Workers speak out against Azteca 

Workers have been on strike since Sept. 30 in protest of contract

By KATERI McCARTHY

News Writer

Employees from Azteca Foods Inc. of Chicago spoke about their current four month long strike in an interview. "Support Justice," said Freed.

Josefina Bonilla and Maria Montes of Azteca Foods, employees who walked out on Sept. 30, spoke of the abuses and injustices they and their co-workers have claimed they experienced working at the Azteca Foods factory. Azteca Foods, a tortilla company that boasts of producing "3 million tortillas a day," is owned by Art Velasquez, a Notre Dame graduate and a member of the Board of Trustees. Velasquez is said to have made the comment that his company "is the best paid tortillas company in the nation," while his workers are being paid $9 to $9.75 an hour, said Leah Freed, a representative of United Electrical Workers Union. The annual revenues for Azteca are approximately $33 million, while labor costs are less than 10 percent, Freed said.

And while employees said that while the company is making millions, they struggle to make ends meet — with many working almost daily overtime, Bonilla regularly worked 12 hours a day, 6 days a week, often under verbally abusive supervisors and hostile work conditions. Although almost all of the employees speak Spanish, Azteca Foods refuses to translate their proposals or the bargaining meetings said Freed.

"It's an ugly place, it's hot in there and there is metal everywhere," Bonilla said through a translator. "In the summer we are very uncomfortable because they can not leave to get water."

Freed said Azteca Foods wants to "cut take-home pay up to 15 cents an hour by raising health insurance costs by up to 700 percent, while offering raises of 5 cents to most workers... When you're only making $9.32 an hour... that's a lot."

Freed said the company also wants to remove seniority rights, make cuts on job protection and ban union leaflets from the property. Freed said that "Sunday, the union called for a national boycott of all Azteca Foods tortillas and chips. An audience member said he believes in the boycott, on-campus restaurant, serves tortillas chips that are made from Azteca Foods products.

Contact Kateri McCarthy at kmccarthy@nd.edu

Faculty members speak against war in Iraq

By MATT BRAMANTI

News Writer

As thousands of U.S. troops mass in the Middle East poised to invade Iraq, Notre Dame faculty members circulated a petition calling for a diplomatic solution to the international crisis.

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, a professor of biology and philosophy, wrote the petition in support of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' open letter to President Bush last fall. That document called on the Bush administration to "deeply reflect upon the consequences of war from the brink of war" and urged "moral limits on the use of military force.

The faculty petition also calls for the use of diplomatic channels, broad international support, convincing evidence and the implementation of Catholic just-war doctrine.

"Being a Catholic university, we wanted to make it clear that the Church is on the side of peace," Shrader-Frechette said.

The number of full-time faculty who have signed the petition is "in the hundreds," she said, without specifying how many of the 160 full-time faculty members at Notre Dame signed the petition. "We've had good responses from people all over campus," Shrader-Frechette said, emphasizing the document's popularity in the English, theology, sociology, political science and philosophy departments.

Shrader-Frechette said the solution to the brewing conflict lies in strengthened inspections by U.N. personnel. "There should be a multilateral agreement with multinational forces," she said. "We should make sure that Iraqi scientists can speak to the U.N. alone." While calling for more inspectors, Shrader-Frechette cast doubts on the president's claims that Iraq retains weapons of mass destruction.

"Saddam Hussein doesn't have weapons of mass destruction," she said. "He couldn't have them for a long time, I'm sure," she said. She also criticized U.S. policy on weapons of mass destruction as hypocritical, citing the Pentagon unleashed bio-chemical agents on unsuspecting Americans. "The U.S. government continues to experiment with chemical and biological warheads on its own citizens without their knowledge," Shrader-Frechette said.

Shrader-Frechette also called for campaign finance reform, characterizing the Bush administration as beholden to political donors.

"It's not national security that runs this country. It's vested interests," she said. "Thomas Jefferson would say that we've become like the British in our own country.

The Bush administration's "war plans hit speed bumps recently, as France, Belgium and Germany blocked NATO plans for the defense of Turkey in the event of an Iraqi reprisal against that country.

According to U.S. defense officials, some 150,000 troops will be in position in the Persian Gulf region by week's end. They will join four Navy battle groups, each with a complement of 5,000 personnel and 75 warplanes.

