By KATIE RAND
News Writer

Conia Almon and D'Ebrar Chapmyn, actors from Chapmyn Spoken Word, performed the play "Womyn With Wings" Wednesday night at Saint Mary's. The women performed skits and songs, intertwined to create a play about empowering women in today's society.

The play began with Almon portraying a young girl and Chapmyn proclaiming that "little girls are only pretty, never smart."

The two women then danced about the stage imitating the dances of different cultures, saying that "when the dance is over you will be different, new, and when the dance is over you will rise up with the wings of eagles and fly."

The play raised awareness about important female issues such as genital mutilation, abusive relationships and rape. One piece spoke of female mutilation in Africa, in which many women are cut, circumcised or brutalized in other ways.

The play also featured a scene about a woman who killed her husband and performed a scene about a woman suffering through breast cancer after her mother dealt with the same tragedy. "They cut off part of me, changed me, but I survived," said Chapmyn.

The production also included a more lighthearted skit about getting rid of the baggage with one about a grandmother who packed up one day and performed a scene about a grandmother and a granddaughter who were talking about breast cancer after her mother dealt with the same tragedy. "You're never too old to go live your dreams," said Almon.

The women sang "This Little Light of Mine" and performed a piece about two elderly women in a hospital reminiscing about the old days in their church's women's group. The women relive how a man came in and attempted to rob the group, forcing one of the women to stop him with the gun her husband left behind.

"My arms still have his fingerprints all over them - along with my body, he took my dignity, and my love," said D'Ebrar Chapmyn, spoken word actor.

"Wings" is a part of the "Womyn with Wings" performance, which is aimed at empowering women in modern-day society.

Students Senator

Campus water quality concerns some members

By ERIN LaRUFFA
Associate News Editor

Upon hearing fellow students express concern over the quality of the University's water, the Student Senate decided to look into the issue.

Based on his research, Morrissey senator Padraic McDermott presented information to the Senate at its meeting Wednesday night. "A lot of people in Morrissey and around campus have been complaining about water quality — foul smells, bad taste," McDermott said.

However, McDermott explained that he learned that the water in the area is just naturally hard. "It's really safe," he said. "We've just got some of the hardest water in the country."

This problem is particularly pronounced in old dorms, which have iron pipes. "The University is addressing water quality issues, but it requires new pipes," McDermott added. In older dorms with iron pipes, that means waiting until dorms are renovated to replace pipes.

Also during the Senate's meeting Wednesday night, student body vice president Brian Moscona suggested that the Senate look into holding its meetings in a different residence hall each week. He said it would be another way to reach out to the student body.

"We've been trying to get people to come speak on podium and get more interested in Senate, but that hasn't been too successful," Moscona said. He added that going directly to where students live might increase student involvement.

However, some senators expressed concern about logistical arrangements for moving meetings out of the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune. One senator questioned whether all dorms had enough space to host a meeting with 25 senators.

"I think it's great that we're trying to reach out to students, but I'm wondering about accommodations in some of the dorms," said Moscona.
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Don't let up on tailgate pressure**

So the tailgate talk on campus has died down a bit since home football season ended. Well, I for one, don't plan on letting it go that quietly. The administration has yet to issue a statement on their new policy, and they will continue to act in the same manner as if they don't think they're doing anything wrong.

ND and South Bend Police continued their ticket writing at the last home game against Navy, a parent's weekend, during a weekend that is supposed to be of family reunions and get-togethers. Would it really hurt Notre Dame to set up a parents' lot for tailgaters? After all, they do pay an enormous amount of money for us to go there. And that money is used to pay the salaries of the same administrators turning around and punishing us and even threatening our parents.

I have another idea! Instead of the whole "Parents Lot for Tailgating," how about everyone on campus that doesn't have a fake ID gets one. We can all head out to the bars on Saturday mornings? Then we can all get in cars and drive back to campus! What a great idea.

Wait, here's another idea. Maybe a bit more severe. If someone simply takes two minutes out of their day, right now, and writes ResLife (302 Main Building), for those of you that haven't had to send them anything yet, a love letter about how you, yes you, feel about the tailgating issue. We can write letters without getting a citation, right?

Some people may get the impression that I don't respect the authority of the police because of this article. But, I grew up respecting those people that police the streets for the public; those who fight in wars; those who arrest murderers or criminals. But my respect for those who in normal, loving, caring trouble isn't so high.

Let me give you a "For Instance." You're at a family function drinking out of a red cup. Notice I didn't say if there was alcohol in said red cup. Are you breaking the law? YES! This for instance happened, and the said person was issued a ticket and court date. This person actually doesn't attend the University. Next year, this same person received a letter from the University of Notre Dame banning ANY future involvement with Notre Dame.

Banning someone that doesn't go here? How on earth is this going to enforce that law? What happens if they're "caught" on campus again? Is ResLife going to send a second letter in bold letters saying "We're Really Serious This time"? I don't think I would like to say thank you to all the wonderful undercover policeman on duty this football season for a job well done! The next chance I get, I'll come to your house and watch you without you knowing it and there and write you a citation the next you take a nip out of a red cup.

I want another tailgate forum RIGHT NOW.

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

**BEYOND CAMPUS**

**Iowa State backs anthrax sample destruction**

AMES, Iowa — A month after the anthrax samples at Iowa State University were destroyed, veterinary medicine officials remain confident about their decision.

The Veterinary Medicine Labs at Iowa State destroyed its entire collection of anthrax samples Oct. 11-12 in response to bioterrorism scares and security concerns. The decision was made following a false connection of Iowa labs to anthrax outbreaks in Florida and the passing of guards at vet med labs.

"On Oct. 9, a media report out of Florida stated that the anthrax that killed a man in Florida was stolen from a lab in Iowa," said James Roth, professor of veterinary microbiology and preventative medicine.

Roth said the FBI reported the connection was false several days later. However, Gov. Tom Vilsack had already responded to the situation by posting guards at the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Veterinary Services Laboratory and the Veterinary Medicine Labs in Ames. Guards also were posted at the University of Iowa Hygienic Lab.

"The Iowa Highway Patrol stood guard outside of our laboratory for 24 hours a day because (Vilsack) wanted to make sure that no one could come in and take any of our anthrax samples," Roth said. "They stayed until we destroyed the samples." The decision to destroy vet med's collection of anthrax cultures was made by Vet Med Dean Norman Cheville, Associate Dean Don Reynolds and Roth.

Vet med personnel asked the state department of environmental health to contact the FBI and Centers for Disease Control about the relevance of their samples, Cheville said.

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA**

Officials: Student ineligible for post

The recent discovery of a past felony conviction likely will prevent University of Nebraska- Omaha student body President-Demain Coran from taking office. A 1997 federal felony conviction recently was reported out of Chicago for possession of marijuana and a firearm.

Coran's criminal history by posting guards at police stations and having the state constitution, which declares in Article 15, Section 2, that "no person convicted of a felony shall be eligible to any such office unless he shall have been restored to civil rights and the comfortable life,"

"We're not going to do anything to the state constitution, which declares in Article 15, Section 2, that "no person convicted of a felony shall be eligible to any such office unless he shall have been restored to civil rights and..." but in the meantime, the University of Nebraska- Omaha was informed by the University of Nebraska- Omaha that the student has been ordered to make sure that no one could come in and take any of our anthrax samples, Cheville said.

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Lecturers worry about job security

University of California-Davis lecturers were not rehired as they reapply for their positions every year and would lose what little job security they have if the university is considering replacing them with cheaper, temporary employees. Until recently, none-senior faculty in the College of Letters and Science were granted one-year contracts for six years before being considered for a three-year contract. However, Elizabeth Langland, dean of the humanities, arts and cultural studies division of the College of Letters and Science, informed lecturers earlier that no more three-year contracts would be granted, effectively dismissing lecturers who had worked at the university for six years. This decision was postponed when university officials decided to keep the affected lecturers for at least one more year. According to UCD English department lecturer Michael Offner, the loss of experienced lecturers would hurt UCD academics, especially if their replacements are hired temporarily and not offered eventual three-year contracts.

