Student leaders from other schools defend Griffin

Other student presidents speak only well of him

By BRAD PRENDERGAST
Editor-in-Chief

At the heart of Morrissey senior Jeremy Lingenfels'er's petition to recall student body president Matt Griffin from office is the belief that because of Griffin's alleged misconduct, he is an "embarrassing" representative of the student's interests. But student leaders at other universities say just the opposite about Griffin.

While Notre Dame administrators have remained neutral in discussing Griffin's effectiveness, Duke student body president Lino Marrero and Boston College vice president Kristin Pugh say Griffin has been a responsible leader in working with them this semester.

Marrero, who has collaborated with Griffin for the past six weeks on a nationwide student government leadership conference, said that Griffin has always been diligent in pushing forward the idea of the conference.

"Our working relationship has been very positive. He's been easy to work with," Marrero said. "I've had no problems with him and no doubts about him."

The idea of the student government conference developed in October when Marrero, whose sister Catherine is a sophomore in Pasquerilla West Hall, visited her at Notre Dame. Marrero and Griffin met and discussed several problems that both had encountered in their respective roles in student government.

According to Marrero, Griffin suggested that the student government officials of the top 25 schools, based on the rankings of U.S. News & World Report, meet for a weekend in February at Notre Dame to discuss the problems common to student governments nationwide.

University officials, concerned that Notre Dame's student government could not organize such a complex conference in such a short time, denied Griffin's request that Notre Dame student government formally sponsor the event. This was conveyed to him in a letter written Dec. 3 by Sister Jean Lenz, assistant vice president for Student Affairs.

But Duke student government plans to continue forth with the conference, according to Marrero.

"Matt opened up an opportunity that we could get involved in," Marrero said. "To help coordinate a conference to discuss these issues is a certain sign of effective leadership."

see Griffin / page 8

Ding, Dong!

BASILICA BELLS TURN 145 THIS YEAR

WE HOPE THAT [THE CARILLON'S] SOUND WILL NOT ONLY CALM AND GLADEN HUMAN HEARTS, BUT THAT IT WILL ALSO CALL THOSE WHO HEAR IT TO FAITH AND THE CHRISTIAN TRUTH,

Pope John Paul II in a January 1992 Letter

By SARAH H. HILTZ
Associate News Editor

At the request of John Michael D'Are, bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Pope John Paul II officially gave what was then Sacred Heart church the status of Minor Basilica on Jan. 17, 1992.

The letter bearing this news, written by the pope and signed by the Secretary of State of the Vatican, included a reference to the building's carillon of bells, the oldest in North America.

"We know that the pleasant harmony of America's oldest carillon repeatedly resounds from Sacred Heart. We hope that its sound will not only calm and gladden human hearts, but that it will also call those who hear it to faith and Christian truth and that it will stir their spirits," reads the translation from Latin.

The carillon, a collection of 23 bells, was originally installed in 1852 in a wooden tower which the Sacred Heart have stood in front of the "Old Church." The carillon is now kept in the bell tower of the Basilica, where it chimes every 15 minutes, sounds the hour, rings for the Angelus at noon every day and plays music.

Also kept in the tower is a seven-ton great bell named St. Anthony of Padua. Originally, thick ropes supported and were responsible for swinging the enormous clapper. Although the ropes still hang from old wooden rakes, the bell is now rung electronically. It rings only a few times a year for special feasts and occasions.

A narrow, dark staircase leads from the vestible to several successive landings and crawl-spaces that were once traversed regularly for the operations of the bells. A small room on one of these landings contains a key-board that controls the carillon. Although this keyboard is still operational, a newer one is conveniently located in the sacristy. Stairs provide access all the way to the top of the tower, but the narrowness and age of the staircases inhibit the nervous visitor from exploring those highest points.

This is the last issue of The Observer for the fall semester. The Observer will resume publication on Wed., Jan. 14, 1998.
University of Nebraska scientists to build particle accelerator

LINCOLN, Neb. — Congress and two U.S. agencies have signed a $313-million promise Monday to build and operate the nation’s leading piece of scientific equipment in the world by 2005, and a team of University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty members and students will take part.

Under the agreement, the United States will invest in a new particle accelerator called the Large Hadron Collider now under construction near Geneva, Switzerland.

The Nebraska team will receive about $500,000 to create a device that measures the luminosity — the exact number of collisions per second — inside the accelerator, where collisions occur at nearly the speed of light. Snow said the measurement of about 1 billion collisions per second will form the basis for evaluating all other data scientists hope to collect from the colliders, including the existence of the Higgs boson particle.

The particle is the last missing piece in the standard model of physics and is responsible for the fact that particles have mass, Snow said. In other words, the elusive particle could help scientists understand the basis of material existence, he said.

Snow and some other Nebraska team members, physics assistant professor Dan Chen, helped discover the next-to-tiniest missing piece, called the “top quark,” in March 1995. The particle is so tiny that Chen and his experiments conducted at what is now the nation’s best particle accelerator, the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, located just outside of Chicago.

To build this new accelerator, the Nebraska team members will join about 1,500 other physicists from around the globe in working on one of two particle detectors in the new accelerator called the Compact Muon Solenoid. When complete, the detectors will each measure five stories long.

Construction costs will be about $400 million.
SMC archives open the doors of history

By MELANIE GARMAN
Saint Mary's Assistant News Editor

As the time for final papers approaches, anyone who is looking for information on a past event that has taken place on the Saint Mary's College campus, or who is doing research dealing with a previous college leader might try the archives department in the basement of the Cushway-Leighton Library.

The archives, which house memorabilia dating back to the mid-1800s, contain information on many aspects of the college, including past presidents, yearbooks, campus events, photos and copies of old handbooks. And these are only a few of the sources of information on the college’s history which can be found in the department.

In the early days of the college, each student was required to keep a diary of her daily activities and expenses, which were recorded in large notebooks. Excerpts from past student diaries dating as far back as 1847 have been found and restored.

Archivist John Kovach, who has been heading the department for close to a year and a half, has many responsibilities within the department. Before coming to Saint Mary’s, he spent the majority of his career as director of the Northern Indiana Center for History, which he credits for giving him the tools to becoming successful at Saint Mary’s.

“There is a lot of difference between running a museum and operating the archive department. However, I thoroughly enjoy the students’ interest in what we have to offer, and I am very excited to have a hand in the exhibits in the library,” said Kovach.

“The most interesting project I have worked on at Saint Mary’s was the inaugural exhibit.”

