Alumni Association honors students

By NICK SWEEDO
News Writer

Notre Dame undergraduate student Brett Perkins and graduate student April Langley were recently chosen as the recipients of the 2003 Alumni Association Distinguished Student awards.

The Alumni Association annually awards two students who best exemplify the spirit of Notre Dame through community service and academic excellence.

"We are blessed to have two people who exemplify many students at Notre Dame in what they do for the community, in the classroom and for fellow Notre Dame students," said Chuck Lennon, the Executive Director of the Alumni Association.

"They are truly great representatives of what the Alumni Association tries to do with this award, that is, honoring two great young people," Lennon added.

Perkins is a senior finance major and theology minor. In addition to his studies, he is president of the handbell choir, vice-president of Beta Gamma Sigma, a resident assistant of Keough Hall and a student coordinator of the NDE retreats. He also actively participates in the Knights of Columbus chapter, Celebration Choir and the RCIA (Right of Christian Initiation of Adults).

Perkins said time management was the key to balancing his many activities.

"I remember what my freshman chemistry teacher, Dr. Rudy Bottel, told our class. He told us to make use of 'prime-time' hours from nine to five, so I try to take advantage of that. That usually leaves the evenings open for extra-curricular activities," he said.

"Throughout my hectic schedule, I always try to keep the focus on God, always remembering that there's a greater meaning in everything I do and that everything I do helps strengthen the kingdom of God."

After graduation, Perkins will work in Chicago for Arthur Andersen as a business consultant.

Langley is currently working on her doctoral thesis in English and has a 4.0 GPA. She has taught freshman composition at Notre Dame and has been an active member of the Academic Affairs committee, presented a resolution regarding the formation of the bookstore academic committee.

Rossmann, Smith tickets elected; class of 2004 faces run-off election at ND

By JASON McFARLEY
Assistant News Editor

Winning tickets from the classes of 2002 and 2003 necesitated big victories in Wednesday's class council primary while the election set up a runoff between two tickets on the 2004 ballot.

The Peter Rossmann ticket captured 63 percent of the 2002 vote to comfortably defeat the Becky Hagelin ticket 461-252. In the 2003 race, Matt Smith's ticket carried more than 66 percent of votes on its way to an easy 629-297 win over the Son Nguyen ticket.

In the 2004 contest, which featured seven tickets, the Keri Oxlery ticket emerged the clear favorite — leading its nearest challenger by nearly 300 votes — but failed to receive a majority of the 1,140 cast ballots. The Oxlery ticket's 469 votes asserted it as the top contender for the class of 2004.
INSIDE COLUMN

Hanging Up

I had a two-minute phone conversation tonight. Actually, when I really sit down and think about it, I probably had a two-minute phone conversation every day this week. Admittedly, it's hardly something I reach out and touch someone—in fact, it's even an adequate time for a healthy hello and goodbye. I could justify it if my phone were broken or my bill was too high, but sadly, the reason my conversations are so short is me.

A two-minute phone conversation is not a mortal sin, in fact, most of us have one every day. We use them to call up to friends' dorm rooms to let them know we're waiting outside, to make 10 times to meet in the dining hall. We use them to make appointments; we use them to confirm plans for Heartland and Senior Ball.

But where that two-minute phone conversation consists of your entire relationship, it can start to feel like a mortal sin. Admittedly, it's hardly a dream, and touch one every day. We use phone conversations every day this week. Phone conversations every day this week. Phone conversations every day this week. Phone conversations every day this week. Phone conversations every day this week. Phone conversations every day this week.

INSIDE COLUMN

Penn State president defends Sex Faire events

HARRISBURG

Several state representatives joined the crusade against sexually explicit student events Tuesday at Pennsylvania State University's House of Representatives Committee hearings. As promised, state Rep. John Lawless played a five-minute video excerpted from one made at the student-run Sex Faire earlier this month. He repeated his statements that Penn State should be proud of being for failure to be "morals." Lawyers grilled Penn State President Graham Spanier in a four-hour session, broken only by a quick segment for the stenographer. Discussion was about the appropriateness of the sexually provocative events sponsored by Winor's Concerns. Spanier again apologized for comments of the university but said the university was committed to free speech. Rep. Samuel Rohrer asked Spanier if he thought the programs were "wrong" or "immoral." Spanier refused to make a statement denouncing the entire Sex Faire, Lawless called him "evasive" and "Chainsaw." In one volley, Lawless said he was insulted by a Penn State student who made fun of his facial disfigurement in an e-mail message. Spanier responded has not had an e-mail the student had sent to Spanier complaining of a threatening call from Lawless.

The House proceedings were a contrast to the civil Senate committee hearing Monday, which focused most heavily on how Penn State spends taxpayer money.

As the summer approaches, the state legislature will finalize the budget, and Penn State will bear its final answer on appropriatons for 2001-2002.

In answering the committee's questions, Spanier said the university's responses are to meet the right balance between community standards and free speech.
Body Image Week continues with anorexia discussion

By BIRGIT HEINISCH
News Writer

Offering support to those suffering and those helping their friends through the disorder, counselors and students joined together Wednesday evening to speak out on anorexia. The discussion is a continuation of Body Awareness Week.

"Bottom line is that there are different ways to cope with problems. Anorexia is one maladaptive way," said Susan Albers, a counselor at the University Counseling Center.

Anorexia is "like an iceberg," said Albers. "You can see the physical binging and purging but there are many underlying symptoms that you cannot see." Physical and behavioral symptoms such as frenetic exercising and mood swings are visible, but there are many psychological symptoms beneath.

"Control is a big thing with eating disorders. There was a correlation between stress and eating for me," said Darcy McLaughlin, a former sufferer of anorexia.

Anorexia is a serious eating disorder. Every year, "10 percent to 20 percent of people who have anorexia will die," said Albers.

For this reason, Albers stresses the importance for friends to step into the situation. As a friend, it is necessary to be sympathetic. One must know "how much shame, how much pain goes along with the disorder," said Albers.

It is important to approach your friend as soon as possible. "Stop being silent," said Jessica Johnstone, a student. There are several steps to take and certain techniques to apply. First, "structure an intervention," said Albers.

Decide who should talk with the friend and plan for an appropriate time to meet. Also prepare by practicing how to confront your friend. This allows you to "identify rough spots and to notice how you're coming across," said Albers.

When trying to address this issue with a friend, the most important thing is to not comment on physical appearance. Comments about being healthy or about being too thin are usually interpreted as something different. Sufferers of anorexia "manipulate anything about appearance (as a reason) to continue the disorder," said McLaughlin.

"One may inadvertently reinforce the disruptive behavior (through commenting on physical appearance)," said Albers. Instead, focus the discussion on progress in mood. A person suffering from anorexia can relate the better emotional feeling with true health and feeling good rather than with physical health and appearance.

Putting the focus on positive traits improves self-esteem, which will lead to more success with the disorder, panelists said.

Other strategies include using "I statements." When discussing anorexia, a friend is important to list behaviors which are causing concerns to those friends. Having resources and additional help, such as a counselor, a rector or parents are key elements as well.

Commenting on an anorexia's food consumption can lead to them becoming less open. The opposite effect is being achieved; their behavior is more secretive, panelists said.

One should "let them eat as much as they eat," said McLaughlin. "Avoid the hover and smoother method," said Albers.

As a friend, it is good to prepare for many responses and to be patient. A person suffering from the anorexia could admit having the disorder or become defensive and ashamed.

It is important not to argue and instead be comforting. One approach is to say, "I'll approach you again because I'm concerned," said Albers. There is always the chance that one's expectations are wrong, yet voicing concerns are still significant.

"Yes, I was angry at first [at being confronted by my teacher and friends, but now I appreciate that they approached me]," said McLaughlin.

On campus, it is important to realize that we "live in a competitive environment," said Johnstone. There is a need to live up to others' or one's own expectations.

Yet, perfection should not be striven for. With help from friends battle against anorexia can be won.

Through self-awareness and determination, a sufferer of anorexia can "realize that anorexia is not a comfort but just an escape from reality," said McLaughlin.
Nicole Preucil, elections commissioner. "At the same time, I think a low turnout could be typical in run-off elections."

Fifty-two percent of the class of 2002 voted; 4 percent lower than Monday's turnout could be typical in run-off elections," said Nicole Preucil, elections commissioner. "At the same time, I think a low turnout could be typical in run-off elections."

Fifty-two percent of the class of 2002 voted; 4 percent lower than Monday's.
WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Cops arrest shooting suspect: Mexico City authorities said Wednesday they have arrested a suspect in the shooting death of Cuban official Boris Valdez Lopez. The district attorney’s office accused Rafael Hernandez Espinosa, 21, in the Feb. 15, carjacking attempt near the Cuban Embassy. It also said he had confessed to taking part. Police charge that Hernandez was one of three people who ambushed the car.

Pilgrims make journey to Mecca: Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from around the world made their way toward the holy city of Mecca Wednesday ahead of the Hajj, or annual Muslim pilgrimage. To prepare for the pilgrims’ arrival and their four-day stay in Mecca, Saudi Arabia has mobilized all its facilities, dispatching security forces, medical teams and guides.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Ashcroft meets with lawmakers: One day after President Bush told him to bring an end to racial profiling by police, Attorney General John Ashcroft met Wednesday with black lawmakers who had opposed him as head of the Justice Department. "It was a frank and candid exchange," Ashcroft said afterward. Racial profiling is the practice by police of considering a person’s race or ethnicity in detailing suspects or making traffic stops.

Panel unhappy with FBI answers: Confronting the FBI director about an agent accused of spying for Moscow for 15 years, the Senate Intelligence Committee chairman said Wednesday his panel remained unsatisfied with explanations of a "very, very grave" espionage case. An assessment will show "a lot of damage" by accused spy Robert Philip Hanssen, a 25-year FBI counterintelligence agent, said the chairman, Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala.

INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

South Bend resident gets permit to leave Israel: A naturalized U.S. citizen who was not allowed to leave the West Bank could not be reached for comment immediately. Her husband, Joseph Araman, said he was anxious for his wife and 4-year-old daughter, Sarah, to return home. "I will not trust it is true until they land in Chicago," he said. "Because they can change their tune any time they want to. I don’t trust them."

Earthquake shakes Seattle, 25 injured

Associated Press

SEATTLE

A powerful earthquake rocked the Northwest on Wednesday, shattering windows, sending terrified crowds running into the streets of Seattle and Portland, Ore. At least 25 people were injured, none critically.

The strongest quake to hit Washington state in 52 years temporarily shut down the Seattle airport, knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of people, cracked the dome atop the state Capitol in Olympia and briefly trapped about 30 people atop a swaying Space Needle in Seattle.

"Everyone was panicking," said Paulette Deboy, who scrambled onto a fire escape in a Seattle office building. The magnitude-6.8 quake hit at 10:55 a.m. and was centered 35 miles southwest of Seattle, according to the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo.