**LOCAL WEATHER**

5 Day South Bend Forecast

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*The AccuWeather.com forecast for noon, Thursday, Nov. 29. Lowes expected high temperatures for the day.*

**NATIONAL WEATHER**

*The AccuWeather.com forecast for noon, Thursday, Nov. 29. Lowes expected high temperatures for the day.*
Former GE chief to speak at University

Jack Welch, one of America’s most respected business leaders and the recently retired chairman of the board and chief executive officer of General Electric Company, will speak at Notre Dame at 5 p.m. Tuesday in Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

Because the seating capacity of the auditorium is limited, those wishing to attend the lecture are encouraged to arrive early. For those unable to find seating in the auditorium, the speech will be broadcast simultaneously in 101 DeBartolo Hall and in designated classrooms within the Mendoza College of Business.

Following the speech, Welch will sign copies of his best-selling autobiography, "Jack, Straight From The Gut," in the atrium of the college.

Welch, GE’s chair and CEO from 1981-2001, increased the company’s market value from $16 billion to more than $280 billion during his tenure. He consolidated 150 business units into 12 basic businesses in an informal, "boundaryless" organization to meet his goal of creating "a big company body and a small company soul."

Under Welch, GE spent more than $20 billion on new acquisitions, including the NBC television network and the Kidder Peabody & Co. brokerage firm, and sold any business that did not rank first or second in its field.

For four consecutive years GE was named "Most Admired Company in America" by Fortune magazine and "Most Admired Company in the World" by Financial Times.

In September, Welch published his autobiography, "Jack, Straight From The Gut," which quickly became a New York Times No. 1 best seller.

Born into an Irish-Catholic family in Salem, Mass., in 1936, Welch received his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Massachusetts and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois. He was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from Notre Dame in 1994.

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MEAR 103

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Revelation to Revolution: Jews, Christians, and Muslims up to 1000 AD
MELC 242 (Crosslist: HIST 242, MRIT 356)

Intro. to Islamic Civilization (in English)
MELC 244 (Crosslist: HIST 244, ANTH 344, SOC 244)

For more information contact
Joseph F. Amici, jfa3@nd.edu

Wings continued from page 1

when he died.

After the performance, Chapmyn said that this was her favorite piece thus far since it is about staying strong and not letting a tough event in life bring you down.

Almon and Chapmyn also sang a prayer to the blessed mother, and changed the words to "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death" to include new lyrics, "I will fear no evil, but I will sleep with the alarm set," and "If I lay down in your green pastures I will have a Doberman with me."

The play featured "I am a boring story," a skit about women on welfare.

Almons said this skit is her favorite as she can identify with it. She used to look down on sinners, but now she finds herself needing help. She sees women dealing with it.

Week's Notre Dame-Army men's basketball game in the Joyce Center was dedicated to prostate cancer awareness. A high-flying dog was among the halftime acts that performed.

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Wednesday's Notre Dame-Army men's basketball game in the Joyce Center was dedicated to prostate cancer awareness. A high-flying dog was among the halftime acts that performed.
**World News Briefs**

**War on terror enters 2nd phase:** The war on terrorism will enter a "deteriorative and considered" new phase that will take it beyond the current campaign in Afghanistan, Prime Minister Tony Blair said Wednesday. Blair was responding to a lawmaker who asked him to rule out military action by the U.S.-led coalition against other countries such as Yemen, Somalia or Iraq.

**Pope condemns embryo cloning:** Pope John Paul II, emphasizing the Vatican's condemnation of human embryo cloning, on Wednesday criticized scientific experiments that threaten the dignity of a human life. The pontiff urged doctors attending his weekly public audience to "defend the indissoluble compromise life and the dignity of people, operating with respect to moral law."

**National News Briefs**

**Storms strike Plains and Midwest:** Motorists slid on ice-coated highways in Texas and Oklahoma on Wednesday and hulking shelters had trouble keeping up with demand for warm clothing as the southern Plains got its first taste of winter. The storms were blamed for hundreds of traffic accidents, with one fatality in Oklahoma. One day earlier, the upper Midwest was surprised by a separate storm that produced up to 29 inches of snow and was blamed for five deaths.

**Arsenal found in Maine home:** Sheriff's deputies found a cache of weapons, including machine guns and bazookas, in a hoody-brapped basement when they went to serve a restraining order at an upscale home in Baldwinsville, a rural Maine town. Authorities on Wednesday continued to search for the man who lived there, 43-year-old William Blundon. They said they did not know what he intended to do with the weapons.

**Indiana News Briefs**

**Obscenity trial jurors view sex tapes:** The sounds of heavy breathing, moaning and background music filled a courtroom as jurors began watching 11 hours of sexually explicit tapes in an adult bookstore owner's obscenity trial. St. Joseph Circuit Court Judge Terry Crane has said the videotapes must be viewed from opening to closing credits for jurors to decide whether the material meets the legal definition of obscenity. Robert Henderson, 56, owner of the Little Denmark bookstore in South Bend, faces seven counts of distributing obscene mate­rials and two felony counts of racketeering.

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**U.S. creates quick-reaction force**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Infantry from the Army's 10th Mountain Division have crossed from Uzbekistan into northern Afghanistan to serve as a quick-reaction force in case of renewed Taliban resistance around the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, officials said Wednesday. The rapid-reaction force apparently was not in the area when Taliban prisoners staged a bloody prison revolt Sunday. The CIA confirmed Wednesday that one of its officers, Johnny "Mike" Spann of Windfield, Ala., was killed in the riot. He was the first American known to be killed in Afghanistan since U.S. bombing began Oct. 7.

U.S. military personnel also are surveying airfields near Mazar-e-Sharif and Bagram, north of the Afghan capital, in anticipa­tion of using them to expand the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies, officials said. Several hundred Army and Air Force special operations forces have been inside Afghanistan for weeks, working in small teams linked with opposition forces in northern and southern parts of the country. The only other U.S. ground troops known to be in Afghanistan are Marines setting up a base near the southern city of Kandahar.

**Egypt denounces U.S. force on Iraq**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Egypt urged the United States on Wednesday not to use military force against Iraq or any other Arab country in its campaign against terrorism. Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher said any punishment for defying the United Nations and not permitting the inspection of suspect weapons sites should be meted out in other ways.

Iraq should respect U.N. resolutions, but the resolutions do not authorize a military attack as punishment, the Egyptian minister said. And using force against Iraq, he said, "would have a negative impact" in the Arab world and in the United States itself.

Maher was in Washington for meet­ings on Thursday with Secretary of State Colin Powell and members of Congress. He said President Hosni Mubarak had sent him to register Egypt's solidarity with the United States against terrorism.

"We believe America may require the use of force, it should not become the same as a continuous campaign," Maher said in a question-and-answer session at the Brookings Institution, a private research group. "The President Bush on Monday told the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to allow U.N. weapons inspectors back and warned "he'll find out" the consequences if he does not yield.

Bush deflected questions about whether Iraq would be next in the U.S.-led fight against terrorism, "First things first," the president said. On Wednesday, Secretary of State Colin Powell said he would advise people in the Middle East "to listen carefully to what the President said. "The President said the Iraqi regime should allow the U.N. inspectors back in to complete their very, very impor­tant work," Powell told reporters.

Officials within the administration are in the midst of a debate over whether to take military action against Iraq. Powell is generally con­sidered to be less hawkish than some senior Pentagon officials.
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WASHINGTON

The recession and the costs of war and battling terrorism have made annual federal deficits likely for at least the next three years, the White House budget director said Wednesday.

Mitchell Daniels was one of the gloomiest assessments yet of the government’s fiscal health. And it was the first time an administration official has publicly acknowledged that deficits — banished since surpluses first appeared in 1998 — are likely now for several years.

"It is regrettable my conclusion that we are unlikely to return to balance in the federal accounts before possibly fiscal 2005," Daniels said in a speech at the National Press Club. He added, "Things will have to break right for us to do that."

Daniels' comments further underlined what has been a turn-around in the government’s budget picture of unprecedented abruptness.