Contact Matt Bramanti at bramanti@nd.edu

Items stolen from pub

By AMANDA ROTHEY

News Writer

Fiddler's Hearth, the popular downtown Irish pub, has experienced several incidents of theft since the Notre Dame-Boston College football game on Nov. 2, 2002, when a circa-1870 photograph of the Notre Dame Crew team on St. Mary's Lake disappeared. In subsequent weeks, more items vanished, including a picture of Meehan's father-in-law as a young boy in South Bend and a receipt from the Bank of Scotland.

Meehan removed many of the more valuable items from the walls, items that remained secured with glue. "I began gluing things to the wall, so that they could not be taken very easily," said Meehan. "But soon after that, we lost another picture that my son had pulled off the wall, taking some of the plaster along with it."

In one particular incident, several items were taken from an area used by a group of young people who had spent the evening in the pub, according to the receipt from the Bank of Scotland, a family photograph and a unique pub emblemized with a Celtic cross.

As the group left, a bartender noticed the plaque partially hidden in the coat of a young woman. The bartender followed the woman outside and recovered the plaque for the restaurant.

Meehan expressed her dismay at the disappearance of the items and the effect the thefts have on the pub's atmosphere.

"We enjoy having young people here who like the slower atmosphere we provide. It's true that we have a few bad apples who can spoil things for the bunch," Meehan said.

Terry Meehan, co-owner of Fiddler's, said no items should be returned and any of the stolen items would be accepted willingly with no questions asked. "They belong in our family for a long time and we'd just like to see them again," Terry Meehan said.

Contact Amanda Rothey at arothey@nd.edu
INSIDE COLUMN

Lone star Yankee misses Texas

As I look out my window on the barren Indiana tundra, I can just barely make out the trees through the glowing snow. I know it’s just another winter night in South Bend, but I can’t help but think of a few Matt Bramanti little words: ‘I miss Texas. That’s right.’

I’m from Texas. I say things like “y’all” and “daddum,” and I carbons beverages with a ‘s.’ I learned how to drive in a big ol’ suburban and I know that the Astro Dome is the eighth Wonder of the World. I listen to Astrodome really is the eighth world, when I go out to my car not necessarily those of The Observer.

I hate the bland food, the generic music, the blowing snow. I know it’s just a barren Indiana tundra, I can just barely make out the Texas flags!” And God forbid I should cheer for my hometown Houston Texans. There are just too many Yankees around for any of that stuff.

Now don’t get me wrong, I have nothing against Yankees personally, it’s just that there’s a lot they don’t know. They don’t know how to make a Frito Pie. They don’t know the lyrics to “Me and Billy the Kid” by Pat Green. They don’t know how much fun it is to go to a rodeo with 55,000 of your closest friends.

But as much as it pains me to write this, some Yankee mannerisms are beginning to rub off on me. After two and a half years at Notre Dame, I fear I’m becoming a pseudo-Yankee. It occurred to me over Christmas break. My little sister was all bundled up and shivering in the 60-degree “cold,” while I was in a T-shirt, scoffing. If I’m offered a beer at home, I have to pause for a second, torn between a Bock and a Guinness. I’ve even noticed my “y’all” occasionally degenerate into “you guys.” Let’s just pray I don’t stop missing the Texas blondes I’ve come to know and love.

All in all, I’m developing a split geographical personality. I’ve learned to deal with the bitter cold, the bland food, the generic music, the perennially pajama-clad weather. But every time I look out a white, world collide. When I’m in Houston, wearing my Notre Dame hat, I can feel the occasional evil eye. They’re sniffling out a yankee. But I know that at some point this summer when I go out to my car and the steering wheel is too hot to touch I’ll think of a few little words: ‘I miss Notre Dame.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Bramanti at mbram@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and reserves the right to excise errors at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please call us at 631-451-8000 so we can correct our error.

WHAT’S INSIDE

CAMPUS NEWS

Bar bust might not affect most abroad applications

An official from the International Study Programs said a citation from The Book Club bust will not immediately prevent a student from being accepted.

WHAT’S Happening @ ND

Delbite and Touche Open House, McKenna Hall, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Film: Gaelic Football, LaFortune, Montgomery Theatre, 7 p.m.

Lecture with Ted Koppel
2 p.m. at Hesburgh Library Auditorium

Senate: Letter of nomination for Henry Scott, Notre Dame Room, 6 p.m.

WHAT’S Happening @ SMC

Writing Center Tutors meeting, Noble Family Dining Hall, noon.

