College programs address campus violence

♦ Group examines student feelings on campus safety

By MYRA McGRIFF  
Saint Mary's Editor

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The survey was sent by e-mail to students in December. The task force got responses from 254 students. Fifty percent of the respondents said they were somewhat to very concerned about safety on campus. In contrast, 73 percent of the respondents were somewhat to very concerned about their safety outside of campus. The 23 percent difference may be due to the situation Saint Mary's and Notre Dame community setup, according to Henry. She said she believes that because of the Saint Mary's/Notre Dame dynamic students share a concern about safety at levels

NDToday doesn't endorse ticket

By HELENA PAYNE  
Assistant News Editor

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In the spirit of black history

In days of past my people lived in lands—divided chains around their necks, shackles around their wrists, and still in my eyes you can see their pain, their cries, despair. But given to them was something greater and through the beatings and exploitation it remained. I can remember the first time I heard "Wade in the Water." It was like honey mixed in lemon waiting to heal. It was the power of words that held sanity inside black folks heads when hands of oppression stomped in base.

Some ask how did black folks get the legs to run past it all, all the legs, all the ways it hurt and still rise. The sky say it is the wait? We survived in the way we learned to scream "Ossian God," on Mondays and dance on Sundays. We survived by lyrics of freedom songs and rumors of open opportunity past the Mason Dixon line. We hung on in the dust of dreams that mama's whispered in newborn babies ears. We hung on through losing mothers to fathers to daughters trying to get home. We hung on through losing babies' ears. We hung on through losing what we lived for.

And now, I ask what keeps me moving through the battle of today facing my black skin in the backdrop of society. I say it is this, these same people coming back to mind and remembering those people coming back to mind and remembering those people coming back to mind and remembering those people coming back to mind and remembering those people coming back to mind.

Walters, Saint Mary's Editor

BEYOND CAMPUS

Duke committee addresses sexual harassment

DURHAM, N.C.

Although Duke University established a standing committee designed to address sexual harassment in the physics department, many professors and students say a climate of discomfort still exists for women.

The Bryant Committee was created by Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences William Chafe in the summer of 2000 in response to several complaints of sexual harassment, both verbal and physical.

Since then, the Office of Institutional Equity has conducted a workshop with members of the department, distributed a brochure on gender discrimination and tried to foster a better atmosphere. But some professors and students say not enough has changed.

"We certainly did find there were problems," said Professor of Mathematics Robert Bryant, former chair of the Bryant Committee. "Some of those problems (might have been) simply because people weren't aware of what had been done or how things had been dealt with."

Bryant declined to specify the problems the committee found initially but said the group filed a confidential report with Chafe. In a Nov. 28, 2000, letter to the department, Chafe specified that the committee heard accounts from several people who suggested past instances of sexual harassment.

"These included inappropriate contact between staff or instructors and graduate students, use of language or display of pictures in public environments that were offensive to women and inappropriate requests that women perform tasks that seemed based upon their gender alone, such as cleaning up coffee spills," Chafe's letter read. "The committee found some basis for the assertion that the culture or climate of the department is sometimes perceived as unfriendly to women."

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

School resolves antisemitic remark

WASHINGTON

George Washington University professors with radical ideas who have faced the pending firing of a University of South Florida professor can breathe a sigh of relief. University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg said he disagrees with the way the USF is treating a tenured professor who has brought international attention to campus for saying "death to Israel" publicly.

Computer engineering professor Sami Al-Arian made the remark in a recent interview on CNN. But when Bill O'Reilly repeated the statement in a recent interview with him on his Fox news show, it threw the South Florida campus into a frenzy of security concerns and backlash. Al-Arian received at least one death threat, causing a full shutdown of schools, shutting down one day. The board of trustees voted 11-1 to revoke his tenure because the university is unable to function normally, according to comments in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Contact Myra McGriff at mcgriff@stmarys.edu.

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

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The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 633-4541 or we can correct our error.

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THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME / SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

ND alumnus killed in plane crash

Friday, February 3, 1989

Captain Joseph Nelli, a 1983 alumnus, was killed in an Air Force transport plane crash South of DYEBS Air Force base. He was the son of George Nelli, a former Computing Center administrator.

Regents increase Saint Mary's tuition

Monday, February 5, 1973

The Saint Mary's Board of Regents raised tuition by $50 per semester at its February meeting. The increase was the first since 1971 when the tuition was increased by a $100 per semester. Saint Mary's president Edward Henry said the increase reflected a higher cost of living.

SNOW CHANCE

BECAUSE WE'RE IN AN EL NINO FEAST

The observers have been predicting an El Nino winter in the upper Midwest and Pacific Northwest. The recent period of snow cover and cold temperatures may be due to a model error, not to the natural El Nino phenomenon. The observers have been predicting an El Nino winter in the upper Midwest and Pacific Northwest. The recent period of snow cover and cold temperatures may be due to a model error, not to the natural El Nino phenomenon.
The 2002 Primary Election will be held this Monday, February 11

See postings in your dorm for voting times and places

Off-Campus Students can vote by the 1st Floor DeBartolo Hall computer cluster
From 10 am until 1:30pm

Seniors can vote too!!!

Don’t forget to vote!!!

Sponsored by Notre Dame Judicial Council

STUDENT UNION BOARD is now accepting applications for EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

BOARD MANAGER
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING
CHIEF CONTROLLER
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING

all students are welcome to apply—applications can be picked up in the SUB office, 201 LaFortune and are due Thursday February 14th. Questions? Feel free to stop in, call 1-7757, e-mail sub@nd.edu, visit our new website www.nd.edu/~sub, or check out our IM name, ndSUBinfo

RUSSIA
Officials claim CIA report unfair

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia angrily denounced a CIA report that questions the Kremlin's willingness and ability to prevent the spread of nuclear technology and missiles to countries hostile to the United States and remaining international obligations to control the export of sensitive products and technology.

The unclassified CIA report on weapons of mass destruction has caused "not only extreme surprise but also serious concern" in Russia, it said.

"This is the first time in recent years that an official American document makes an attempt to question the devotion, willingness and ability of the Russian government to prevent the leakage of sensitive products and technology abroad," the Foreign Ministry said. "Russia strictly meets its international obligations to control the export of sensitive trade and technology.

CIA Director George Tenet told Congress on Wednesday that Russia is one of the leading suppliers of nuclear technology and missiles to countries hostile to the United States and remains "the first choice of nations seeking nuclear technology and training."

The CIA report to Congress, which covers the first half of 2001 but was released last week, said the Russian government's "commitment, willingness, and ability to curb proliferation-related transfers remain uncertain."

"Despite improvements in Russia's economy, the state-run defense, biotechnology, and nuclear industries remain strapped for funds, even as Moscow looks to them for badly needed foreign exchange through exports," it said. "We remain very concerned about the proliferation implications of such sales in several areas."

President Vladimir Putin has lent strong support for the U.S.-led campaign in Afghanistan, saying Russia long ago recognized the worldwide threat of terrorism. But President Bush's denunciation of Iraq, Iran and North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" that must stop pursuing weapons of mass destruction or face consequences presented a challenge to Russia, which has friendly ties with all three.