The record $237 billion surplus of fiscal 2000 shrank to a $127 billion surplus in fiscal 2001, which ended on Oct. 1. Though Daniels provided no figures, private analysts and many congressional aides have long expected a 2002 deficit that will be well in the tens of billions of dollars.

Until several months ago, most forecasters were envisioning an ever-growing string of budget surpluses for the next decade, fading as the huge baby boom generation begins to retire. Last spring, official surplus projections for the coming decade totaled $5.6 trillion.

As recently as August, the Bush administration was predicting a 2002 surplus of $173 billion, down from its $231 billion forecast made in April.

But then the recession — now officially pegged as having started last March — took hold, and the condition of the government’s books began to weaken. In addition, President Bush pushed a $1.35 trillion, 10-year tax cut through Congress, further eroding the projected black ink.

Another severe blow was dealt by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, which staggered the economy and triggered tens of billions in spending for anti-terrorism, the war in Afghanistan and economic recovery.

Daniels acknowledged that as a result, the administration would lower its long-term growth estimates, which means the government would expect to collect less revenue than it would with stronger growth.

"This has profound effects, when compounded over time, on the amount of money that we can expect to have available in the federal treasury," Daniels said.

To try to force a return to surpluses, Daniels said the administration would propose a fiscal 2003 budget early next year that is generous toward defense, anti-terrorism and other high-priority programs, but seeks to trim other programs that seem less necessary.

He cited the National Science Foundation and food aid for women, infants and children as important and effective programs. He said the government has too many job-training programs and seemed to suggest that border protection programs could be made more efficient.

He also said the budget would propose some automatic adjustments that change their status so they must be approved annually by Congress or the money would not be spent.

Daniels provided no examples, but such a proposal would be likely to face tough going from lawmakers eager to protect constituencies who currently receive such aid. Two-thirds of the $2 trillion annual federal budget — including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, welfare, farm aid — are currently for programs in which benefits are paid automatically, without annual congressional approval.

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Respect every person’s dignity

"When the death of a disabled infant will lead to the birth of another infant with better prospects of a happy life, the total amount of happiness will be greater if the disabled infant is killed. Therefore, if killing the hemophiliac infant has no adverse effects on others, it would accord­ ing to the total view, be right to kill him. The main point is clear: killing a disabled infant is not morally equivalent to killing a person. Very often it is not wrong at all."

A sixth grade class at Benjamin Franklin School in Teaneck, New Jersey was asked to comment on this statement in three paragraphs. The statement can be attributed to the illustrious Peter Singer, founder of bioethics at Princeton University’s Center for Human Values.

"Not only has this detritus infiltrated one of our nation’s universities, it has found its way into the hands of public school teachers. Isn’t it nice to know, parents, that your children are being taught by such progressive-minded, forward-thinking individuals?"

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

Christine Niles is a student at the Notre Dame Law School. Her column appears every other Thursday. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Today’s Staff

News
Jason McFarley
Andrew Thagard
Meghanne Downes
Sports
Katie McVoy
Viewpoint
Teresa Fralish

Observer/NDToday.com Poll Question

Given Bob Davie's statement that he will resign "under zero circumstances" do you think he will have a new coach next year?

Vote at NDToday.com by 5 p.m. today.

Quote of the Day

"How can there be too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers."

Mother Teresa
Catholic sister
Someone on this campus wants to sex me up. More or less. First I’d like to think those who took the time to reply to my last column about sex. I appreciate the feedback, supporters and detractors alike, because I believe that even those who disagree with me are entitled to their completely wrong opinions.

The column had more an impact than I’d anticipated. In the course of two days I went from a complete unknown to a mark staked by veritable hand murders. Actually, people did seem to know who I was all of a sudden. I was confronted by people in my classes whom I had never talked to randomly turning to me with comments like “39 seconds, eh?” and “You don’t really think Jesus was gay, do you?”

My favorite fans of course, were the females, many of whom now look at me with a mix of curiosity and revulsion. A typical conversation would go like this: Girl: Hey, you…? Me: [feigning humbleness] Oh, you read it? Girl: Yeah. I loved it! I told all my friends that I know you, and they want to meet you now! Me: [switching to scary/awful voice] Just send them to my room.

Getting back into my desk chair, I realized that it was decision time. After a quick check in the appropriate Dogbook, I discovered with relief that it was indeed a female student who had written the e-mail, and not the middle-aged, morbidly obese mail I had immediately pictured. I had the very real prospect of semi-anonymous, totally meaningless sex in front of me. I could feel a long succession of men urging me not to pass up the opportunity. Hugh Hefner, Will Chamberlain, Cassanova and for some reason Abraham Lincoln all appeared before me and told me to go for it.

At the same time I had some misgivings. Health issues came to mind first. Any woman who would solicit a total stranger over the Internet based on the notion of being an old man could hardly claim to have any social conscience. Plus, at the same time the “If clause of the proposition worried me. “If I was attracted to you” was the stipulation for the proposed sexual skirmish. I panicked. What if I met her and she wasn’t attracted to me? Could my ego take that kind of hit?

Could my very manhood take rejection from the self-proclaimed “horniest person on campus”? I have a feeling that upon being rejected by her, my genitals would simply implode of their own volition — but that solution is just too simple for some people.

In his letter that appeared Wednesday, Bryce Cooper opposes legalization of drugs for three reasons: 1. the financial benefit to the individual taxpayer is minimal, 2. legalization does nothing to prevent the crime and 3. the government should not shrink the responsibility of protecting its citizens; however, over the years, drug laws increase and the government is often dreadfully behind the time.

It is no longer accepted in the medical community that one puff on a joint will send you into an oblivion.” Indeed, marijuana has been found to have more medicinal effects, such as treating cancer patients. It has been utilized by those suffering from chemotherapy.

Yet, marijuana isn’t its much less potent and much more useful relative, hemp is still treated as if it were the devil’s weed.” While across-the-board legalization would not solve America’s drug problem, there is a grain of truth in the idea.

No one can make the blanket statement that “All drugs are bad” or “All drugs are good” because each drug is different and will elicit different reactions based on the circumstances around the person using it. Smoking the pot is also listening to some Bob Marley is going to result in an entirely different experience than smoking marijuana and being chased by a pack of rambunctious pit bulls.

Joe Muto

Linna on a Prayer

Is it hypocritical in support group policy?

Not to bring up the whole sex issue again, but it seems that our wonderful University has worked itself into a bit of a contradiction. While reading my daily copy of The Observer, I noticed a promotion for the “6th annual retreat for gay, lesbian and bisexual” students at Notre Dame. Not only advertised in the newspaper, but it’s also sponsored by Campus Ministry.

Before making my point, let me insert the customary disclaimer that I am not, in any way whatsoever, opposed to homosexuality. In fact, I embrace it, whether it’s genetic or not. However, I only petition to the University that it recognize and accept homosexuality as a legitimate sector of the Church towards homosexuality.

Again, I’m not even Catholic so I’m not arguing for or against their policy, but it seems to be directly in the face of the reasoning behind our school’s sexual abstinence rules.

However much illicit sex goes on at Notre Dame, whether condoned by the University or not, they are far from recognizing it as an acceptable practice.

Why then is homosexuality not only recognized as acceptable, but also supported by these same governing bodies? If the reason for not allowing sex is that it does not promote a Catholic lifestyle amongst the students here, how can anyone believe that the school is really in favor of supporting homosexuality?

Could it simply be that Notre Dame does not have to fear the American Civil Liberties Union breathing down its neck by banning sex? Imagine the uproar if a student were to go before the disciplinary board for being gay. Take the easy way out much?

If this is simply a matter of avoiding civil liberties lawsuits, let me express my disgust. Not that I’m in favor of anything like frivolous lawsuits that will only result in tuition increases, but I’m even less in favor of adhering to a school which fully resists the pursuit of hypocrisy.

At least the Church’s position against homosexuality is biblically based and not completely arbitrary like its aversion to premarital sex. And let me not even bring up the potential for losers to be set together which would almost certainly lead to an undermining of the sexual rules which1s, indeed seems so adamant about upbringing. So why is one more acceptable than the other? I mean that it all boils down to money, like everything else here; but if anyone has another hypothesis, feel free to lay it on the table.

