puglisi at
mpuglisi@nd.edu

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2005-2006

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles hope to improve
their record Saturday

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Fresh off a key conference win over the Adrian Bulldogs, the Belles look to continue their winning ways.

Saint Mary's is looking to bounce back to .500 overall Saturday against the Fighting Scots of Alma College.

The Belles (7-8, 2-4 in the MIAA) are currently in a four-way tie for fifth in the MIAA with Kalamazoo, Tri-State and Olivet. However, the Belles have fallen well behind undefeated conference leader Albion. With each game crucial between now and the end of the season, wins against bottom-feeder teams like the Scots (1-5), will be important.

However, the Belles have been streaky all season, following short winning streaks with losing streaks. Coach Suzanne Bellina is looking for the team to get hot down the stretch this season.

"This stretch, starting tonight, is so important to us," Bellina said following her team's victory over Albion.

The Scots have been led all season by center Erica Philp, who averages 12.1 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. Philp is joined in the frontcourt by 5-foot-11 forward Michelle Dettling, who has scored 9.8

points and grabbed 6.8 boards per game this year.

Senior forwards Emily Creachbaum and Maureen Bush will draw the unenviable task of guarding Alma's twin towers. However, these two have also proven to be a force in the paint.

Bush is averaging 8.8 points per game. Creachbaum is averaging 13.3 points and 5.5 rebounds per game and was recently awarded MIAA Player of the Week.

"She's so solid and consistent," Bellina said earlier this season of Creachbaum, "she always gets the job done."

In their last game, the Scots were destroyed 88-49 by Albion. Alma was outrebounded 39-24 by the Britons. A solid effort by Creachbaum and Bush could control the glass for St. Mary's. However, Philp and Dettling both average more rebounds per game than the Belles forwards.

Another key player in this game will be Belles shooting guard Bridget Boyce. Boyce is averaging almost 15 points per game to lead the Belles. She will most likely be matched up with Scots Freshman guard Ashley Matuzak. Matuzak didn't start in the early season, but since earning a starting position in the backcourt she has averaged almost 10 points per game.

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Irish enter season ranked No. 10

Huddle enters season favored to claim the 5000-meter title

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Irish coach Tim Connelly has plenty of reasons to smile this spring.

He has a seven-time All-American, an established group of distance runners, and a preseason No. 10 ranking, from trackwire.com.

The goal for the Irish this season is simple — to win a Big East title — something they have been unable to do for the past four years.

The Irish will take the first step toward this goal Saturday when they face Central Michigan and Michigan State in an open meet in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Coming off a cross country season in which the Irish finished fourth in the nation, it is no surprise distance running is a strength of Notre Dame's team.

The star in this group of veteran runners is Molly Huddle, a seven-time All-

American who qualified for the finals at the U.S. Olympic Trials last summer at the 5,000-meter distance. The junior is considered a favorite for the NCAA title in this event.

The current concern for Huddle, though, is her health. Huddle ran the NCAA cross country championships on a broken foot, but still managed to finish 28th. Connelly was cautiously optimistic about Huddle's rehabilitation.

"She's still just cross training, but we expect her to start running in a week or two," Connelly said. "We

don't know if she'll be ready for [the] indoor [season], but I think she will. She'll definitely be running when we start outdoors."

Senior Lauren King, who is also coming off an injury, and senior Kerry

Meagher bring valuable experience to the team. Junior Stephanie Madia, an NCAA qualifier at 5,000 meters last spring and an all-American in cross country this passed fall, will also make a significant contribution to the team's success.

Madia is one of three cross country all-Americans run-

ning track for the Irish. The others are Meagher and freshman Sunni Olding.

The Irish will look to improve other areas of the team that have been weaker in previous years in order to win the conference title.

However, Connelly does not see that to be a weakness this year.

"I really think we have a balanced team, apart from distance," Connelly said. "We have a good group of sprint hurdlers, an all-American high jumper and a good group of freshman sprinters."

Tiffany Gunn will be the 400-meter hurdle specialist from the Irish, and Stacey Cowan will look to build off an indoor all-American performance in the high jump.

This weekend the focus will be shifted from the distance runners to these other areas of the team.

"We just want to see where we are at this meet," Connelly said. "It's a great opportunity for our sprinters, jumpers and throwers."

Connelly made it clear that his team's focus is on larger, long-term goals.

"Winning the Big East is our goal every season, but we also want to send as many athletes as we can to the NCAA's," he said.

Contact Ryan Kiefer at
rkiefer@nd.edu

Heisman

continued from page 24

winner, awarded to college football's best player on a yearly basis. As a senior, he had 39 catches for 846 yards and three touchdowns while also carrying the ball 34 times for 144 yards and returning three punts for scores.

Against Michigan State in

Notre Dame's second game of the season, Brown put his name in the mix of possible Heisman candidates by taking two punts back for touchdowns in a 31-8 Irish victory.

The second return was especially impressive, as Brown broke numerous tackles before juking one last Spartan defender en route to the score.

Contact Joe Hettler at
jhettler@nd.edu

MEN'S TRACK

Postel, Nurudeen set to lead Notre Dame

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

The Irish open their season against Central Michigan this Saturday in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

The Chippewas are coming off an impressive showing in their first meet, held last week and highlighted by several sprinters and throwers already qualifying provisionally for the NCAA's. The meet kicks off the indoor track season for the Irish, a season full of promise and reason for optimism.

Notre Dame is the two-time defending Big East men's track and field champions and is looking to make it three in a row.

Central Michigan, however, should provide the Irish with a challenge, as they are favored to

finish first in the Mid-American Conference.