In addition to Kovach, three students are employed to work daily in the department. They are currently working on the project of collecting articles from past South Bend community theater productions that took place on the campus of Saint Mary’s.

“I enjoy going through the old playbills and notes on the plays to see how much South Bend has changed and grown,” said sophomore Brooke Brumbaugh.

The students’ jobs demand them to rewrite by hand a brief description of each play or circus they come across.

“Writing down all of the plays, which date from 1892-1920, is very exciting to be a part of,” added sophomore Bea Bandarenko.

One of Kovach’s major concerns is that students do not realize all that the department has to offer.

“Last year we had about 260 requests for archives, which we use as a gauge for the amount of advertising we need to do,” said Kovach.

“As of this past May we have had 77 inquiries for information.”

The archive department is open to the public year round and three student assistants work each weekday and three student assistants work each Saturday and three student assistants work each Sunday.

One of Kovach’s major concerns is that students do not realize all that the department has to offer.

“I still have boxes to go through filled with Saint Mary’s memorabilia, information on early commencements, and photos of past events,” he said.

Kovach has many ideas for promoting the departments, including a traveling exhibit on Sister Madeleva and a series of historical postcards and collector plates that could be sold in the bookstore.

“With the strong alumni base we have here at the college, those would be the primary people interested in the collector sets,” said Kovach.

Even with a 40-hour work week and three student assistants, Kovach feels that he still needs more time to work on all that needs to be accomplished to keep the department up to date.

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Rite of Reception of the New Bishop at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart

All are invited to welcome the newly ordained auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, December 16, 1997

Notre Dame Liturgical Choir and the Notre Dame Folk Choir will participate.

Please Come!
Gore aims for HIV Medicaid coverage

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vice President Al Gore reported today he is extremely disappointed that the Department of Health and Human Services has been unable to extend Medicaid coverage to people with HIV to provide them with AIDS-fighting drugs before they become ill. Gore, who called for the initiative last spring, said officials with people with HIV "are getting the new generation of drugs. The drugs have proved highly effective in keeping people healthy and cost about $12,000 per person per year. This administration understands the urgency of finding innovative ways to ensure that all people with HIV benefit from the promise of new and effective treatments," Gore said in a statement.

Gore cited a recent report over the weekend sharply critical of the administration's second-term health care initiatives, which it captured in the 1967 Mideast war. "I'm not hiding . . . I'm trying to do my duty," said E.M. Frech, who watched for headlines, newspaper headlines, newspaper editorials, polls or threats," she said.

But with no action to date, officials had hoped the plan would have proved highly effective in keeping people healthy and cost about $12,000 per person per year. "This administration understands the urgency of finding innovative ways to ensure that all people with HIV benefit from the promise of new and effective treatments," Gore said in a statement.

He directed officials to keep looking for new ways to ensure that all people with HIV benefit from the promise of new and effective treatments, and to continue to work with Congress to find ways to extend Medicaid coverage to people with HIV. "I'm not hiding . . . I'm trying to do my duty," said E.M. Frech, who watched for headlines, newspaper headlines, newspaper editorials, polls or threats," she said.
AN OPEN LETTER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME COMMUNITY FROM THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

We, the Committee responsible for the planning of the celebration surrounding the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, feel compelled to take this opportunity to publicly express our concerns with regard to this important and significant event. This open letter and the events which we are charged to plan are intended to awaken in our community the message of Dr. King and to encourage earnest and serious reflection on who we are as individuals and as a community in light of that message.

As a result of some of the unfortunate events which have taken place on this campus with regard to race relations and cultural sensitivity, we are frustrated. We are discouraged by the darkness that so often pervades the life of this community, especially for those among us who are of color. But we are not without hope. Our hope is rooted in the very hope of Dr. King, which was rooted in the light that dispels all darkness, that of Jesus Christ.

Even with that hope, however, we are not confident that the typical program of celebration is what this campus needs. As a committee, we do not feel as though our charge is to celebrate the life of a dead man. It is to engage and challenge a community to reflect upon the life of a man whose spirit is alive, and whose ideals will never die. We are not content to celebrate our accomplishments as a community when so much is left to be achieved; we are not content to rest on our laurels when our laurels are, at times, no more than a lifeless branch.

Nor will we surrender. For those of you who share our frustration, join with us in our hope. For those of you, regardless of skin color, who have no idea what we're talking about, join with us to learn more. For those of you committed to socio-economic justice, join with us in our work. For those of you who want to take up the challenge of justice and equality, of liberation and freedom, of solidarity and love, join with us. This is too important a moment for this community not to.

We as a committee, and please God, as a community, feel that it is time to step back, to consider who we are, and to pray. It is only with serious soul searching and with earnest desire that any of our efforts to move our community and our world will succeed. We believe that 1998 must be the year for prayer. It is the year during which each of us, in our own way, must take up the charge to live the challenge of Dr. King and of the Gospel. In the words of Dr. King, "We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly... this is the way God's universe is made; this is the way it is structured." (The last Sunday morning sermon of Dr. King delivered on Passion Sunday at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. on March 31, 1968.)

Therefore, we invite all to join with us in prayer on January 19, 1998, on the National Holiday in Commemoration of the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This prayer will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Cross located between Keenan and Stanford Halls.

It will not be the beginning nor the end of our celebration, but it will be the heart of it. Many have already honored and celebrated the memory of Dr. King by their contributions to this community. It is our hope that in 1998 many more will be encouraged and empowered to join in the quest for peace and freedom. As a committee, it is not our task alone. Please, join with us in our prayer, and in our hope, and in our work, that we might together see the Promised Land.

Sincerely,
The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee

Leticia Bajuyo  Cheryl Igiri
Jay Brandenberger  Chandra Johnson, Chair
Rodney Calhoun  Fr. Jim Lies, C.S.C.
St. Teresa Creighton, O.P.  Iris Outlaw
Tasnim Fisher  Jeffrey Ward
Christine Haley  Priscilla Wong
Marines help put on ‘Toys for Tots’

Special to The Observer

This Saturday morning, a platoon of television reporters, newsmen, and the large contingent of area firefighters and the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Office will join the United States Marine Corps effort to collect Toys For Tots 'Live' on television directly from Elkhart, Warsaw, South Bend, and Benton Harbor. "Live" television coverage will begin at 7 a.m. and continue as a theme throughout the broadcast of WNDU’s "NewsCenter 16" on Saturday morning until 10 a.m.