Experts said its depth — in a fault about 30 miles underground — spared the Northwest a major shaking. Damage was relatively light in the highly developed region with more than 3 million residents. In recent years, millions of dollars have been spent to remodel schools, buildings and highways to protect against earthquakes.

Still, the quake was felt in Vancouver and other parts of British Columbia and in southern Oregon, 306 miles away. Buildings in downtown Portland, 140 miles from the epicenter, swayed for nearly a half-minute and crowds gathered on streets corners to talk about the quake.

Officials also evacuated the city’s courthouse.

BRITAIN

Law seeks to ban terrorism groups

Associated Press

LONDON

Acting under a tough new anti-terror law, Britain on Wednesday announced plans to ban 21 radical groups, including the organization of Saudi exile Osama bin Laden.

Many of the groups have no organized presence in Britain.

The new anti-terror measure, which took effect Feb. 19, empowers Britain to ban groups that commit violence abroad and to crack down on supporters who channel funds and recruits to terrorist organizations. Authorities had been expected to quickly make use of the new provisions.

The bans still need the approval of lawmakers.

The government’s proposed list includes Greece’s November 17, which has killed 22 people since 1975, targeting intelligence officials and diplomats; bin Laden’s organization, al-Qaeda, which has been linked to a range of terror attacks including the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in east Africa; and Abu Nidal, a group blamed for killing more than 300 people since 1973.

It also lists several groups seeking independent homelands, including ETA, which has killed 800 people in its 32-year quest for a Basque homeland independent from Spain; the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam of Sri Lanka; and the Kurdistan Workers’ Party in Turkey.

Also on the list are the Mujahedeen Khalq, which seeks to overthrow Iran’s Islamic government.
Welsh hosts Johnson to speak on women, cultural prayer

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Christian women pray much differently than do men, based on their upbringing and societal roles, according to Chandra Johnson.

Johnson, assistant to the University president, led a discussion on Wednesday night in Welsh Family Hall entitled "The Many Voices of Prayer: A Cultural Experience." Johnson spoke to the all-female audience about the experiences of women in Scripture and the ways women today can apply them in their lives.

"Steeped within our being the voice is there and is audible regardless of the predicament," Chandra Johnson, assistant to the University president, said.

"Steeped within our being the voice is there and is audible regardless of the predicament. Don't discount that sense of right, that peacefulness, that well spring of grace inside of you," said Johnson.

She then compared God to an inner strength she encounters even in the midst of pain and suffering.

Johnson specifically cited the stories of Hagar and Mary as examples of women in the Bible interacting with God.

"These two women prayed as a result of a life change, as a result of wanting to find God," she said.

Both Biblical figures were faced with immense challenges but remained strong and "used their own particular faith in a way that gives a glimpse as to what struggles were experienced then and how to interact with God on a daily basis."

The audience all-female experiences of women in Scripture and the ways women today can apply them in their lives.

As a woman, Johnson said she often feels "wired to take care of other people. Who, though, takes care of me?"

She finds comfort through prayer and reflection on God's relationship with women.

"There is no predicament too difficult that God can't enter in and show us the glory inside of ourselves," she said.

She urged women to recognize and take time out from the distractions in their lives to interact with God on a daily basis.

"Getting Through Sundays," a poem by University of Notre Dame poet Sonia Gernen, will be featured Saturday on The Writer's Almanac, a public radio program distributed nationwide by Public Radio International. The program featuring Gernen will be broadcast locally at 8:30 a.m. Saturday on WVPE-FM (88.1) and also can be accessed on the web at http://almanac.mpr.org/Gernen is a professor of English and the director of Notre Dame's Creative Writing Program.

English prof's poem to be read on radio
By HILARY BURNS
News Writer

Notre Dame has the opportunity to place itself on the bioethical map this weekend by hosting two international events — the Third National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference and the inaugural meeting of the Undergraduate Bioethics Organization.

"I hope this weekend will be a unique opportunity for students from within ND and visitors to interact and discuss contemporary bioethical issues that will be affecting our futures," said Heather Kuhlenschmidt. Kuhlenschmidt, a Notre Dame junior, is executive co-chair of the conference, along with fellow classmate Mike Mann.

There are approximately 200 people registered to participate in the conference. Their home countries range from Ghana and Australia, to the United Kingdom and Canada, according to Mann.

"We open up our campus to all participants as a place for open and respectful dialogue where ideas from different cultures, disciplines, nationalities and religions are encouraged," said Mann.

The objectives of the conference are to consider the purpose of bioethics and its role in the world, to give more cohesion to a topic which is often fragmented into individual issues, to emphasize the importance of increased interdisciplinary dialogue and to raise a sense of social responsibility within students towards these issues.

"[I also hope this weekend will create awareness about discrimination issues and the need for equal representation, which are bioethics issues that too often fall under the traditional definition of bioethics," said Mann.

The coordinators of this year's conference were among the 300 or so students from around the world who attended the second annual conference last year at the University of Virginia.

Last year's experience was twofold in purpose for Kuhlenschmidt. "It gave me the opportunity to discuss the contemporary issues with students who have a broad range of educational and religious affiliations. But it was also a bonding experience for many of the people involved in the planning of this year's conference," said Kuhlenschmidt.

The Second National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference was also where Mike Mann and Anne Cooper of Notre Dame, Jayme Dowdall from Boston University and Adrian Vries from the University of Toronto met and became motivated to found ISBI.

"At the conference, it was exciting to see the enthusiasm of the students in attendance," said Cooper. "It seemed a shame to go back to our campuses and lose the enthusiasm until the next conference.

"So, we began to think of a way to maintain the momentum and came up with plans to form this organization," four bioethicists agreed.

ISBI's intent is to be an international student organization that is unaffiliated with individual colleges and universities. It will serve to connect students across the globe in order to encourage educational, communication, activism and leadership in the field of bioethics.

Further information about ISBI will be revealed at its inaugural meeting following the conference's closing banquet, said Mann.

The ISBI meeting is independent of the conference, but it is being held at Notre Dame this weekend because it was an opportunity where students interested in bioethics would already be together, said Kuhlenschmidt.

Many students, including the founders of ISBI, will be participating in both events.

"I expect to participate in a great dialogue of future leaders. Undergraduates have a lot to contribute to bioethical discourse," said Vries. "As the future physicians, lawyers and public policy makers of the first half of the 21st century, initiatives such as the Annual Undergraduate Bioethics Conference and ISBI are great opportunities for these individuals to sharpen their interest and expand their knowledge.

This year's conference is divided into half-day sessions. The List of bioethics, the human genome project, care for the dying and international bioethics, will be a source of topics.

Each of these sessions will include keynote presentations by break-out discussion groups where participants will choose from a variety of topics.

The Notre Dame faculty members giving keynote addresses are Father Theodore Hesburgh, University President Father Edward Malloy and John Robinson, associate professor of law.

Other keynote speakers include professors from across the United States, Dr. Solomon Benatar from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and Dr. C. Thomas Caskey from Merck Laboratories.

Sources from within the University are invited to participate in the conference, according to Kuhlenschmidt.
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Another toddler found in snow

Associated Press

A 2-year-old boy found lying in a snowbank and not breathing remained in critical condition Wednesday, while a 13-month-old Canadian girl who nearly froze to death in a similar incident over the weekend is expected to make a virtually full recovery, doctors said.

Les Hynek was hospitalized at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He had slipped out-side in sub-zero temperatures for up to four hours Tuesday clad only in a diaper, pajamas and a sweat shirt.

"It's better. He's awake. I wasn't too late when I found him," the boy's father Mark Hynek said. "I just keep on praying for him and hoping for the best."

The boy wandered from his home on his par-ents' dairy farm sometime after 3 a.m. Tuesday. His father found him unconscious almost four hours later about 50 feet from the house, Eau Claire County Sheriff's Sgt. John Vogler said.

The National Weather Service said the tem-perature that night in Eau Claire fell to 4 below zero. Vogler said he had heard that the boy's body temperature was about 65 degrees below zero. Vogler said he had heard that the boy's body temperature was about 65 degrees below zero.

"It looks like her heel pad will survive and a good part of her foot and maybe all of it," he said. "She should be able to walk with maybe some, maybe no, or maybe minimal disability, but at least she will be able to walk on her feet."

"He's just keep on praying for him and hoping for the best," the boy's mother Loyla Nordby told CTV Newsnet. "I ran through the house, screaming for her, and she wasn't there."

"He woke up and looked everywhere and she was gone," Erika's mother Loyla Nordby told CTV Newsnet. "I ran through the house, screaming for her, and she wasn't there."

"The girl's heart had stopped during a night outside in the cold heart had stopped during a night outside. She was reviwed Saturday after being revived, and paramedics had trouble moving her out of intensive care, hospital officials said."

"It was a blunder," Anticev recalled saying. "He didn't like the fact so many civilians were killed."

The agent said Odeh told him the bomb vehicle should have been backed into the embassy rather than striking it head-on so the blast would not have been directed toward other buildings and scores of civilians.

He said Odeh had been directed toward other buildings and scores of civilians. Prosecutors alleged Odeh, 35, and his co-defendants followed alleged terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden's orders to bomb that embassy and the one in Dar-es Salaam, Tanzania, the same day as part of a holy war against Americans. The explosions killed 224 people, includ­ing 12 Americans.

On Tuesday, Anticev testified that Odeh had in 1992 "pledged allegiance to Osama bin Laden and would follow his orders."

On Wednesday, the agent said Odeh admitted during an interview that spanned 12 days in August 1998 that he spent the days before the blast with men he believed carried out the attack.

He recalled one of them telling him a day before the bombing that he had just spoken to members of bin Laden's al-Qaeda organiza­tion in Afghanistan who told him "that all of the people have been evacuated." Anticev said Odeh recalled the man saying without elabora­tion.

FBI: Suspect Odeh calls bomb a ‘blunder’

Associated Press

NEW YORK

A suspect in the deadly bombing of the U.S. embassy in Kenya told the FBI that it was a "big mistake" because the bomb was improperly placed in a truck, killing too many civilians, an FBI agent testified Wednesday.

The agent, John Anticev, told a jury in federal court in Manhattan that Mohamed Sadeek Odeh said during an interrogation that he did not know about the Aug. 7, 1998, blast in Nairobi before it hap­pened.

"He didn't like that so many civilians were killed."

John Anticev about a suspect in U.S. embassy bombing in Kenya

Los Angeles

Man prompts airport evacuation

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

A man bypassed a security checkpoint and barged through an emergency door at Los Angeles International Airport on Wednesday, forcing the evacuation of three United Airlines terminals for nearly two hours.

