Arafat opens Palestinian Parliament

By G.G. LA BELLE

JERUSALEM

While his police agents showed off bomb-making gear and meaty terrorist tools, Yasser Arafat accused his "thousands of fanatic radicals" of trying to "kill the Palestinians and to save an Israeli state." He was beginning to come true.

Opening the historic first sessions of the Arab elected Palestinian parliament on Monday, Arafat lashed out at "terrorism" and the "vicious war" that has killed 61 people since Feb. 25 and put the peace process with Israel in jeopardy.

But he also attacked Israelis for trying to halt the war by "treacherously" removing Palestinians inside their towns and villages, which Arafat said was "like the occupation came back again."

Laying out an agenda for the legislators, he said the top priority was "to keep the peace and make it stronger."

"We must fight the terrorist and radical elements and radicals on both sides," he said.

"Throughout the parliament — the first time an elected Palestinian legislature met on Palestinian soil — was supposed to be a step toward peace with Israel. The Palestinians have been reviving Israeli fears of an independent and well-organized and speedy demands for Arafat to crush the militias.

On Thursday, Palestinian police and Israeli troops worked in tandem in an effort to track down radicals from the Hamas group involved in four deadly explosions that killed 61 people in Jerusalem, Ashdod and Tel Aviv.

As the Israelis raided a Hamas-run cultural center in Jerusalem and seized files and computers, Palestinian police arrested the center's director, Sheikh Jamil Hamani, and took him to their headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

In an effort to illustrate Arafat's determination to wipe out terror cells, Palestinian police in Gaza City displayed pistols, assault rifles and material for making bombs and grenades — all seized in raids on Hamas hideouts since the bombings started Feb. 25.

Ghazi Jalbali, head of the police in Gaza, said 500 men have been arrested in the West Bank and Gaza in the campaign to track down the bomb makers.

The reports bring about a time when Israel and the Palestinians will remain closed by Israel, and are likely to remain closed by Israel until the US administration decides to intervene. The group is too weak to crush the Palestinians effectively.

The cycle of terror, which was supposed to be a step toward peace, is continuing as Israeli and Palestinian policies are reducing the Đàm project. The Palestinians are still in a state of despair.

Arafat cites the administration of the Palestinian National Authority as a failure. He says it has failed to bring about a peace process, and that it has failed to address the issue of the Palestinian refugees. Arafat accuses the administration of being corrupt and inefficient.

The Arafat government has also failed to provide basic services to the Palestinian people, such as education, health care, and housing. The government has also failed to protect the rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly.

However, Arafat remains committed to the idea of a two-state solution. He says that the only way to achieve peace is through negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Arafat also supports the idea of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Arafat is also concerned about the role of the United States in the peace process. He has criticized the US government for its support of Israeli policies and its failure to press for a two-state solution.

The Palestinian National Authority has also been criticized for its internal divisions and its failure to address the needs of the Palestinian people. Arafat has been critical of the Palestinian leadership and has called for new elections.

Arafat believes that the only way to achieve peace is through direct negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians. He has also called for a comprehensive Middle East Peace Conference to address the issues of the Palestinian refugees, the Israeli settlements, and the status of Jerusalem.

The Arafat government has also been criticized for its human rights record. Arafat has been accused of human rights abuses, including torture and arbitrary detention.

The Arafat government has also been criticized for its failure to address the issue of the Palestinian refugees. Arafat has called for the right of return for all Palestinian refugees and has called for the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The Arafat government has also been criticized for its failure to address the issue of the Israeli settlements. Arafat has called for the withdrawal of all Israeli settlements and the transfer of their inhabitants to the Palestinian state.

The Arafat government has also been criticized for its failure to address the issue of the status of Jerusalem. Arafat has called for the establishment of a Palestinian capital in East Jerusalem and has called for the right of return for all Palestinian refugees.
ND fails to deal with problems

Three years ago, almost to this very day, I remember working as an Assistant News Editor, assigned to lay out the Observer news section. Even late at night, I distinctly recall a note of terror when I was told to edit and write a headline for the outgoing editor's final issue. One of the editors who had penned the column, Monica Yant, had long since departed to the night, and I distinctly recall my feeling of terror when I was told to "do what I could".