The three-hour television drive culminates a multiple-week public service campaign launched to encourage donations at every Toys For Tots drop-off site in Michiana and direct additional contributions to the four "live" television spots on Saturday morning. The special "live" television report will emanate from the parking lots of Wal-Mart on Commerce Drive in Warsaw, Concord Mall in Elkhart, Orchards Mall in Benton Harbor and WNDU-TV in South Bend.

The South Bend site (junction of the four) will feature church members of the Boy Scouts of America, a gospel choir, volunteer members of the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Posse on horseback, the police and Fire Departments and more. Representatives of the Marine Corps Reserve will accept new unwrapped toys while volunteers from area churches and high school choirs sing in the background.

"We're excited about Saturday morning," says Lou Harkey, director of audience development and programming for the WNDU stations. "Last year we generated 6,000 toys for 6,000 local kids when we did this. This year we will include free coffee, cocoa and donuts and lots of entertaining surprises for anyone who stops by with a toy for the Marines. And with the help of some pretty great volunteers, we expect to set a new record."
Griffin continued from page 1

Pugh, who visited Griffin during the weekend of the Notre Dame-Boston College football game on Oct. 25, said she "had nothing but good things to say" about Griffin.

"She was easy to work with, responsible, and he's always returned our calls," Pugh said.

During Pugh's stay in South Bend, she and Boston College student body president Dean Bell stayed with Griffin in his off-campus apartment. She said she, Bell and Griffin were among a group of people who went out for drinks while she was there, and that Griffin was "responsible" with his drinking.

"We've had nothing but a positive experience when dealing with Notre Dame student government," Pugh said.

Notre Dame officials have declined to comment on Griffin's effectiveness in representing the student body to the University administration. Patricia O'Hara, vice president for Student Affairs, said yesterday that she has had a long-standing policy of not evaluating the student body president's performance in that office.

I have never thought it appropriate for me to comment in any year about the students' elected leaders during the middle of their term," O'Hara said.

Joe Cassidy, director of Student Activities and advisor to the student government, also declined to give a final verdict on Griffin's ability to represent the students.

"I don't know if that's for everyone in the administration to say," Cassidy said. "During the election process [for student body president], the administration is very hands-off. It's up to the students to say, 'Here's who we want in office.'"

Cassidy did, however, offer his analysis of specific aspects of Griffin's term. Cassidy said that Griffin has had several "pretty good ideas" — including the creation of the Campus Hook-Up, student government's weekly publication that begins this semester, and the student government leadership conference — but that he sometimes "hits a snag when it comes to implementation."

"It's tough to say if he knows how much time and money it takes to pull something off," Cassidy said. "But I don't know if that's a plus or minus. He certainly works hard and puts in a lot of hours. Cassidy referred specifically to Griffin's failed efforts to get permission to sponsor the leadership conference. "The denial of the request for permission was not a result of the administration having been positive about the concept," Cassidy said. "Actually, the response from the administration has been positive about the concept, but the concern was in the timeline. It was going to take more than a few months for the conference to take off."

One item in Lingenfelter's petition criticized Griffin for his and vice president Erik Naas' absence at the first half of the student government's three-day retreat in August. Cassidy said Griffin and Naas were excused from the morning of the second day because they had to attend a transfer student orientation. Missing the first day was not excused, however, Cassidy said.

"I had a discussion with Matt and Erik that I was disappointed that they missed the first day," Cassidy said.

In a letter to the editor in yesterday's Observer, Lingenfelter said Griffin's alleged "failure to properly manage our student funds is our greatest concern about his presidency."

But Cassidy said Monday that Griffin's mistakes in handling funds on two occasions cited by Lingenfelter were simply a result of inexperience.

When Griffin sought to purchase a new computer for student government during the summer by signing his own name in place of the student treasurer's, 'he just didn't know the correct process,' Cassidy said.

"I don't think he was trying to pull something over. I think he was just naive," Cassidy, who noted that Griffin, in his position last year as junior class president, had the authority to sign for such purchases as food and drink orders.

"He wouldn't have have encountered the policies for computer purchases in any other student government position he held previously," Cassidy also said Griffin's placement of $5,000 in Student Activities fees from Saint Mary's in the incorrect account was an innocent mistake.

"Matt just didn't realize and wasn't aware what [the check] was for," Cassidy said. "I take him at his word on that."

The third and final charge of financial mismanagement against Griffin — misrepresenting to the Financial Management Board the need for $15,000 to publish the "Campus Hook-Up" — has been termed "a big lie" by student body treasurer Nerea Arrien.

"[Griffin] actually asked for less money at the allocation meeting," Arrien said last week. "We decided to give him more money so he could expand the publication from four to eight pages."
Clinton addresses Washington church, urges harmony

WASHINGTON

President Clinton told District of Columbia residents Sunday he'd dedicated to making the nation's beleaguered capital "a shining city on the hill for all America."

"I don't believe our national government has always been the best neighbor to the city of Washington," Clinton admitted, but he added: "We are committed to becoming a better neighbor."

Mayor Marion Barry said he appreciated Clinton's comments. "I think it was good he came," Barry said during his Sunday address, "because the District's black community wants to show there's a future, we blacks must not use the legacy of slavery as an excuse for perpetuating wretched conditions in Washington."

"There comes a moment in my life when I must declare liberation from my past," Hicks said. "We will not lay all of our problems at the feet of racism. Nor will we wink at mismanagement and incompetence that we have heaped upon ourselves."

Clinton did not promise new policies or tax relief for the District. He reiterated his support for local home rule and pledged closer attention to the problems of those who live in the White House's shadow.

"One of the gifts I hope I and our administration can leave for the 21st century is a national capital that is a shining city on the hill for all America."

**Correction**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 11
10:30 p.m.
@ Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel
Keough Hall (Not Friday)
**ISRAEL**

Deal ends national strike

By DAN FA LINZER
Associated Press Writer

TEL AVIV

Hard-pressed union and government negotiators struck a deal Sunday to end a nationwide worker-strike that had shut down much of Israel for five days.

The walkout by more than 600,000 workers had stranded millions of travelers at the national airport and closed banks, post offices, kindergartens and the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Histadrut union leader Amir Peretz announced Sunday that a meeting with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman provided a commitment to end the strike, leaving Israelis short of cash.

In an emotional appeal by his ex-wife of President Nelson Mandela, her volatile temper in full swing, South Africa's longest-serving prisoner was granted a retrial, with at least 14 years of his sentence likely to be overturned.