In Moscow, Iran's ambassador warned of unpredictable consequences if the United States uses force against Iran, saying "we will react as any country would," but Gholam Reza Shafei expressed hope that U.S. leaders "will come to their senses and will not allow this to happen." He did not elaborate on Iran's possible response.

Shafei dismissed as "baseless" allegations by top U.S. officials linking Iran to terrorist organizations and that it tries hostile to the United States and remains uncertain."
Tax
continued from page 1

refund for families with children under age 17, said Milani.
Senior Matt Dixon said he felt his involvement in the program benefitted the community.
"We're helping people save money on their taxes without paying for a tax preparer," he said. "They can get tax savings they wouldn't have known about otherwise. The earned income credit can save families up to $4,000." The Vivian Harrington Gray Tax Assistance Program began in 1972 with the vision of a law student and an MBA candidate who were looking to help taxpayers get special refunds offered by the state of Indiana.
They contacted Milani, who helped direct their efforts and instituted the preparatory courses in federal taxation and tax assistance.
The program has grown since then, filing over 2,500 tax returns last year and helping 1,430 local taxpayers.
"We try to get students at Notre Dame to be compassionate, concerned and committed. Here we add a fourth 'C' — competent. We have the best trained volunteers in the country," Milani said.
The program is not unique to Notre Dame, according to Milani, but three factors do distinguish this program from most schools with similar programs.

Web site
continued from page 1

McCarthy said.
He added that Judicial Council views NDToday.com as a "completely separate entity" similar to other campus publications. Palko and Mercanti have an official campaign Web site different from NDToday.com just as the other candidates do.
McCarthy said the message boards on NDToday.com criticize all the tickets — even Palko and Mercanti.
"They get made fun of just as much as anybody else does," said McCarthy.
Senior Scott Sutton, who regularly visits NDToday.com, said he doesn't think Palko's position with the site gives Palko/Mercanti an unfair advantage.
"I don't think there's really any conflict," said Sutton. He said he noticed that most of the messages that talk about the candidates are more fault-finding than laudatory.
"I don't think that he's been keeping the fact that he's the president to get votes from users," said Sutton. "I'd say he's doing it the fair and ethical way."
The site will still continue covering the elections as usual in a way that avoids bias "out of personal fairness to everyone else," according to Palko. Currently, the site collaborates with The Observer's Viewpoint section, which polls students on campus issues, including the student government election. In addition, NDToday.com has links to the Web sites of both student publications, The Observer and The Scholastic, which have their own endorsements.

Contact Helena Payne at payne.30@nd.edu.

Happy 21st

MULLET MAN

Say...

"Cheesecake"

Coffee, Bakery & Confections
From Here
Cheesecake from The Cheesecake Factory
Seattle Bistro's Coffee & The Republic of Tea
Joseph Schmidt's Chocolate from San Francisco
231 North Main Street, Downtown South Bend
233-646

Check it out!
New Valentine's Items

New International Study Program in
BRAZIL — Spring 2003
RIO DE JANEIRO
SÃO PAULO

INFORMATION SESSIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH
5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST
5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy

The perfect home: That's been your dream.
Now, with annual percentage rates as low as they are, you can live your dream. Notre Dame Federal Credit Union can help. We'll design a fixed or adjustable-rate mortgage around your specific needs. Plus, you can finance up to 100% of your home. And, we'll do it for you quickly, with no hassles. We even offer first mortgages nationwide! Still dreaming of your perfect home? Notre Dame Federal Credit Union will help make it a reality.
Defense
continued from page 1
that she had not experienced at other colleges.
"The relationship between Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame creates a host of issues that are unique to this situation," Henry said.

Compiling results from a question about what a student would do in a case of sexual assault, the committee can decide how to design new campus programming and rethink old policies.

Although 82 percent of respondents said they knew what to do in cases of sexual assault, only 28 percent knew what the College’s post-sexual assault procedures were. Henry said that part of the committee’s position will be to make students aware of existing programs.

"I think there is a concern that when there are programs that student take advantage of them," Henry said.

Additionally, 28 percent of respondents said they were somewhat to very knowledgeable about homophobia and violence against lesbian and bisexual students. Also, 20 percent of respondents said they were aware of racism or violence against students of color. This data may be used in the future to develop strategies for education, according to the task force.

"In the long-term, I think the committee should have a broad vision of what we see as violence, including violence against students, lesbian, racism and emotional abuse," Henry said.

In terms of education, the committee has already begun putting survey results into action. Even before the committee knew only 32 percent of their respondents were knowledgeable about self-defense, the committee proposed a solution: offer self-defense classes on campus.

"The self-defense classes are a direct result of the task force meetings," said Susan Dampeer, assistant to the president.

But the committee knows the classes are just a step in education. Once all the data is tallied by Mary Lelik, director of institutional research, and digested, the task force will meet again to brainstorm more ideas for programming and education.

Faced with the job of education, Henry stresses that the task force can educate Saint Mary’s women on how to protect themselves, but he hopes that the Notre Dame community can do the same.

"What I have seen (in the past) is men’s anti-violence task force, men leading the movement teaching men right and wrong," said Henry.

Susan Almeda, student task force member, hopes the task force establishes more inclusive orientation programming as well as programming throughout the year that involves all parts of the student body. However, to make the task force fully effective, Almeda also sees a need to increase student safety awareness beyond Saint Mary’s.

"My hope is that committee’s mission will expand the to Notre Dame, Holy Cross and greater South Bend college community," Almeda said.

Contact Myra McGriff at mcgr0181@Saintmarys.edu.

Saint Mary’s Self-Defense Survey
86% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues related to sexual assault
64% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about date-rape drugs
83% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about how to prevent sexual assault and rape
67% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about dating violence
72% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about emotional and sexual abuse
86% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues of sexual harassment

Somewhat to very much believe college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
20% Believe a little college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
40% Believe a little college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
50% Somewhat to very much believe college programming addresses issues of sexual violence

*Survey based on 254 respondents
The Relationship Expo

On Wednesday, I took my friend to the mall to find a Valentine’s day present for her boyfriend. As we wandered through the aisles of heart-bedecked cards, sprinkled with eight people who were essentially issued a gag order by the administration of either the Observer or the Editorial Board. All of these events were to meet a basic structural dirt doesn’t get a lot of attention among the readers of the paper, but it’s a tradition that cheats those tickets out of inquiring about the feasibility of another ticket’s goals. For him or her, relationships tend to be far too ambiguous. Furthermore, it brings the employers to bear on the Notre Dame election process. But until now, there was some way to remove that ambiguity, to take the guesswork out of dating. If only, I thought as I stared at a male and a female student would end in a relationship favorable to both, like a great résumé and a killer cover letter guaranteeing the attainment of the job of your dreams. I thought of the internship fair, a model of efficiency and order. For example, in each booth at the campus fair, displayed colored balloons, denoting the type of position that they had to fill. In a relationship, the decision is practically non-existent. Hardy a dinner balcony conversation passes without a lament from one of my friends, all female of course, about the terrible state of gender relations on campus. Most often, students blame the single sex system and partisanship for the pitiful state of affairs. They say the administration continues these traditions in a back-handed attempt to preserve the virtue of the students, to keep us — shall we say — from going over to the dark side. I disagree. The problems of gender relations stem from a basic structural flaw in the campus community. On a fundamental level, the dating scene does not cater to the mentality of the typical Notre Dame student. The typical student of this University operates according to definitive goals. He or she writes the to-do list each morning, details the precise steps to achieve an A+ in her favorite class and actively courtu the impact of its host or her résumé.