But a frustrated shrug. While I may have standing qualities, I care deeply about ND and I do recognize that some sentiments.

In my mind, one of the most telling statements that the boy has called their home exists unless administrators are found so installed by public outcry or the binding resolutions of the CIC.

It can be argued that large scale changes don't happen overnight— it may take a decade for ND to build its population of students who care deeply about ND. But the administrations of dealing with problems, can be gauged nearly instantly. The president had been accused of violating Michigan's anti-stalking law, his lawyer said Thursday. The girl's parents told author.

They must stop and they must stop. I am not telling anyone this as president, but I am being frank: on any political speech, it is a personal statement. I know a lot about this. More and more young people see below that drugs are not dangerous any more; that is factually wrong. We know that the toxic content of marijuana alone is many times more than it was a year ago.

Puppy love or a crime?  

A 9-year-old boy who left a phone message for a 10-year-old girl, telling her "I want to be your lover," has been accused of sending a " hoy-saying" note by public outcry or the binding resolutions of the CIC.

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Puppy love or a crime?
SMC bypasses federal financial aid delays

By LORI ALLEN
Saint Mary’s News Editor

The Department of Education has been experiencing delays in processing federal aid applications for the 1996-1997 academic year, according to the Saint Mary’s Financial Aid Office. This delay is pertinent to Saint Mary’s students, as financial aid is so important to many current and potential students.

It should be noted, however, that these federal delays will have a minimal effect on Saint Mary’s students as a result of the College’s use of the PROFILE analysis provided by the College Board.

Kelly named chief-of-staff

Special to The Observer

Brendan Kelly, a sophomore government and peace studies major, has been named chief of staff for the 1996-97 Notre Dame student government administration.

Kelly, a Dillon Hall resident from Boston, Va., served as student government’s commissioner for campus improvement during the 1995-96 administration. Miller and Murray were appointed to working with Kelly.

"Megan and I were really excited when Brendan accepted," said Miller. "He exemplifies what our administration will be all about: results."

Concert marks end of series

The University of Notre Dame Concert Band will present its annual spring concert March 18 at 8 p.m. at the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center.

The spring concert will celebrate the Concert Band’s 150 years and is free and open to the public.

The concert’s program will include a variety of music, such as selections from Duke Ellington, John Phillip Sousa and Strauss, in addition to the music of Notre Dame.

It will mark the end of the band’s spring concert series, a nine-city tour with performances in Munedeune, Ill.; Wellington, Ohio; Rochester, N.Y.; Voorheesville, N.Y.; Wilbraham, Mass.; Boston, Mass.; Gorland, N.Y.; Erie, Pa.; and Youngstown, Ohio.

The band was founded in 1845 and has toured annually for more than 50 years, performing in 42 states and more than 500 cities.

Dr. Luther Snavely, Jr. has directed the University band for the past nine years. He is assisted by James Phillips, assistant professor of music, and Father George Wickrchen, assistant director of bands.

This year’s band features solos by Mark Goff, a graduate student from Mobile, Ala.; trombone; Shelby Lewis, a graduate student from Mount Juliet, Tenn.; and trumpet; David Marak, a graduate student from Cameron, Tex.; on tuba; and Cassie Manning, a graduate student from Posen, Mich., on French horn.

Saint’s basketball schedule

By STEVEN PETERSON

The Notre Dame women’s basketball team has announced its schedule for the 1996-97 season.

The program, which will open the season Jan. 31 against Indiana State in the Sports Arena, will include games against ranked opponents. The Fighting Irish are looking to build on their 1995-96 campaign, which saw the team finish 13-11 overall and 5-7 in the Big East.

Senior guard Lisa Yarger will lead the roster, which also includes returning starters Susan Andrus and Cynthia Scurry.

The Irish are scheduled to play 12 games at home and 10 on the road.

The season will begin Nov. 16 against Xavier in the Sports Arena.

Saint’s basketball schedule includes games against ranked opponents, such as the University of Connecticut, the University of Kentucky and the University of South Carolina.