Joe Muto is a sophomore Film, Television and Theatre major who hopes to single-handedly usher the phrase “sex is one you up” back into the mainstream. His column appears every other Thursday. He can be reached at jsnlu@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Letters to the Editor
MOVIE REVIEW

‘Harry Potter’ fans rejoice in film

By MEG RYAN

The day children and adults have anxiously been waiting for finally arrived on Friday, November 16 when "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone" hit theaters around the world.

Based on author J.K. Rowling’s first book of the series, which sold 45 million copies worldwide, "Harry Potter" tells us about a 11-year-old boy named Harry who resides in a tiny bedroom under the stairs of the magical world of Hogwarts and the characters that reside there.

And it’s no wonder fans couldn’t wait to see how Warner Bros. would capture Rowling’s book, which is nearly as exciting as the legendary author’s story. The tale of magic and the world of wizardry, and discovers the truth about his parents.

Avid Potter fans couldn’t wait to see how the movie would bring to life to the magical world of Hogwarts and the characters that reside there. The story is immediately called to fidelity to Rowling’s book. In fact, the author was involved in much of the filming. Even so, many doubted the movie would match up to the book (the movie is never as good as the book), but in Rowling’s story, the movie gave an amount of detail about all of the scenes and characters. Going into the theater, each reader had his own vision of Hogwarts and its characters.

Not many viewers were left disappointed.

For starters, the entire cast consists of British actors that are all perfect for their parts. No one is miscast or out of place. The three main child actors — Daniel Radcliffe as Harry, Rupert Grint as Harry’s redheaded sidekick, Ron Weasley, and Emma Watson as the Sorcerer’s Stone sidekick, Hermione, the know-it-all who tags along in the adventure — play their roles wonderfully. Other actors with stand-out performances include Alan Rickman (“Dumbledore”) as Professor Snape, the head of Harry’s rival house whom the kids think is out to get our protagonist, and Robbie Coltrane (“Hagrid”), the giant who looks after Harry and helps the kids along their way.

The book’s magical scenes are brought to life with elaborate sets and costumes thanks to the work of production designer Stuart Craig and costume designer Judianna Makovsky. One of the most impressive sets, although not central to the story, is the Great Hall at Hogwarts where all of the children and professors eat. Flowering candles light the room, and the ceiling looks to be the open sky. As all of the kids sit down, food instantly appears on the tables before them. Each South Dining Hall was so nice. Hundreds of extras and an enormous amount of food are used to create scenes in vivid detail.

Another sequence to look out for is the grand game of wizard chess that has the children playing on a life-size chessboard in their quest to save the Sorcerer’s stone.

The action-packed game of Quidditch keeps viewers on the edge of their seats as the kids fly around the field passing the quaffle and seeking the snitch.

Regardless of whether or not they’ve read the book, viewers will not be disappointed with “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.” The movie tells the book’s

MOVIE REVIEW

Redford and Pitt make it more than

By JUDE SEYMOUR

"Spy Game," the new Tony Scott film, is a study in the art of cutting corners. Robert Redford cuts down on his last day at the CIA. The veteran spy played by Redford ingeniously pieces together tiny deceptions under his bosses’ noses in order to execute a more masterful plan. Unfortunately, for his character, Scott has cut corners as well, focusing his attention primarily on flashy camera movements, rapid editing and glitzy flashbacks instead of being concerned about character development. Therefore, the film’s main value lies in its sheer escapism, in a plot that encapsulates several mini-climax-es to provide numerous delights to its audience.

Redford plays Nathan Muir, an elite spy embarking on his last day in the CIA. Through a friendly contact, Muir learns before work that one of his brightest CIA trainees has been thrown into a Chinese prison during an unsanctioned search and rescue mission. This spy, Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt), will be executed for his actions by Chinese prison guards in 24 hours, but the CIA is wholly unconcerned. After all, intervention on Tom’s behalf might hurt current U.S.-Chinese trade talks.

This admission is quite alarming in the wake of current feeling, in which this country would gladly alienate a foreign country in order to recapture one of our own. Thus, the movie presents its only sensational idea: the CIA is going to abandon their own spy and then cover up the whole thing.

"Spy Game" is largely comprised of flashbacks, as Muir narrates his interactions with Bishop to CIA associates, who are collecting background information. Muir recounts his first meeting with Bishop in Vietnam, his training in Bishop in France, and finally, their extensive work together in Beirut before leading his narration back to the present (which the movie establishes in 1991), in which Muir notes he doesn’t talk to Bishop anymore.

The training sequence is the most enticing of these flashbacks, but Muir’s narration is immediately called into question. The audience is aware, through bathroom breaks and fake telephone calls, that Muir is scheming to rescue Bishop without the CIA’s knowledge. Therefore, it becomes a distinct possibility that his narration is part fabrication. The movie should have explored this plot angle as an intriguing complement to the story’s action: could Muir get away with his cavalcade of lies to agents trained in intelligence? Instead, Muir’s narration is truthful, and honesty is just not as exciting.

Despite having a flat character dynamic, Redford continues to amaze with his nonchalant acting style. His performances have always excelled at making the audience forget they are watching an actor; his facial gestures and body language feel more rooted in the Redford than in the Redford.

Thus, the movie presents itself as a well-acted search and rescue mission. That calls, that Muir is scheming to rescue Bishop, that Muir is scheming to rescue Bishop.

Director: Tony Scott
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Alan Rickman and Robbie Coltrane

Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

As CIA agent Tom Bishop, Brad Pitt (right) is trained under the guidance of mentor Nathan Muir, played by Robert Redford.

Not many viewers were left disappointed.

For starters, the entire cast consists of British actors that are all perfect for their parts. No one is miscast or out of place. The three main child actors — Daniel Radcliffe as Harry, Rupert Grint as Harry’s redheaded sidekick, Ron Weasley, and Emma Watson as the Sorcerer’s Stone sidekick, Hermione, the know-it-all who tags along in the adventure — play their roles wonderfully. Other actors with stand-out performances include Alan Rickman (“Dumbledore”) as Professor Snape, the head of Harry’s rival house whom the kids think is out to get our protagonist, and Robbie Coltrane (“Hagrid”), the giant who looks after Harry and helps the kids along their way.

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Regardless of whether or not they’ve read the book, viewers will not be disappointed with “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.” The movie tells the book's
tale thoroughly even though many parts were edited out it's already two and a half hours long. And while Hogwarts is a far off place, the magic comes to life through the story, characters and sets. Viewers can't help but wish they had gone to Hogwarts, belonged to one of the four houses and taken flying lessons in gym class.

"Harry Potter" has made a record-breaking $188 million dollars in its first 10 days of release (and that doesn't count all the people that snuck in using their invisibility cloaks), and may go on to break "Episode One"'s 13-day record of $200 million. It seems that Harry Potter fans, young and old, are proving to be just as devoted as "Star Wars" fanatics.

Contact Meg Ryan at mryan@nd.edu.

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**Coens release an invisible 'Man'**

By MATT NANIA
Scene Movie Editor

The Coen brothers are two of Hollywood's most versatile filmmakers, and in the 17 years since their debut feature, 1984's "Blood Simple," they have both exemplified and defied their roles as contemporary auteurs. This has never been more apparent than with the release of "The Man Who Wasn't There."

"Man," an entry on the heels of their Oscar-nominated comedy "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" and showcases the filmmakers' familiar taste for irony, but it does so in a far darker and more stylistically stimulating context.

The most obvious element of this context is the black-and-white film noir genre in which it inhabits. While this choice may have some Hitchcock fans up in arms, it is relative new ground for the Coens. Regardless, director Joel Coen and cinematographer Roger Deakins show no lack of skill in the medium, manipulating light and shadow to give the film a depth it would have easily lost in color.