The Judicial Council cheated Wednesday. The body cheated the students who turned out for the election debate among the four tickets for Notre Dame student body president and vice president. But mostly it cheated the spirit of the political process on campus. The debate wasn’t a debate at all. Election officials organized a watered-down “meet the candidates” event where tickets merely plugged their platforms and answered Judicial Council-approved questions from campus media. There was no discourse between rival tickets. There were no questions solicited from audience members. There were no scripted, non-confrontational questions by eight people who were essentially issued a gag order by the administration of either the Observer or the Editorial Board. All of these events were to meet a basic structural dirt doesn’t get a lot of attention among the readers of the paper, but it’s a tradition that cheats those tickets out of inquiring about the feasibility of another ticket’s goals. For him or her, relationships tend to be far too ambiguous. Furthermore, it brings the employers to bear on the Notre Dame election process. But until now, there was some way to remove that ambiguity, to take the guesswork out of dating. If only, I thought as I stared at a male and a female student would end in a relationship favorable to both, like a great résumé and a killer cover letter guaranteeing the attainment of the job of your dreams. I thought of the internship fair, a model of efficiency and order. For example, in each booth at the campus fair, displayed colored balloons, denoting the type of position that they had to fill. In a relationship, the decision is practically non-existent. Hardy a dinner balcony conversation passes without a lament from one of my friends, all female of course, about the terrible state of gender relations on campus. Most often, students blame the single sex system and partisanship for the pitiful state of affairs. They say the administration continues these traditions in a back-handed attempt to preserve the virtue of the students, to keep us — shall we say — from going over to the dark side. I disagree. The problems of gender relations stem from a basic structural flaw in the campus community. On a fundamental level, the dating scene does not cater to the mentality of the typical Notre Dame student. The typical student of this University operates according to definitive goals. He or she writes the to-do list each morning, details the precise steps to achieve an A+ in her favorite class and actively courtu the impact of its host or her résumé.
Defending the parents of Walker-Lindh

Ed Fitzpatrick’s response to Scott Flipse’s letter, which appeared in the Feb. 5 issue of The Observer, was both immature and illogical. Although Mr. Fitzpatrick begins his letter by criticizing Mr. Flipse’s opinion, by calling it “liberal garbage,” Mr. Fitzpatrick does nothing but discredit himself. Such tactless attacks are not convincing, nor are they productive in engaging in a debate over such a decisive issue as that of Mr. Walker-Lindh. Mr. Flipse makes many excellent points, none of which Mr. Fitzpatrick even attempts to refute or answer. But because Mr. Fitzpatrick’s letter was so ridiculously off base, I feel that it deserves a response to prevent even one person from thinking what was written in that letter makes sense. Mr. Fitzpatrick begins by writing that Mr. Lindh, John Walker Lindh’s father, should also be tried for treason and cites the case of “Haupt v. United States,” 1947, as supporting evidence of his assertion. The problems with this argument are many. Firstly, no parent can be tried for their child’s actions, especially parents of children who are not minors — i.e. John Walker-Lindh, who is 20 — unless they knowingly and willingly were accomplices, thus violating the laws that punish accomplices. The Haupt case in no way resembles the Walker-Lindh case. Mr. Lindh did not even know where his son was, let alone assist him in any actions against the United States. Court records have shown, as well as statements by Mr. Flipse’s parents, that they had not spoken to their son for many months prior to his capture in Afghanistan. Additionally, a father fighting within the legal means for his son’s release by lawyer and talking to the press in a not only legal, but what almost any parent would do for his or her child. Finally, Mr. Flipse’s arguments continue to hold weight and are strong in their assertion that Mr. Walker-Lindh did not afford the United States justice must be respected while his illegal actions punished — despite the Walker-Lindh’s of the few in society such as Mr. Fitzpatrick and their call for ridiculous measures.

Maureen Gottlieb senior Caravan Hall February 6, 2002

Accepting Notre Dame gender relations

Though I’m only halfway through my career as a Notre Dame student, I’d like to go on record and say that I’m as aware of the gender relations issues on campus as any other Doner. But what is the problem exactly? Why must we endure the erroneous yet constant comments about the "lack of quality" in the females at Notre Dame? Why can’t guys go out on a limb and say that I’m as aware of the gender relations issues on campus as any other Domer. That’s the problem. This dilemma can be easily resolved by requiring Bouts to make weight before every fight. Yet, it is more time consuming process, but what is an extra hour to the increased safety it provides for Bengal Bouters?

Maureen Gottlieb

Suggesting changes for Bouts

"Strong Bodies fight that weak ones may be nourished." It is the famous saying Dominic J. "Nappy" Napolitano used to describe the spirit of the Notre Dame Bengal Bouts. The Bengal Bouts are a tournament unlike any other in the nation. In fact, Bengal Bouts is more than just a boxing tournament because it helps to improve the lives of people suffering from poverty. Every year the program sends thousands of dollars to Bangladesh to help those in need.

Mr. Fitzpatrick does not convince his reader that the Walker-Lindh case is any different from any other. In fact, the Walker-Lindh case is a tournament unlike any other in the nation. In fact, Bengal Bouts is more than just a boxing tournament because it helps to improve the lives of people suffering from poverty. Every year the program sends thousands of dollars to Bangladesh to help those in need. Students all across campus unite in many different forms to help make this tournament possible. Bengal Bouters have already begun training and are just a few weeks away from the tournament. These participants sacrifice their time and bodies to help people halfway across the world. It is the duty of Bengal Bouts officials to provide these participants with the safest and fairest tournament possible. I cannot ignore the safety and fairness issues that I and many others, feel need to be addressed.

So, I offer these suggestions to the coaches, captains and RecSports officials as a way of improving both the safety and fairness of the tournament. I hope that my suggestions will be taken seriously because they are not only the suggestions of an ex-bengal Bouter but also the suggestions of many current participants.

Seeding: Seeding does not ensure better fights on finals night nor does it ensure fairer and safer match ups. Seeding only benefits the “favorites” in each weight class. Since Bengal Bouts is not a tournament about winning or losing, why not treat all the Bengal Bouters as champions and give them all an equal chance to reach the finals by matching them through a random draw? By not labeling the Bengal Bouters with seeds their confidence can be helped. Whoever makes it to the finals will be there because they fought their way there and have earned it, not because they were the "favorites." Seeding: Seeding does not ensure better fights on finals night nor does it ensure fairer and safer match ups. Seeding only benefits the “favorites” in each weight class. Since Bengal Bouts is not a tournament about winning or losing, why not treat all the Bengal Bouters as champions and give them all an equal chance to reach the finals by matching them through a random draw? By not labeling the Bengal Bouters with seeds their confidence can be helped. Whoever makes it to the finals will be there because they fought their way there and have earned it, not because they were the “favorites.”