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SMC continued from page 1

"The agenda for the dig was not oriented to the investigation of indigenous people," he said. "But I became interested in the culture's ability to survive due to seven human responses to foreign political domination. These include tribalism, found among villagers and nomads, a mixed economy with both animal and crop production, flexibility on the part of the residents, the ability to shift homeland terri­
tories, small scale water works, hospitality from insurance poli­
cies and information sources, and justice without courts or police.
Labianca concluded with an explanation relating back to the issues presently at hand. He described a two-layered history of Jordan, the upper which is seen by the tourist, the lower which is seen by the anthropol­
gist and archaeologist.
"The upper class people are not seen as part of the town," he told. "But they succeeded through avoiding conformity to an enormous life structure and remaining transient. You may not think that this is ancient history but look at the newspaper today. Ethnic conflict is still on the rise because some cultures refuse to surrender their tradi­tions and those aspirations are not seen as part of the town," he told. In fact, Lind stated that women's roles have conventionally been defined largely in terms of their access to the market and eco­
nomic rules.
In order to overcome these conceptual biases, Lind said, the frameworks of the development of countries must be reevalu­
ated. She said that it is necessary to understand the universalizing tendencies of these development frameworks and remain cognizant that they do not hold up cross-culturally.
According to Lind, analysts believe that women benefit from modernization, and she agrees that "modernization is generally the way to increase equality."
Yet, she said, the policies need to take into account the differing roles of men and women in the modernization process. Lind also addressed the seeming reluctance of women to enter into the political arena historically by highlighting the bias that women have encoun­
tered in the basis of the notion of gender. Feminist theory literature has pointed from the beginning that gender is socially constructed, and "conceptual biases cloud historical accounts of social movements."
"Post-Modernism has pre­sented many challenges to fem­
"..." concluded Lind. She suggests that analysts "merge cultural studies with studies of gender and development to return to more conventional questions of change."
Lind continued to say that gender and utilization can be motivation for mobilizing other aspects of the social, economic, and political structures.
Her question and focus of fur­
ther research, then, will deal with when and why gender becomes the central mobilizing factor.
Ad Hoc makes progress toward official recognition

Dear Editor:

As a woman-loving woman undergraduate, I wish to respond to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Observer Thursday, February 29. I find your letter to the committee of activists particularly enlightening. Regardless of their own sexual-political agenda, they have placed the issue of more female members (resigned, expelled, and threatening to resign) in the forefront of their agenda. I believe this issue is a major and a member of several performing groups on campus. Performance, as opposed to sports events, crowds help but do not prove essential, we perform for the enjoyment of a crowd.

In the letter, they express their views perfectly into the game. The Christian/Catholic-centric language of the report (which incessantly repeats “heterosexual” and “heteronormativity”) seems like an appeal for support, one which must all encourage all alumni, especially those who donate for all those who have not been privileged to teach for four years. Seniors are not the only ones who graduate, of course, and graduation is not about them only... We also bid farewell to professional students, and we want to see all (or a recent group who are usually forgotten when graduation is discussed — P.L.D. students, most of whom have been here far longer than four years) who have sacrificed much more to be here than undergraduates have, and whose dedication to a life of isolation and self-hatred (past or present) indulged us. Unleashed our fury at the Administration upon the Ad Hoc members. Thankfully, their recommendations regarding the Old Varsity are not as bad as our fears of being insubstantial.

In Dallo’s report, he states that our spiritual and sexual-political agenda on this campus should realize how the Ad Hoc Committee serves the Church and that it is not a political agenda; it is rather a Catholic agenda. Without the golden Domers through the Church. The quote applies to us as well as Christian queens. We have found "a way to live" as adults, and are merely asking that we have a Catholic agenda.

Inherent in the focus on the Catholic and spiritual identity, is an unconscious bow to upright standards of other Catholic institutions. I encourage all alumni, especially those who donate for all those who have not been privileged to teach for four years. Seniors are not the only ones who graduate, of course, and graduation is not only about them. We also bid farewell to professional students, and we want to see all (or a recent group who are usually forgotten when graduation is discussed — P.L.D. students, most of whom have been here far longer than four years) who have sacrificed much more to be here than undergraduates have, and whose dedication to a life of isolation and self-hatred (past or present) indulged us. Unleashed our fury at the Administration upon the Ad Hoc members. Thankfully, their recommendations regarding the Old Varsity are not as bad as our fears of being insubstantial.