Tax Assistance Program Training, Haggar College Center, 3 p.m.

Irish Dance lessons, Madaliva Hall, 5:30 p.m.

We Pray with Open Hands, Le Mains, 3:30 p.m.

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Citations won't affect most abroad programs

By TERESA FRALISH
Assistant News Editor

Though reports regarding student citations issued in the Jan. 24 raid of The Boat Club have been forwarded from the Office of Residence Life and Housing to the London Program and the Office of International Study Programs, officials from both departments said such a citation would not necessarily prevent a student from being admitted to or participating in an abroad program.

Students cited from the bar bust were sent letters Jan. 29 instructing them to appear for a student from being admitted to or participating in an abroad program.

"It in itself probably isn't going to prevent someone from going," Thomas Bogenschlld, director of International Study Programs, said.

Bogenschild said it is typical for his office to maintain constant contact with Residence Life regarding students' disciplinary records before and after the application deadline.

Meanwhile, officials from the London Program declined to comment on whether their office had been in contact with the Residence Life regarding The Boat Club citations.

"I don't think it's appropriate for me to say whether we have or not," said Anastasia Gutting, director of International Study Programs.

Gutting did not say how a recent citation might affect a student from the London Program wait list.

"Such disciplinary matters are handled on a case-by-case basis."

Gutting said disciplinary probation was not the only matter that automatically prevented a student from participating in ISP if disciplinary probation applied.

Bogenschild also said that the only issue that automatically prevents a student from participating in the London Program, he stressed that because Bogenschild also said that he cannot consider such applications individually and pay attention to such problems, although Bogenschild said such problems would not necessarily prevent a student from studying abroad.

Regarding Boat Club citations specifically, Bogenschild said the same policy would apply.

"It in itself probably isn't going to prevent someone from going," he said. "It's part of a larger picture," he said.

Bogenschild also said that the only issue that automatically prevents a student from participating in ISP is disciplinary probation.

Gutting said disciplinary probation was not the only matter that automatically precluded a student from participating in the London Program, but did not say what those other issues were.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

Logon Contest!

The Student Activities Office is accepting logo designs for the new "LEGENDS" (formerly SENIOR BAR).

$250 prize for the winning design, and the designer's photo and logo will be displayed at the new "Legend." (Open to a Notre Dame student to submit a design.)

Deadline for submitting logo designs is Friday, February 21. Drop off entries to the Student Activities Office, 359 LaFortune.

For additional information, contact the Student Activities Office, ext. 7558.
Columbia tape released

Conversations offer insight into Columbia’s last moments

Associated Press

SPACE CENTER, Houston

Tuesday, suggest the engineers on temperature transducers on about which end of the flight controllers, released final six or seven minutes of from landing the craft at the learn what destroyed shutting the hydraulic return temperatures,” Kling said.

The maintenance, mechanical officer, reported a sudden litany of bad news. There is a general failure instead of a single system.

Moments later, more bad news. Mike Sarafin, the guidance and navigation officer, announces Columbia’s wing is encountering drag, or increased wind resistance. “I don’t see anything out of the ordinary.”

Mike Sarafin guidance and navigation officer on tapes released Tuesday

The communication checks continue. So does the silence. A radar station near Kennedy communication center

“OK,” says Cain, who then asks hopefully when a radar signal was expected.

One minute ago, flight, comes the response from Richard Jones, flight dynamics officer.

The next several hours, the engineers have to ignore the data that might help experts quickly shift his attention to Control

In short order, flight controllers begin reporting a unexplained loss of data from spacecraft sensors. “Two of them on system one and one in the ETES systems 10 and 5.”

Cain quickly asked if there was anything common to the sensors and got no bad news in reply. Kling said there was no commotion, suggesting there was a general failure instead of a single system.

Moments later, more bad news. Mike Sarafin, the guidance and navigation officer, announces Columbia’s wing is encountering drag, or increased wind resistance.

Cain, still hopeful, asks if everything else is normal. Sarafin assures him, “I don’t see anything out of the ordinary.”

There is a short indistinct call from the spacecraft and, almost at the same time, Kling says the landing gear tires have lost pressure.

Capsule communicator Charlie Hobaugh, then addresses the spacecraft: “And Columbia, Houston, you see your tire pressure messages and we did not copy your last.”

Husband’s response — “Roger, huh” — is abruptly cut off. It is 7:59 a.m. CST.