Now, for those adverse to the non-color format, it should be noted that it's easier to stomach the black-and-white frames because the story takes place in 1949, and, given the low-key nature of the production, the audience might be easily fooled into thinking they're watching a restored print of some long-forgotten noir suspense flick. That is, if not for the dominating presence of Billy Bob Thornton ("Sling Blade"), whose wretched, weathered face fills every frame with a powerful, stoic silence.

Thornton is Ed Crane, a barber in the quiet town of Santa Rosa, California content to live his life as the number two man at his brother-in-law's barber shop and as the husband to his wife, Doris (Frances McDormand, "Almost Famous"). The two live a lifeless existence and Ed suspects Doris is having an affair with her boss (James Gandolfini, "Spy Game"), whose weathered face fills every frame with a powerful, stoic silence.

In contrast, the plot itself is occasionally overwrought, with too many subplot and genre elements. But the dialogue is often as low-key as the cinematography, with long stretches of Ed's own words ("It's a free country," he says). Nevertheless, looking for a change of pace, he agrees to finance a dry-cleaning venture run by a seedy, traveling salesman. He then blackmails Doris' boss to get the necessary money. It is the film's production as a whole that is the black-mall plot, something of a new start for the aperatic men, the jokes are often as low-key as the more stimulating context.

Regardless, director Joel Coen and cinematographer Deakins effectively weave light and shadow together for a priceless noir feel that adorns the story and setting to the point of beauty. Fans of the Coen brothers' previous efforts won't be disappointed, because amidst all this artsy expertise is a healthy sampling of the filmmakers' ironic wit.

Although less pronounced than it was in "O Brother," it is still present. "There," it is more at home here, in the same way it was in 1996's "Fargo." "Man," however, doesn't offer side-splitting laughter like its predecessors: the jokes are often as low-key as the entire production.

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Joel and Ethan Coen have sold acquired tastes, and those who have managed to do so will be suitably equipped to deal with the brothers' tendonitis. Like Ed Crane, the Coens are content to quietly ply their trade, to the inevitable delight of American movie audiences.

Contact Matt Nania at mnania@nd.edu.

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**Just a 'Game'**

Robert Redford (right) and Brad Pitt lend their natural talent to Tony Scott's "Spy Game."

(c) Catherine McCormack, "Braveheart." This case provides no differentiation between the espionage and the so-called tender moments, which is frustrating. "Spy Game" is a thriller with twists that could be found in any James Bond movie. Scott uses a frantical pace to keep the action pulsating. However, the on-screen dynamic between Redford and Pitt is this movie's catalyst. The pair's solid acting and intelligent script bring the story to life, making for an enjoyable viewing experience. The film is so sure of itself that it comes off as effortlessly entertaining. It engages its audience in competent suspense and, if not that, in the amount of visual complexity stuffed into every frame this is a cinematography-lover's dream come true.

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Contact Matt Nania at mnania@nd.edu.

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**"The Man Who Wasn't There"**

out of the box

Director: Joel Coen
Starring: Bob Thornton, Frances McDormand and James Gandolfini

Contact Jude Seymour at seymour.7@nd.edu.

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5 early season questions

November is a great time of year to be a college basketball fan. With so many huge non-conference matchups up over the past few weeks we have already been treated to some excellent hoops.

The early season games are an excellent chance for teams to see where they stack up against other quality opponents, while it gives coaches the opportunity to evaluate their personnel and make adjustments.

As we head into the beginning of conference play next month, here are five questions that have already arisen this season:

1. What does all the parity in college basketball this season mean?

Within just the first three weeks of the season, we’ve already seen four top 15 teams lose to unranked opponents (Western Kentucky stunned pre-season No. 9 Kentucky at home last week and took No. 11 Eastern Washington 77-76).

The greatest upsets occurred at last week’s Maui Invitational when Ball State reached the finals of the tournament after defeating Nos. 5 Kansas and 6 Oregon on consecutive nights.

The Cardinals could not keep the magic rolling as it lost to No. 1 Duke Blue Devils in the finals, but they do deserve credit for making a significant amount of credit for not backing down from the Jayhawks, the Bruins and the Blue Devils.

This parity should not really be a big surprise. After all, with so many elite teams losing players early in the NCAAB Draft, there is no such thing as “Cougars” or “Hilltoppers” at the beginning of the year anymore.

Teams with players leaving early have decimated Michigan State, St. John’s and Arizona, forcing them to play lineups filled with freshmen and sophomores.

Smaller schools with veteran lineups have a golden opportunity to experiment with the inexplicable of traditional powershouses.

2. Can anyone beat Duke?

At this point in the season, the answer to this question is probably not.

Once again the Blue Devils boast the most talented starting lineup in the country as they have steam-rolled their way to an impressive 5-0 record.

While the Blue Devils and Bruins have highlighted highly underrated Seton Hall in the opening game of the Maui Invitational escaping with an 80-79 victory, they have been on cruise control in their last four games including a 80-62 victory over No. 13 Iowa in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

While last year’s UCLA Bruins has proved once again why he’s the best point guard in the country, it’s hard to argue that the Blue Devils are so unstoppable is the emergence of small forward Mike Dunlevy.

Dunlevy has picked up right where he left off from his MVP performance in last year’s ACC/Big Ten Challenge against Arizona.

Dunlevy leads the Blue Devils in scoring with just under 18 points per game. His versatility with his ability to play on the floor is an absolute nightmare for opposing coaches.

If Dunlevy continues to play like he is in his senior year's NCAAB Draft, there is no such thing as “Cougars” or “Hilltoppers” at the beginning of the year anymore.

He could also find himself as one of the stars in next year’s NCAAB Draft.

3. What is the best conference?

For the second straight year, the answer to this question is the ACC. The ACC boasts three top-10 teams this year with the Big Ten, No. 4 Maryland, and No. 8 Virginia.

Maryland may be the only team who can challenge Duke this year, but the Cavaliers have the talent to compete with anyone in the country.

Maryland has recovered nicely from its surprising season opening loss to previously unranked Arizona. They have been very impressive in their 76-63 victory over No. 25 Boise State on Tuesday.

Maryland will face Duke twice this year in what could decide the ACC regular season championship.

No. 24 Wake Forest with new coach Skip Prosser has been an early season surprise as they reached the Finals of the NIT tournament last week and took care of Minnesota on the road in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

The Big Ten does not appear to be as strong this year as it has been in the past as the Big Ten did not look like the No. 2 team in the nation against Maryland because of their guard play.

Starting guards Frank Kaminsky and Travele Jones shot a combined 7-30 against Maryland while allowing Maryland point guard Steve Blake to penetrate the Illinois defense and dish the ball to Maryland sharpshooter Juan Dixon who finished with a game-high 25 points.

No. 13 Iowa did not look like it belonged in the same game against Duke either, while No. 17 Michigan State is in a rebuilding this year after losing four starters from last year.

Although No. 24 ranked Indiana suffered a one-point setback to upset Marquette in last week’s Great Alaska Shootout, expect IU to compete for the conference championship at the end of the year. The Big Ten has not looked great so far, but remember, it is still only November.

4. What happened to North Carolina and Matt Doherty?

Remember two years ago when the Tar Heels hired Matt Doherty away from Notre Dame? Well, two years later the Irish under Mike Brey may have the better team.

The Tar Heels have started off this season by suffering embarrassing losses against Hampton and Davidson.

While the team is predominantly made up of freshman and sophomores, the Tar Heels have no excuse for how poorly they have played especially considering the way other teams have persevered with young lineup.

Senior Joseph Cortopassi and Kris Lang must play better if the Heels hope to turn their season around.

Life won’t get any easier for UNC. The ACC’s toughest conference in America, and the Heels will have to face Duke, UVA, and Maryland twice during the regular season.

If Doherty does not lead the Heels back to a record 28th straight NCAA tournament appearance at the end of the season, don’t be surprised to see Heels fans demanding for a coaching change.

5. How good is Notre Dame?

The jury is still out on this one. So far, Notre Dame has looked very impressive on its way to a 5-0 record against lesser competition. However, many teams ranked in the top 25 have struggled against schools as smaller conferences so maybe the Irish are better than most college basketball analysts originally thought.