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Dear Editor:

Dear Editor: I didn’t get this silly letter slip through the cracks; I write in response to Cynthia Deady’s viewpoint regarding student attendance at Notre Dame sporting events.

First, I would like to give some background on my beliefs about competitive sports. I recently explained to my brother that I don’t like the cult of professionalism that surrounds many sporting events, because it includes the need for domination, and the crowds usually get the most excited when players do things that they think they could rise to. I wondered, what is wrong with a culture in which people only do their best when in competition with others? Why can’t we strive to do our personal best every day?

Next, I would like to speak as a theatre major and a member of several performing groups on campus. Performance, as opposed to sports events, is geared toward and put on solely for an audience. The very definition of theatre, in fact, includes the word audience. Where, at sports events, crowds help but do not prove essential, we perform for the enjoyment of a crowd.

Granted, Notre Dame calls itself a "sports school", and perhaps I shouldn’t expect much of a crowd at theatrical or artistic events, however, I would hope that students would want to enrich all aspects of their personal, spiritual, and academic experience. I believe that participates in or appreciation of the arts.

Having engaged in many similar conversations with sport fans, I can probably predict your response: people attend events they are enthused about. If you don’t produce something they want to see, don’t complain if they don’t come. Well, I would now like to return to your answer. If I cannot produce events that you want to see, you can expect me to attend sporting events to which I have an aversion.

I do not feel that the measure of my school spirit lies in the number of times I sing the fight song. I do not want to fight. I do want to get on education, and I think the effect I display in my studies demonstrates true spirit for my school, considering Notre Dame is first and foremost an institute of higher learning.

LEANNE ROBINSON
Sophomore
Lyon Hall

The archetypical battle continues...Brains versus brawn at ND

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Welcome to Catholicism

Dear Editor:

Imagine if 1, as a Protestant, asked for university space and funding to begin a club opposed to the infallibility of the Pope of Rome. Unfortunately, as a person of Mary Magdalene, I would be asked why on earth I chose to go to Notre Dame! I might then be asked if I had ever been to a Catholic faculty and tradition. But I would be ignorant to try to give such a response, because the academic excellence of the Интернет universe and the tremendous tradition flows from a reformation spirit of great Catholic theologians and academies. It is very much Catholicism that I learned about at Notre Dame.

To accept the advantages of any university, while castingigate for adhering to the basic tenets of their religion, is a form of religious tolerance. Notre Dame welcomes me despite my Protestantism, and I love Notre Dame despite my differences with it. The small group of willful sinners has the right to flaunt their particular sin and demand that Catholicism’s greatest university not accommodate a club based on that. Notre Dame should continue lovingly tell the gay activist on, but she diminish the very qualities that drew us all, pay and straight, to her in the first place!

THOMAS STEINKE
Law School

Commencement: Reaffirming values

Dear Editor:

Lately this spring the Notre Dame administration and faculty will throw a party for a very select group of some of this country’s most talented young people. There is no better time to make a great celebration. It always is. It’s called “commencement.”

Commencement is an occasion on which the Notre Dame community gathers to say a lot of farewells. We say farewell to the faculty and administration, want to say goodbye to the undergraduate students to whom we have been privileged to teach for four years.

Seniors are not the only ones who graduate, of course, and graduation is not only about them. We also bid farewell to professional students, and we want to see all (or a recent group who are usually forgotten when graduation is discussed — P.L.D. students, most of whom have been here far longer than four years) who have sacrificed much more to be here than undergraduates have, and whose dedication to a life of scholarship can be called but “good byes” is not the only or the most important thing the university wants to say to its graduating students.

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It is an occasion when this community gathers to reaffirm the values of which it stands, to state those values, and to celebrate those who are leaving — of whom they came together in the first place.

It is the faculty and administration host a commencement weekend for all those to whom we graduate students, and faculty through the mail.

What values should we reaffirm at commencement? Notre Dame is not the only university in the country, and perhaps the best, where football or basketball is not a sport brought with particularly bad weather. Notre Dame is a university, and
Dear Editor:

I am sorry this letter is so belated, but I promise I have a good excuse. I am a 1994 Georgetown gradu­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­…
Escaping the Bend

On the road again...