Head coach Joe Piane leads a team with many stars, the brightest of which is Selim Nurudeen. Nurudeen competed in the U.S. Olympic trials in July for the 110-meter hurdles, holds the Notre Dame record for the 60-meter hurdles and has won the Big East 110-meter championship each of the last three years.

The Irish also feature defending Big East steeplechase champion Ryan Johnson and 400-meters champion Ryan Postel. Postel and Nurudeen will join with Jordan Powell and Trevor McClain-Duer to reprise their Notre Dame record-holding 1,600-meter relay team.

Contact John Everett at
jeverett@nd.edu

The Observer

is currently accepting applications for the

2005-06 Editor-in-Chief

Applicants must submit BOTH a resume and at least an 8-PAGE proposal explaining their interest in the position and their plans for running the newspaper.

Applications are due Monday, January 17 by 5 p.m.

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Contact Editor-in-Chief Matt Lozar
at 1-4542
for more information.

Opener

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ous two years, graduated in 2004 forcing a number of younger players to step up and fill their shoes. According to Bayliss, the team has more than met his expectations for the challenging rebuilding period.

"Replacing [Scott and Haddock] was a big priority and based on the performance of the guys this fall, I think we are in much better shape than I expected to be," Bayliss said. "Our team is perhaps the deepest team I've ever coached."

The depth of the team plays

into what Bayliss said called the team's biggest strength — the bottom of its lineup.

"The bottom of our lineup, no matter who plays for us, should be a strength," he explained.

Bayliss expects to see Irackli Akhvlediani, Patrick Buchanan and Ryan Keckley to fill out the five through seven spots in the lineup.

"They've grown, and each of those guys is playing better tennis now than he ever has," Bayliss said. "They all bring different talents to the

table and the lower part of the lineup — I have options I've never had."

Although early-season lineups are subject to change and reworking, after the fall season Bayliss plans to have Steven Bass, Barry King, co-captain Brent D'Amico and freshman Sheeva Parbhu in the top four positions. Although Parbhu, an Omaha native, is

playing the first college tennis of his career, he performed well in fall competition.

"The bottom of our lineup, no matter who plays for us, should be a strength."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

Poll sees Notre Dame sexism

-Chicago Tribune: Dec 4, 2004

Alternative Lifestyles not an Alternative... ND ranks #1

-Princeton Review: 2004

Observer Question of the Day:
What did you do for MLK day?
Answer from 5 students: **Nothing.**

-The Observer: Jan 20, 2004

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Focus Group #1: Racism

Sunday Jan 16, 8:00pm

Focus Group #2: Heterosexism

Monday Jan 17, 8:00pm

Focus Group #3: Sexism

Tuesday Jan 18, 8:00pm

All focus groups will be held in the
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"He had a great fall," Bayliss said. "He beat a number of nationally ranked players and probably had as good a fall as any player in the country."

The freshman joins some of the Irish's most experienced singles players. However, adjusting to the top spots will be a challenge for them all.

"If we can demonstrate some strength in the top part of the lineup — that's one if — and if is if we can play better doubles than we did in the fall ... then I think we're going to have a very good team."

Finding the right combinations for doubles can be a challenge, and Bayliss has experimented with a number of different combinations.

"We've gone through a couple of different transition, at this point — and this is early — it looks like Keckley and D'Amico will start together, possibly at No. 1, followed by Langenkamp and Parbhu, [but] third doubles had been problematic."

The matches this weekend will be an opportunity for the Irish to see where they stand against NCAA competition in the regular season.

"As an opener, I felt like we're not tired," Bayliss said. "We're fresh, we've been here since Jan. 3 practicing and I think we're reading to go."

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish goalie Morgan Cey makes a save against the USA under-18 team on Nov. 18.

Test

continued from page 24

ly with three of them against non-conference opponents. But first, they must take care of business against conference foe Ohio State, who comes into the Joyce Center ranked second in the conference with a 10-3-1 record.

The Buckeyes split their last series against Ferris State, beating the Bulldogs 3-1 on Jan. 7 in Columbus, Ohio, before dropping the Saturday game by a score of 3-2 in overtime. Ferris State is currently one of two teams — Miami (Ohio) is the other — tied with Notre Dame for ninth in the conference with 10 points.

Last weekend, Notre Dame visited Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., for a series with conference foe Lake Superior State, tying 1-1 on Friday and then losing in overtime 2-1 Saturday. The Irish are 1-4-1 in their last six

CCHA games.

One reason for Notre Dame's difficulty this season has been a lack of scoring goals. The Irish are dead last in the CCHA with a woeful scoring average of 1.67 goals per game — Lake Superior State is 11th with a 2.35 goals per game average.

Even with its anemic offense, the Irish have still been able to keep games close thanks to the play of senior goalie Morgan Cey, who has a record of 3-6-4. Cey's 2.24 goals against average is fourth in the CCHA, while his .928 save percentage is currently ranked second.

"[Cey is] a senior, and he wants to see this team win," Poulin said. "He's seen this team have so much success over his career, and I think he looks at it as saying, 'I'm a senior, and I want this team to go out in a blaze of glory.'"

"This team can definitely rely on its goaltending, but I think maybe we're relying on it a bit too much right now."

The Buckeyes counter Notre Dame's goaltending with an impressive goalie of their own. Dave Caruso has collected an 11-4-3 record this season with a 2.24 GAA and a .918 save percentage. Both marks rank in the top six of all CCHA goalies.

Ohio State's real strength is on offense, where the Buckeyes rank second in the CCHA with a 3.41 goals per game average.