Reportedly, the Irish blew out New Hampshire in their home opener while No. 15 Boston College struggled to defeat Western New Hampshire 80-77.

The Irish are deeper this year and they have more options offensively no longer being able to rely on the departed Troy Murphy to score a bulk of the points.

Freshman point guard Chris Thomas has been out performing the Irish in his return from a suspension last week in winning the Pacific. Hawaii Pacific Thanksgiving tournament giving the Irish an intimidating presence in the paint.

This week’s schedule will get much tougher in the next few weeks as they face some pivotal games against DePaul and Indiana.

Reportedly, the Irish in the Big East will be a tough task for the Irish.

The opinions expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Observer or licandro.J @nd. edu
Hearings address team elimination

Associated Press

NEW YORK

Hearings will start Tuesday on the players union grievance to strip baseball owners from eliminating two teams before next season.

Lawyers for players and owners met with arbitrator Shyam Das on Wednesday, and the sides agreed to two days of hearings next week in Irving, Texas, where the executive board of the players' association is scheduled to hold its annual meeting.

The hearing shifts to New York for four consecutive days of testimony starting Dec. 10.

Union lawyer Michael Weiner said the sides agreed to additional hearing dates in November if they are needed.

Players claim the Nov. 6 vote by owners to eliminate two teams violated their labor contract, which expired the following day but remains in effect.

 Owners have not picked the teams, but the Montreal Expos and the Minnesota Twins are the leading candidates.

Owners took no additional steps on contraction when they met Tuesday because a Minnesota judge issued a temporary injunction Nov. 17 that forces the Twins to play home games at the Metrodome next season. Baseball and the Twins have asked the Minnesota Supreme Court for an accelerated review, hoping the injunction will be lifted.

It is unclear how long the grievance hearings will go on or when Das will rule.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig said the elimination of teams would happen, but acknowledged the timetable was out of his control.

**MLB**

Warner looking to make comeback

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS

Kurt Warner isn't used to missing his target.

The St. Louis Rams' quarterback — who's connected on 69 percent of his attempts this season — is coming off the first game in his 37 career starts in which he completed fewer than 60 percent of his passes.

Against Tampa Bay on Monday night, Warner was 19-of-39 for 291 yards and one touchdown, with two interceptions.

"I don't look at the numbers," Warner said Wednesday as the Rams (8-2) returned to practice. "I watch the tape, though. I didn't make enough plays, bottom line."

Before Monday, he had 13 straight games with a completion rate of 60 percent or better.

But the Buccaneers aren't the first team to give the 1999 NFL MVP trouble this year — Warner has thrown 11 interceptions the last four weeks.

On Wednesday, Rams coach Mike Martz faulted his play selection.

"I think I could have called a much better game for him, to be honest with you," Martz said. "I could have given him better opportunities in the passing game."

Martz, meanwhile, has several injuries on defense. The Rams will be without end Leonard Little (knee), linebacker Don Davis (twist) and strong safety Adam Archuleta (ankle) for Sunday's game at Atlanta.

"I'm being honest with him" Martz said.

"When you're playing a good defense, you'd better be on top of your game and we obviously weren't, and it showed."

Warner, meanwhile, has several injuries on defense. The Rams will be without end Leonard Little (knee), linebacker Don Davis (twist) and strong safety Adam Archuleta (ankle) for Sunday's game at Atlanta. Safety Kim Herring (hip pointer) might be out. **NFL**

Reuters

**Saturday, Dec. 1**

7:00 p.m. Mass, His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, o.m.i., President, National Conference of Catholic Bishops

7:00 p.m. ND Hockey vs. Lake Superior, Joyce Center Fieldhouse

7:30 p.m. Movies: Legally Blonde and Clueless, DeVilbarto 101 and 155*

7:30 p.m. Play, "Antigone" Washington Hall*

8:00 p.m. ND Collegium Musicum

8:00 p.m. 807 Mass, Lounge, Coleman Morse Center

8:30 p.m. - Midnight ND Express Pool Room open, free billiards, LaFortune Student Center

9:00 p.m. Midnight ND Express Pool Room open, free billiards, LaFortune Student Center

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Free ice Skating, Joyce Center

10:00 p.m. Movies: Legally Blonde and Clueless, DeVilbarto 101 and 155*

11:00 p.m. Tournament Fridays, Chess, LaFortune Student Center Notre Dame Room

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**ND AFTER FIVE**

**Thursday, Nov. 29**

7:00 p.m. Film, Into the Arms of Strangers, Carey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library*

7:00 p.m. College Bowl Quarter Finals, LaFortune Student Center, Notre Dame Room

7:30 p.m. Play, "Antigone" Washington Hall*

7:30 p.m. Howard Marshmallow Toast, South Quad

7:30 p.m. Lecture by George Weigel, "John Paul II: A Life for Life", McKenna Hall Auditorium

8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Drop In Lacrosse, Rolfs

8:30 p.m. - Midnight ND Express Pool Room open, free billiards, LaFortune Student Center

9:00 p.m. College Bowl Semi-Finals, LaFortune Student Center, Notre Dame Room

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. CLUB ND, dance and free munchie buffet, Alumni-Senior Center

9:00 p.m. Acoustic Cafe, LaFortune Student Center Huddle

10:00 p.m. Movies: Legally Blonde and Clueless, DeVilbarto 101 and 155*

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**Friday, Nov. 30**

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Drop In Badminton, Rolfs

7:30 p.m. Movies: Legally Blonde and Clueless, DeVilbarto 101 and 155*

7:30 p.m. Play, "Antigone" Washington Hall*

7:30 p.m. Alasdair Maclntyre lecture, "Pain, Grief and Other Signs of Life", McKenna Hall

8:00 p.m. ND Collegium Musicum

8:00 p.m. 807 Mass, Lounge, Coleman Morse Center

8:30 p.m. - Midnight ND Express Pool Room open, free billiards, LaFortune Student Center

9:00 p.m. Crafting Corner: Bead Jewelry, Dooley Room, LaFortune Student Center

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Free ice Skating, Joyce Center

10:00 p.m. Movies: Legally Blonde and Clueless, DeVilbarto 101 and 155*

11:00 p.m. Tournament Fridays, Chess, LaFortune Student Center Notre Dame Room

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: www.nd.edu/~sao/**
NCAA FOOTBALL

Ohio quarterback pleads no contest

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio
Ohio State quarterback Steve Bellisari pleaded no contest Wednesday to a drunken driving charge and will serve three days in jail after the Buckeyes play in the Outback Bowl on Jan. 1.
The 21-year-old senior co-captain also was sentenced to three days in an alcohol diversion program.

"It was his call because he wanted to get it over with," said defense attorney Sam Weiner. A second, less-severe drunken driving charge and two traffic misdemeanors were dismissed by Judge H. William Pollitt Jr.

Bellisari, a three-year starter, was reinstated for one game, against archrival Michigan but did not play.

Bellisari pleaded no contest by Judge H. William Pollitt Jr. Pollitt suspended Bellisari's driver's license for six months, fined him $350, put him on probation for two years and sentenced him to 180 days in jail, then suspended all but six of those days.

"If you violate your probation, you have 174 days on the shelf that you must serve," Pollitt said.

Bellisari, who barely spoke during the hearing, said as he left court that he would now focus on his football career.

Weiner told the judge that Bellisari did "one stupid, unthinkable thing and it has cost him dearly.

Bellisari, of Boca Raton, Fla., will serve his jail time Jan. 11-13.

He struggled early in the season, but played at his best in the two games before the arrest, wins over Minnesota and Purdue. In nine games, Bellisari went 98-of-185 passing for 1,599 yards with eight touchdowns and six interceptions.

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Happy New Year!

By Frank Santoni, Assistant Director, Special Projects

5...4...3...2...1....Happy New Year! Happy New Year? But it's still November! That's right, but on Saturday when we turn our calendars to December we will be on the eve of entering into a new year. Sunday is the first day of Advent making it the first day of the Church's new liturgical year. Advent, a lot like Lent, is a special time of preparation as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas time.