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Judging: A reevaluation is needed in the area of judging. Personally, I will not participate as a judge this year in hope that better judges can be found. Having 16 years of boxing experience with only 10 losses out of more than 100 fights, having judged in various amateur tournaments and being a Level II USA Boxing certified official, I feel very qualified to judge. However, fighters should never be judged by their peers, companions or family friends. An official within RecSports told me that he believed politics came into play when certain fighters fought. His insight cannot be overlooked — because he has been intricately involved with the program for many years. Also, a Bengal Bouter that expressed his discontent with the tournament last year received vehement letters from Bengal Bouts officials. One judge even went on to state, "...next year when I judge your fight. Be prepared. You pissed a lot of people off with this tournament last year received vehement letters from Bengal Bouts officials. One judge even went on to state, "...next year when I judge your fight. Be prepared. You pissed a lot of people off with this.

Good luck, Bengal Bouters! I encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to this year’s Bengal Bouts tournament even if you cannot attend. The money that you contribute will go to help people far less fortunate than you and I. Good luck, Bengal Bouters! I encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to this year’s Bengal Bouts tournament even if you cannot attend. The money that you contribute will go to help people far less fortunate than you and I.
COFFEE BEANS

Scene Staff Report

Escaping from the bubble of college life can be as thoroughly challenging as an Orgo exam or getting a date to an STR. Luckily, South Bend offers a number of bastions of sanity for Notre Dame and Saint Mary's overworked and overtired student bodies. An escape from the snow and 900-page Bible readings is as near as South Bend's off-campus coffee shops.

Lulu's Café

Students that want to take a quick break from the daily grind will find that Lulu's Café is as economical as it is enjoyable.

Lulu's has a surprisingly gourmet selection of munchables. The grill-toasted Brie and veggie sandwich is perfect for a light or late snack. For those students who can only scrounge up enough change from their futons, a peanut butter and jelly bagel is available for just $1. Patrons should also be on the look out for daily specials such as chicken-avocado wraps and New England clam chowder, which tend to be especially tasty.

Lulu's Café is owned and operated by '93 Notre Dame alumnus Steve Egan. Egan opened the coffee shop to better cater to its rhetoric, and attract a diverse range of patrons, from students and professional business people to bohemian artists.

Steve Egan, Lulu's Café owner, says, "Our staff will bring new things to the table. We try to keep things fresh and new." Steve Egan, Lulu's Café owner

Lulu's is located at 1631 Edison Rd. (on the corner of Angela Boulevard and Edison Road) in the "coffee hall" of Molly's Inn. It is close enough to the Notre Dame campus to take a five-minute bike ride or a 15-minute walk.

The café is open from 8 a.m. to midnight from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to midnight on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

C. Spencer Beggs

Molly McGuire's Coffee House

This is the stuff of legends: all those cherished stories from older brother's and freshman resident assistants, telling of Molly's predecessor and older sister, the bar known as Bridget McGuire's Filling Station.

Alumni still remember well the tale of Bridget's infamous downfall: on a cold January night in 1998, a police raid busted and ultimately shut down the popular underage watering hole.

Today, the familiar building still stands on the corner of South Bend Avenue and Eddy Street, but now its once-traditional cups of beer have been replaced with mugs of steaming coffee.

Molly McGuire's Coffee House entered the South Bend scene in 1998 and has since established a solid reputation for its eats, drinks and comfortable atmosphere. Yet this slice of Notre Dame history may have passed its heyday of appeal for the undergraduate population.

For starters, entering the bar-turned-coffee house feels a little like walking into grandma's place or that sweet old neighbor's living room. Rocking chairs, lace doilies on the armchairs, old family portraits mingled with antique toys on the walls make Molly's a far cry from the Filling Station of yore. The atmosphere is quiet, no music and few customers on a weekday afternoon.

But before writing Molly's off as simply a safe place to sedate the relatives on Junior Parent's Weekend, a money up to the bar-turned-lunch counter reveals a variety of interesting fare.

Molly's drink and food menus offer an solid selection. Italian sodas and iced coffees are a cool choice, while early Starbucks-schemed concoction of cafe-mocha-latte-americano to warm up these chilly February days. Chai, hot chocolate and freshly brewed pots of tea round out the list for those who

Lulu's Café owner Steve Egan '93 (left) in his coffee shop with "Lulu's Pals." From left to right they are: Nicole Kenney, Laura Flate and Josh Hermes.
d's off-campus coffee shop scene

have yet to develop the coffee addiction. This is what Grandma's kitchen nook was always best for, anyway: crafting a warm mug while all wrapped up in an afghan?

When hunger strikes (and it always does) the kitchen at Molly's boasts an impressive menu: lots of salads, soup, homemade sandwiches and tortilla wraps. Vegetarians will be (and should be) happy as clams here as well, with options like veggie sandwiches and hummus salads. The prices are just right for a student's budget, ranging from $4.95 to $5.95, and most dishes also come with sides like bread, soup or a muffin to make it a full meal. Clearly Molly's knows how to cater to the starving, caffeine-addicted college student. But as far as providing a trendy hangout or a haven for late-night studiers, the coffee house fails short. For weather students, the coffee house falls short. For weather students, the coffee house falls short.

Laura Kelly

Higher Grounds

"The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it. Then we switched to [selling] Numi because we wanted to do our own thing."

Higher Grounds clerk

"The lighting is conducive to study, if staring out the window doesn't prove too distracting. By day Higher Grounds is a doire, meditative establishment. Most customers appear to be locals on lunch breaks looking for a place to read the paper while indulging in a sandwich. For those who enjoy more exotic cuisine, the mushroom pita is an excellent choice. It features a grilled portabella mushroom on a wheat pita with lettuce and tomato. Other enticing lunch options include the slightly spicy southwestern sandwich and the Caesar salad. A cinnamon twist will fulfill that after-lunch or study break sweet tooth.

Higher Grounds also offers a large selection of Italian sodas, juices and Jones sodas. Nights at Higher Grounds are far livelier than the afternoons. On Thursdays, an open mic is extended to all poets and prose artists alike. The response covers a range of subjects and inspirations that generally offer something to everyone.

Friday and Saturday nights showcase live bands with music beginning around 7 p.m. Admission is $5 and the band generally determines the crowd. Faster-paced music like punk will attract younger South Bend natives. Campus bands usually ensure that the crown will be mostly University students. The rock band The Groove Side will play today and Jah Restoration, a reggae-influenced group, will play tomorrow.

Be sure to check the table on the left as of the entrance to Higher Grounds, as it is usually stocked with flyers on upcoming live performances by local bands. The biggest drawback to Higher Grounds is that they close at 10 p.m. For a relaxed, late-night spot to sip on a mocha and hear live music, students will have to look elsewhere.