Junior Rod Pelley (12 goals, 10 assists) and freshman Todd Fritsche (three goals, 19 assists) lead the Buckeyes with 22 points each. Defenseman Sean Collins' 15 points (four goals, 11 assists) is the second best scoring total among CCHA defensemen.

The Buckeyes have ridden their talented special teams to the top of the CCHA standings, as well. Ohio State's 19.1 percent power play rate is fifth in the conference and its 87.9 percent killing rate is first.

Notre Dame drops the puck against Ohio State at the Joyce Center tonight at 7:35 p.m., and Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu



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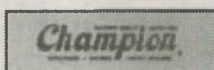


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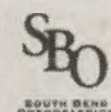
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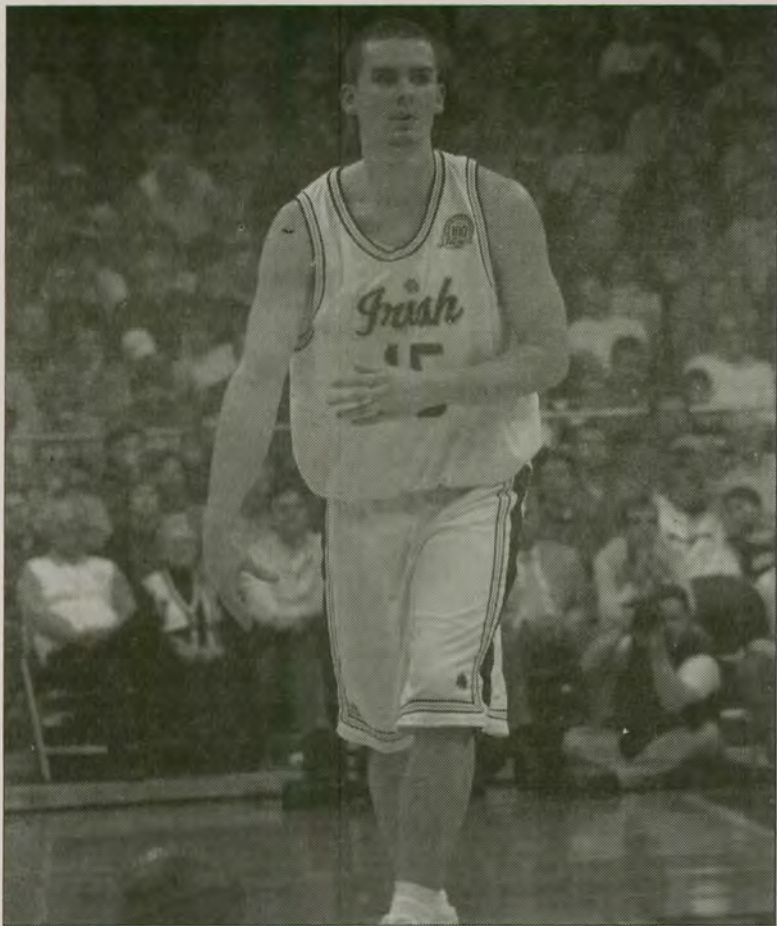


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Irish guard Colin Falls takes the ball up the court against Syracuse on Monday.

St. Johns

continued from page 24

this year as it did all of last season and took No. 21 West Virginia to the limit in a 64-60 loss on Saturday.

That's why Irish coach Mike Brey won't let his team look past last year's Big East doormat.

"There is nobody in the Big East that will be overlooked this year. St. John's is not the St. John's of last year who had a lot of problems during the year and an interim coach," Brey said. "Norm Roberts has them playing hard, they are quick and they beat N.C. State, a ranked team by about 30. That's all I know."

The one theme coming from the players at practice Thursday and from Brey himself was using Saturday's game to bounce back from the loss to the Orange. Being able to do that would greatly help this team before a three-game road trip starts

Wednesday at West Virginia.

Defeating the Red Storm gets the Irish to 3-1 in conference, a record Brey said he would have "signed up for" if offered it on Christmas Eve. A letdown drops the Irish to 2-2, provides no momentum before hitting the road and affects that NCAA tournament resume, despite only being the middle of January.

Believing this team won't overlook the Red Storm becomes more realistic when putting it in perspective.

"It's important throughout the Big East season you are able to bounce back," Irish guard Chris Quinn said. "We play 16 games in the Big East — you aren't going to go 16-0, I don't think any team is going to [do that]."

"To get to 3-1 in the Big East is very important for us especially going on the three-game road trip. Road games are so tough in this league, it's very important to go with a win."

One of the questions in the preseason and persisting in the

early season was how Brey would deal with the team's depth. In the non-conference games, Brey looked at different lineups and got an idea of what will work.

Against Syracuse and at Seton Hall, Brey only went seven deep — Jordan Cornette and Russell Carter were the only non-starters to see playing time. In the Villanova game, Rick Cornett came off the bench when Torin Francis got into early foul trouble.

Brey has a track record of shortening his bench on the road or in games against big-time opponents, but he said Thursday his future rotations could change on a game-by-game basis.

"I think anything is possible. Whatever style of play dictates how we would substitution," Brey said. "A guy like Omari Isreal this could be a good game, for him. Certainly Rick [Cornett] has given us good minutes, he didn't get to play the other night, but we haven't forgotten about him."

"I think each game kind of can dictate a different rotation."

"I think each game kind of can dictate a different rotation."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

Contact Matt Lozar at
mlozar@nd.edu

Purdue

continued from page 24

per game. Purdue has also seen freshman Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton emerge as one of its key players.