United spokesman Alan Wayne estimated about 1,800 travelers were affected, with 20 or more flights delayed. The airline said 10 other flights were canceled either because of the security breach or the earthquake in the Northwest. The passenger, identified as Albert Joseph Bryla, 22, of St. Augustine, Fla., was arrested for misdemeanor trespassing when he reached his depa­rture gate. He posted $500 bail late Wednesday.

"He took a wrong turn in the airport," Bryla's father, Albert Bryla Sr., said from his St. Augustine, Fla., home. "It's a misunderstanding that got way out of hand. I think some­one out there really overreacted."

Bryla couldn't immediately be located for comment Wednesday, but his father said from Florida that his son told him the incident was a misunderstanding.

"He's a good kid. He was there really a 'blunder'" Anticev said.

Odeh said the men had ordered him to flee the country in the first week of August and had given him a razor to shave his beard so that he would not seem Muslim when he traveled.

The agent said Odeh revealed after his arrest that he used a false passport to enter Kenya five days before the bombings and met an explo­sive expert who led the terrorism cell there.

The suspect described how he was recruited by al-Qaeda after following an Islamic scholar's advice to help Muslim rebels fight the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, where he was trained in explos­ives, the agent said.

In his cross-examination of Anticev, Odeh's attorney Anthony Ricco questioned the agent about whether Odeh had admitted to being directly involved.

"He never said to you that he was responsible because this was something that he didn't, isn't that correct?" Ricco asked.

"Correct," Anticev said.

"He felt morally responsible because he was associated with and a member of a Qaeda, isn't that correct?" Ricco asked.

"In that context, yes," the agent said.

If convicted of conspiracy, Odeh and Wadid El-Hage, 40, could get life terms; Mohamed Rashed Daoud Al-'Owhali, 24, and Khalfan Khalfan Mohamed, 27, could face the death penalty if found guilty of murder con­spiracy.

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WASHINGTON

If your plane arrived late last December, you had plenty of company. More flights than ever were delayed or canceled that month, the government says.

A Transportation Department report released Wednesday said 178,707 flights by the largest air carriers were either late or canceled in December. Although flights in the winter are prone to delays because of poor weather, never before had so many flights failed to arrive on time in any month in the 13 years for which figures are available, the report said.

The report said airlines should do more to "reduce over-scheduling, the number of chronically late or canceled flights, and the amount of checked baggage that does not show up with the passengers upon arrival."

Several lawmakers have introduced legislation designed to improve service and the Senate Commerce Committee already has held a hearing on the issue. "Everybody's disillusioned about the airlines," said Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., the committee's top Democrat.

Consumer complaints are up, too, rising 16 percent last month, the government says.

The Senate Commerce Committee plans to hold a hearing on airline service and the government says it will probably have to look into the airlines' over-scheduling after an Associated Press report said airlines are prone to delays.

``Everybody's disillusioned about the airlines."

Ernest Hollings

senator
Investigators review library donor list

- Clinton's pardons called 'accident waiting to happen' by former pardon attorney

Associated Press

WASHINGTON
Congressional investigators hunting for evidence of a pardons-for-dollars scheme at the Clinton White House got their first look on Wednesday at a list of 150 top donors to his presidential library project.

They looked at the list for about 45 minutes, but lawyers for the House Government Reform Committee would not disclose information about the contributors, or say how many of the names would prompt further investigation.

All 150 people and organizations on the list contributed more than $5,000.

The William J. Clinton Foundation, which is raising money for the library to be built in Little Rock, Ark., initially resisted giving the donor list to the committee. The commission chairman, Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind., then threatened to find foundation director Skip Rutherford in contempt of Congress.

But after several days of negotiations, the foundation and committee agreed on a way to review the donor list, while protecting the privacy of donors not relevant to the probe.

"We have worked out an agreement, and Mr. Rutherford will not be required to testify" on Thursday, Burton said. "We think we have all the information we want by Friday, specific contributors, the amount and the dates. We've excused some of them because we don't think the information is necessary at this time."

Among other things, the committee wants to know whether Clinton's decision to pardon fugitive Marc Rich was influenced by contributors.

His ex-wife, songwriter Denise Rich, contributed $450,000 to the foundation, $1.1 million to the Democratic Party and at least $169,000 to Hillary Rodham Clinton's bid for the Senate. Denise Rich and her friend, Beth Dozoretz, a former finance chairman for the Democratic National Committee who pledged to raise $1 million for the library project, both refused to testify before the committee.

The committee was forcing Dozoretz to attend Thursday's hearing to publicly refuse to testify.

While Rutherford is no longer required to testify, the committee expected to hear from the names would prompt further investigation. Justice officials would be among many people who would advise Clinton on pardons.

On Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the pardon powers of the president and whether the clemency process needs to be improved.

Margaret Colegate Love, who served as pardon attorney at the Justice Department from 1990 to 1997, told the committee that from the beginning of his presidency, Clinton moved to take away the agency's traditional role of being the first to review pardon requests.

"The final Clinton pardons were an accident waiting to happen," she said.

Traditionally, presidents let the Justice Department take the first look at clemency requests, but Clinton's White House answered pardon inquiries, and made it known that Justice officials would be among many people who would advise Clinton on the requests, she said.

"The Clinton administration's shortsighted and ill-advised decision to abandon the longstanding regular system of Justice Department review led directly to the reported free-for-all that would damage the economy, in hopes of a recession and the resultant appearance of cronyism and influence-peddling," Love asserted.

House Republicans expand Bush tax cuts

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

House Republicans said Tuesday they will expand President Bush's proposed across-the-board tax cuts and speed the bill to passage by the end of next week.

A day after Bush outlined his plans before Congress, Rep. Bill Thomas, the chief House tax writer, offered legislation that would accelerate a cut in the lowest tax rate ahead of the president's timetable and make it retroactive to Jan. 1.

Thomas, R-Calif., said the Ways and Means Committee that he leads would meet Thursday to approve the bill, setting the stage for an early triumph for Bush — and a quick clash with Democrats who oppose GOP proposals as too costly. Thomas said the measure would cost $960 billion over the next decade, and other elements of Bush's $1.6 trillion tax cut would come later.

In unusually sharp comments, Speaker Dennis Hastert accused Democrats of trying to thwart swift action to boost the economy, in hopes of a recession that would damage Republicans politically.

"I don't mean that, because how would anyone want to visit on the American people, especially poor people, what a recession and what a slowdown really means?" he said.

While Hastert and Thomas cited the weakening economy for their decision to move quickly, Republicans acknowledged that no legislation is likely to reach Bush's desk for weeks if not months. Democrats can delay action in the Senate until Congress has approved an overall budget — unlikely until April at the earliest.

The maneuvering unfolded as the White House released fresh details of Bush's overall budget, including his recommended $1.6 trillion in tax cuts over the next decade.

The costliest portion is the rate cuts, which would cost more than $810 billion. Phasing out the estate tax would cost $266 billion; an increase in the child tax credit would cost $192 billion and a reduction in the so-called marriage penalty another $112 billion.

THURSDAY SERVICES

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Agent must pay for greediness

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. The term "double agent" is crucial to almost every spy movie. Such a free-roaming character can implement the story's twists and turns and keep the audience on the edge of their seats. They also guarantee slower people, such as myself, will be completely lost once the picture is more than 15 minutes old.

While James Bond and Austin Powers are entertaining and even funny to watch, there is nothing amusing about the idea of a real-life double agent effectively working to jeopardize world security. Double agents are individuals who work for government intelligence in their native country while selling secrets to foreign countries.

Persons of the aforementioned description are like David Arquette films. You do your best to prevent them from appearing, but somehow they still turn up. Such is the case with FBI agent Robert Hanssen, arrested last week on counts of espionage and treason. Mr. Hanssen is accused of selling government secrets to the Russians for the past 15 years. Well, on second thought, when authorities are able to obtain past phone messages and confiscate a garbage bag full of U.S. secrets bound for the East, the term accused is really just a formality, isn't it?

Over the past 15 years, Hanssen doled out numerous tidbits of information involving American secrets and policies to the Russians. Included in this overseas swap meet were dozens of classified documents and electronic surveillance and monitoring techniques that included "an entire technical program of enormous value, expense and importance." Naturally the feds won't go into great detail as to the specifics of the damage. It's safe to say more eyes have seen the documents in question than were supposed to anyway. But it is known Robert Hanssen was integral in supplying Russians certain information pertaining to those who play on both sides of the secret agent fence.

Hanssen's busy lips are believed to be the key factor in the crompled 1989 espionage investigation of State Department employee Felix Bloch. Law enforcement officials say Hanssen informed the Russians of his own government's developing knowledge of the dealings of Bloch. The Russians were able to warn Bloch and Justice Department prosecutors were never able to find sufficient evidence he had passed secret documents to the KGB.

Hanssen also informed the Russians of three of his Soviet counterparts — Boris Yuzhin, Sergey Motorny and Valery Martynov — three KGB agents selling previously Russian information to the Americans. On Hanssen's tip, the Russians swooped in, caught and convicted the three. Yuzhin spent time in prison and fled to America after his release. Motorny and Martynov were convicted of espionage and executed. It was Hanssen who gave these men away and as such, is just as responsible for their deaths as the Russians are.

This incident provides a reality check to all people about one of the world's necessary evils. This isn't the glamour of James Bond or "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." These people are thieves, traitors, stool pigeons and opportunists, living on the outer fringe while thousands of heroes and patriots can and do die at the leaking of their lips. But as distasteful as this entire process is, spics have been invaluable in the past, including both world wars. They are revered and reviled, depending only on which side of the fence they serve. Even in a unified world, spics would probably still exist. Right or wrong, it is human nature to harbor a certain level of distrust toward our fellow man. So we must do what it costs to buy a man's integrity or his neighbor's security? According to sources, Hanssen received $1.4 million over 15 years for being such a great little snitch. The vast majority of this ill-gotten bounty, some $800,000, was stored for him in an overseas account, but he also took payments, $650,000 dollars, in the form of cash and diamonds. The money was split because Hanssen feared large cash intakes would make him look like a drug dealer.

This money is little more than icing on the cake for an individual who garnered more than $100,000 a year in base salary and lived in a $300,000 house in Vienna. Thus, we are left to question the motivation of an individual to sell out his country for a little more money on the pile and enough inventory to open his own Pawn America.

Hanssen appears to have a particular disdain for America. In written messages to his cohorts across the ocean, Hanssen referred to the United States as, "apowerfully built but retarded child, potentially dangerous, but young, immature and easily manipulated." Viewpoints such as the aforementioned are disturbing no matter who utters them, but especially when they come from an individual in a position such as Hanssen's, who has the capacity to do great damage to the country.

In politically correct terminology, Hanssen's loose lips have jeopardized American security, which translates into your and my security. Captured traitors such as Hanssen deserve to be dealt with in the harshest manner possible. In a letter to his Russian cohorts, Hanssen said, "One might propose that I am either insanely brave or quite insane. I'd answer neither. I'd say, insanely loyal." Hanssen is loyal only to himself and the almighty dollar. It is my hope the American government sees him as insanely expendable.