Mandela, the revered leader of the African National Congress, was convicted of volunteering to kill others in late 1988 or early 1989. But the high court in Pretoria, South Africa, on Friday ruled that the 1964 trial was invalid and the late president should be released.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Winnie Mandela denies atrocities

By TOM COHEN
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG

A defiant Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, her volatile temper flaring at times during her long-awaited testimony, denied Sunday she ordered killings or committed atrocities and dismissed allegations against her as "lunacy and lies."

"I am saying it is true, things went horribly wrong. I fully agree with that," Madikizela-Mandela said. "And for that part of those painful years, when things went horribly wrong, and we were aware of the factors that led to that, for that, I am deeply sorry."

Earlier, Commissioner Yasmin Sooka told Madikizela-Mandela, "If your evidence is to be believed today, then everyone who used that name was lying."

"Clinging the names of several of her strongest accusers, Madikizela-Mandela replied, "Yes, it is true that most of the witnesses who testified here were lying."

"The commission is investigating 18 human rights abuses — including murder and torture allegedly committed by Madikizela-Mandela and her bodyguards, known as the Mandela United Football Club."

"Ston described as "indulgent, and the worst lunacy," the charge that she ordered the death of 14-year-old Stompie Sepele in late 1988 or early 1989. And she said the allegations that she ordered her former chief bodyguard Jerry Richardson to kill others was "ridiculous.""
Griffin should stay

While the administration of student body president Matt Griffin has been less than perfect, enough concerns about the petition of recall that Griffin should not be removed from office.

To the point of the accusations made by Jeremy Lingenfelser are suspect. First, two independent observers, Student Activities director Joe Cassidy and student body treasurer Karen Arms, have said that Griffin did not sign the petition. Secondly, the ethics committee has already investigated the charges in the petition, ruling, according to Lingenfelser, that of Griffin’s actions were “inappropriate,” and verbally warned him. That was a two months ago, committee chairman A.J. Boyd has noted, that Griffin has done nothing since then to merit investigation.

Lingenfelser’s petition for recall essentially is a quest to have the degree of Griffin’s guilt be determined by a vote of 7,600. Such a scenario, however seemingly democratic, is also extremely dangerous; indeed, many students have signed the petition for recall simply because it would be “cool” to see a president ousted.

A petition to a campus-wide vote is tantamount to holding a national referendum on the O.J. Simpson case. There’s a reason that our legal system has a trial of number of juries at a trial out of the thousands; the logistics of sifting through all the evidence to arrive at an informed conclusion would be impossible. Similarly, the Student Senate and its ethics committee have made an adequate provision for the ethics question. The recent efforts of the ethics committee have already investigated the charges, and the rest of the Student Senate has had no from Ms. Griffin.

Notre Dame’s administration, however, has been less clear. Both Patricia O’Hara, vice president for Student Affairs, and Cassidy have declined to criticize or praise Griffin. But neither has said the student body is suffering because of Griffin’s representation. Until the administration does, removing Griffin on that basis is unjust.

Lastly, a recall vote four weeks before the next presidential election will place an incredible strain on the outgoing administration to accomplish its goals. The result is that student government will be less able to serve the students, the very people Lingenfelser seeks to protect.

However noble Lingenfelser’s crusade for more upstanding presidents is, his focus is not the place to fight this battle. The severity of the allegations doesn’t reach the level Lingenfelser claims; the ethics committee has already ruled on the issues, and the allegations have not been shown to date Griffin’s ability to represent students, both within University administration and with students at other schools. Griffin should remain in office.

Diversity and Spirituality Ignored

On Dec. 7, Voices of Faith, the Notre Dame gospel choir, performed “The Storm Is Passing Over Now” concert to a sparse crowd at Washington Hall. This beautiful celebration of God through music and dance was not designated by the place of vacant seats; however the intense lack of support is embarrassing. The under-attendance of this concert warrants numerous criticisms, including inadequate provision for the arts at Notre Dame (Voices of Faith raises all its own funding) as well as an absence of faculty and administrative support for student activities. However, the most glaring offense is the lack of majority support for a minority event. The meager audience was predominantly black; no doubt a high percentage of a minority population at our racially homogeneous University. Simple ratios show the empty seats as white. This lack of support clashes with the lip service the Notre Dame community pays to multiculturalism; we complain about this sea of whiteness.

Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged

Why does The Observer continue to grant so much of its front page space to the Student Senate? Surely it is a question that needs to be asked more over the past four years. The Senate’s response is nothing more than another campus organization representing an irregular group of students. The results of its weekly meetings should not be held in any higher esteem than the weekly meetings of any other group of students. In actuality, the Student Senate has had no impact on the lives of students on this campus over the four years that I have attended Notre Dame.

Naturally, the recent action by the ethics committee to “investigate” the presidency of Matt Griffin leads me to write today. This “investigation” is a farce, a sham, perpetrated by an elitist clique with no leg to stand on. I have seen allegations of incompetence and dishonesty directed toward Matt Griffin and, by association, Eric Nass and Mary Gillard. Regardless of if these allegations are consistent with the truth, and I firmly believe they are not, the Student Senate has no room to talk.

How much time has this organization wasted in the name of representing students? Do you recall the month-long fight over whether Mr. Hambleton could hold two positions as a financial manager in the Student Union? I don’t blame you if you don’t remember because you probably pay as little attention to the Student Senate as I do. Or how about when the Senate spent three weeks talking about how great Saint Mary’s College was following the letter from Mr. Sayre and Mr. Fulford? Whom has the Student Senate ever had an impact on any student’s life but the lives of their own members? I guess today we have an answer to that last question. The recent efforts of the ethics committee to “investigate” Mr. Griffin have smeared his name and, by association, the entire student government. In doing so, the committee members have satisfied their own political fantasies and once again wasted time. Instead of pointing a finger at someone else, why don’t you in the senate look at yourselves?

Matthew Barrene
Senior, Off-campus
December 7, 1997

DONESBURY

MARK TWAIN

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How much time has this organization wasted in the name of representing students? Do you recall the month-long fight over whether Mr. Hambleton could hold two positions as a financial manager in the Student Union? I don’t blame you if you don’t remember because you probably pay as little attention to the Student Senate as I do. Or how about when the Senate spent three weeks talking about how great Saint Mary’s College was following the letter from Mr. Sayre and Mr. Fulford? Whom has the Student Senate ever had an impact on any student’s life but the lives of their own members? I guess today we have an answer to that last question. The recent efforts of the ethics committee to “investigate” Mr. Griffin have smeared his name and, by association, the entire student government. In doing so, the committee members have satisfied their own political fantasies and once again wasted time. Instead of pointing a finger at someone else, why don’t you in the senate look at yourselves?