The newcomer had 11 points in the Boilermaker win over Michigan and is averaging 6.3 points and 2.8 rebounds per game. Purdue's losses have come against Houston at home, UCLA, Duke and Ohio State.

However, the Boilermakers did beat a very good DePaul team.

Also leading Purdue is Tye Houston, who averages 7.5 points per game.

Purdue comes into Sunday's game after a loss against Minnesota. Wisdom-Hylton had 10 points and 10 rebounds for Purdue in the defeat.

Notre Dame, meanwhile, will try to rebound after two consecutive losses, the last one at home to Connecticut.

Against the Huskies, the Irish turned the ball over 17 times and had trouble pulling down defensive rebounds.

"We have a lot of work to do," Irish coach Muffet

McGraw said after the game.

Sunday's game marks the third game in a tough stretch for Notre Dame.

The Irish must win if they are to stop their first losing streak of the young season.

In order to do so, they hope that All-American Jacqueline Batteast gets healthy.

The senior injured her ankle in the first half of Wednesday's game.

She averages 18.4 points and 6.8 rebounds per game.

Against the Huskies, Batteast was held to eight points on 2-for-12 shooting.

Notre Dame also relies heavily

on point guard Megan Duffy. The junior averages 11.1 points and has 79 assists on the season.

In the post, Teresa Borton averages 8.3 points and 5.5 rebounds for the Irish.

Notre Dame hopes to get back on track after Wednesday's disappointing setback.

"I was pretty surprised, because I thought we would give them more competition," Borton said after the 67-50 loss to Connecticut.

Tipoff with Purdue is 5 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at
hvanhoeg@nd.edu

"I was pretty surprised because I thought we would give them more competition."

Teresa Borton
Irish center

2005

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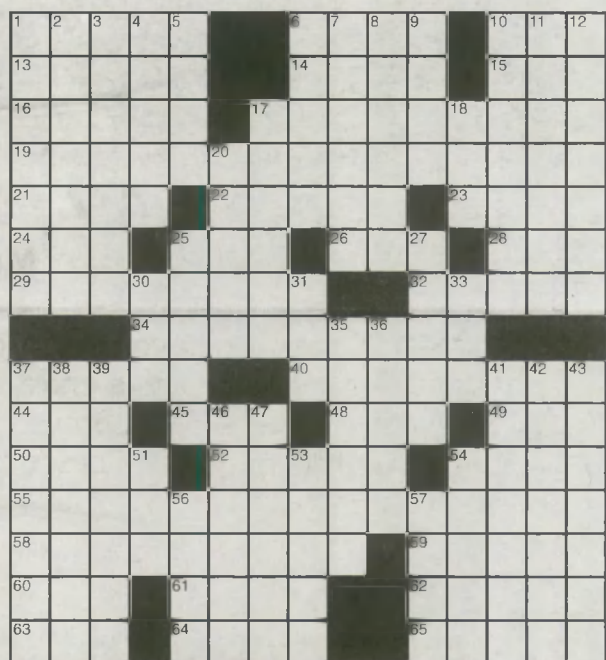
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Yesterday's Jumbles: DINER CUBIC AMOEBA CHROME
 Answer: What the barber did on vacation —
 "COMBED" THE BEACH

EUGENIA LAST

- DOWN

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Puzzle by Michael Shteyman

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|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 30 Always | 38 "Walk on the
Wild Side"
singer | 47 One of the
Jacksons |
| 31 Makeup carrier? | | 51 Flash |
| 33 Round fig., say | 39 Disturbed states | 53 Hose hue |
| 35 Some collar
attachments | 41 Affirm | 54 Belong |
| 36 Writer exiled in
1302 | 42 Closer to the
minute? | 56 Top Tatar |
| 37 Some
trademarks | 43 "Probably ..." | 57 Artistic touch-
ups |
| | 46 Correct a key
problem? | |

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Orlando Bloom, 28; Stephen Hendry, 36; Julia Louis Dreyfus, 44; Richard Moll, 62

Happy Birthday: There is something whimsical about you this year, but it works. You can draw others to your side and sound convincing when you talk about your future plans. You will gain support and build your vision. You can have the success you want just by being honest and loyal to yourself and to your dreams. Your numbers are 5, 17, 24, 26, 39, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Nothing will be stable, especially where finances are concerned. Concentrate on accomplishment and doing what you know will bring the highest returns. Protect yourself from phonies. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You've got a lot going for you today. Believe in yourself and your ideas, and you will be convincing when you talk about your plans with potential partners. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you act too fast, you may end up making a mistake you cannot retract. Opportunities are available but someone may tempt you to try something that will not turn out to be advantageous. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take the initiative and make the first move if you want to get to know someone better. Common interests will lead to a close bond. Visiting, communicating and traveling are highlighted. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Strive to make things a little different around your home and you will grab the attention of neighbors, friends and your family. Sudden financial changes are apparent. Be smart with your money. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Today is all about partnerships and making them the best you can. Bending a little to accommodate someone you really care about will pay off. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will have a different way of viewing things when it comes to work. Don't fight the changes in your career direction or within the company you are working for. It will be favorable. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be in the mood to get things done and to make whatever changes are necessary to boost your confidence. You will get a good buy if you go out shopping today. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put your heart and soul into your work. Trying to sort through your personal problems will be like spinning your wheels. Focus where you'll prosper. **

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will enjoy the company of friends and family, especially if you get to travel or do something unusual with them. You will be in an expressive mood, so let everyone know how you feel. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be drawn toward unusual careers. Unexpected changes will help you make up your mind about your future direction. A gift, winning or dividend will surprise you. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will be unpredictable if you are forced to make a personal decision. Don't put pressure on yourself; instead of jumping into something, check it out from every angle. ***

Birthday Baby: No one is ever sure what you will do next except you. You have your own ideas and a special curiosity. Nothing should surprise the people who

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The Observer
P.O. Box Q
Notre Dame, IN 46556

FOOTBALL

Brown exploring options in football program

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Charlie Weis and his new Notre Dame coaching staff have Super Bowl and national championship rings, head coaching experience and numerous accolades and awards to their collective names.