However, to escape the bubble for a little while and hear something other than Dave Matthews, Higher Grounds will be sure to have a heavenly cup of coffee waiting.

Amanda Hughes

Contact C. Spencer Beggs at beggs.3@nd.edu, Laura Kelly at lkelly@nd.edu and Amanda Hughes at hughes.41@nd.edu
Torch arrives in Salt Lake City amid scare

* Police blow up suspicious package; authorities say bag was a "hoax device"

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY

Police blew up a plastic grocery bag filled with flares and electrical wiring Thursday, calling the package near the Olympic media center a "hoax device." Police said the bag might have been designed to see how authorities would react. It contained no explosives.

"There's some concern it was like a trial run," said Craig Gleason, a police department spokesman.

The bag was left near a parking garage several blocks from the media center, in a downtown area increasingly crowded with Olympic pedestrians the day before the opening ceremony. Security officials were studying videotapes for clues.

The package was, in fact, a hoax device," the Olympic Joint Terrorism Task Force said in a statement. "This was not an exercise.

Earlier reports indicated that the bag contained fuses due to some confusion after the officer on the scene used a long-term flare.

The bag was found around noon by construction workers, who notified security guards. A police bomb squad detonated a device next to it to make sure it wasn't an explosive, then set off a second small explosion to make sure the bag was destroyed.

"It was absolutely not an explosive device," Gleason said.

Officials vowed to prosecute anyone involved in the hoax.

Police evacuated two nearby buildings and military helicopters began hovering over the area. The FBI and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms were also on the scene.

The quick response by various police agencies is proof the Olympic security plan is working, said Robert Flowers, head of the Utah Olympic Public Safety Command.

"Everything is going the way it's supposed to," he said.

The site is about 40 yards from the Federal Reserve Building and across the street from the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Center, a park were organizers will hold some Olympic-related festivities.

Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson said he was satisfied with the police response.

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Torch wraps up two month journey across U.S.

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY

The Olympic torch entered Salt Lake City on Thursday the same way the Mormon pioneers did 155 years ago—aboard a covered wagon.

It took more than three decades, 13,500 miles and a bribery scandal, but the torch finally made it to town a day before the start of the Winter Olympics, rolling down Emigration Canyon with the Salt Lake valley below.

Thousands of spectators cheered as a runner jumped out of the wagon and ran toward a small stage, where a brief speech was made by an actor portraying Brigham Young.

Young led the Mormons to Salt Lake City from Illinois in 1847.

Utah civic leaders began trying to land the Winter Games in the mid-1960s, and finally convinced the International Olympic Committee to award them the games in 1995.

That victory later was found to have been partially secured with more than $1 million in gifts, scholarships and cash to a handful of IOC members.

Earlier Thursday, runners carried the Olympic torch past skiing venues in the Wasatch Mountains as it headed to its final destination.

The torch left the northern Utah City of Ogden at dawn, on its way to the mountains and Park City area.

Families lined the street in Midway, home of the cross-country skiing venue, and waved flags and cheered as the torch ran toward downtown.

Alan Truitt, 37, was the first runner to carry the torch in Midway, Truitt, who's on the board of directors of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, ran his two-tenths of a mile before passing the flame and getting swarmed by a dozen family and friends.

It was incredibly exhilarating, a tremendous rush," Truitt said. "I had a great feeling of pride.

The flame took a slow four-mile run from Soldier Hollow to Heber in a cauldron aboard the Heber Creep, an old coal-fired train. About 800 people gathered at the train station to greet the flame.

The torch was driven to Park City, home to slalom skiing and snowboarding events. Thousands of people—many in ski gear—crowded Main Street as the torch came to the historic silver mining town.

Kelli Milligan, a member of the 1984 U.S. cross-country ski team, ran the torch Thursday afternoon before passing it to her older sister.

"Honestly, I was really self-conscious. I didn't fall, break the torch or singe my hair," she said, laughing.

The torch was to pass through the Olympic Village, by the State Capitol and to Temple Square, home to the Mormon Temple.
No. 10 men rally against No. 7 Pepperdine, 4-3

Special to the Observer

No. 10 Notre Dame rallied from a 3-1 deficit to knock off No. 7 Pepperdine 4-3 in first-round action Thursday morning at the USTA/ITPA National Team Indor Championships at the Louisville Tennis Club.

The Irish won the doubles point, but lost the first three singles matches off the court before rallying to win the final three matches. Senior captain Casey Smith broke serve at 4-4 in the third set of the final match on court to gain a 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 win over No. 54-ranked Calle Hansen at No. 3 singles to clinch the victory.

"Pepperdine is a team I expect to be in the top 10 all year so we’re really excited to get the win," said Irish head coach Bob Bayliss. "Casey really fought hard. At the end of the match, we basically had our best fighter out there against their best fighter. It was like two heavyweights trading punches."

Notre Dame improves to 7-1 in singles matches off the court. Smith is 2-1 in singles, and junior Josh Schneider is 2-2 after losing two straight matches. Smith delivered a 6-4, 6-3 victory at No. 2 singles to help the Irish win the doubles point.

The Bulldogs will enter the NIT quarterfinals of the Team Championship in the top 10 of his last 15 matches.

The Irish advance to the quarterfinals of the Team Indoors for the first time since 1994 and will face No. 1 Georgia today at 12:30 p.m.

Notre Dame rallied to win the final two matches on court to win the doubles point. Johan Berg and Al Garland of Pepperdine drew first blood with an 8-2 win at No. 2 doubles. Smith and classmate Javier Taburba, ranked No. 4 nationally, then notched an 8-5 victory at No. 1 doubles over the No. 11-ranked team of Sebastian Graeff and Stefan Suter. Senior Aaron Talarico and freshman Brent D’Amico clinched the doubles point for the Irish with a 9-8 (7-4) win at No. 3 doubles, marking their first victory as a doubles team.

Pepperdine won the first three singles matches completed before the Irish took the final three points to gain the win. Graeff knotched the match with a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 6 singles before Garland, ranked seventh nationally in singles, delivered a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 1 singles. Suter, ranked No. 45 nationally, then gave the Waves a 3-1 lead with a 6-2, 7-5 win at No. 2 singles.

Then sophomore Luis Haddock-Morales started the Irish rally, notching a 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (6-8) win at No. 4 singles. Classmate Matthew Scott then won 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles to tie the match 3-3 and set up Smith’s clinching victory.

Haddock-Morales and Smith both improve to 16-2 this season in singles. Scott is 8-0 in dual-match action and has won 14 of his last 15 matches.

The Waves were the highest-ranked opponent to fall victim to Notre Dame since 1994 and are the 82nd team the Irish have defeated this season. Notre Dame downed then-No. 10 Duke 4-3 on Jan. 29 of this year and knocked off the then-No. 4 Blue Devils by the same score in 1994.

The Irish improve to 9-7 all-time in matches where both Notre Dame and its opponent are ranked in the top 10 in the country.

The win was the first for Notre Dame in three matches against Pepperdine. The Waves are the 82nd team the Irish have defeated under Bob Bayliss out of 90 opponents.