This article is reprinted courtesy of U-Wire. It first appeared in the Minnesota Daily on February 20, 1999.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Thursday, March 1, 2001

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Debating a different perspective of the statue

Memorial gives support, not condemnation

I would like to offer an alternate perspective in the discussion of the memorial to victims of abortion. Regardless of where one stands on the issue of legalized abortion, memorials such as this one ought to be seen not as a judgment upon women, but as support to women experiencing the aftermath of what Jocelyn Szczepaniak-Gillece calls a "Violating and shattering experience."

I became acutely aware of the truth of her description while working in crisis pregnancy and post-abortion counseling for a secular non-profit organization. A young woman who was having difficulty coping with her abortion contacted me. Her family and her church were pro-choice; they had supported her decision, yet she suffered tremendously.

After talking at some length with her, we decided to go together to visit a memorial similar to the one on this campus. She wept. She prayed. She grieved the loss of her child. She was grateful for the gift of the memorial placed by people whom she would never meet. They gave her what no one in her pro-choice circle had been able to give: a recognition of her pain.

If it is true that there are, "many, many women on campus who have had abortions," then it is equally likely that there are many, many women on campus who suffer. Szczepaniak-Gillece pleads, "If you have any humanity whatsoever, stop victimizing abortion as a violating and shattering experience; let us welcome them to grieve openly for the loss of their children."

I agree; we know that many women experience abortion as a violating and shattering experience; let us not force them to suffer alone by our silence. Let us welcome them to grieve openly for the loss of their children.

Salvatrice Murphy
graduate student
off-campus
February 27, 2001

Each person makes their own choice

I did not read the article, "Remove the Trojan Horse," and this letter will not in any way be a defense of that letter. My problem lies in the classification set forth by the morally upstanding member of the Knights of Columbus. In his judgement placed upon others, he deemed anyone who considered themselves to be pro-choice ignorant and immoral. He also gave a ridiculous and biased description of what abortion counselors do for women suffering with the decision of abortion. In writing this letter I accept the fact that I will offend the majority or our religion (or lack thereof) they must decide individually what is right for them. This does not make them ignorant or immoral; it makes them different. The final statement of the letter definitely shows that the argument lies in gross misrepresentation of an abortion counselor's role in an abortion. Abortion counselors stress the finality of the decision that women make when they choose abortion. They emphasize the alternatives there are to the abortion. In fact, they also advise on the difficulties and problems that arise with abortion, not with a child. Abortion is possibly the best decision that a woman can go through in order to take a counselor's job and trivialize it saying they simply "...find out what is driving the woman to abort, and they magnify it..." is an ignorant statement.

I just want to reiterate that I am not attempting to say people who are pro-life are ignorant. I understand the urge to preserve life. I just think that the judgements passed by the member of the Knights of Columbus are unfair. Saying that those who feel differently than you are ignorant merely shows that you cannot handle intelligent dialogue in which one's views are not like yours.

Corey Timlin
sophomore
February 27, 2001

Pigs feel the pain too

Mon of O'Neil hall, the women of Breen-Phillips understand your frustration with political correctness on this campus. However, if you think living in O'Neil is tough, try being a Babe.

As of this year, our rectress has forbidden us to use a pig in any design for dorm apparel. This was quite a surprise to us, seeing as our mascot is a pig. In fact, last year, when we voted to change our mascot to the Babs, there was a stipulation in place. That stipulation was we make sure our new mascot be associated with Babe the Pig, in order to avoid objectifying women. The reason the Pig is being unable to represent a pig on Breen-Phillips campus is apparently because a depiction of a pig is also a depiction of a negative body image. However, another reason the dorm voted on Babe the Pig as a mascot was to embrace the campus-wide joke of Breen-Phillips as a fat dorm. Although this joke may not be politically correct, everyone knows it is a joke and nothing more. To deny us the representation of our mascot on our dorm shirts with such a reason as this, seems to me to be making too much of the situation. It seems to me the equivalent would be something like Carroll Hall being forbidden to depict mice or other vermin on anything for their dorm because mice are viewed in a negative light. Or that Lewis can't put chickens on their shirts because it could possibly be construed to mean the women of Lewis are cowardly. Though there are residents in Breen-Phillips who do not like the Babe mascot, I have noticed it's more for reasons such as not liking pigs, thinking Babe the Pig an unfit mascot, or simply having an affinity for the old Bannehees (aheem, Breen-Phillips football). If there are residents of O'Neil who are uncomfortable with the interpretation of the Pig as a negative body image, why do we have this mascot?

Of course, T-shirts are trivial, but many more important things at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are also subject to the atmosphere of extreme political correctness. As Joe Muto pointed out in his Feb. 27 letter, the Vaginas Monologues were silenced. But let us not forget the controversy over the Keenan Revue, which was arguably the biggest dorm-sponsored event at Notre Dame.

Tessa Saine
sophomore
Breen-Phillips
February 28, 2001
By JUDY SEYMOUR
Scene Movie Critic

“3,000 Miles to Graceland” is probably a better pitch than it is a finished product. Elvis impersonators rob a casino during Elvis impersonators’ week, get greedy, disable themselves and take to the road, switching possession of the money bag about once every 15 minutes. Throw a love story into the mix, a little personal drama about coming of age with a lost father, add some guns and the result is a vivid, troubling account of the Yugoslav provinces, Bosnia, Serbs and ethnic Muslims, as none of the West’s business. Juxtaposed to this is a more personal, intimate portrayal of Michael as they inexplicably travel northwest, away from Sarajevo.

“The reality on the ground is rarely reflected by the jargon in political and bureaucratic circles. They can’t show emotion or suffer, bureaucrats and politicians talk about sovereignty, risk and human-rights violations. This helps no one. Henderson and his courageous, if sometimes crazed, acts of kindness help some Bosnians live a better life.”

The movie has expelled all the money bag about once every 15 minutes of engaging content. The rest of the time the movie spacers around the weak interpretation of its story line and wouldn’t lull the audience to sleep if it were not for the plitter patter of machine gun fire at seemingly every available opportunity.

Kurt Russell plays Michael, an ex-con turned Elvis impersonator. His teams with his “brother,” this is one of the movie’s most unlikely combinations. Michael and three other men (Christian Slater, David Arquette and Bokeem Woodbine) to rob a casino during Elvis impersonators’ week. The rest of the time the movie spacers around the weak interpretation of its story line and wouldn’t lull the audience to sleep if it were not for the plitter patter of machine gun fire at seemingly every available opportunity.

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Anderson's 'Rushmore' is eccentric cinema

By GUNDER KEHOE
Scene Movie Critic

In the quirky comedy "Rushmore," Jason Schwartzman (far left and far right) plays Max Fischer, an ambitious young student at Rushmore Academy. Director and co-writer Wes Anderson (center) creates an off-kilter universe where characters are free from traditional filmic boundaries.

On Thursday, March 1, 2001, taking on the role of fictional movie co-writer Wes Anderson (center) creates an off-kilter universe where characters are free from traditional filmic boundaries.

The beginning of "Rushmore" is like a grade-school yearbook, with the pages coming alive with Max Fischer's after-school schedule. It's a splendid montage of his many hobbies, all different as night is from day. Max (Jason Schwartzman) shoots clay pigeons on the school lawn and smokes bees from their wooden hives. Then, Max drops the bee-keeper's garb, puts on his flight scarf and goggles and goes buzzing around in his piped cub.

When he's done logging hours on the single engine prop, he goes back to the theatre and trains his young thespians on the tricks of acting. This isn't typical teenage acting. This isn't a high-school rendition of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town." It's "Serpico" on stage. It's coke bunts for a live audience of wide-eyed 5-year-olds.

Thus unfolds "Rushmore" and so goes Max's story, putting hands in every pocket and fearlessly treading where other boys his age would never dream of going.

The opening sequence is a nutshell reminder of the film's countless ideas. Just as Max has his wish list of ridiculous goals and professions, "Rushmore" is a breeding ground of creative impulses.

The film's director and co-writer, Wes Anderson, is a master of life's eccentric ideas, assembling them all in a loosely connected univer-verse. Anderson laces "Rushmore" with unexpected relationships, peculiar actors and voices from other dimensions. The lasting effect is a movie that has its own true tone. Seemingly ripped from the pages of a child's coloring book, "Rushmore" is its own off-balanced universe.

This is a land where people are people and ages are of little consequence. The social cliques cross the age barrier, and Max's triangle soon attracts the likes of Herman Blume (Bill Murray), a steel magnate many years Max's elder. It's a collision of generations as both boy and man are trying to capture either their missing youth or an elective adulthood. Suddenly, a steal tycoon is no longer hobnobbing with other magnates; he's transported back to his younger years and becomes pals with a teenager.

While Margaret Yang is a young rose ready to be plucked, Max deludes himself with a bigger prize: a school teacher twice his age. Max deserves credit for his ambitious plans, but he aims a bit high with the courtship of one of the school's high schoolers. The way in which Max falls for an older woman, or the way Mr. Blume becomes the carrier of love-notes, is one of the film's many charms. Both characters the world's variety of people, the future or one that has long since past.

The images of "Rushmore" are an ode to these relationships between young and old. During Max's production of "Serpico," the audience hears a bizarre composite of kids and adults. Mr. Blums watches attentively, sandwiched between two pint-sized youngsters watching in awe. It's a quirky image and a true testament to the movie's merging of generations.

Anderson has the gift of "people vision," meaning he finds the non-acting gems and sprinkles them through his films. Instead of browsing Hollywood's list of character actors, Anderson picks everyday people to play the crucial bit roles. While Max Fischer and Mr. Blume may be in the foreground, it's the background cast that completes the richness of the "Rushmore" universe.

Kumar Pallana is most likely not a trained actor, but he plays Mr. Littlejeans to near perfection. Kumar's look is a tribute to the world's variety of people: he's a Native American man with faked brown skin and a mop of gray hair atop his head. Mr. Littlejeans, Pallana created only be himself and act content in "Rushmore's" landscape genius.

While groundskeeping may not be central to the film, Kumar's contribution is unforgettable as he quietly rakes leaves, falls asleep during plays or blends into the background, playing with rope. He ends his part on a beautiful final note: The basketball coach asks, "What did you think of the play, Mr. Littlejeans?"

He replies short and sweetly, "Best play ever, man."

While Kumar Pallana makes wonderful acting strides, he is narrowly overshadowed by an individual who remains nameless. The anonymous individual says nothing and does nothing, but his memorable face is an ornament of nearly every frame. Look closely at Anderson's mise-en-scene to find a boy with sunken eyes and a sickly face. He's the skinny youngster who's first introduced when Magnus, the Scottish brute, sticks the boy with a Welts William. The dart pricks the boy's neck and he jerks his head in pain. From his universe a bit lost in pain, the boy is thrown out, the child in a well-placed mop, popping up now and again, wearing dinosaur costume for either the future or one that has long since past.