They don't, however, have a Heisman Trophy winner. At least not yet.

Former Irish great and 1987 Heisman winner, Tim Brown, was at Notre Dame on Thursday to explore a possible return to South Bend to become involved with the football program in some



Brown

manner, Associate Athletic Director John Heisler said Thursday evening. Brown cannot help with recruiting unless he is hired by the University, either as a coach or graduate assistant.

"He was here," Heisler said. "He is similar to a number of former players who have expressed interest in helping the football team."

Brown, who recently finished his 17th season in the NFL, has

been one of the greatest wide receivers in history. The longtime Los Angeles/Oakland Raider has been selected to 11 Pro Bowls, caught 1,094 receptions and amassed 14,934 yards receiving as well as 100 career receiving touchdowns. He spent last season with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers after 16 years with the Raiders.

Heisler said Brown is trying to plan his future and looking into

all possible opportunities — from playing another season to assessing several business ventures.

"I'm not sure where it goes from here," Heisler said. "He has a lot of options. I can't speak for him. He's just exploring his options and figuring out, 'Where does my life go from here?'"

Brown is Notre Dame's seventh and most recent Heisman Trophy

see HEISMAN/page 20

ND BASKETBALL

Searching for answers

Notre Dame looking to bounce back after 70-61 loss to Syracuse

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Coming off a disappointing home loss to No. 7 Syracuse, the perfect opponent for the Irish (10-3, 2-1 in the Big East) on Saturday at 2 p.m. would seem to be St. John's (6-6, 0-2).

But this isn't the 2004-05 edition of the Red Storm that had six scholarship players suspended in the middle of last season, fired coach Mike Jarvis eight games into the campaign and lost 15 of its last 17 games.

This is a St. John's team that beat then-No. 17 North Carolina State 63-45 in November and held the Wolfpack to 10 first-half points, won as many games by Dec. 30

see ST. JOHNS/page 22



Chris Thomas looks to pass the ball as Syracuse guard Gary McNamara guards him on Monday.



Jacqueline Batteast goes for a layup against Connecticut on Wednesday in a 67-50 loss.

Irish hoping to snap two-game losing streak this Sunday

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Two straight Big East losses, and the Irish are on the ropes.

After losing to No. 16 Connecticut on Wednesday and Villanova on Jan. 9, No. 7 Notre Dame (13-3, 2-2 Big East) is back in action against in-state rival, No. 24 Purdue on Sunday.

Purdue (10-5, 3-2 Big Ten) is led by sophomore forward Erin Lawless, who averages 15.8 points and 5.6 rebounds per game for the Boilermakers. She is joined by Katie Gearlds and her 13.3 points and 4.1 rebounds

see PURDUE/page 22

MEN'S TENNIS

Young lineup leads team into new season

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

The racquets are restrung. The lineup is revamped. Eck Tennis Center awaits.

The Irish take the courts for the first time in the regular season after completing what coach Bobby Bayliss called "a great fall." They will play

Toledo and Illinois State on Saturday at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"There were some question marks that we had to address," Bayliss said. "I'm pretty satisfied with the answers I received."

Luis Haddock and Matthew Scott, who had dominated the two top positions for the previ-

see OPENER/page 21

HOCKEY

Busy stretch awaits the Irish

Team will play five games in the next nine days

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

For a team that has had its share of early troubles, the next few days might be just what the doctor ordered.

The Irish (5-11-5, 3-9-4 in

the CCHA) start their busiest stretch of the year Friday, in which they will play five games in nine days. Notre Dame faces No. 12 Ohio State (13-6-3, 10-3-1) in a two-game series this weekend at the Joyce Center, then travels to Green Bay, Wisc., to face Michigan State in an unusual Tuesday night matchup. The team finishes up its hectic streak with a two-game series next weekend against Wisconsin, with the Saturday

night game to be played at Chicago's Allstate Arena.

"It's a great thing," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "A lot of times you focus too much on what you're struggling with, when you're not playing games. I honestly feel that this weekend is a great test for us, but it's also a great time for us to step up."

The Irish might relish the large span of games, especial-

see TEST/page 21

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

MEN'S TRACK

Postel leads the Irish in the season opener against Central Michigan this Saturday in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

page 20

ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Notre Dame enters the season ranked No. 10, led by seven-time All-American Molly Huddle.

page 20

FENCING

The Irish return to action after a one month break in the North American Cup.

page 19

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's is looking to get back to .500 overall against Alma College.

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SMC SWIMMING

The Belles are looking for their first win of the season against Alma College.

page 16

PGA

Michelle Wie shot a 75 in the Sony Open.

page 16

THE
OBSERVER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2005

★★★★ in focus ★★★★★

SAINT MARY'S PRESIDENTIAL
INAUGURATION

A NEW ERA

College Welcomes Carol Mooney



Photo Illustration by MIKE HARKINS and KELLY HIGGINS

College ready for inauguration

Alumni, academic representatives on campus for ceremonies

By ANGELA SAOUD
Saint Mary's Editor

Saturday will be no ordinary day for any of the members of the Saint Mary's community. The semester will kick off with a ceremony like no other, offering the community a glimpse into the future — a future with Carol Mooney at the helm.