"It's always exciting to play the No. 1 team," said Bayliss. "But our guys are looking forward to the challenge."

Irish soar at Indoor Tennis Championships

No. 13 women earn revenge, defeat No. 7 USC

Special to the Observer

Notre Dame’s No. 13 women’s tennis team avenged an exhibition loss by upsetting No. 7 USC 5-2 in first-round action Thursday at the USTA/ITPA National Team Indoor Championships in the A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center.

The Irish won the doubles point and four of six singles matches to gain a victory and advance to the quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

Notre Dame will face No. 4 Vanderbilt Friday at 3:30 p.m. The Commodores defeated No. 17 Northwestern in first-round action.

The Irish improve to 3-3 this season and snapped a two-match losing skid. Southern California is 2-2 after losing two straight matches. UCLA defeated the Trojans 5-2 last weekend.

Notre Dame won the doubles point with wins at the bottom two positions. Senior Nina Vaughan and sophomore Alina Salas gained an 8-4 win at No. 3 doubles before the No. 53 ranked team of junior Katie Cunha and freshman Sarah Jane Connelly delivered an 8-6 upset of Anita Loyola and Luana Magnani, the No. 24-ranked team in the country, who had defeated Connolly and Cunha in fall action.

In singles action, Nos. 1, 3 and 5 were played first with the other three matches following. The Irish won two of three in each wave of matches.

Senior Lindsey Green registered an upset of No. 91-ranked Loyola 6-2, 6-3 at No. 3 singles, while Salas defeated Brymer 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles. Salas has a 9-0 career singles record in dual matches and has won nine in a row overall this season, as well as 12 of her last 13 matches.

Connelly clinched the Irish win with a 6-4, 6-3 triumph at No. 6 singles over Bernadette Bayani. After the outcome was determined, Vaughan gained a 7-6, 6-3 upset win over No. 34-ranked Magnani at No. 2, while Maureen Diaz won 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 10-8 (10-5) at No. 4.

The Irish and Trojans faced off last October in an exhibition match in the Eck Tennis Pavilion with USC gaining a 5-2 win. The Trojans won the doubles point and then gained victories at Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 singles.
Men
continued from page 20

Notre Dame players seem to know they have survived a conference slump and are ready to continue their winning streak well into February. "The season's rolling now," guard Matt Carroll said. "February makes or breaks teams. We've overcome lots of obstacles and hope we've passed that"

With a 16-6 record, the Irish are ready to prove they have what it takes to recapture their Big East West Division title. A huge hurdle in that quest will be Saturday's rematch.

"I think we were embarrassed after that game with Georgetown. And it has stuck with our players," Brey said. "We'll accept that challenge Saturday."

That challenge will be a formidable one as the Irish enter a particularly hostile arena.

Georgetown is enjoying a two-game winning streak, including a 15-point win over then No. 14 Syracuse, a team Notre Dame fell to earlier in the season. But the Hoyas have also dropped two games to No. 21 Pittsburgh, a team the Irish have downed twice.

If they Irish hope to walk away with a win Saturday, they'll have to pay particular attention to Sweetney. The forward, who received Big East Player of the Week honors last week, has led his team on both the offensive and defensive ends. He averages 19 points and 10 rebounds a game.

Tig- off against Georgetown is at 12 p.m. The game is televised on WNDU-TV.

Contact Kerry Smith at Smith.387@nd.edu.

SMC SWIMMING
Belles wrap up dual meets this weekend

By NATALIE BAILEY
Sports Writer

The 3-5 Saint Mary's swim team wraps up its dual meet season this Saturday with its final match against Kalamazoo.

After knocking off Albion last weekend, the Belles hope to carry that momentum into Saturday's meet and the MIAA conference meet.

Although Kalamazoo finished third in the MIAA last year, they have struggled this year. They enter Saturday's meet with a 1-4 record — with one of the losses being to Albion.

Belles' head coach Gregg Petrillo knows this meet does not come at the best time in his tapering schedule, but he remains confident that their team will do its best to win.

"I fully expect a mixed bag," he said. "We are going to have to take it event by event and person by person."

At this point in the season, lethargy and physical strain are simply the nature of a taper used to prepare swimmers for a large meet like the MIAA Conference Championships.

But the Belles have to fight more than fatigue and weariness — they'll need to take on Kalamazoo one of their top swimmers, Lane Herrington, junior co-captain of the team, has obligations towards an academic competition on Saturday.

"She is one of the top swimmers, so we will have to try harder without her," teammate Julie McGranahan said.

Despite the negative factors, the Belles believe this is the season's rolling well into February.

"If we accept that challenge this weekend, we will have proven what it takes to recapture their conference slump and are ready to prove they have what it takes to recapture their Big East West Division title. A huge hurdle in that quest will be Saturday'srematch."

But Kalamazoo isn't as good as last year and Saint Mary's is better, leading many Belles to believe they have the edge on Saturday.

"I would love to beat Kalamazoo but I would rather place better at conference," he said.

Contact Natalie Bailey at bail407@saintmarys.edu

Robert Hollander will discuss "Dante's Pride"
Friday, February 8, 10:30 am - 12pm
Special Collections Room, Hesburgh Library

DANTE'S
robert & jean hollander
INFERN0

Jean Hollander
Poetry reading & Book signing
Monday, February 11, 12 pm
Hammes Bookstore

"Virgil's Hard Afterlife" presented by Robert Hollander
Monday, February 11, 10:30 am
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

Co-sponsored by the Core Course, Student Union Board, Notre Dame Literacy Initiative, The Dante Program in Dante Studies, and The Medieval Club of ND, SMC & ILC.

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Friday & Saturday, Feb.15 & 16 at 7 PM
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For ticket information contact the Saint Mary's Box Office at 284-4626
Irish set for Big East tune-up

By DAVE COOK  Sports Writer

With the Big East championships just a week away, the Notre Dame track and field team hopes to carry their early-season success as they travel to Canada this weekend for the Windsor Invitational.

Entering into their fourth week of the indoor track season, the men and women's teams have posted a total of six NCAA provisional times and four automatic times that would qualify them for both the Big East championships on Feb. 16 and 17 and the NCAA championships on March 9 and 10.

In their first month of competition, two runners and two relay teams have posted nationally ranked times. Luke Watson and Ryan Shay are both ranked second in the country in the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter respectively. The men's distance medley team and the women's mile relay are both ranked third in the country.

"With the men, we can be a little bit farther along," Notre Dame head coach Joe Piane said. "I think that some of our distance guys are doing exceptionally well, and the same with our sprinters. But I think there are some other guys that can improve significantly, and I think we can get a little bit better in the sprints and field events area.

"If we want to do something in the Big East, we are gonna have to be a notch better or two." This weekend the team hopes to qualify a few more runners and prepare themselves for the Big East championships.

"Everyone is going there to prepare for the Big East meet. Some people haven't qualified and we still need to get them qualified," said Piane. "We're using this meet to give some people an opportunity to run on a 200-meter flat track similar to the one we'll be running on at the Big East conference meet," said assistant coach John Millar.

"It's a chance for them to gain experience on a smaller track. We're really using this as preparation for next week."