In short order, flight controllers begin reporting a litany of bad news. There is a general failure instead of a single system on the tail, and signals are cutoff from the nose landing gear and from the right main landing gear. Then more sensors are lost and the drag increases to the left.

Hobaugh begins a series of radio calls to Columbia. There is no response as the minutes tick down toward a planned landing at the Kennedy Space Center.

“MILA (the Kennedy space-flightcraft communication center) is not reporting any RF (radio frequencies) at this time,” says Bill Foster, a ground controller. “I don’t see anything out of the ordinary.”

Mike Sarafin guidance and navigation officer on tapes released Tuesday

The communication checks continue. So does the silence. A radar station near the Kennedy center then says it is putting its radar in a “search mode.”

“We do not have any valid data at this time,” said Jones. He said there was a “blip” but it was bad data.

Then a long pause, a silence of despair. Then Cain says the final words, the phrase that marked the lack of hope. “Lock the doors.”

This meant nobody could leave Mission Control or even make phone calls. For the next several hours, the engineers have to ignore the certain loss of the crew and store the data in their computers, finish reports and then write personal accounts of what they saw, heard and did Feb. 1.

Agent: Tyson found investigation

NOTRE DAME MBA Entrepreneur Club Speaker Series

The Notre Dame community is invited to attend our speaker series this semester, held on Thursdays from 12:30-1:15 in COBA 162. Tom Sudde speaks this week. Contact cmeneck@nd.edu for more info.

2/13 Tom Sudde “Lifestyle Decisions Facing Entrepreneurs”
2/27 James O’Brien “New Ventures and the Law”
3/20 Jim David “Disruptive Technology”
4/3 Mike Garatoni “Growing Kids Learning Center Start-up Process”
4/17 Teri Willey “The VC’s Evaluation of your Start-up”

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THE OBSERVER ME

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QATAR

Bin Laden tape urges Iraq to attack Americans

Associated Press

The U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher speak to al-Jazeera anchorman Jamil Azar Tuesday after the broadcast of an audio tape allegedly made by Osama bin Laden. In the tape, bin Laden called for suicide attacks and urban warfare from Iraq and Saddam's government, which nominally adheres to a Pan-Arabic socialist doctrine called Baathism. In the tape, however, the speaker said it was acceptable for Muslims to fight on behalf of Iraq's "socialists" because "in these circumstances" their interests "intersected in fighting against the Crusaders," or Christians.

CIA director warns al-Qaida may attack this week

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Intelligence information suggests al-Qaida attacks may occur as early as this week in the United States and on the Arabian peninsula, CIA Director George J. Tenet told Congress on Tuesday.

The information included last week's raising of the national terror alert level to "elevated," the second highest level of alert.

The information came from "multiple sources," Tenet said without providing details. "The intelligence is not idle chatter on the part of the terrorists and their associates," Tenet said. "It is the most specific we have seen, and it is consistent with our knowledge of al-Qaida's doctrinal ambitions and our knowledge of plots in other networks — and particularly its senior leadership — which has been working on for years."

The information pointing to imminent attacks was gathered both in the United States and overseas, said FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III, who joined Tenet and other intelligence chiefs to brief the Senate Intelligence Committee in an annual public session on threats to national security.

Mueller told Congress the information suggests the attack might involve a "dirty bomb" — a weapon that spreads radioactive material over a wide area — or chemical or poison weapons. Officials last week worried the attack was due to coincide with the hajj, a Muslim holy period this week.

But Mueller and Tenet said the U.S. government has no specific information pointing conclusively to where, when, or how terrorists would strike. They said raising the national alert level and taking security measures at government and business centers makes it more difficult for the terrorists to carry out an attack.

Tenet had little information Tuesday morning on a new audio message attributed to Osama bin Laden, which alired later in the day. Some previous recordings of the al-Qaida chief have served as a "prelude to terrorist attacks."

The CIA chief also revealed many of the Secretary of State Colin Powell's statements last week to the United Nations regarding Iraq's efforts to acquire chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, and linking al-Qaida supporters to the Iraqi government. Tenet said the key link between Baghdad and al-Qauida is Abu Musab Zarqawi, a senior associate of bin Laden.

About two dozen of Zarqawi's followers remain in Baghdad, where Zarqawi spent two months last summer. All are members of Egyptian Islamic Jihad, a terrorist group that has merged with al-Qaida, Tenet said. But he said he has no evidence suggesting Iraq has any operational control over Zarqawi's group or al-Qaida.