Mooney will be inaugurated as the 11th president of Saint Mary's and the first lay graduate president Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

And while the public is invited to attend the ceremony, it is the faculty and students who will be a part of the event that many have been looking forward to for some time.

According to Dean of faculty and symposium committee chair Pat White, nearly 200 delegates will join Mooney during her inaugural ceremony.

"We'll have around 120 delegates from out of town and approximately 25 Saint Mary's Board of Trustees [members] plus a number of other area alumnae," White said. "We're going to have a fair amount of people here."

The Executive Director of the Women's College Coalition Susan E. Lennon will give a greeting at the event, as will other delegates, including

Indiana Representative Chris Chocola.

Some of the delegates in attendance will be presidents from other colleges and universities. The presidents from Bethel College, Hope College, IUSB, Manchester College, Kings College, Midwestern University and the current presidents from Notre Dame and Holy Cross will all be in attendance for Mooney's inauguration.

Mooney graduated from Saint Mary's with her undergraduate degree in 1972. She then attended the Notre Dame law school where she graduated first in her class.

In 1980 she joined the Notre Dame law school faculty, becoming an associate law professor in 1984. From 1988 to 1991 she served as an assistant dean. She became a full law professor in 1991 and an associate dean

in 1992.

Mooney's inaugural ceremony will be similar to former president Eldred's inauguration ceremony. Faculty and members of the senior class will march in regalia during the procession of the ceremony. Ninety-two delegates were present when Eldred was inaugurated, and while presidents of both Notre Dame and Holy Cross spoke at Eldred's

ceremony, this time they will offer short speeches along with many others.

In 1996, Mooney was named vice president and associate provost of Notre Dame, a position she held until she was named the Saint Mary's President, replacing Marilou Eldred, on Dec. 26, 2003. Mooney began work at Saint Mary's on June 1, 2004 and now seven months later, she will begin her term as the inaugurated president at Saint Mary's.

When named as the president of Saint Mary's, Mooney said she was committed to carrying forward the Saint Mary's Master Plan and the Strategic Plan. With the completion of the on-campus student apartments and the nearly-completed new student center, she has stayed true to the course.

Mooney's other priorities since arriving on campus have been focusing on the academic excellence of the College and ensuring that the school continues to attract "talented young women."

In addition to Saturday's inauguration ceremony, there will be an information booth from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. in LeMans Hall where staff will be available to answer any questions visitors have about Mooney or Saint Mary's. There will also be a reception immediately following the ceremony.

Contact Angela Saoud at
saoud0303@saintmarys.edu

Mooney's presence felt by student body



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer
President Carol Mooney sits among students Wednesday at an inaugural event.

By DANIELLE LERNER
In Focus Writer

Anticipation continues to grow on campus as students prepare for the inauguration of Carol Ann Mooney, the 11th President of Saint Mary's College.

Students were invited to partake in a weeklong celebration of events before Friday and Saturday's inaugural activities.

Saint Mary's sophomore Katie Treder is one of many students looking forward to Mooney's inauguration.

"I'm really excited about it because it opens her up to everyone," said Treder. "I think it's a really great way to get the students involved."

Students are not only encouraged to attend the inauguration, but many have participated in the actual planning process and organizing of events.

Student trustee Sarah Brown said she has attended a variety of events and is really enjoying the week.

"I think it's going really well," Brown said. "Once we got back on campus from break there was all this excitement and buzz going around which really livened up the campus. I think this week and all the history-type events are a really good way to pull together the time from when Mooney was here and now."

And with the buzz around campus growing as inauguration day approaches, students are looking are seeing Mooney as more than just someone being talked about: they see her as a role model.

Junior Emily Fannon said she was immediately impressed with Mooney after meeting her last semester.

"I think it's great that we have a lay woman president

and that she's so present on campus," Fannon said. "She is someone to look up to because she has succeeded in a world where men typically have more luck. That's someone we want leading our school."

In an attempt to keep the student body informed, bright pink T-shirts were made with the event schedule on the back. Student government representatives handed them out to all students interested.

"I think the shirt is a really good idea," Treder said. "I think it gave us, as students, a part in [the inauguration] and gave us an opportunity to feel more included."

Saint Mary's sophomore Leda DePalma thinks allowing students to have the day off to attend the symposium

is another way to expose students to the new president.

"I think not having class will allow people more time to attend these events," DePalma said.

During her time at Saint Mary's, Mooney has remained a visible figure on campus. She has attended sporting events, Senior Dad's weekend, helped new students move in, and met with each residence hall to talk with students.

Saint Mary's junior Jennifer Parker has taken notice of Mooney's visibility.

"It's good to see her and to know who our President is," Parker said. "It shows she is enthusiastic about coming here and enjoys her job."

And many others agree.

"It's obvious she cares a lot about the students," Treder said. "But most importantly, she cares about our opinions and ideas. That's what's important."

Contact Danielle Lerner at
lern6311@saintmarys.edu

"We'll have around 120 delegates from out of town and approximately 25 Saint Mary's Board of Trustees."

Pat White
dean of faculty

"It's obvious she cares a lot about the students. But most importantly she cares about our opinions and ideas."

Katie Treder
student



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer
Professors and students gathered Wednesday to discuss the proposed 1972 Saint Mary's-Notre Dame merger, an important milestone in the College's history.