It used to be that the day after Thanksgiving marked the official beginning of the "Christmas season." Each year it seems, however, that Christmas decorations appear earlier and earlier. Pre Christmas and Pre-Pre-Christmas sales fill the stores by early November. But Advent is its own unique time on the Church calendar that unfortunately often gets lost amidst the rush toward Christmas. As a community of faith, it is important that we set aside this time in anticipation of Christmas, when Christ's first coming to us is remembered.

Advent signals that the Lord is coming. Advent comes from the Latin word for an "arrival" or a "coming." How can we use this time to set our minds and hearts to take in the Christmas miracle more fully and deeply? Being deliberate about the way we prepare for Christmas helps to keep us focused on the true meaning of God's gift to us in the miracle of Jesus. It helps keep us buffered from the inevitable crush of commercialism that marks this time of year. Advent carves out some time for us to properly think about and pray about the celebration we are about to enjoy on December 25th.

Advent also calls us to think ahead to Christ's second coming at the end of time. In fact, the Scripture readings for Mass this Sunday kickoff Advent with a challenge to be aware of that second "coming". One way to respond to the challenge Advent poses is to consider all of the ways Christ comes to us each day. During Mass we encounter Christ in the Eucharist and in the Word of God proclaimed. We see Christ in the face of the person with no home, no food, no freedom. We embrace Christ in a broken loved one. How is each one of these encounters an invitation to welcome Emmanuel, God with us, in new and meaningful ways?

Like all seasons in the Church, Advent has its own traditions and symbols to help evoke reflection on the coming Christ. You may notice Advent wreaths with three purple candles and one rose-colored one up near the altar or at the back of the church. The circle shape of the wreath represents God's eternal nature and that of the love He has given us in Jesus, the Alpha and Omega. The evergreen expresses God's unchangeableness and the eternal life we find in Christ. The purple candles, like the purple associated with Lent, remind us that Advent is a time of preparation and longing, while the rose candle symbolizes joy and hope. Red ribbons stand for the blood Christ shed for us on the cross.

The Advent wreath is only one of the traditional elements that Advent brings. Who doesn't remember waiting eagerly as a kid to flip open the tiny little doors on an Advent calendar to get to the piece of chocolate hidden behind it. Making and decorating a Jesse Tree is also a creative way to "arrive" differently this year, keeping in mind that Advent offers us a perfect way to do just that. We see Christ in the face of the person with no home, no food, no freedom. We embrace Christ in a broken loved one. How is each one of these encounters an invitation to welcome Emmanuel, God with us, in new and meaningful ways?

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So, celebrate the new year that begins this weekend. Think about how you might approach Christmas differently this year, keeping in mind that Advent offers us a perfect way to do just that.
Irish
continued from page 20
"We didn't come out on fire. They wanted it more than we did."
Despite many opportunities, the Black Knights struggled
to put points on the board, as only two players logged dou­
bled figures.
Senior guard and captain Chris Spatola scored a team­
high 19, while forward Matt Collins added 11.
No other Army team mem­
ber scored more than four.
Notre Dame's sluggish start is of some concern to a team
that is set to face a tough week ahead when it takes on DePaul, Indiana and Miami (Ohio) on the road.
"If we come out like that again we're going to get our
hats handed to us," Graves
said.
The Irish travel to Chicago's United Center Saturday for
what the Irish see as their
toughest test yet when they take on DePaul at 1:30 p.m.

NBA
Hill's bone spurs unrelated to ankle injury
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. Orlando Magic forward Grant
Hill has had his surgically
repaird left ankle and was
scheduled Wednesday to return.
The Spurs are not related to
the ankle injury that sidelined
Hill for all but four games last
season. Dr. Mark Myerson said
from his office in Baltimore.
Myerson performed bone-graft
surgery on Hill's ankle in
January.
"As a rule, these spurs will
respond to a short period of rest
and therapy, and do not require
surgery," Myerson said.
Orlando spokesman Joel Glass
said that Myerson and the team's medical staff will contin­
ue to evaluate, monitor and treat the soreness in Hill's left
ankle.

RELIGION AND LITERATURE MINOR

The Religion and Literature Interdisciplinary Minor would like to
announce the fascinating breadth of courses being offered in the
Spring semester. These include courses which address religion and
literature's role in courses on the art of mythology, the Romans and
their gods, revelation and revolution, and Chinese ways of thought,
to name only a few.

If your intellectual curiosity includes a cross-disciplinary interest in
religion and literature's historical and contemporary interconnections
and you would like to enroll in the Minor, or if you are already a
participant, please visit our web site for further information or
contact either of the following:

JOSEPH BUTTIGIEG: TEL 631-7781, EMAIL: BUTTIGIEG.1@ND.EDU
COLLIN MEISSNER: TEL 631-3654, EMAIL: MEISSNER.1@ND.EDU
Web Address: WWW. ND.EDU/RELLIT

KEOUGH INSTITUTE FOR IRISH STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES, SPRING 2002

IRISH LANGUAGE

Beginning Irish I IST 101.01 MWF 8:30-10:25 Brendan Keogh Student Introduction to modern Irish and the original Irish language. Basic principles of grammar and sentence structure, as well as more vocabulary. Emphasizes a focus on the application of these principles in everyday situations. Students learn how to conduct simple conversations, asking about oneself and asking information from others, talking about family and home, describing the weather and daily activities.

Beginning Irish II IST 102.01 T HU 11:00-12:15 Peter McQuaid Prequisites: QUI 101 or IST 101
This course introduces the reader to the Irish Language.

Intermediate Irish IST 103.01 MWF 10:40-11:30 Eamonn O'Connor Prequisites: QUI 109 or IST 102
A continuation of Irish I. A second semester course in the Irish Language.

HISTORY

Spring: Early Medieval Ireland IST 435.01 T 11:00-12:15 Al,bleen O'Dowd This course is a survey of the history and culture of the Irish and the other Celtic peoples from the pre-Christian era to approximately A.D. 1000. It explores both the Irish documentary sources in monastic,-, historical, mythological, and literary evidence.

Elites and their World IST 432/1 11:00-12:15 Brian Drainy This course looks at the great figures of the "Elizabethan Renaissance"—Shakespeare, Spenser, Spencer and Sidney—in wider cultural and intellectual contexts. Materials surveyed in the course include: the plays of Shakespeare, the landmark English renaissance poets which include contemptuous English people used to comprehend and control their changing world; Professor Crean Boyd of Trinity College Dublin will teach the course. Professor Boyd is here as the visiting Naughton Fellow Irish History at IST 307.01 MWF 10:40-12:25, D Smyth. This course consists of lectures and readings examining both political history and Anglo-Irish relations from 1831 up to and including the current conflict in Northern Ireland, He will be given to religious conflict, the develop­ment of economic and revolutionary nationalism, the clash of the national and the political problems of the faith. History of Idéal Ireland - Republicanism: History of an idea IST 444.01 MWF 10:40-12:25, D Smyth. This course is a brief examination of the history of Irish nationalism in the Irish state and in Transatlantic Europe by its main concern is the Irish 's intellectual-republicans of the 17th century, such as Marsham's Essay, John Milton and James Hanover; the transition of his ideas to 19th-century America; and finally, the particular venues of republicanism as it developed in Ireland in the same period.

Music History: Late Medieval/Early Modern Ireland Contemplating Composers The Struggle for Mastery in Ireland, 1470-1660 IST 447.01 T 10:40-12:25 Daniel Byrne. Starting on 1470, this course offers new perspectives on the struggle for mastery in Ireland. Investigating a range of primary sources, students will explore the multi-layered English context of Ireland and the diverse responses of the native culture to the growing English occupation and its impact on English and native national identity and religion and national culture.

The Irish Military Tradition IST 320.01 MWF 10:40-12:25 Eamon O'Carroll, IST 23T
The Irish Military Tradition: Tudor IST 23T. 10:40-12:25 Eamon O'Carroll in IST 23T. What better at Notre Dame than a course on the Filling Irish? Over the last five centuries, hundreds of thousands of Irishmen have engaged in military conflicts; in the same period, as many have also served in the armies of various European powers, the United States, Canada and Mexico. This course explores the changing political and ideological concerns of Irish military involvement; it devotes particular attention to Irish participation in the American War of Independence, the Civil War and the subjugation of the native population.