John Millar  assistant coach

"It was a great meet and everyone was really excited," Millar said. "The men's distance track is 320 meters long, so the sprinters are more accustomed to longer straights and shorter curves. It's a chance for them to gain experience running on a smaller track." Millar said, "We're really using this as preparation for next weekend.

The Windsor Invitational is an all day event taking place this Saturday at the University of Windsor. Tameisha King was named Most Outstanding Female Athlete in last year's Windsor Invitational. King and company hope it can carry its positive momentum into this week's meet and then into next week's Big East Championships.

Contact Dave Cook at dcook2@nd.edu.

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Special Thanks to the Facilitators of Urban Plunge!!!

Jay Caponigro  Addie Cashore
Donald Crafton  Mary Doak
John & Kathy Duffy  George Enderle
Tracy Frank  Patrick Gaffney
Rebecca Go  Stuart Greene
Carlos Jerez-Farran  Barry & Mary Ann Keating
Robert Kloska  Eileen Kolman
Louise Litzinger  Tom Rzemik
Kathleen Mack  John Schoenig
Jim Madden  Steve & Emily Skar
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Susan Ohmer  Jan Pilarski
Rev. Sam Peters  Sheila Provencher
Mike Horak  Jack Ruhe

The Irish Against CSU in Final Home Dual Meet

By SHEILA EGTS  Sports Writer

The men's swimming and diving team faces off against Cleveland State on Friday night, commemorating the first dual meet ever held in Rolfs Aquatic Center when it was built in 1985.

While Cleveland State defeated the Irish in their first meet 17 years ago, Notre Dame is prepared for an opposite outcome this time around.

Irish head coach Tim Welsh is emphasizing the 20 swimmers and three divers who are already qualified for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East Championships in two weeks.

"This meet is more or less a tune up for us before the Big East Championships which have been built in 1985. Since we don't have a chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East Championships in two weeks.

Our focus all season," said senior freestyler Earl Drury. "We have a few more guys who will use this meet to make a big effort and get the whole team qualified for Big East."

Travis Kline will race the 200 butterfly in a final attempt for a qualifying, but feels fairly confident about the event.

"I've been struggling to make the cut," said Kline. "I'm about a second off in the 200 butterfly," Kline said. "I know how to swim it, I've put in the yards, now I just need to get up and race."

Since this is the last dual meet of the regular season for the Irish, time will be taken on Saturday to focus on the event.

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Since this is the last dual meet of the regular season for the Irish, time will be taken on Saturday to focus on the event.

The men's swimming and diving team faces off against Cleveland State on Friday, February 8, commemorating the first dual meet ever held in Rolfs Aquatic Center when it was built in 1985.

While Cleveland State defeated the Irish in their first meet 17 years ago, Notre Dame is prepared for an opposite outcome this time around.

Irish head coach Tim Welsh is emphasizing the 20 swimmers and three divers who are already qualified for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East Championships in two weeks.

"This meet is more or less a tune up for us before the Big East Championships which have been built in 1985. Since we don't have a chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last chance for Irish swimmers to earn qualifying times for the Big East Championships in two weeks.

Our focus all season," said senior freestyler Earl Drury. "We have a few more guys who will use this meet to make a big effort and get the whole team qualified for Big East."

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Hockey  
continued from page 20
Dame has the No. 2 and No. 3 scorers in the CCHA with Connor Dunlop and David Inman respectively.
"In the past it has been the exact opposite," said Poulin. "We have had good defenses and no offense in the past, but this is the first time we have had a really proficient offense.
While the goals are nice, the Irish will need to play a complete game to knock off the Spartans. Michigan State is loaded with talent. Their top three scorers are forwards Brian Maloney and Adam Hall and defensemen John-Michael Liles.
The Spartans also thrive on special teams. They are first in the CCHA on the power-play, and first in the CCHA in penalty killing.
Michigan State boasts the top goaltender in the nation in Ryan Miller. Miller won the Hobey Baker award last season, an award is given out every year to the best player in college hockey.
This year in the CCHA, every team makes the post-season tournament. While the Irish are guaranteed a spot, that does not mean the team can afford to limp into the post-season with a losing streak. Notre Dame is still within four points of a having.
"If they do that, they will have to beat one of the elite teams in the country."
That daunting task begins tonight at 7:05 tonight in East Lansing.
Contact Matt Orenchuk at morenchu@nd.edu.


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GUESS WHO'S LEGALLY REDHEAD?
Happy 21st, Kinky K! Love, Nic Nac, Big Mac, Nana, & Leanne 03

Happy 19th Birthday  COURTNEY DOBLEMAN

We Love You!
M, D, T, P, M, J and K (M and A too!)
Women
continued from page 20

Stepherson is just an outstanding point guard."

The one thing Boston College has that Notre Dame doesn’t have is experience. Amber Jacobs and Stepherson, both
shooting in the double digits, are both veterans joined in
the paint by center Kim Mackie.

The freshmen have been carry­ing the Irish, especially in recent games
when Batteast has become the
go-to player and center
Teresa Barton has stepped up
in some dire situations. As
Notre Dame takes the court
on Sunday, McGraw will be
looking to her few veterans to
step up. "(Barton) has done so many
great things at critical times
and Jackie has been the go to
player," McGraw said. "But
certainly Ericka [Haney] and
junior Alicia [Ratay], we
expect them to lead us in
terms of playing a good
game."

Jeneka Joyce, who has missed the last four games
due to problems with her
Achilles heel, may be key for
the Irish. With the limited
number of veterans, her lead-
ership would be sorely
missed. After Wednesday’s practice, McGraw said Joyce
was probable for Sunday’s
game. "We really need
Jeneka in this game
in terms of
stability," McGraw
said. "I think she’s the
one who has a
lot of poise
and would help us in a
game like this."

Boston College brings a lot
of weapons to Notre Dame,
but with home court advan-
tage, the Irish toppled ranked
Virginia Tech by seven.
Tip off is at 1 p.m. on
Sunday.

Contact Katie McVoy at
mcvo5685@ saintmarys.edu.
FENCING

Top freshman fencer breaks foot

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

Against its toughest competitor in the Midwest Fencing Conference, Notre Dame will be battling short-handed.

Freshman epeeist Michal Sobieraj fractured a bone in his foot and will not fence against Ohio State this weekend in Columbus, Ohio. Sobieraj's injury which he suffered against Northwestern last weekend will keep him out for at least the next three weeks. The Irish expect their top male freshman to be ready to fence against at the Conference, by MIKE CONNOLLY, the Observer's Sports Editor.

The strength of the Buckeyes lies in their epee and sabre squads. National team members Colin Parker and Jason Rogers make Ohio State's sabre team one of the best in the country while epeeist Alan Jones led the Buckeyes to a 5-4 win against perennial power Penn State last weekend. The weakness of the Buckeyes lies in their foil squad. With Sobieraj out, Debic said his squad will try to build as big a lead as possible to make up for a weaker epee squad.

"We are going to have to try to make the biggest advantage possible because this is their weakest weapon," Debic said.