Mooney Timeline

1972: Graduates from Saint Mary's College	1984: Becomes an associate law professor	1991: Becomes a full law professor	1996-2004: Serves as vice president and associate provost of Notre Dame	June 1, 2004: Begins work at Saint Mary's College
1980: Joins the Notre Dame law school faculty	1988-1991: Serves as an assistant dean	1992-1993: Serves as an associate dean	Dec. 26, 2003: Named the 11th president of Saint Mary's College	Jan. 15, 2005: Inaugurated at Saint Mary's College

Future of Saint Mary's bright for students under Mooney

There was something with us in the church last spring when Dr. Mooney gave her opening remarks to the student body. Our future president, Dr. Carol Ann Mooney, stepped gracefully up to the microphone, and as she spoke, a brilliant light came through the stain glass windows in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto. Many of us noticed the light, and we talked about it afterward. "Did you see that?" And thus began a new era in the rich history at Saint

Jacqueline Cuisiner

senior class president

Mary's College.

Since the mass last spring, I have gotten to know more about our future president. I have learned that she loves to dance, and she loves pink (just like many of us). But what I personally have come to respect about Dr. Mooney is that it seems to me she has spent more of her time here in the past few months seeking to understand us, rather than to get her message understood as to what she will do as president. We've seen her observing us at our SMC Toastal and chatting with our dads at the Senior Dad's Weekend events in November.

And last fall, Dr. Mooney was eager to sit down with the inauguration dance committee in order to give us her feedback for the feeling on campus during the year 1972 (her graduating year), which we will try to recreate at the dance on Sunday.

One aspect about Dr. Mooney that I think is so special and unique is that she, herself, attended Saint Mary's. Wednesday, one senior I know complained about the fact that she had to put on her cap and gown on Saturday for the Inauguration. "It's just depressing to put it on," she stated. I agree. None of us want to think

about leaving. There's something about being a student here that can't ever be described; it can only be experienced. That is why I think it's so wonderful that Dr. Mooney attended our college. She's one of us. As Sarah Catherine White, our student body president, casually stated once, "She's an alum, she has four girls of her own, she just gets it."

I don't know exactly where Saint Mary's is headed in the future, but I am hopeful. I can't explain why. An attempt to explain that would be like trying to describe the affect that Saint Mary's has on a woman. It

would be like trying to explain the light we all saw in the church that afternoon. I just have this feeling that Dr. Mooney has a vision that includes continuing to strengthen women so that we, like many before us, will leave as well-rounded, thoughtful individuals, rich in spirit and in hope.

Jacqueline Cuisiner is the president of Saint Mary's Class of 2005. She can be contacted at cuis2245@saintmarys.edu.

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

Past Saint Mary's Presidents

1997-2004	Marilou Eldred
1986-1995	William Hickey
1975-1986	John Duggan
1965-1975	Edward Henry* John McGrath* Sister Mary Grace*
1961-1965	Sister Maria Renata Daily
1934-1961	Sister Madeleva
1931-1934	Sister Irma Burns
1916-1931	Mother Pauline O'Neill

*Each served separately from 1965-1975

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphic



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Just as when Carol Mooney was a student, many hours are spent in Haggar College Center buying books and purchasing snacks. However, businesses will move to the new student center.

Faculty express enthusiasm for inaugural celebration

Professors will lead day-long academic symposium, participate in inauguration ceremony

By MEGAN O'NEIL

In Focus Writer

After months of anticipation, Saint Mary's faculty members are ready to don their academic regalia and officially welcome Carol Ann Mooney as the new College president during this weekend's inauguration celebration.

Just as in the presidential search process, faculty will play a key role in the inauguration proceedings. With all classes canceled for today they will host a daylong symposium examining the role of liberal arts in academic and leadership development. Saturday they will be part of the inauguration ceremony procession, which will include the current senior class as well as representatives from numerous academic institutions.

Pat White, dean of faculty and chair of the symposium committee, said the symposium serves as a great opportunity for faculty and students, as well as guests, to discuss the history and the future of liberal arts.

"We are trying to show that the liberal arts is a living tradition and where we go and what we make of liberal is our responsibility," White said. "Saint Mary's should be in the forefront of where liberal arts is going."

Students should regard today's symposium as a substitute to classes, White said. The committee, in fact, was hesitant to use the term "canceled," when referring to classes, he said.

"It was very important to Dr. Mooney to highlight the academic excellence of the College," said White. "[the symposium] is something unusual and distinct thing about our college. We are hoping all the students come because it is a rare occasion."

And though some faculty members expressed concerns over a lost class day, for the most part the cancellation did not dampen their enthusiasm for the inauguration.

Chemistry professor Dorothy Feigl said she is usually strongly opposed to canceling classes but that an inauguration only comes once every five or 10 years and the college should celebrate.

Feigl, who will be one of eight symposium presenters, said Mooney has done an excellent job of introducing herself to the Saint Mary's community, spending time in each building and with each department.

"I am very pleased with her so far. She is extremely bright and she seems to really have a sense of accessibility in that she really listens to people and listens to ideas," Feigl said.

Mary Connolly, chair of the math department, said the faculty is looking forward to the presidential inauguration with great enthusiasm. A veteran professor, Connolly will mark the third inauguration of her Saint Mary's tenure at tomorrow's ceremony.

"I have been talking it up with all of the students because it is a golden opportunity, and it won't come again during your career as a student," she said.

In her one semester as president of Saint Mary's, Mooney has impressed Connolly with her hard work and focus.

"She is absolutely terrific," Connolly said. "She is very smart, a good listener, a good problem

solver and she places academics at the forefront of everything."

Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of international and intercultural learning at the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, described the presidential transition thus far as seamless.