The boy's greatest moment is alongside Herman Blume's relaxing cocktail next to the emerald green pool. Herman lounges back with an icy bourbon and a cigarette dangling from his lips, as he blantlyホーム golfballs into the pool. The young boy, clad only in a Speedo, sneak into the frame like an enemy spy and plucks a golf ball from the bucket. His fingers wrap the ball and he patters away. It's impossible to pinpoint exactly what this young boy means and why he inhabits a majority of the film, but his presence does something for "Rushmore."

Together, the youngster and Kumar are non-acting delegates thrust into acting roles. Their inexperience puts Anderson's world off-balance. Anderson finds the knack of finding interesting folks with the quirky idiosyncrasies that make his universe a bit left of center. Whether it be an aging Native American with a belly-aching laugh or a young child that looks like a starving gerbil, both have a peculiar look and body lan-

gauge that informs the movie's oddball tone.

Sometimes all a scene needs is a hat or a cape to bolster its reg-
ularity into a quirky master-
piece. Dirk Callaway's purple Halloween suit is a brilliant wizard's wardrobe that would make Merlin jealous.

Little Dirk prances around the courtyard with a magical hat that stands no less than nine feet tall. Alongside Dirk, other stu-
dents run incognito, some dressed as goblins and others posing as Long John Silver.

They ambush Max with rotting squirrel turds and sneak from tree to tree, dressed only in costume. The scene is made by these young tykes of all ages dressed as ghosts and wizards because, without the festive out-
fits, it would just be playground nonsense. Instead, Anderson takes Merlin hats and creepy masks, and makes this standard ambush a surreal Halloween sneak attack. There's something bizarre about Max walking care-
free into a courtyard only to have a young Merlin leap out from behind a tree, casing spells.

Anderson has the special gift of finding life's tiny ideas that fall through the cracks. Whether it be a cone-shaped Merlin hat or the emaciated face of a pre-
pubescent boy, there's some-
thing special in everything.

Like its opening image of Max Fischer, founder of the bompardhouse society, "Rushmore" is the innovator of small and quirky concepts.

Andersen's 'Rushmore' is available to rent on video and DVD.

In "Rushmore," both Max Fischer (Schwartzman, left) and Herman Blume (Murray) fall in love with a kindergarten teacher.

Murray, Schwartzman and Anderson on the set of "Rushmore."

Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

"Rushmore" is available to rent on video and DVD.
North Carolina earns ACC regular-season title with win

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - No. 4 North Carolina became the first team in school history to earn the ACC regular-season title this year, a first since the Tar Heels beat N.C. State 76-63 Wednesday night.

"I would rather be on top at the bottom," Hall of Fame center Brendan Haywood said.

The Tar Heels (23-4, 13-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) captured the No. 1 seed in next week's ACC tournament in Atlanta with the win, shooting 57 percent to rebound from a 20-point loss to Virginia (No. 9 ESPN/USA Today, No. 11 AP) over the weekend.

For the 37th time in the league's second league - not Dean Smith, Mike Krzyzewski, Jim Valvano, Lefty Driesell, Norm Sloan or Everett Case - ever had as successful first season as the 39-year-old Doherty. "He's not going to say anything about it because he wants us to get the credit," Haywood said.

"A lot of stuff this year has been about him. I know he doesn't like that because he knows without play­ers he can't do anything. But I feel like he should get a lot of credit.

Duke could tie North Carolina in the league standings with a victory at the Smith Center Sunday, but North Carolina would win the tie-breaker because its record is better between the two teams.

"I don't want to share anything and you especially don't want to share it with Duke," Haywood said of the ACC regular-season title. "It's between us and Maryland.

"You don't want to share anything and you especially don't want to share it with Duke," Haywood said of the ACC regular-season title. "It's between us and Maryland."
**Collegiate Jazz Fest**
Tickets available at
LaFun box office

**Milkplow**
Rock music from Chicago
Thurs. 10:30 @ Alumni Senoir Club

**NAZZ**
Applications available at SUB office, due 3.2,
for 3.23 performance
Bands and Solo artists welcome

**Movies**
Unbreakable (101 DeBartolo)
The Sixth Sense (155 Debartolo)
Thurs. 10:30, Fri. & Sat 8:00 & 10:30

**Acousticafe**
More rock music
Thurs. 9:00 @ the Huddle
Matassa ends furious fight with a win over Owens

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
Sport Writer

The first fight of the 150-pound weight class started with a fury, as Tom Owens attacked the higher seeded Chris "Shezzy" Matassa, throwing a five-punch combination immediately after the fighters touched gloves. Matassa successfully countered Owens, using a superior reach to jab his way out of the ropes and move effectively.

"My jab is the advantage I use to win fights," said Matassa. "My coaches tell me that, and my corner tells me that. It's how Matassa's turn to attack, landing a solid head shot that put Owens back briefly on the mat. The first round ended with Matassa's jab dominating.

The second round took on a different tone, as Owens found ways to get inside Matassa's reach and drive the junior into ropes.

"It's a tough fighter," said Matassa. "I was just backing up instead of moving to the side and he got me up against the ropes and into the corner."

The rest of the round was punctuated by even exchanges, with each fighter landing punches and moving effectively. Matassa began his third round by going for a huge hook. Owens dropped to one knee, took a break and stood up to take a standing eight count. The referee stopped the fight at the one-minute mark in the final round.

As expected, Brock "Landers" Heckman came out of his corner swinging at Tucker "T.K." Owens, who had not previously fought this year. But the outcome was hardly decided when the referee picked up the judges' cards showing Dobosh had won a unanimous decision.

160 Pounds

Dennis "Thursday Night" Abdelnour might want to change his nickname to "Wednesday Night" after his unanimous decision over Mike "The Millen Man" Melby. Abdelnour showcased his quickness against the sophomore Melby, moving around the ring with the confidence that comes with a fourth year fighter.

Abdelnour kept Melby at bay the entire fight, not allowing the younger boxer to get land effective jabs and score points with the judges. Abdelnour landed body blows on Melby consistently all three rounds.

"I think I took this one out of play at the beginning," said Abdelnour. "I kept my hands high and worked his body. Melby received a standing eight-count after an exchange in the third, but the fight was not a blowout."

Joe Smith controlled his bout against second seeded Travis "Pouc" Alexander on his way to a unanimous decision. Alexander repeatedly and aggressively went after Smith, only to have his charges effectively countered with strong punching.

Smith has established himself as a heavy hitter throughout the tournament, and his showdown with Abdelnour should be quick with big-time punching.

But Abdelnour's experience and preparedness will be tough for Smith to match.

"Every time I get in the ring with the crowd and everything it gets a little easier," said Abdelnour. "I feel like I'm fighting the best I ever have now."

BENGAL BOUTS RESULTS

For fights on Feb. 28

130 LBS. WEIGHT CLASS
Shawn Newburg def. Tom Steinbach
Camilo Rueda def. Derrick Bravo

145 LBS. WEIGHT CLASS
Michael Waldo def. Andrew Harms
Jeman Tisby def. Jason Voss

155 LBS. WEIGHT CLASS
Tom Pierce def. Sean Nowak
Dennis "Thursday Night" Abdelnour def. Paul Mehan

165 LBS. WEIGHT CLASS
Brian Hobkins def. Justin Myers
Thomas Macias def. Christopher Kitalong

185 LBS. WEIGHT CLASS
Josh Thompson def. Eric Goulet
Scott Duba def. Stephen Pfeiffer

HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS
Dan Adam def. Steven Practico
Carlos Abeyta def. Matthew McNichols
By KATIE HUGHES
Sports Writer

Bengal bouts veteran Josh "The Redmond" Thompson is just one fight away from the title he's been chasing for so long. Thompson, who was favored to win, defeated Eric "Superfreak" Duba in a unanimous decision.

Thompson had a reach advantage over Duba and his jab combinations dominated the entire fight. Duba tried to push the brawl a little in the first round and early in the second, but Thompson's solid jabs shut him down.

"He's improved so much since the first time I saw him box. He came at me hard today, and I think he fought well. I landed a few straight punches in the first round, then followed up with some solid one-two jabs in the second round. Vanderpoel finished the job in the third round with some high three-jab combinations and low hooks.

"I was able to come in top, and down low to the body. I think I had a little more endurance. I could feel it in the third round," said Vanderpoel.

Steve "Raging Bull" Vanderpoel defeated Kevin "Hardcore" Brandi in another unanimous decision. Vanderpoel pressed for the brawl a little in the first round, then followed up with some solid one-two jabs in the second round. Vanderpoel finished the job in the third round with some high three-jab combinations and low hooks.

"He's the best boxer here. It will be great to get in there to see what I'm made of. I'll take the opportunity," said Vanderpoel.

Heavyweight

In a back-and-forth heavyweight battle that brought both boxers to their knees, Dan "Let Me" Adam defeated Steven "Levy Guns" Pratico in a split decision match.

"Steve is a big, imposing guy. When he hit, I just tried to throw harder punches, but we were back and forth the whole time," said Adam.

Duba sent Pfeiffer over the side of the ring in the second round. It was Duba's right uppercut and hooks that dominated the fight, as both boxers shed a little blood and tested each other's endurance.

Duba will face Thompson on Friday.

Light Heavyweight

It was all about the overwhelming impact of Pete "Beat the Gap" Ryan's left jab last night as Ryan defeated Benjamin "No, You're Schmoopie" Deda in a unanimous decision.

Ryan used height and reach advantage early and often in his first fight of the year. Ryan, who has won the heavyweight division championship for the last three years, took control early with his straight, solid left jabs. Deda's put up quite a respectable defense, challenging Ryan consistently for all three rounds.

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Hobbins earns unanimous win, moves on to face Macias

By BRIAN BURKE
Sports Writer

Going into his semifinal bout, Brian "Nightmare" Hobbins expected to "The Real-Life Resilient" Meyers to come at him charging, and he came prepared. Early on, it looked as if Meyers could back Hobbins into the corner and fight toe to toe, but Hobbins used an array of effective combinations to expose Meyers and earn the unanimous decision.

"The best way to deal with a charger is to keep your movement going, moving backwards and then to the side, and keeping your punches straight as you can," Hobbins said. "It worked pretty well for me."

One straight punch sent Meyers to the canvas at the start of the second round. Meyers charged and Hobbins landed a shot that more surprised a frustrated Meyers than anything. By midway through the third round, both fighters were exhausted from playing cat and mouse, and they stood at the center of the ring, slugging it out as the crowd roared.

"At the end when we got caught up in that kind of wrestling match, it was because I couldn't move backwards as fast as I move forwards," Hobbins said. "I felt tired, I just tried channeling power, and just think about all the people who are behind me in my corner, my friends and family rooting for me, and it gives me the strength to keep throwing because I know they want a good show."