Five mod-quad juniors, Bill, Norma, Jack, Jill (the one behind the map), and Dave (passed out in the trunk) attempt to escape the stifling atmosphere of South Bend in exchange for the freedom of the open road. Each member of the group is searching for their respective cultural mecca. The only problem is, they can't agree on where to go, except for Dave. Dave's only aspiration for spring break is to eat, drink, sleep, and drink some more.

Bill dreams of venturing to Arizona to visit the Grand Canyon. He claims it his destiny to "h awk a lou ghe" into the deep chasms. Norma, the driver, disagrees with Bill's plan, she yearns to return to her roots. Her mother grew up on a small farm on the plains of South Dakota. She argues it would be "lot's of fun" to go and help out on the farm. Jack protests by arguing that he is extremely allergic to all farm animals. "Especially those in South Dakota," he adds with a sneer. It has been his long time dream to visit Graceland and get "all shook up." Fortunately for the rest of the group, his desire to see the King was satisfied when he sees Elvis at a McDonald's along route eighty.

Jill claims that she is ambitious as to where they go, just as long as everyone is happy. Little do the others realize that behind this sweet facade, there lies a selfish individual. She volunteered to read the map so that she could blindly lead her group to her home town of Florabama, roughly translated to "South Bend is a much better time." Her plan fell through though when she fell asleep two hours into the trip.

The ill-fated group have not a clue as to where they are going. Despite the fact that their destination is unknown, they plan on making the most of the newfound freedom. Maybe they will venture across the great plains for the city of Las Vegas to find their fortune, no matter where they decide to go, tourist traps and souvenirs hinder their way.

Wasting Away Again in Margaritaville

For frequenting the tan salons for the past two weeks, Heidi dugs out her snazzy shirts and cut-off tops in head to the place where Murin from Tan-a-Lotta is not the only one peering at her while she sunbatches. A place where the retro rocks and the beachfront rolls. And where a wet T-shirt, a pair of tightly-whities, or a "sexiest kiss" can award you a free drink. Ahh. Margaritaville.

Heidi hopes that in Margaritaville she will "get some rays and meet a few cool guys." What she fails to prepare herself for, however, are the pinches, perks, squeezes, boos, fries, fondles, feels, and other suggestive gestures she receives from guys in sleeveless tank tops and tiger-print railings at her while she sunbatches. A place where the retro rocks and the beachfront rolls. And where a wet T-shirt, a pair of tightly-whities, or a "sexiest kiss" can award you a free drink. Ahh. Margaritaville.

Heidi gets excited about her first night in Margaritaville. She follows the neon-lights and walks onto the dance floor. After waiting 30 minutes at the bar, Heidi decides to have a seat. Three "Sex on the Beaches," two beers, one dance, and four Slammers later, Heidi realizes the utter high of visiting Margaritaville. She steals a lifeguard T-shirt off of her new best friend Pedro, slips in on, and dances to the Marcarena dance with five other John Travolta-imitators.

After the bar clears out, Heidi and her new friends stumble down to the beach to watch the sunrise. As the breeze tickles her face and the tide rolls in, Heidi lays back to watch the show. In the distance she can hear the tunes of Jimmy Buffett. "Wasted away in Margaritaville... how I got here I haven't a clue..."
The success was great, but it wasn’t a very big deal because I had been in those situations before. It recalls the reason Keenan came to the N.Y.C. Catholic High School basketball championship in 1994. He averaged 15 points, 10 assists and six steals in the tournament.

While he came to Notre Dame largely because of his reputation, Keenan first earned a name for himself in the annual Bookstore Basketball Tournament last spring.

Showcasing his flashy, flashy style of play, Keenan led his team to the Round of 16 and eventually to a 4-2 win over the Klokow squad. And when all was said and done, the 6-4 freshman was awarded first All-Di­vision honors.

The ride was not yet over. Two weeks later, Keenan was helping the Irish team to its first Final Eight appearance in the NCAA’s, including Notre Dame’s first NCAA tournament berth since the island honoring.

Although he had scored only five points in the championship game, Keenan carried on taming the competition on the lacrosse field and helping Notre Dame to its first national title.

"Jimmy is number one an excellent athlete," says assistant coach Brian Cass. "He has great instincts as a basketball player, probably due to his success in lacrosse. He’s a competitor."
Baseball

continued from page 12

hitting a combined .308, the Irish are certainly not coming up short as a result of frozen rains.