Matthew Barrene
Senior, Off-campus
December 7, 1997

"Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do. Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do."

Mark Twain
Gender Equity, Athletics and Economics at ND

The University's use of athletes for profit, as described by Isaac Ruiz, is often ignored. Ruiz accurately described the reality of interest in high profile athletes that attend Notre Dame. His point has even more significance if one takes a closer look at the social and economic motivations into which these students suddenly find themselves.

In the spring of 1993, the student body asked me to be part of the year 2000 study on gender equity. Though I didn't understand the choice, considering my academic performance, I decided to run as a member of the swimming team, I was honored with the privilege of putting together a valid report. The report was based on interviews of athletes and Athletic Department personnel and a survey given to student-athletes half of whom were athletes.

There was a clear line drawn in the description of Notre Dame ideologically in regard to their ability to generate profit. Two sports, football and men's basketball, are the only two that fall into this category. While tickets are sold for other events, in 1993 no other-sports could support their own expense.

It is necessary to interject that this distinction is not a creation of the University. Then-athletic director Dick Rosenthal persuaded to make the experience of every athlete as equal as possible. When the coaching staff was hired and the university's equality of athletes interviewed, representing various 'revenue generating' sports, it was learned that this goal had been achieved. The few exceptions seemed to be out of the University's direct control.

That's right, I did. Most athletes at the university were usually described by local and campus media with sex distinguishing adjective. I was very pleased to hear that this goal had been achieved. The few exceptions seemed to be out of the University's direct control.

Furthermore, this issue should be studied in more depth with more time and ability than was available to me in 1993. If you are interested Ruiz, I'd send you the little information I still have.

Ed Broderick '93  
editordirector@winx.net

Margaret Shaheen

Margaret Shaheen was a student at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She wrote this letter to the editor of The Daily Gazette in 1993, in response to an article by Scott Adams, a cartoonist known for his Dilbert comic strip. In the article, Adams criticized the NCAA for its policies on drug testing, particularly concerning the use of steroids and other performance-enhancing substances.

MargaretShaheen

Do you know what the candy cane stands for? I didn't until I read the day after its history and its significance. We always placed candy canes on our Christmas trees. They have a very special meaning, and are one of the oldest symbols of Christmas. It is shaped like a shepherd's crook because the shepherds were the first to experience Christmas. Also, if you turn it upside down, it is the letter J for Jesus. The colors are the colors of the Christmas spirit and mean­ing, too. The larger red stripe represents the sacrifice of Christ. "For this stripes we are healed." The smaller red stripe represents our own sacrifice giving. The white stripe is a symbol of purity. The peppermint plant is a member of the hysop family, referred to in the Old Testament as a medicina­l herb used for cleansing.

As we eat our candy cane, you might want to break it as Christ's body was broken for us, and share it with a friend. Thus, sharing the true meaning of Christmas.

Beulah Edward Vincent Courtenay, C.S.C.
Merry Christmas
from
The Observer

And Happy New Year...
Southeastern 477 passes for All-America ranked Vols to an national 5, completed 287 of possible game. The 6-and Marshall's Randy Moss - - two on pass receptions, one quarterback of former and a pair of game-breakers - this season. He had seven downs.

Manning Michigan's than jump to the NFL, for the Thundering Herd. set quarterback, said.

Simmons and cornerback Dre' Bly. The threesome helped the Ter Bulls finish with the nation's second ranked defense, behind Michigan. Ellis had 17 tackles for losses and nine sacks, while Simmons chipped in with 119 tackles and three sacks and Bly added five interceptions.

Nebraska also placed three players on the team - guard Aaron Taylor and defensive linemen Grant Wistrom and Peter. Wistrom had 17 tackles for losses, 8 1/2 sacks and forced three fumbles, while Peter had six sacks and two fumble recoveries.

Three schools — Florida State, LSU and Washington — each placed two players on the AP team.

The running backs were Bucky Williams of Texas and Curtis Enis of Penn State. Williams, despite playing for a 4-7 team, led the nation in rushing with 1,893 yards on 279 carries. He also had 25 touchdowns and led the nation in scoring with 152 points. Enis ran for 1,363 yards and 20 touchdowns. He also caught 25 passes for 215 yards.

Joining Moss at wideout was Jacquez Green, who caught 61 passes for 1,024 yards and nine TDs. The tight end was Alonzo Mayo of Oklahoma State, who missed the Cowboys' single game after sustaining a separated shoulder after catching 29 passes for 424 yards and seven TDs.

Joining Taylor along the offensive line were USF's Allan Fanana, Washington's Benji Olson and UCLA's Chad Overhauser. Kress of Washington was the center. Tim Dwight of Iowa was the all-purpose player. The 5-9, 185-pound senior, returned three punts for TDs and led the nation with a 19.4-yard average on returns. He also caught 39 passes for 653 yards and eight TDs and completed 2 of 2 passes for 86 yards and a TD.

Completing the offense was Kansas State placekicker Martin Gramatica, who hit on 19 of 20 field goals and 37 of 38 extra points.

The defense has an Atlantic Coast Conference flavor, with end Andre Wadsworth and linebacker Sam Cowart of Florida State and linebacker Anthony Simmons of Clemson joining the three Carolina players. The other Lineman is Oklahoma State's Andy Kazmierzyk.

Wodson, the classy Woodson, the Wolverines' new quarterback, said.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 550 LaFortune Rd. or 550 LaFortune Rd. at 3:15 p.m. All classifieds are posted on this page and in the following issue.

"It's the team everyone talks about and I'm proud to be part of it. Woodson, the Wolverines' quarterback/receiver/punt returner, may have been the nation's most exciting player this season. He had seven interceptions and four touchdowns — two on pass receptions, one punt return against Ohio State.

Heisman hopeful Charles Woodson surprised no one was selected to the AP All-America team yesterday.

Woodson, a quarterback, receiver, and returner, was one of the nation's most exciting players.
Temple dominates, picks up first win in new arena

Three consecutive steals led to fast-break baskets. Temple had an 8-3 lead within the first two minutes and the deficit level was given a good test from the soldout crowd of 10,205. A 30-7 run had the lead to 45-18 with 1:43 left in the first half and McGonigle Hall, the 3,900-seat former home of the Owls that still stands next door to fast-break baskets. Temple scored with ease in the first half while Fresno State struggled against the zone, committing 14 turnovers and shooting just 28 percent (8-of-29).