Hobbins will face 31-year-old grad student Thomas "Boom-Boom" Macias who won a sloppy fight over Chris "Can't We All Just Kitalize" Kitalong. Sloppy would actually be a gross understatement. The first round started out with fast somewhat controlled exchanges, and ended with Macias being knocked down by a Kitalong hook right at the bell.

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Johnson to take over as Bills' quarterback

**Associated Press**

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. - Doug Flutie will be cut after an exhaustive study led the Buffalo Bills to conclude that Rob Johnson is the best quarterback for the team.

In announcing the long-awaited decision on Wednesday, Bills general manager and president Tom Donahoe said the team had relieved the monthlong selection process over.

"We weighed everything we could weigh, and when we put it all together, it wasn't just one factor that came up," Donahoe said. "We felt that Rob Johnson was the best quarterback, and we wanted to pick the best quarterback for our future." Donahoe hoped the announcement ends the-long brewing controversy that divided the fans and the team over the past three seasons.

But he acknowledged that it might not end the second-guessing.

"We know that today's decision may not be a popular one with our fans. But our responsibility as an organization is not necessarily to make the popular decisions, but to make the right decisions," Donahoe said.

Donahoe added that he plans to make two more cuts, including releasing veteran longsnapper Ethan Albright.

"It was based solely on which quarterback was best suited to lead this football team," Tom Donahoe, Bills general manager said.

"It was not based on age. It was not based on salary. It was not based on how much of a hit we will take on the salary cap. It was based solely on which quarterback was best suited to lead this football team," said Donahoe.

Flutie, 37, is 10 years older, six inches shorter and about 30 pounds lighter than the 6-foot-4, 212-pound Johnson.

Flutie nor Johnson were immediately available for comment. The Bills said Johnson will comment on the decision during a telephone conference call on Thursday.

There's no way around that," The Kansas City Chiefs, who ended last season almost $10 million under the salary cap, were trying to see whether they could restructure Elvis Grbac's contract. The quarterback's contract calls for a $10 million bonus if he's still on the roster Friday.

Six-time Pro Bowl defensive lineman John Randle expected to be released by the Minnesota Vikings because he wouldn't agree to restructure his contract.

The Chargers were reshaping the NFL's worst team of 2000 by waiving Leaf, who had been in constant trouble during his three seasons. Leaf was the second pick in the 1998 draft, taken right after Peyton Manning, but played poorly and became a distraction with his boorish behavior.

Leaf missed all of the 1999 season with a shoulder injury and won the starting job last summer after throwing five interceptions and one touchdown in the first two games. He also started the final six games. The Chargers were reshaping the NFL's worst team of 2000 by waiving Leaf, who had been in constant trouble during his three seasons.

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Flutie, Leaf become free agents

**Associated Press**

Quarterbacks Ryan Leaf and Doug Flutie became free agents and three-time Super Bowl champion Ken Norton Jr. was released Wednesday as NFL teams sliced their payrolls as a salary cap dead-line approaches.

More players will be released as teams get down to the $57.4 million salary cap before free agency begins Friday.

"We are preparing for free agency and the draft and this allows these players to catch on with another team," Chargers general manager John Butler said, after getting rid of Leaf and four others.

In other salary-driven moves, the Pittsburgh Steelers released center Dermontti Dawson and the Carolina Panthers released three players who were with George Seifert when he won a Super Bowl with the 49ers in 1995.

Several more prominent players could be released on Thursday. Even teams under the salary cap were looking for ways to trim the payroll to get more flexibility.

"There are only so many slices to the pie," Miami Dolphins coach Dave Wannstedt said. "We're going to lose a couple of key guys."

Play with William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" - Hesburgh Center for International Studies

8:00 p.m. Movie, "Unbreakable";

DeBartolo 101 and "The 6th Sense";

DeBartolo 155*

8:00 p.m. Bengal Bouts, Finals - Joyce Center Fieldhouse

8:07 p.m. "Farley Feis"; at the Snite, Shakespeare's "Juliet" - Hesburgh Center for International Studies

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Wake up! It’s Lent.

by Fr. Gary Chamberland, c.s.c.

Seasons come and seasons go — spring following winter, summer following spring. As students, September means new school clothes and sharpened pencils. December brings Christmas vacation and March comes with Spring Break. The Church year has its own cycle: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and ordinary time, each season following the other in a fulling rhythm. We can get caught up in the rhythm and lose sight of the purpose; we can walk through the Church year as many people walk through their lives — aimlessly and unaware.

Yesterday, we celebrated the beginning of Lent. We signed ourselves with ashes as an acknowledgement of our humanity and our utter reliance on God’s mercy. Yesterday, we began to prepare our hearts for the reality of Easter. Yesterday, we shook up our static lives in an attempt to become more aware of the reality of the resurrection and more responsive to its life-giving promise. Yesterday, we tore ourselves away from our mundane routine to recommit to our baptismal promises and to living lives of hope. Yesterday, we proclaimed that we are incomplete until we rest in Christ.

Or did we? Or did we simply ride the wave of the season and receive ashes on our foreheads because they were there, because that’s what you do on the Wednesday after Fat Tuesday? Did we simply join the procession because the line was moving and it didn’t even cross our minds to stop? Have we already begun to float through Lent as we float through much of life, riding the surface of whim and fancy, unaware of deeper currents and the direction we are headed? Yesterday, did we heed the warning of the church and meditate on our human finiteness? Did we embrace the call to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel? Or will Easter come along unnoticed with jellybeans and chocolate rabbits and turn our attention next to the Fourth of July, fireworks and the pleasures of the outdoor grill?

Lent, as its name implies, calls Christians to the work of springtime. All over the northern world, the earth is awakening from its winter slumber and the rites of spring are starting. Brown leaves are cleared and dead limbs pruned. Fields hardened by winter and lack of care are tilled, hard clumps of soil broken open and turned over; the earth is prepared for new planting. So, too, we are called to turn over the hardness of our hearts and to break open the soil of our souls so that new life may spring forth.

During Lent, the earth is awakening from its winter slumber and the rites of spring are starting. Brown leaves are cleared and dead limbs pruned. Fields hardened by winter and lack of care are tilled, hard clumps of soil broken open and turned over; the earth is prepared for new planting. So, too, we are called to turn over the hardness of our hearts and to break open the soil of our souls so that new life may spring forth.

These images of spring are the stuff of metaphors, but they are not just so many pretty pictures. Living spring — living Lent — is work. The Christian life is a life of work, honest reflection on who we are and what we have become. This stark honesty leads us to repent of our sinful ways and to walk the way of peace. That walk is work. That Lenten walk means embracing prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We till the soil of our hardened hearts when we attempt to pray more earnestly and often, turning our thoughts to God and inviting him ever more fully into our lives. That prayer can be a commitment to more formal communal prayer: attending Sunday night vespers at the Basilica or making the Stations of the Cross every Friday. It may mean a pledge to pray more in private: a nightly visit to the grotto or fifteen minutes every morning before the Blessed Sacrament.

We prepare the ground for planting with fasting. Heed the call to communal fasting and take seriously the obligation to abstain from meat on Fridays. These small mortifications prick our conscience, expose our weaknesses and help us turn to Christ. Along with these, find some personal form of fasting, be it refraining from watching professional wrestling on Monday night or giving up Swedish fish, and offer up these little hardships for the needs of others.

Give alms to those in need; thousands suffer from the effects of earthquakes in Central America and Asia, children starve, women are abused. Give a little to others. No, give a lot. Give 'til it hurts. Give from your own need and experience the freedom of the resurrection.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the marks of the season of Lent. They open our hearts and refocus our vision. These works of spring prepare the ground so that when the Father sends the grace of forgiveness, the seeds of faith will grow. We can do the work of spring or we can simply go through the motions. We can till the soil or simply admire the plow. It is a choice. So is faith. Take advantage of the season. Choose wisely.
Miller scores 24 points in Pacers’ victory

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS Reggie Miller got the Indiana Pacers going with a 3-pointer.

Miller scored 24 points as the Pacers found their shooting touch late to beat the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night.

The Pacers, who hit just 34 percent in Monday’s loss at Charlotte, finished 40 of 71 field goals (56.3 percent) to build leads as large as 25 points in the second half.

“Whatever you want to try to keep the momentum going,” Miller said. “We somewhat fell off the carriage in Charlotte. It was going to get back up on the horse.”

Despite hitting 8 of 16 3-pointers, the Pacers had to overcome a shooting barrage by Milwaukee’s Ray Allen and Lindell Hunter, who hit five 3-pointers apiece in the second half.

Indiana has won five of its last six games to climb into playoff contention in the Eastern Conference.

Miller has scored 18 field goals and four of nine 3-pointers.

Five Pacers scored in double figures.

Jalen Rose added 16 points and seven rebounds for the Pacers. Jermaine O’Neal and Austin Croshere scored 12 points each, and Zan Tabak had 13.

Hornets 91, Nets 88

Jamal Mashburn overcame a horrendous shooting night by scoring 10 of his 23 points over the final 1:51 to lift the Charlotte Hornets to a victory over the New Jersey Nets.

It was the Hornets’ fifth straight victory and seventh in eight games.

Mashburn shot just 5-for-20 for the game and had only 10 points at the start of the fourth quarter when Charlotte trailed 70-69.

He continued to miss early in the period as the Nets opened an 85-73 lead with 6:58 to play. But New Jersey went cold from there, scoring just three points the rest of the game.

Mashburn, meanwhile, finally started to hit some shots to pull Charlotte back into the game. He hit two free throws to start an 8-1 run that cut New Jersey’s lead to 86-81 with 3:01 to play. He then scored the final 10 points of the game to rally the Hornets.

Stephon Marbury missed a 3-point attempt, Mashburn got the rebound and converted it from the free-throw line with 1:27 left.

Mashburn then missed another 3-pointer. Robinson got the rebound and Mashburn hit a turnaround jumper to pull Charlotte up 87-86. Marbury then missed consecutive 3s and Mashburn answered with four straight free throws.

David Wesley led Charlotte with 26 points, including 13 in the third quarter when Charlotte climbed out of a 14-point deficit. Mashburn added nine assists and eight rebounds.

Marbury led the Nets with 19 points on 9-of-22 shooting. Van Horne and Johnny Newman scored 15 each, while Martin, Lucious Harris and Aaron Williams added 10 each.

Raptors 95, Hawks 88

Vince Carter scored 32 points and Antonio Davis added 15 rebounds as the Toronto Raptors beat the Atlanta Hawks.

The Raptors, who never trailed, won their third straight victory and topped 75 for the first time in six games.

One night after his 32 points led Toronto past Cleveland, Carter hit a 12-foot turnaround jumper at the end of the third quarter to keep the Hawks down 75-70.