"What we need to do is get our starting pitching shored up," condoned Mainieri. "We need to get into a situation where every game we go into we know our starting pitcher is going to give us a good performance and keep us in the ballgame."

Such situations have not always materialized in this young season, as is evidenced by the staff’s performance during their last two games, in which more than one offensive comeback was negated by ineffective pitching.

But Mainieri remains confident in his pitchers’ ability, insisting that it is just a matter of time before they find their groove. "I really believe that we have good pitchers, both in the starting rotation and in the bullpen," commented Mainieri. "We win as a team and we lose as a team, but the reality of baseball is that when your starting pitchers do a good job, you’re going to be in the game and have a chance to win."

The problems with inconsistency in the Irish pitching staff have led Mainieri to tinker with his starting rotation, relegating struggling senior Craig Allen to the bullpen while inserting junior left-hander Gregg Henebry into the vacated starter’s slot.

"Gregg’s pitched fairly well when he’s had the chance," said Mainieri of Henebry, who has compiled a 5.40 ERA with five strikeouts in five innings of work. "Craig Allen is going to try to work out some of his problems from the bullpen."

Mainieri would not speculate on the permanency of this change, saying only, "We’re going to play the guys who will get the job done. It wouldn’t be fair to the team if I didn’t play the guys who are doing a good job."

The importance of these next seven games is not lost on Mainieri, who remarked, "This is basically a seven-game road swing for us, and these are our last seven games prior to our first Big East game. This is the last chance to get our team ready to go for the Big East schedule."

Mainieri and Irish fans alike can only hope that the team will be ready come March 23, when the Irish open their inaugural Big East season with a double header at Boston College.

Southpaw Gregg Henebry steps into Paul Mainieri’s rotation this week.

Obnoxious Pig Photo

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Early games prepare tested Irish for future

Though just 4-6, a ready Notre Dame carries confidence

By MIKE DAY

Sports Writer

Sometimes you have to sacrifice something today for the benefit of tomorrow. That’s the philosophy the Notre Dame softball team is taking as they head to Florida this weekend to compete in their third tournament in three weeks.

Having already played several of the nation’s elite teams, the Irish sport a 4-6 record that is no way indicative of how they’ve played.

While their won-loss record has suffered so far in the early going, Notre Dame is confident that the tough schedule will pay dividends in the latter stages of the season.

"It is always our goal to play the toughest schedule possible at the beginning of the season," said Irish head coach Liz Miller. "Help for the players to see that they can play with anybody in the country. It’s good to know that were right there even at this stage of the season."

The squad has suffered tough losses to opponents like Hawaii and Arizona State who have had the luxury of practicing outdoors for the last two months.

On the other hand, the Irish, who will be competing outside of Luftrus for just the third time, have been forced to conduct workouts on astroturf and in batting cages.

"It is sometimes tough to focus in a confined area like Luftrus," said second baseman Meghan Murray. "You don’t get true bounces off the turf and the atmosphere is so much different than playing outside with the wind, the sun, and the grass."

While the hitting has been solid through the first ten games (.273 as a team), the pitching staff will have to improve if the Irish plan on making a run once the Big East season begins.

All-American Terri Kobata and Angela Bessolo have had their share of problems in the early going.

While their won-loss record is 4-6, a 0.75 ERA in the first two tournaments has seen the Irish improve a run once the Big East season begins.

Joy and Angela have not been as successful as we’d like, "They know that’s going to change," said a confident Miller.

"They have not thrown poorly at all, so they should not be discouraged. As a whole, I feel the staff is coming along real well."

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The Observer • SPORTS
Friday, March 8, 1996

Irish ‘poll vault’ into top ten

By BRIAN REINTHALER
Sports Writer

In the polls, the Notre Dame women’s tennis team continues to climb toward the top. This week, the Irish moved up from No. 16 in the country to No. 8. They will attempt to continue their upward ways this weekend as they host Kansas State and Drake in a Saturday doubleheader.

Kansas State appears to be the tougher of the two opponents traveling to South Bend this weekend.

Irish head coach Jay Louderback is particularly concerned with the first few spots in the KSU lineup. “They are very strong at the top,” explained Louderback. “They have a few international kids in those positions who can really play.”