"We knew from her colleagues at Notre Dame that she had a real track record in women's and intercultural issues of real action and she has shown up at about everything we have given her an invitation to," Meyer-Lee said.

Meyer-Lee said she thinks it is great to be inaugurating a person who values diversity and who knows from personal experience the importance of women's leadership.

"She had been very supportive of our work bringing diversity to increase excellence here at Saint Mary's and highlighting the advantages of a women's environment for leadership development," Meyer-Lee said.

When inaugurated on Saturday as the 11th president of the College, Mooney will become the first lay graduate to head Saint

Mary's. According to some faculty members, that fact alone makes this weekend's ceremonies unique.

"She is the first lay president of the College who is a Saint Mary's graduate. I think to recognize that is important," said political science professor Sean Savage.

English professor Jeanne Rhodes has worked at Saint Mary's for 40 years in four different departments. Rhodes first met Mooney when the new president was still a law student at the Notre Dame Law School, where Rhodes' husband was a professor.

Mooney was an outstanding student, Rhodes said, and later an outstanding administrator. Her work was always characterized by her direct and open attitude.

"Carol had a lot of vitality, and of course she went to school here and she knows the school and she loves it," Rhodes said. "I think we are very lucky because I think she will bring a lot of happiness to the job, in the job. I don't think she will be faced at all."

Contact Megan O'Neil at onei0907@saintmarys.edu



College hosts week of events to celebrate inauguration

By MEG CASSIDY
In Focus Writer

Nothing gets college students excited quite like free T-shirts.

And Saint Mary's is no exception.

In order to initiate the enthusiasm on the Saint Mary's campus for the upcoming inauguration of College President Carol Mooney, the Saint Mary's Board of Governance distributed free inauguration T-shirts to the student body on Monday afternoon. The bright pink shirts feature a useful calendar on the back that outlines the week's schedule of events.

This is a busy week for the College community. The inauguration of the College's 11th president will formally take place on Saturday afternoon.

Leading up to the ceremony itself is a week's worth of activities and events for students to participate in and enjoy. Many students have already put a lot of time and energy into planning these events and the anticipation on campus is high.

Senior class president Jacqueline Cuisinier said the student inauguration committee began planning this week months ago.

Cuisinier said Mooney personally met with the planning committee and had a lot of ideas and input about how the inauguration week could be a positive one for the entire community.

"The week of events is themed around our new president and the differences between her graduating year from Saint Mary's and today," Cuisinier said.

The theme "Then and Now" is the inspiration for this week's schedule of events, which is centered on invigorating the College's identity by celebrating a new beginning while appreciating its past.

The events began on Tuesday night with a forum entitled "Then and Now: Same Issues, Different Women." This discussion-based forum brought alumni and current students together to talk about large social issues that both sides

could learn from. The topics included the wars in Vietnam and Iraq, student activism and apathy, changing roles of women and feminism and changes in the Church.

On Wednesday at noon, another forum focused on the issue of the proposed merge between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's that occurred in 1972 when Notre Dame became a co-ed institution. Like the other scheduled events, the intent for the lecture was to reaffirm the unique identity of Saint Mary's while also appreciating the history of the school as it enters a new age.

Thursday night the movie "Now and Then" was shown in Carroll Auditorium at 7 p.m.

And today, an all-day symposium will be held in O'Laughlin Auditorium from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in lieu of classes. Students are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in this unique event, which was designed by seniors Mary Pauline Moran and Mary Kathryn Homer. It will feature professors and students as well as other keynote speakers from around the country who will provide diverse perspectives on the theme of the symposium: "Educating Women, Transforming Lives: The Liberal Arts in the 21st Century."

Vice President, Dean of Faculty and symposium committee chair Patrick White wrote to students over Christmas break about the significance of this event to the Saint Mary's community, and he encouraged individuals to attend this important event.

"By taking advantage of the symposium, students and faculty will celebrate with President Carol Ann Mooney and demonstrate our commitment to Saint Mary's as a liberal arts college," White said in his e-mail. "This symposium offers us all an opportunity to pause and consider what we are about as a college, what education should mean and how we can engage in the discovery of the knowledge that helps us create our own humanity."

Saturday's events are cen-



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

A student sports the presidential inauguration T-shirt. The shirts were distributed to students as part of a week of events celebrating College President Carol Mooney and the College.

tered on the inauguration itself, beginning with a 9 a.m. mass in the Church of Loretto. The inaugural ceremony will be held in O'Laughlin Auditorium at 1:30 p.m. with a reception to follow in the dining hall. The ceremony will include music by the Saint Mary's College Women's Choir and this year's senior class will march in cap and gown.

Sunday night from 7 to 10 p.m., the week of inauguration celebrations will culminate with a dance in the Angela Athletic Facility. The theme for the dance is also "Then and

Now," and students can choose to wear either a costume inspired from '70s fashions, or modern attire. The music will dually feature popular songs from both eras.

Senior and co-chair of the inaugural dance committee, Lindsay Greene said Mooney met with her committee and shared with them her ideas for the night. Greene said that the purpose of the dance is for students to get the opportunity to meet and interact with Mooney on a more personal basis.

"We will be raffling off some movies and CDs from her sug-

gestions and will definitely be providing Butterfinger's, as they are her favorite," Greene said.

There will also be food from Jimmy Johns and Fazoli's at the dance.

After all the planning that has gone into making this week an eventful one, the schedule is in place for a celebration that aims to unite and inspire the Saint Mary's community as it embarks on a new beginning.

Contact Meg Cassidy at
cass0593saintmarys.edu