Atlanta, which lost its fifth straight, got only 27 from Allen Iverson as the Hawks shot 1-for-13 and forward Patrick Ewing missed all four of his 3-point tries.

Philadephia snapped a two-game skid and avoided its first three-game slide of the season.

Timberwolves 111, Pistons 100

The Minnesota Timberwolves made it easy on Joe Smith, but Wednesday night he was just another opposing player.

Terrell Brandon scored 23 points and Wally Szczerbiak added 22 as the Timberwolves made 16 of 28 3-pointers.

It was the Pacers’ fifth straight victory and seventh in eight games.

Michael Jordan scored 24 points as the Chicago Bulls won for the third time this season, and Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan said he is happy he’s getting an opportunity somewhere.

“Sometimes you have your shot early. He hit those big shots at the end. He just stayed in there and was a great decoy at times,” Jordan said.

Mike Miller had 16 points for the Magic. Darrell Armstrong, who had 13 points and 11 assists, scored four crucial points in the final 1:21 as Orlando won its second consecutive finish to its four-game road trip 2-2.

"Back to back wins on the road are very big for us," Rivers said. "We basically came back the same way we left, and that’s really impressive."

Rockets 95, Bullets 78

Rudy Tomjanovich’s fear of the hapless Chicago Bulls was warranted for a little more than a quarter.

Steve Francis scored 21 points and Hakeem Olajuwon added 17 as the Houston Rockets overcame an early 12-point deficit to beat Chicago.

"This is one of those games that you’re really concerned about," said coach Tomjanovich.

Reserve Kenny Thomas had 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Rockets, who have won five of six and finished February 9-4.

Eldon Brand scored 21 points to lead the Bulls, who have lost five of six.

Bryce Drew hit three 3-pointers and led out four assists in the first quarter as the Bulls broke out to a 29-19 lead.

"We started out badly, but sometimes that’s good," Tomjanovich said. "It got our attention."
Associated Press

TORONTO Curtis Joseph made 38 saves and Sergei Berezin scored his 20th goal of the season as the Toronto Maple Leafs beat the San Jose Sharks 2-1 Wednesday night.

Joseph stopped 22 shots in the third period alone. He allowed just five goals in his last four starts.

Mike Ricci scored a power-play goal for the Sharks, who were without Owen Nolan (suspension) and Vincent Damphousse (shoulder surgery).

Nolan rejoins the Sharks on Thursday following an 11-game suspension for hitting Dallas’ Grant Marshall in the head.

Shayne Corson also scored the Leafs, 3-1 since a trade for Philadelphia’s Eric Lindros fell through last week.

Toronto, distracted by trade rumors for two months, has fallen from first in the Eastern Conference to seventh in the NHL.

Corson’s wrist shot beat goalie Steve Shields at 13:49 of the first.

Ricci tied it just 46 seconds into the second, sweeping the puck in before being checked into Joseph.

Berezin collected teammate Yade Perreault’s shot off the boards, and put it past Shields at 3:44 of the third.

Rangers 4, Panthers 2
Brian Leetch scored his 20th goal as the New York Rangers capped an emotion-filled day, after Theo Fleury scored a four-on-three power-play goal, with a victory over the Florida Panthers.

It was announced before the game that Fleury, the team’s leader in goals with 30 and points with 74, had undergone head surgery.

New York also got goals from Sandy McCarthy, Petr Nedved and Radek Dvorak to end a three-game losing streak.

The 10th-place Rangers closed within eight points of the final Eastern Conference playoff spot with only 19 games remaining.

Kirk McLean, substituting for Mike Richter who is out for six weeks with a knee injury, turned in a solid performance with 38 saves. He turned away 19 in the third period as the Panthers tried to muster a comeback.

McLean twice stopped Mike Richter’s world on a second-period breakaways and denied Pavel Bure with a sliding stop with less than two minutes remaining.

Greg Adams scored twice for Florida which ended a road trip in which they lost all five games.

Leetch, the league’s top scoring defenseman, staked the Rangers to an early lead with a power-play goal on a shot from the right point at 6:46 of the first period.

McCarty and Nedved had second-period goals as the Rangers extended the lead to 3-0.

McCarthy fired a slap shot from the top of the right circle through the pads of Roberto Luongo at 3:30. Nedved, using Dvorak as an effective low-shot screen, drilled a wrist shot between the circles past Luongo at 18:20.

Pavel Koid replaced Luongo to start the third period.

Adams ended McLean’s bid for his first shutout at 8:24, a goal set up by Leetch’s perfect pass.

Dvorak put the Rangers ahead 4-1 at 10:36, and Adams closed out the scoring with a power-play goal with 49.4 seconds remaining.

Canadiens 4, Penguins 2
Jim Campbell and Saku Koivu each scored twice to ruin Mario Lemieux’s homecoming as the Montreal Canadiens beat the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Lemieux, making his only regular-season appearance in Canada in his native Montreal, had eight of the 16 shots on Carey Price.

He collected his first goal of the season 16:22 into the second to draw Pittsburgh within 2-1.

Koivu scored his 10th with 7:11 remaining in the third to restore the Canadiens’ two-goal lead.

Jaron Jagr scored his 33rd goal with 3:10 left as the Penguins again closed within one before Koivu added his second of the game 1:03 later to send Montreal to its second win in as many nights following a 3-3 tie.

Campbell, who scored both his goals on the power play, opened the scoring with just 11.1 seconds on the clock in the first when he beat Penguins goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere to complete a nice passing play with Oleg Petrov.

Aubin made 38 saves, including one on Canadien forward Martin Rucinsky’s penalty-shot shot 4:14 into the final second, as Montreal held a 3-28 edge in shots.

Lemieux has a chance to tie it on a power play moments later when he mishit with an open net after taking a pass from Jagr.

That proved costly as Campbell added to the Canadiens’ lead with 10:49 gone in the second when he scored his second of the game.

And eighth of the season.

Lemieux earned his 21st assist at 16:22 when he set up Oliva from behind the net to make it 2-1.

Blue Jackets 5, Coyotes 2
The Columbus Blue Jackets were without their leading scorer but it wasn’t as if any one would have noticed.

Five Blue Jackets scored goals and Marc Denis made 38 saves as the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the Phoenix Coyotes.

Geoff Sanderson, Columbus’ top goal scorer this season, started the scoring fest off with a goal 1:46 into the second period.

The scoring Blue Jackets still had no shortage of point producers.

"We were a little concerned about where the offense would come from, but a number of players got involved and we played a strong game," Columbus coach Dave King said.

Steve Heinze, David Vyborny, Sergei Aubin, Deron Quint and Mattias Timander scored for the Blue Jackets, who won their second straight after going without a win in seven games.

"A bunch of guys stepped up and played really well tonight," Heinze said.

Robert Kron had three assists, Heinze also had an assist and Espen Knutson tied for seventh in the NHL.

Fire 4, Blues 3
They way they’re playing these days, the Edmonton Oilers don’t mind when they allow the tying goal in the third period.

"Lately, we’ve been able to come back when we needed them," Mike Grier said after scoring the game-winner midway through the third period, leading the Oilers to victory over the St. Louis Blues.

Edmonton matched its season-high with its fourth straight victory.

"The other teams seem to get lucky goals to tie it up, but we don’t seem to get our heads down on the bench," added Grieger, who one-timed Ethan Moreau’s pass under Roman Turek at 11:20 of the third to break a 3-3 tie.

Pierre Turgeon had pulled St. Louis even at 7:49 of the third, beating a screened shot from in front of the net off Oliva’s pass from behind the net to make it 2-1.

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Please attend an informational meeting on Thursday March 1st, 8:30pm in the Montgomery Theater of LaFun to learn how you can help your community.
Hobbins
continued from page 28

“I'm deathly afraid of heights,” Hobbins said, “but I think the mental and physical training from boxing helped me. It was a total rush, but it was a challenge to make myself do it.”

Hobbins credits boxing with boosting his confidence in other areas, from job searches to social situations.

Of course, it's paid off physically, too, for the fighter who made it all the way to the championship round a year ago where he faced his toughest foe.

He lost to junior captain Rob Joyce, a finalist at 175 pounds this year, in last year's finals. "Bob had just been pounding people, and he proceeded to pound me,” Hobbins said. “I had a feeling it wasn't going to go my way, and it was a matter of making myself keep going and surviving the fight instead of winning it.”

This year, Hobbins, who lost in the semifinals in each of his first two Bengal Bouts, hopes to come out a champion for the first time. Down to 165 pounds, he made his way to the finals Wednesday night with an unanimous decision over Justin "The Real-Life Regular" Myers. Hobbins started out quick and kept delivering punishment to Myers every time Myers came at him. Hobbins stayed patient and let Myers pay when he did move in close. Although Hobbins, who goes by the nickname "Nightmare," was tired at the end, he held a clear advantage over his opponent throughout the three rounds.

To win his first title, Hobbins will have to get past Thomas "Boom-Boom" Macias, who won a unanimous decision over Christopher "Can’t We All Just Get Along?" Kitahara that saw more flung fists than a barroom brawl. Macias' "brawler" style may force Hobbins to change his style.

"I’m kind of a counter type boxer,” Hobbins said. “They come to me instead of me going to them. They step to me, and I just punch them and I leave, and that’s the best case scenario. I’m going to have to readjust myself.”

Boxing became a part of Hobbins’ life by chance. The Minnesota native played soccer all through high school and tried out for his dorm’s soccer team freshman year. But after missing a couple practices early on, Hobbins got cut from the team and found himself searching for something to do.

He found a time-filler in Bengal Bouts after attending club activity night. At first he signed up for the physical work-out boxing would give him, but the club soon meant more than just something to keep him in shape.

Boxing meant close friendships with his teammates, service to the community through the thousands of dollars Bengal Bouts raise for the poor in Bangladesh and a chance to challenge himself on a daily basis.

Hobbins even turned down an opportunity to study in Italy when former captain Tommy Will called him with the chance to be a team captain. Will’s phone call came late in Hobbins’ sophomore year, giving him a tough decision to make.

"I thought, ‘This is such a great honor and it’s something I’m really starting to like. It’s something that’s just really starting to take hold of my existence at Notre Dame,’” Hobbins said. "Italy, not withstanding a natural disaster, will probably be there a couple of years down the road. The discipline and time it takes to be a boxing captain and boxer won’t be there as long.”

The American Studies major, who hopes to work with Alliance for Catholic Education next year, passed on the semester abroad in favor of Bengal Bouts. While he’d still like to travel the world, he doesn’t regret his decision for a moment.

"The friendships I’ve made in Bengal Bouts I think are just as enriching,” Hobbins said. "Just as a title would nicely adorn his boxing career.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

McGwire extends contract with Cards

Associated Press

Mark McGwire and the St. Louis Cardinals have agreed to a two-year extension worth about $30 million.

The deal runs through 2003, the season McGwire could be approaching Hank Aaron’s home-run record of 755.