The reason for the coach’s concern lies in the fact that the top of his lineup has been shaken by injury as of late. Senior Sherri Vitale and Wendy Crabtree have each been battling specific ailments. Vitale is suffering from tendinitis in her wrist and a heel injury is slowing Crabtree.

Coach Louderback is still a bit uncertain about the order of his lineup. “Wendy and Jennifer Hall will be at the one and two positions,” said the coach, “but which one plays where will be determined by the status of Wendy’s heel.”

As far as Vitale is concerned, the future is uncertain. “Sherri will not play this weekend,” said Louderback. “Her wrist is a little better, but she is definitely not ready to get back into action. In fact, we are still do not have any idea when she will be healthy enough to go.”

Fortunately, the Irish have not allowed their medical problems slow them down. Due to the solid play of the rest of the Irish lineup, the team has not even missed a beat.

The freshman Hall, who will most likely find herself at the two position on Saturday, praised the team’s play since the since the injuries. “It helped to have last week-end off, but the whole team has been stepping up for the girls who are hurting,” said Hall. “If we keep playing the way we have been, we should have a good weekend.”

According to Louderback, the rest of the lineup should be as follows. The three through six positions will be filled by senior Helyn Lord, freshman Marissa Velasco, junior Erin Gowen, and sophomore Molly Gavin, respectively.

The combination of Crabtree and Lord will compete in first doubles, while Gavin and Hall will take on opponents in second doubles and Velasco will pair up with freshman Kelley Olson to fill the third position.

Drake is not as strong, but Louderback is not looking past the second match of the day. “Drake has been playing well as of late,” noted Louderback. “They always play us well but we beat them 5-4 last year.”

Women’s Basketball Classic

NCAA

continued from page 12

anybody. We can play with any team in the nation, and we can beat anybody, too,” commented sophomore sensation Mollie Peirick.

Notre Dame will probably earn a 10th or sixth seed this Sunday, but none of the Irish players will attempt to predict the outcome. “I don’t know what to expect. We really haven’t had any bad losses this year,” Morgan said. Notre Dame will not be a favorite to reach this year’s Final Four in Charlotte, North Carolina. But Peirick warns that the Irish should not be overlooked.

“The way we played with UConn has given us a lot of confidence. When you get into the Top 25, I think anybody can beat anybody else.”

Irish players believe their early season trip to Hawaii prepared them to play in a very competitive field. The Kona Women’s Basketball Classic featured several top teams that could face the Irish in the NCAA tournament.

The Irish defeated Washington but suffered two close losses to Penn State and Texas A & M.

“I think the tournament in Hawaii was really good for us. We played some of the top teams in the country,” stated Morgan.

Peirick echoed her teammate’s sentiments concerning the importance of the Hawaii trip. “I think we’re prepared. We played some great teams at the beginning of the season,” added Peirick.

The regular season is over. The Big East tournament is over. The NCAA tournament is all that remains.

This Notre Dame squad may be the best in our program’s history. If the Irish advance to the later rounds of the NCAA Tournament, they will prove it.

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Keenan: A Man for Both Seasons
Basketball/lacrosse player Jimmy Keenan shifts gears.

By RYAN KENNEDY
Sports Writer

It was late in the third period of the Notre Dame-Loyola (Maryland) lacrosse showdown last Saturday. The Irish had cut a 10-5 Greer lead to 10-7, and they were poised to make a final run. Notre Dame's Jimmy Keenan collected the ball at midfield, dipped and deked for a split second, and then whipped a deep pass to a cutting Will DeRiso, who was all alone 10 feet from the goal. DeRiso was mugged from behind and the ball came loose.

A key opportunity provided by Keenan was gone.

Minutes later, 12th-ranked Notre Dame found itself the victim of a 14-7 thumping by number-six Loyola. But a bright spot remained in the brilliant play of Keenan.

Only a sophomore starting in the season opener, Keenan had lit a fire under the Irish that will someday scorch the opposition. He finished with two assists in the game, and more importantly, he played tireless lacrosse, never quelling the competitiveness flaring inside him.

By TODD FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

In years past, members of the Irish women's basketball team spent this weekend as a group. They crowded around a television set to nervously wait the announcement of their NCAA tournament seed.