The sabre squad will have a little more pressure on itself as well this weekend with the epee squad down a man. Crompton said that Ohio State's squad is definitely the toughest the Irish will face in the Midwest but not quite comparable to St. John's top sabre-man Ivan Lee.

"I have fenced [Parker and Rogers] a lot when I was younger," he said. "We grew up fencing nationally together. Colin and Jason are both great fencers but I don't think they are out of our league. It's going to come down to a good fight."

Crompton said that although Ohio State's top two sabremen are strong, he believes that the Irish depth will carry them to victory. He doesn't think the Buckeye's No. 3 fencer is on par with himself, Andrzej Bednarski and Matt Fabianac.

The Notre Dame women will also be in action this weekend in Columbus, Ohio. The Irish will face the Buckeyes but their toughest competition will come from the Northwestern Wildcats. The Wildcats beat the Irish last weekend 15-12 but the Irish were fencing without freshman foilist Andrea Ament. Ament missed last weekend because she was fencing at a World Cup event in Germany. Even though Ament is back in action for the Irish this weekend, she will be slowed by an ankle injury she suffered in Germany. She is expected to fence just not at 100 percent.

Contact Mike Connolly at connolly.28@nd.edu.

A pair of fencers square off during the Notre Dame Invitational. Notre Dame battles Ohio State this weekend.

FOOTBALL

Receiver commits to Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame rounded out its 18-member recruiting class early this morning when wide receiver prospect Rhema McKnight faxed his letter of intent to the Irish football office.

McKnight planned on announcing his decision late Wednesday night. While rumors slowly trickled around the Internet that the California prospect had verbally committed to the Irish, he had yet to sign a binding letter of intent.

Apparently, the delay occurred because McKnight had to play in a basketball game Wednesday and was unable to fax his letter to the Irish before his game. Notre Dame received McKnight's letter early this morning.

McKnight, the No. 10 wide receiver prospect according to analyst Tom Lemming picked the Irish over UCLA, Washington, Oregon and Florida.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu.

The Notre Dame women will also be in action this weekend in Columbus, Ohio. The Irish will face the Buckeyes but their toughest competition will come from the Northwestern Wildcats. The Wildcats beat the Irish last weekend 15-12 but the Irish were fencing without freshman foilist Andrea Ament. Ament missed last weekend because she was fencing at a World Cup event in Germany. Even though Ament is back in action for the Irish this weekend, she will be slowed by an ankle injury she suffered in Germany. She is expected to fence just not at 100 percent.

Contact Mike Connolly at connolly.28@nd.edu.

The Observer's 35th Anniversary Reunion

April 20, 2002

South Bend Marriott
email obsreunion@hotmail.com for more information
MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ready to rumble again

Georgetown, Notre Dame set for rematch two weeks after Hoya blowout

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

Mike Brey was blunt when he described the last meeting between Notre Dame and Georgetown:

"It was like the varsity playing the JV," the Irish head coach said. "It was men among boys."

The Hoyas crashed the Joyce Center in late January and went home with a critical 83-73 Big East West Division win that sent the Irish below .500 in conference play.

Capitalizing on Irish forward Harold Swanagan's injured ankle which kept him out of the game, the Hoyas dominated in the paint as forward Mike Sweetney put up a game-high 21 points and led his team to dominate on the boards.

But a lot has happened since the Jan. 21 meeting.

Swanagan is back in the line-up. Freshman point guard Chris Thomas has weathered through a midseason slump. Notre Dame has picked up four straight conference victories since the loss and the Irish are coming off an impressive offensive display in their Wednesday win over Rutgers.

And the Irish have proven they can win on the road.

"We like the road," Brey said. "It takes older guys to be good on the road. They like to go in and quiet crowds. They've brought the younger guys along saying this is what we do and this is who we are."

The Irish have dropped only three of 12 road games this season, with two of those losses coming to ranked teams.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Eagles, Irish vie for second in Big East

By KATIE McVOY
Sports Writer

Although Irish head coach Muffet McGraw may see the second and third spots in the Big East as basically the same, she'd rather finish in second.

As the Irish take on 20th-ranked Boston College, the Irish will be vying for second place and testing out their skills against a team that's hard to beat.

"Two and three are the same in the Big East," McGraw said. "We would rather be second. But every game is important to us and I think this is a game that has NCAA implications as well as Big East implications."

The Irish are coming off of a pair of close road wins against unranked teams. When they take the floor at the Joyce on Sunday, they'll be facing real ammunition against the Eagles.

Boston College shoots over 41 percent from the 3-point line and promises to give the Irish defense a taste of perimeter play it faced since Connecticut.

"I think it will be a huge challenge for our perimeter players," McGraw said. "This is a team that has more talent, so I think it will be a great opportunity to see how we are."

The perimeter players will have to focus on containing the ball. During Tuesday's victory against Pittsburgh, Notre Dame had trouble stopping driving players. In order to defend against the Eagles' ability to drive to the basket and then pass out for 3-point shots, the Irish will have to stay focused on the ball.

"We've just got to keep the ball in front of us," McGraw said. "We're working on a help defense, but we're working on an individual defense as well."

Eagles freshman Clare Droesch may be the only Big East player to challenge Jackie Batteast for Big East Rookie of the Year. Droesch starts games on the bench, but still averages 12 points a game and shoots over 60 percent from the perimeter against Big East opponents.

In addition, Boston College brings a solid backcourt to the game. Led by Brianne Stepperson, it promises to be a challenge for the Irish.

"They've got probably the second best backcourt in the league behind Connecticut," McGraw said. "Brianne

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HOCKEY

Slumping Irish take on No. 3 Spartans

By MATT ORENCHUK
Sports Writer

This weekend the Notre Dame men's hockey team travels to East Lansing, Mich. to take on the Michigan State Spartans. The Spartans, ranked No. 3 in the country by USA Today/American Hockey Magazine, have an impressive resume.

They are first in the CCHA with a 14-4-4 conference record, good for 32 points. The Spartans also have a 32 game home-unbeaten streak (29-0-3).

Despite all of the achievements, Michigan State has struggled this season. Head coach Dave Poulin is not afraid to go on the road and play the Spartans.

"We think we can go in there and play well," said Poulin. "We have played well against them the last four or five years."

The Irish could certainly use the win. They have dropped six of their last seven, and are currently in 9th in the CCHA with 16 points.

For Notre Dame to win, they will have to tighten up defensively. Last weekend against Alaska-Fairbanks, the Irish gave up 13 goals in two games. A lot of those goals came on odd man rushes, something that the team worked on controlling this week.

"This week we worked a lot on handling the rush," said Poulin. "We also worked on handling the puck in the gap between offensive and defensive zones."

A big question mark will be who will be in goal for the Irish. Freshman Morgan Cey has gotten most of the starts this year. But after letting up four goals in the first period Saturday against Alaska-Fairbanks, Poulin pulled Cey in favor of sophomore Thomas.

As of Wednesday, Poulin was still unsure who would be in net this weekend against the Irish.

One bright spot for Notre Dame during the current losing streak has been the offensive output. Currently Notre