The Owls, who had 13 steals at halftime, turned those 14 turnovers into 25 points. Brokenborough and Stewart each had 10 points at halftime, many on ahead-of-the-field layups and dunks off steals by the zone. Alston, Fresno State’s point guard, went scoreless in the first half, missing three shots, and had six turnovers. The Owls’ biggest lead of the second half was 68-35 with 8:29 to play. The Bulldogs closed the game with an 18-3 run as the noise level evened off in a ragged second half.

In a ceremony before the game, the center circle was named in honor current Temple coach John Chaney and longtime Owls coach and Basketball Hall of Famer Harry Litwack. The only flaw on opening night was a small fire in the overhead scoreboard after some pregame fireworks. The string that was on fire burned for two or three minutes before petering out.

Northern Iowa 84, Iowa 78

Chris Burdine scored 17 points and Northern Iowa used a pesky man-to-man defense to defeat No. 19 Iowa 84-78 on Tuesday night, the Hawkeyes’ first loss in seven games. Darrian DeVries scored with 13 points and Tyjuan Finley 14 for Northern Iowa (4-1), which had lost seven straight and nine of 11 to Iowa. Ryan Bowen scored 17 points, Ricky Davis 16 and Darryl Moore 12 for Iowa, which had been averaging 95 points a game and winning by an average margin of 35 points before playing its first road game.

Northern Iowa grabbed a 41-36 lead at the half — the largest margin by either team — during which there were 11 lead changes. Finley scored Northern Iowa’s first two baskets of the second half, keying a 9-0 spurt that pushed the Panthers’ lead to 50-36 with 16:19 remaining. A bank shot by Finley with 8:23 gave Northern Iowa its biggest lead at 64-46 before Iowa rallied.

Bowe scored seven points in a 16-6 spurt that brought the Hawkeyes back to 70-62 with 3:41 remaining. Davis’ two free throws a little more than two minutes later chopped the deficit to 76-71.

Burdine made one of two free throws, and Brian Fleying rebounded the miss and hit two free throws after being fouled by Dean Oliver for a 79-71 edge with 1:07 left.

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Nebraska's Osborne may retire after Huskers' bowl appearance

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — The buzz across Nebraska this week is that Tom Osborne doesn't have too many more coaching milestones to pass and he's had some trouble with an irregular heartbeat. This fall, he decided it's time to retire. Right?

"Then I'll talk to you, and you're not going to hear it from me until I do that," he said.

Coaches and officials swirled in barber shops and internet chat rooms after Nebraska's 54-15 victory over Texas A&M on Saturday in the Big 12 championship. The unconfirmed word was that Osborne was expected to announce his retirement Tuesday, handing the reins to assistant Frank Solich.

Osborne, who has spent 25 seasons as coach, reached his 250th career victory on Nov. 1 with a 69-7 defeat of Oklahoma. He insists he's not going to retire. Right?

"I wanted to be actively involved, and the last couple of weeks I've joked about walking away, but I just don't think that's a good condition to have. So that's all I wanted to be. I fell in love with this football and fell in love with coaching and this is the way I wanted to do it," Osborne said Tuesday.

Nebraska's 77-14 victory over Iowa State on Nov. 15, Osborne was hospitalized overnight for tests related to an irregular heartbeat.

Osborne has repeatedly insisted he's fine. On Tuesday, he even offered reporters a medical briefing on what's been diagnosed — and what he tried to do in our profession. It's a profession of love, and I feel that I could crank it up and go another 50 years and get it right.

He smiled, and after the laughter subsided, Robinson again turned serious about his retirement.

"I wanted to coach ever since I was in the third grade, and I make no bones about it. I wanted to do what I do was coaching," he added. "That's all you want to be? A coach?" But that's all I wanted to be. I fell in love with this football and fell in love with coaching and this is the way I wanted to do it."

According to Blackstone's Gould Medical Dictionary, an atrial fibrillation patient usually has varied heartbeats from 60 to 180 beats per minute. The beating is "grossly irregular in intensity and rhythm.

Osborne said he still works out — running or lifting weights — about 30 minutes daily. A few weeks ago, he told the media he was fine. Right?

"I'm OK at the present time," Osborne said Tuesday.

\[PW\]

Former Grambling head coach, Eddie Robinson, is the all-time winningest coach in college football history.

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This process will take approximately 30 minutes and will take place at the Bayer Corporation location in Elkhart.

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*If you are interested in participating in this study, please call Shannon Gleason at 262-6578 for more information.*
Michael Jordan became the third-leading scorer in NBA history Tuesday night, scoring 29 points to lead the Chicago Bulls to a 100-82 victory over the slumping New York Knicks.

Toni Kukoc added 20 points, going 4-for-4 from 3-point range and 6-for-6 overall, in helping the Bulls to their first four-game winning streak this season.

Patrick Ewing scored 22 points for the Knicks, who shot 36 percent in losing for the fifth time in their last seven games. New York has lost five straight on the road.

Jordan, the NBA's nine-time scoring leader, has scored 27,432 points in 867 games over 13 seasons. He moved past Moses Malone, who scored 27,409 points in 1,045 games during his 19-year career.

Jordan's 31.6-point average is the league's best ever. Only Wilt Chamberlain (31,419) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (38,387) had more points than Jordan, who said he'll probably retire at season's end because coach Phil Jackson is being squeezed out by management.

Jordan was involved in an altercation with 2:52 to go that resulted in the ejection of Knicks guard Chris Childs.

As New York's Charlie Ward made a 3-pointer, Jordan and Childs battled for rebounding position. Jordan elbowed Childs in the head. Childs threw the basketball at Jordan and the two exchanged chest bumps and words.

Each was assessed a technical foul, and Childs had to leave because it was his second of the night.

Jordan missed his first three shots but then made four straight to move two points ahead of Malone. He had three consecutive baskets as the Bulls finished the first quarter with a 12-3 run to take a 26-18 lead, and the Knicks never pulled closer than eight the rest of the way.

New York had a chance to get within six with eight minutes left, but John Starks missed a 3-pointer and the Bulls used a 7-2 spurt, capped by Jordan's five points, to go up 82-68.
By MATT YUNG
Sports Writer

Last Thursday through Friday at the Notre Dame Invitational, the Irish men’s swimming and diving team added another merit to its already accomplished season. The men decisively won the four-team meet, scoring 889 points to finish ahead of Syracuse (779), Ohio University (617), and University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee (109).