The Cardinals have called a news conference for Thursday at 9 a.m. ET at the club’s spring training complex.

McGwire, 37, missed most of the second half of last season with a knee injury and had surgery during the offseason, but he’s been back this spring.

McGwire and the Cardinals were talking about a extension that would pay him $14 million in 2002 and $16 million the following year, according to two baseball officials familiar with the negotiations who spoke on the condition they not be identified.

McGwire negotiated the extension himself with the Cardinals and did not go through his agent, Bob Cohen.

He is seventh on the career home-run list with 554, just 201 behind Aaron, and would have to average 67 homers in the next three seasons to tie the mark.

McGwire set the single-season record with 70 homers in 1998, then hit 65 the following year.

He hit 32 last season in just 236 at-bats.

With an average salary of about $15 million, McGwire will rank about eighth in baseball.

He could command far more money if he became a free agent after this season, perhaps even top the average salary record of $25.2 million set by Alex Rodriguez in his $252 million, 10-year contract with Texas, but McGwire has never been interested in obtaining top dollar.

December 28

Wednesday, March 7

WHEN: Wednesday, March 7
WHERE: CSC
TIME: 5:30 pm

Join us for dinner and a discussion!
Please RSVP by Monday, March 5
1-6841

Brian Hobbins, above left, is declared winner in his fight against Justin Meyer. Hobbins earned the unanimous decision.

Bengal Bouts raise for the poor in Bangladesh and a chance to challenge himself on a daily basis.
Irish face professional Devil Rays in exhibition game

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Assistant Sports Editor

Terry Newton, Jr., is a 12-year-old boy with a Notre Dame connection.

His uncle, Steve Newton, is the former Sorin Hall Rector.

In fact, the first mass Steve celebrated after being ordained was Terry’s baptism.

As the young boy grew up in St. Petersburg, Fla., he developed a love for the game of baseball — while still maintaining a dream of some day returning to his baptismal roots in South Bend.

Little Terry’s dreams will come true when he serves as batboy in Notre Dame’s contest today against the major league Tampa Bay Devil Rays in an exhibition game.

“He only wanted to go to the game,” said Terry’s father, Terry, Sr. “I surprised him with the batboy situation.”

Both teams plan to use the game as a developmental tool. The Irish will start sophomore righthander Peter Ogilve on the mound. Ogilve missed his final two high school seasons and all of last year recovering from a back injury. The sophomore was rated one of the top pitchers in the state of Illinois prior to being injured.

Ogilve likely only throw the first few innings, then giving way to other second-tier pitchers on the Irish roster. The Devil Rays likely will start such stars as Fred McGriff, Vinny Castilla and Gerald Williams. But most of these players will exit by the third inning, giving way to some of the prospects in the Tampa Bay camp.

The game marks a preview of the three-day, four-team Devil Ray College Invitational. Florida Atlantic, Western Michigan and South Florida join host Notre Dame in the tournament.

“This four-game stretch poses a tremendous challenge to our team and we are looking to build on our solid start the past two weeks,” said Irish head coach Paul Mainieri in a press release.

Mainieri, who is originally from Florida, looks forward to playing three quality teams.

“We appreciate the Devil Rays arranging for this exhibition and helping to organize what should be an exciting college baseball tournament,” Mainieri said. “Fans who come to the games will not be disappointed by the competitiveness and level of play and you could see several of these kids in the big leagues some day.”

The Irish take on Florida Atlantic on Friday at 1 p.m., after All-American righthander Aaron Heilman starting.

Heilman’s classmate, Danny Tamayo, takes the ball against South Florida Saturday at 5 p.m.

The starter for Sunday’s finale against Western Michigan is currently undecided.
Belles

continued from page 28

With a long history of part-time coaches and losing records, getting successful players to look into the program has been a challenge. Recruiting needs to be improved.

For right now, Smith will have to stay focused on the South Bend and Chicago areas.

"I am from here locally, so I knew the area very well," Smith said. "So we've gotten out the information in the area around the South Bend area. That should help us out."

As a Division III coach, Smith plans to focus mainly on Midwest states surrounding Indiana, such as Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio, for recruiting. Nationally, she will have to rely on other coaches or alumni contacting her about women wanting to play at Saint Mary's.

"The best way for Division III, I'll hit the Midwest," Smith said. "As far as outside of that I'll rely on outside contacts. That's how you get outside."

In addition to recruiting, Smith will be looking at facilities, coaching, and preparation for varsity basketball.

Saint Mary's has a history that lacks a junior varsity team. With no junior varsity team, students do not have the opportunity to be introduced gradually to playing at a collegiate level. They're thrown in with the sharks before they get to swim with the guppies.

Smith hopes to begin a junior varsity program to Saint Mary's next year to eliminate that problem and get students more experience playing college ball.

Smith is also hoping to have a "more concrete coaching staff." What that will mean is still unclear, however.

The athletic department has been looking into finding money in order to hire full time coaches, and this may or may not affect the basketball program. Regardless, with a junior varsity program in the works, the basketball program will need to have a larger coaching staff.

The actual court in Angela is excellent to playing on, according to Smith. However, locker facilities and training facilities will eventually need to be improved. Again, specifics are unclear and money will play an important role in those needed improvements.

With a team looking to move along the road to success, Smith is counting on fans to do their part as well.

"We need to keep improving fans here and the excitement," Smith said. "Crowds were less than capacity this season. Aiming high may require a lot of work, but the work is ready to be done. The journey to success will not be short for the Belles basketball team, but Smith is ready to embark on that journey."

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

Freshman Katie Miller, shown above, dribbles the ball in a game earlier this season. The Belles finished the season at 8-18.
24 "Vamoose!"
17 Long green
14 Sooting color
16 Skateboarder

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1 Actor Green of 
2 Chicken order
3 _Long begets ·:
4 Ready money
5 Urge
6 Played (around)
7 "_saying
8 Bermuda 
9 Common
10 Disorder
11 Subject 
12 Boundary 
13 Diet?
14 Subject to a slide
15 Diet?
16 Subject to a slide
17 Boundary 
18 Common
19 Common
20 Disorder
21 Subject
22 Boundary
23 Diet?
24 Subject to a slide
25 Boundary

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Notre Dame Athletics
BENGAL BOUTS

Hobbins emphasizes mental aspects of boxing

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Associate Sports Editor

For Brian Hobbins, physical strength has little to do with boxing.

The senior boxing club captain and team president contends that winning a bout depends on technique — who has the best strategy for luring his opponent in, whose tactics can outmaneuver the other fighter.

"It's almost more chess than boxing for me," said Hobbins, a 165-pounder.

Stepping into the ring also lets Hobbins know he passed the gut check, the one that tested his mental resolve to fight.

"It's totally mental," Hobbins said. "Facing your fears and your doubts.

Four years in the Notre Dame Boxing Club have helped Hobbins stare down his fears. The physical beating Hobbins has been taking in six-day-a-week Boxing Club practices and spars prepared him to do more than just fight tough opponents. It also prepared him for life.

Hobbins used his Bengal Bouts experiences to battle through a fear of heights last spring. He, fellow captain Peter Ryan and several other friends traveled to West Virginia following Senior Week to go cliff climbing and white water rafting. Without his in-the-ring tests to steel his courage, Hobbins doubts he would have had the nerve to go through with the climb.

Newburg adds to winning legacy with victory

By KEVIN BERCHOU
Sports Writer

In winning the 125-pound weight division as a freshman last year, Shawn "Old Dog, New Tricks" Newburg established himself as a dominant fighter in the ring.

Wednesday night, in his 2001 debut in the 130-pound division, Newburg only added to his legacy — scoring a unanimous decision victory over Tom "Gun" Steinbach.

In a fight that went just as he wanted it to, Newburg was able to dictate the pace for the first two rounds before unleashing a bag of new tricks in the third.

"I came out aggressive in the first," Newburg said. "Then in the second, I wanted to save something, so I was a bit more technical."

Steinbach, trying to capitalize on his opponent's more casual second round style, made his run only to be rebuked by Newburg's defensive skill.

"I thought I blocked well," Newburg said. "I saved energy in the second so I had plenty left to use my power in the third."

On the other side of the 130-pound bracket, the experienced Camilo Rueda outdueled junior Derrick Bravo.

The taller Rueda used his slight reach advantage expertly, and each time Bravo ducked inside he was met with a staggering right hand.

"That's all experience," Rueda said. "I've been doing this for four years so I have a pretty good idea of what to do."

135 Pounds
tony hallowell was never even supposed to be here.

Few gave him a shot at upsetting top seed Matt Fumagalli in Monday's quarterfinals, but that's just what he did Wednesday. The freshman sensation was impressive again in gaining a grueling split decision over Ryan "The Quiet Man" Duffey.

In a bout highlighted by brilliant flurries from both combatants, Hallowell hit Duffey with a right in the third round that drew blood. It forced him to retreat to his corner.

Hallowell thought that was what the fight changed in his favor.

"It was pretty even, I thought, until that point," he said. "He fought an awesome fight, but I just feel lucky to go to the Big Dance." It was the stuff of dreams for junior Joshua Coleman, who

Senior boxing club captain and team president Brian Hobbins, shown above, focuses on the mental techniques necessary for a Bengal Bout win.

Newburg adds to winning legacy with victory

Smith sets goals for next year

The season is over. The team finished with a record of 8-18. Now what?

One season under her belt, Saint Mary's head basketball coach Suzanne Smith has some decisions to make. She needs to move her team.

Doubling the number of wins the team had last season seems to be one step in the right direction.

"But what is the next step? Where is this team going and what is the next mile marker on that path?"

So, what is the destination? Well, better MIAA play for one. The Belles won only two conference games this season after starting off the season with six victories in nine games. Staying focused and unified seemed to be a problem for Saint Mary's follow through from the successful Christmas Smith is hoping to fix that problem next year.

"I think we can do very well in our conference," Smith said. "What do we need to do to compete in the conference — be prepared for the long season.

Step one to better play is working with this year's team. Smith called a meeting to discuss this past season and next season with her team.

"We just graduated one senior [Julie Norman]," Smith said. "If things go right everyone should come back."

With most of her team returning next season, Smith should have a step-up on this year's start. Smith didn't meet her team until August of this year.

"It's so nice right now," she said. "We can get together in the post season and throughout the summer and have a better idea of what we're doing — have some consistency."

That seems to be good for the short term. But what about the long term?What is Saint Mary's doing to improve the team for the long haul?

There are several things that the team has been lacking.

see HOBBINS/page 24

see BELLES/page 26

Sports at a Glance

Softball at Jacksonvile State Friday, 2 p.m.

Baseball vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays Today, 1 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse vs. Penn Sunday, noon

at Northwestern Today, 3 p.m.

at Western Michigan Friday, 7:30 p.m.

at Georgetown Sunday, 2 p.m.