The players watched patiently while a sports castor informed them of their next opponent and game location.

This year, head coach Muffet McGraw has decided to give her players some time off. She has cancelled practice this weekend so many of her players can relax and watch the NCAA tournament opening rounds.

"We have practice tomorrow," McGraw said. "Then we're taking Saturday, Sunday, and Monday off. We usually watch a lot of basketball. We're looking forward to it."

"We think we can play with players are going home," said Irish co-captain Beth Morgan.

The NCAA tournament pairings will be announced this Sunday at 7:30 on the ESPN network. The first round games of the 64-team field are scheduled for the March 15-16 weekend.

The Irish have certainly earned their break from playing basketball. Notre Dame finished second in the Big East Conference and maintained a national ranking for the last month of the season. They are currently the No. 22 team in the country with a 22-7 record.

Notre Dame hopes to improve on its last tournament showing during the 1993-94 season. They were eliminated by the University of Minnesota in the first round.

"We think we can play with anyone, if our shooting is there," Morgan said.

Notre Dame freshman point guard Doug Gottlieb had a solid and sometimes spectacular freshman season. But he's still only the third best freshman point guard in the league this year.

Providence's God Shammgod and Boston College's Sean Perry split Gottlieb's flair, but his steady leadership is complemented by the ability to score with penetration and jumpers, which Gottlieb lacks.

Shammgod helped ice the Friars win over St. John's with two free-throws in the final minute of the game. Most Irish fans would be reluctant to put Gottlieb in that same situation.

The Waiting Game

By DYLAN BARMER
Sports Writer

"It's that time of the school year again. Time to put down the books and hit the beaches in search of respite from the often maddeningly brutal South Bend climate. But while many Notre Dame students will spend the next week or so combing the beaches by day and taking in the bar scene by night, the Irish baseball team will be hard at work playing seven games in a nine-day span.

The 4-5 Irish begin their spring tour with three games this weekend, as they head west to Seattle, where they will partake in the Husky Baseball Classic in the Mariners' Kingdome. The Classic will pit the Irish against seven-time NCAA champion Lewis & Clark State on Friday, followed by games against Long Beach State on Saturday and host Washington on Sunday.

"We have our work cut out for us this weekend," commented head coach Paul Mainieri. "Lewis & Clark State is currently the top team in the NAIA; they're as good as any team in Division I. Long Beach State is twelfth in the nation in one of the polls, and we expect them to be tough to beat, since they're the host school. We're looking at three extremely tough ball games.

The final, and on paper, less formidable task for the Irish will come in the Notre Dame Spring Classic in San Antonio, Texas. The tournament, which runs from Wednesday, March 13 to Saturday, March 16, will feature "the best" Irish face Oral Roberts, Southern Illinois, and intrastate rival Indiana before they partake in either the Championship or Consolation game on the tournament's final day.

"Oral Roberts and Southern Illinois both have a long, rich history in baseball, and Indiana has always been a rival," commented Mainieri.

If the Irish are going to build on their own storied history, they will need to remedy their early-season pitching woes, which have left them with a swollen 6.39 ERA after their first nine games. With an offense that is scoring an average of 6.3 runs a game while the defense is allowing 8.6 runs a game, the Irish may be able to give Gottlieb the rest he needs and put Seattle on the map as the Big Apple.

Softball

at South Florida Tournament, March 8-10

Lacrosse

at Maryland-Baltimore County (Annapolis, MD), March 9, noon

Women's Tennis

vs. Kansas State, March 9, 10 a.m.
vs. Drake, March 9, 4 p.m.

Track

at NCAA Championships, March 8-9

Seattle, San Antonio on deck for Irish

By TROY BEEMER
Sports Writer

It's that time of the school year again. Time to put down the books and hit the beaches in search of respite from the often maddeningly brutal South Bend climate. But while many Notre Dame students will spend the next week or so combing the beaches by day and taking in the bar scene by night, the Irish baseball team will be hard at work playing seven games in a nine-day span.

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SALE

at South Florida Tournament, March 8-10

Softball

vs. Lewis-Clark State in Seattle, March 8
vs. Long Beach State in Seattle, March 9

Men's Tennis

at Pennsylvania, March 11, 2 p.m.