The first day of action started with a bang. Syracuse set two new pool records (Dan Karlson, 200 individual medley in 1:21.44; and the 400 medley relay in 3:23.66), but was unable to stop Notre Dame’s talented attack. Notre Dame’s 200 freestyle relay raced off and brought back the first place finish in 1:24.56. Sophomore diver Herb Husman hit his cue, chipping in a valuable win in the one-meter dive. The day ended with Notre Dame holding a strong 317-211 lead over second place Syracuse.

Friday was another strong day for the Irish. Husman continued to dominate the diving board, easily winning the one-meter dive and the three-meter dive with 552.8 points. Sophomore Antonio Fonseca turned heads with his winning 57.28-second performance in the 100-meter breaststroke. Notre Dame’s seventh fastest in history. Scott Zumbach and Ray Fitzpatrick recorded second place finishes in the 400 individual medley and 200 freestyle, allowing the Irishbreathing and a comfortable lead.

Saturday’s three Irish victories showed that the team saved its best performances for last. Zumbach fiercely competed in the 200 butterfly and was rewarded with a split-second win in 1:51.69, the ninth fastest time by any Notre Dame swimmer.

Freshman Dan Szilier lived up to his reputation as “The Money-Man,” recording the eighth fastest Irish 200 breaststroke and a 2:05.07 win. To seal the deal, the Irish 400 freestyle relay swam four tough legs before touching the wall first.

The Notre Dame Invitationals’s results bode well for the team’s tournament in mid-January at Milwaukee and mid-February home dual against UW-Milwaukee. With the first half of the season nearly over, the Irish have shown that they are a force to be reckoned with and have set the stage for a much improved record from last year’s 6-8 showing.

With four dual wins, two first place tournament finishes, and a single loss, the Irish feel confident in their chances for continued success and seem undaunted by the opposition.

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**Men swim to victory at Notre Dame Invitational**

Notre Dame’s impressive performance at the ND Invitational led the Irish to decisive wins over Syracuse, Ohio, and University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

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Free-agent Boggs headed to expansion Devil Rays

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - It won't be enough for Wade Boggs to get 3,000 hits. He still has a hunger for winning.

The free agent third baseman agreed Tuesday to a one-year contract with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, saying he's as intent on helping the expansion team as he is on achieving a personal milestone.

"I've come here to help an organization on a commitment to win," he said. "I've won a World Series. I know what it takes to win. ... I've been on losing teams, too, and it's no fun."

Boggs, 39, will start his 17th major league season needing 200 hits to reach 3,000 for his career. He overcame a slow start to hit .292 in 103 games for the New York Yankees in 1997.

After making $2 million last year, Boggs' contract with the Devil Rays calls for a base salary of $500,000 in 1998 with a club option for 1999 at $750,000 with a $250,000 buyout.

The option year becomes guaranteed if Boggs makes 300 plate appearances next season. He can earn up to $750,000 in performance bonuses: $250,000 for 400 plate appearances and $50,000 for each 10 plate appearances after that up to 500.

Despite his age, the Devil Rays view him as an everyday player. And so does Boggs.

"I had some contact lens problems in the beginning of May and that sort of led to my demise. I was hitting .234 at the All-Star game, sat on the couch for three days and said to myself, 'I don't like what I'm seeing.'"

He corrected his vision by changing the strength of his contacts, and hit .374 the remainder of the year to raise his average to .292. It was only the second time in his career that he finished below .300.

Still, after being a regular for 11 seasons with the Boston Red Sox and most of the five years he spent with the Yankees, Boggs had difficulty adjusting to a role as a pinch hitter.

"I was sort of sequestered to the bench for a portion of the season," he said. "It was sort of ironic that I spent 15 years of playing in pain. And last year, I was pain-free and sitting on the bench. There was something wrong with that scenario."

The .331 career hitter was the fourth free agent signed by the Devil Rays in six days.

Tampa Bay got pitcher Wilson Alvarez ($35 million for five years) and outfielder Dave Martinez ($3.75 million for two years) last week, then added designated hitter Paul Sorrento ($55.25 million for two years) on Monday. And as with each of those signings, as well as the acquisition of closer Roberto Hernandez ($22.5 million for four years), the desire to live year-round in the Tampa Bay area was a factor.

"This is a special day in my career because I get to come home," Boggs said.

"I've spent 21 years in professional baseball — 16 on the big-league level — and done a lot of traveling, packed a lot of UPS boxes, along with my wife, and I felt it was time to come home."

While Boggs' contract includes a club option for a second season, he and the Devil Rays would be tickled if he hits well enough to get 3,000 hits by the end of 1997.

"I don't think it'll take that long. I need 200 more, and the countdown's on," he said.

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Irish win exhibition behind Friel’s hot shooting

By JOE CAVATO
Assistant Sports Editor

Christmas came early for Notre Dame fans at the Joyce Center last night. The Irish connected on 14 three-pointers and a first-half they dialed long distance the cheerleaders tossed 1-shirt into the gleeful crowd.

Coach John MacLeod’s team hosted a team sponsored by Marathon Oil in an exhibition contest that was used to count in the record books.

Antoni Wyche said.

“Antoni Wyche had eight of his nine nine-pointers, had eight of his nine points in the second half and Shannon Heavey had eight of his 11 points in the second.

“We’ll have some situations where Pat is in foul trouble on maybe injured, and Phil and I are going to be the leaders next year.”

Irish attack slowed down and the same way he did the first, as the ferocious pace of the offensive three he finally cooled off.

Pat Garrity hit his three field from the field and 4-of-7 from three point land.

Having been as elusive as bowl games that trend and bounce back

“Two of our first two road games and we needed to break that trend and bounce back against Pittsburgh,” Wyche said. “That gave us a lot of confidence and we have a couple of games over break and hopefully it will carry over to our next Big East game against St. John’s.”

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Irish prepare for Wisconsin Home-away series with the Badgers

By CHARLEY GATES
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame hockey team (8-6-2 overall, 5-5-2 CCHA) travels to Wisconsin tonight for a non-Central Collegiate Hockey Association contest. The teams return to the Joyce Center for a 7 p.m. game on Friday night.

"In the past we have fared well in non-conference games," stated head coach Dave Poulin. Indeed they have. Already this season, Notre Dame has defeated national powerhouses St. Cloud State and Michigan State. They also played Boston College dead even before eventually losing.

"You're always trying to get better," commented Poulin. "So when we schedule these non-CCHA games, we want to play the best teams in the country. We want to go and play in hostile environments, because that's how you improve. These games are a good test for us." Wisconsin, which was ranked as high as No. 8 nationally, will definitely challenge Poulin's Boys of Winter.