LITERATURE

Irish Fiction 1945-2001 IST 375.01 T 11:00-12:15 Mary Burgess Smyth. This course covers the work of the major Irish writers of fiction, some War G, Reckoning. From the work of such Irish writers as Roddy Doyle, Neil Jordan, Patrick Kavanagh, Eithne O'Briain, half-blooded and then the popularization of their works by a general audience and critical engagement in Irish Literature. IST 380.01 T HU 11:00-12:15 Eoin O'Sullivan. The idea of confinement-including metaphorical, real or illusory-in the decades of 19th and early 20th century Ireland is this course's central concern. Texts include: John Millington Synge's The Playboy of the Western World, Brian Storrie's Dracula, and W. B. Yeats's The Second Coming. An attempt to interpret the use of the universe and the supernatural in Anglo-Irish fiction of the 19th cen­tury. The works of the native lies include great novels as well as Gogol and "Big House" fiction (some of it by English& Irish) Edmund Burke's treatise on the Subjective will serve as a problem in passing for the course.

FILM STUDIES

National Cinema: Irish Cinema and Culture IST 334.01 T W 11:00-12:45, Luke Gilbotoin Prequisites: IST 344, Lab T 3:30-4:00 PM
An examination of the development of film in Ireland and Ireland and places its development in wider cultural and historical contexts. This course explores key historic events relating to gender, class and nation, particularly as they bear on images of romantic Ireland and modern­ity, landscape, the city, religion, violence, family and community.
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Onions * Green Peppers * Ham
Black Olives * Cajun Olives
Cheese * Ground Beef * American Cheese
Mozzarella Cheese * Extra Cheese

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Two Toppings $4.00, 3.25, 4.50, 5.50
Three Toppings $5.50, 5.75, 6.25
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Five Toppings $7.75, 8.25, 9.25
Six Toppings $9.25, 9.75, 10.50

DESSERTS
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Apple Pie $1.50, Dutch Apple $2.50
Cheesecake $2.75, Chocolate Mousse $3.25

BEVERAGES
2 Liter $2.00
Pepsi, Diet, Mtn Dew
Dr Pepper, Root Beer

ACCEPTING MAJOR CREDIT CARDS - PICK UP ONLY

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The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs
(Confidential information, education, and resources)
Contact: Sr. M.L. Gude, CSC, 1-5150, or student members (see web site for student contact info.)

Office of Campus Ministry
"CLB Together"-confidential group meetings which include prayer and discussion of spiritual issues; annual retreat; library with relevant reading materials,
Contact: Fr. J. Steele, CSC, at Steele.31@nd.edu, or Fr. Tom Schwartz at Schwartz.1@nd.edu

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BCS — It really works

We're nearing the end of November, and in the world of college football, that can only mean one thing.

That's right, it's time for the obligatory whining and railing about the inequities of the Bowl Championship Series — or, as it is more disdainfully known, the BCS.

For those of you who have been living in a cave for the past three years, the BCS essentially tries to provide college football with a true national championship game. Factoring in a combination of rankings, win-loss records, strength of schedules and other various statistics, the computer spits out the top two teams and pits them against one another in a BCS bowl game for all the marbles. It's a fine idea to be sure, but over the last couple of years the BCS and its creators have been the targets of a level of contempt and scorn usually reserved for criminals, sorority leaders and Bob Davie.

Just ask former Miami head coach Ritchie Dow, whose 10-1 Hurricane team was forced to watch 10-1 Florida State play for the national championship last year. Despite the fact that Miami beat the Seminoles in a regular season game.

The Hurricanes seemed so offended by the slight that one got the sense that BCS officials had asked them to play in the Motor City Bowl. The situation got even worse when television commentators and journalists jumped on the bandwagon and started taking Miami's cause.

To put it simply, the system just didn't seem fair. With all the criticisms that plagued the BCS last year, it's easy to classify the system as an inadequate means of crowning a national champion. But I'm here to tell you one thing: in a college football world previously dominated by random bowl selections, ranking uncertainty and split national titles, the BCS has been a godsend.

Think about it: Has there ever been a more definite and final way to end the college football season? One final showdown between the two best regular season teams is a perfect conclusion to a fortnight of exciting bowl games. Some have argued that a logical alternative is a March-Madness style tournament, probably consisting of about eight teams, in which the competitors battle it out on the playing field for the right to earn a national title.

While this suggestion does have some merit, it falls woefully short in the applicability department. Aside from the obvious problem of forcing players to compete well into the month of January and perhaps February, there are other drawbacks as well.

In essence, a tournament would only be widening the fringe, not eliminating it. Rather than including all tournament-caliber teams, officials would be forced to make arbitrary cutoffs to include some and exclude others.

Who draws that line? Who determines what teams should be invited? How do you objectively separate teams?

The BCS is clearly the fairest and most unbiased means to distinguish the top teams in the nation. Indeed, what other system adjusts itself in the offseason to accommodate change within its industry?

This year, in response to the Miami debacle, the BCS implemented a head-to-head component in the rankings to ensure that teams will have a chance over opponents who they have beaten.

The BCS is perfect. In fact, nothing is going to be more painful for me than to watch two Florida teams clash for the title on my beloved Rose Bowl turf.

But that's alright. I still will be eagerly awaiting a fantastic game between two quality opponents.

And something tells me that Miami won't be complaining this year.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Colin Boylan at colin@nd.edu.

HAPPY 19th BIRTHDAY ANDREW BOROWIECKI from Mom, Dad, Alex & Anna HAVE A GREAT DAY!

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**FOXTROT**

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**FOURTH AND INCHES**

**BEFUSED AND BEMUSED**

**IRISH HOCKEY VS. LAKE SUPERIOR STATE**

**CROSSWORD**

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**FOURTH AND INCHES**

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**IRISH HOCKEY VS. LAKE SUPERIOR STATE**

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**12/1: Saturday @ 7:05pm**

*FREE set of Notre Dame Hockey trading cards to 1st 750 fans! (featuring the ND freshmen)*

*Post-game autograph session!!*

**12/2: Sunday @ 5:05pm**

*FREE ponpoms to 1st 1,000 fans!*

*Win great prizes in between period contests!*
Irish start slow, finish strong in 86-49 win

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

Three teams showed up to play Wednesday in Notre Dame's 86-49 romp against Army: A Black Knight squad that plodded through 40 minutes of tough basketball, a lackluster first-half Irish team and a second-half Irish squad that delivered what Army coach Pat Harris deemed a "Good old-fashioned Irishland Whoop!"

Notre Dame, which came out flat from the opening tip-off, emerged from halftime with Ryan Humphrey at the helm. Thomas said, "We hit the 31 I knew the game was over." Humphrey's presence on the court was too much for an undersized Army squad to handle. The Black Knight defense struggled all night to close the inside lane.

"We have to establish our inside game first with Humphrey and Harold, Thomas said. "They had great players and great guards, but what they lacked was quickness inside. Humphrey is shooting great from the field. If he can do that, it continues to open up the perimeter.

Perimeter shooting came just as easy as the inside game for the Irish in the second half. As forward David Graves hit four 3s and notched 20 points while Thomas and Matt Carroll combined for 25.

Yet despite the lopsided scoring at the game's final buzzer, it took the Irish a while to put the Black Knights away.

Trading baskets for the first 10 minutes, the Irish couldn't find a rhythm as the Army squad played persistent defense.

Sparked by a three-point play by Humphrey and eight-straight Thomas points, the Irish went on a 12-0 run midway through the half to pull ahead with a 12-point lead.

The Army squad responded with five unanswered points before both teams hit a three-minute dry spell. The Irish led by only 12 at the half.

"They know how to play. They bother you and get into you," Graves said.

Freshman Chris Thomas escapes an Army defender during a commanding Irish victory against Army on Wednesday night.