Following this two game set, Notre Dame has a 15-day layoff, not returning to action until Dec. 27 against Northeastern. They do not return to CCHA action until Jan. 2, when they play Miami University.

Two big reasons for Notre Dame's success so far lie in the stellar play of two of its forwards: junior Aniket Dhadphale and sophomore Ben Simon.

Dhadphale has converted on 78 percent of his shots (an average of one goal per 3.6 shots on goal). With 10 goals already this season, he has already doubled his goal total from last year. He stands in second in the CCHA for goals scored, trailing only Michigan's Bill Muckalt, who has 14.

Simon has been Mr. Consistency for the Irish this season. He has recorded at least one point in 12 of the Notre Dame's last 13 games. With 16 points, he leads the Irish and stands seventh in the CCHA.

Simon's seven goals are nearly double his total from last year (4 goals), and his three power-play goals equal his freshman year total, while his two short-handed ones equal Notre Dame's team total for all of 1996-97.
John Feerick, dean of Fordham Law School, said Tuesday that some players may boycott the NBA All-Star game or the World Championships in Greece if the league doesn’t ease the punishment.

"I think I’d have great support for a boycott," Barkley said. "I’ve talked with several players about it. … If we don’t make a stand, it’s going to be bad."

Barkley declined to name the players he contacted. The attack not only rippled across the NBA and all of sports but sparked a national debate over sportsmanship, role models and authority figures.

Telford and Billy Hunter, executive director of the National Basketball Players Association, said at the news conference that race was not a factor in the attack, although the agent had hinted over the weekend that he thought it may have played a role.

Sprewell, who gave no details before talking to Carlesimo privately, "I am a good person and I’ve never had any situation like this come up before," the 27-year-old Sprewell said. "I feel 10 years of hard work shouldn’t be taken away for one mistake. My career didn’t happen overnight and I don’t feel it should be taken away overnight.

“I know this conduct is not acceptable in society and professional sports. I accept responsibility for what I’ve done," he said. Sprewell had called Carlesimo on Sunday to apologize for choking and threatening to kill him during practice Dec. 1. Sprewell said he didn’t have any situation like this before.

Star guard, was fired by the Portland Trail Blazers. Sprewell himself said he never had any situation like this before. "I’ve always done my best to control my temper and I don’t feel it should be taken away overnight."

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The final drug suspension in league history.

The players’ union has filed grievances against the NBA and the Warriors, arguing the penalties were excessive. And Sprewell himself said he never got a chance to tell his side of the story, a point the NBA disputes. The case will be heard no sooner than Jan. 4 by arbitrator John Feerick, dean of Fordham Law School.

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Irish face the No. 4 Badgers in NCAA regionals

By BILL HART
Sports Writer

While most students are busy preparing for final exams and Christmas break, the members of Notre Dame’s volleyball team have their eyes on advancing further in the NCAA Central Regional action, set to begin this weekend in Madison, Wisc.

However, standing in the path of the Irish in the regional semifinals are the fourth-ranked Wisconsin Badgers, one of the most surprising teams in Division I volleyball this year.

Currently 29-2 on the season, the Badgers advanced to the regional after posting a three-game win over Central Florida. Wisconsin was one of only eight teams to receive a bye in the first round. They earned a share of the Big Ten conference title after splitting two matches against current No. 1 seed Penn State.

“I think we’ll have a chance to prepare this week and when we have a chance to prepare, we do a real good job,” Wisconsin head coach John Cook said about the upcoming match. “I know Notre Dame will probably be pretty motivated when they come in here. When you get down to the final 16 teams in the NCAA tournament, it’s going to be war ball every point.”

In its win over Central Florida, Wisconsin used its height to dominate, hitting .313 percent and tallying 54 kills compared to a .174 hitting percentage and 44 kills for the Golden Knights. Kelly Kennedy, a 6-4 middle blocker, tied for match-high honors with 15 kills while the Badgers’ Amy Lee and Kate Fitzgerald each put down 11 kills. Kennedy led all blockers with night stuffs, including one solo, as Wisconsin outblocked Central Florida, 11-5.

“They have a few players which are key to their team,” head coach Debbie Brown remarked about the Badgers. “Amy Lee is one of their ‘go-to’ people who’s very effective. She took a lot of swings at us early in the season. Kennedy, the middle blocker, is also very important to their team.”

Notre Dame is making its fourth appearance in the NCAA regional, after upsetting No. 18 Arkansas on Saturday in four games, 9-15, 15-7, 15-10, 16-14. The Irish are the only unranked team to advance to the Sweet 16, and join No. 25 Ohio State as the only team to win both its first and second round matches on the road.

In the win against the Razorbacks, the team was led by senior hitters Angie Harris and Jaimie Lee, who each had 19 kills. Over the last five games, Lee has tallied 100 kills for the Irish. Sophomore Mary Lefflers scored 15 kills in another fine performance, while junior Lindsay Treadwell had 13 kills on a team-best .321 hitting.

Wisconsin and Notre Dame faced each other early on in the championship match of the Shamrock Invitational on Aug. 30. In that contest, the Badgers managed to defeat the Irish in four games, 10-15, 15-11, 4-15, 11-15. Senior hitter Jaimie Lee made a surprise appearance midway through the second game of the match, after returning directly from the World University Games in Sicily.

“Our offense was not good at all that match,” Brown commented. “I think that if we improve our offense this weekend, and neutralize some of their key players, we should have a good chance.”

Over the space of the next nine days, Notre Dame would face the other two teams in the Central Region, Washington State and Florida. The weekend after the match against Wisconsin, WSU defeated the Irish in three games during the “Spikeoff Spokane,” the site of this year’s volleyball Final Four. Less than two days later, the squad dropped another match to the then-No. 2 Gators, by a score of 7-15, 12-10, 6-15, 3-15.

However, the Irish are a much improved team, having won 12 of their last 14 matches. After going a perfect 11-0 in conference play, Notre Dame claimed its third consecutive conference title by winning the Big East Tournament. But, Brown believes that Wisconsin will be improved as well.

“I think it would be pretty rare if a team has gone through an entire season and not improved by much,” Brown said. “We’ve analyzed our match against Arkansas, though, because we feel that that match will be what they will focus on when preparing for us. So, we know what they will expect.”

The Central Regional’s first match will be between No. 6 Florida and No. 11 Washington at 3 p.m. central time on Dec. 13. Depending on the length of the match, the clash between the Irish and the Badgers will start approximately at 5 p.m.