Echoing Bush administration policymakers, Tenet and the other intelligence chiefs offered little hope that U.S. inspections would prompt Iraq to disarm, saying Saddam is intent upon and capable of circumventing the inspections.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Papal envoy urges Saddam to cooperate: A French cardinal came to Baghdad on Tuesday with a personal message from Pope John Paul II for Saddam Hussein, to urge the president to work more closely with the United Nations and its arms inspectors to give peace a better chance in Iraq. Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, serving as the papal representative at Baghdad International Airport, said he also had a message for all the world's political leaders — war "would be the worst solution."

14 pilgrims trampeled during hajj ritual: A hundred or so thousands of pilgrims were killed in a ritual at the hajj, Tuesday, killing 14 people in the latest tragedy to darken the annual Muslim pilgrimage. The ritual, where hundreds of thousands file past stone pillars representing the devil's temptations, has been the scene of lethal bottle necks in the past. The stampede occurred after a group of pilgrims finished the ritual and began their group entering.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Powell: NATO risks breakdown over Iraq: Addressing a historic rift within NATO, Secretary of State Colin Powell said Tuesday the future of the 33-year-old military alliance is at risk if it fails to confront the crisis with Iraq. Distressed by the refusal of three U.S. allies to agree to bolster Turkey's defenses, Powell told the Senate Budget Committee that it is not the United States that is fracturing NATO by seeking support for the option of war to disarm Iraq.

Majority would get smallpox vaccine: Thirteen senators representing the majority view when she says she would probably get smallpox vaccinations for herself and her child if the vaccine were to become available. More than half of U.S. adults say they would get vaccinated, and six in 10 parents say they would want vaccinations for their children, an Associated Press-Washington Post poll found.

Witness testifies woman ran over husband: The prosecution's final witness used toy cars to Thursday show what he remembered seeing: Clara Harris repeatedly ramming her Mercedes-Benz into her adulterous husband in a hotel parking lot. Punctuating his testimony with sounds of squealing tires and crashing metal, Oscar Torres gave an eyewitness account in Harris' murder trial, the last witness to appear before closing arguments Wednesday. "He was mad and he was gasping for air," Torres said of David Harris.

Mo. death row inmate to get new trial: The state Supreme Court on Tuesday unanimously overturned a convicted killer's death sentence, saying his lawyer failed to pursue evidence that would have cast doubt on his guilt. Based largely on the testimony of one witness, Danny Wolfe was convicted of two counts of first-degree murder for robbing and killing Leonard and Lena Walters in February 1997.
Tuition increases hit students nationwide

Associated Press

Cash-strapped states from coast to coast are weighing hefty tuition increases for public colleges and universities, prompting experts to wonder aloud whether students are being left holding the bag as they transfer themselves out of the market for most students.

"The bigger cost is going to catch up with the middle class at some point," said Barmak H. H. Kazarian, an analyst with the American Association of Colleges of Registrars and Admissions Officers.

With most states unable to cover their expenses, tuition increases have been imposed midway through this academic year by several states including Maryland, Oregon and Colorado, as well as Vermont, Hawaii, West Virginia, Oklahoma, Alabama, Arizona, Florida, New York and Utah are among the states that have already adopted or are considering tuition hikes at public institutions for the fall semester.

The budget woes have been especially painful for University of Oregon junior Rachel Pilliod, who may forego her senior year if an additional tuition hike is imposed next fall. Students at Oregon this year have already faced tuition increases of $10 per credit hour for the winter and spring terms. That's more than $100 per term for a full-time student.

"I'm already on my credits so I can graduate with the bare minimum," Pilliod said, "We're already in a scary mood?"

For students nationwide, "for me, it is huge." said Nikkivann Martin, a self-described middle-class student who has assumed most of the cost of her own education. "The real determining factor will be my ability to pay for school next year."

"I can't afford the extra classes," Pilliod fears it will affect her chances of getting into graduate school.

The tuition increases at Oregon and elsewhere come in an academic year when tuition at four-year public institutions jumped by an average of 9.6 percent, according to the annual survey of college costs released last October by the College Board, the owner of the SAT exam.

The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education reported in a study released Tuesday that students at public, four-year colleges in 16 states were hit with tuition hikes of more than 10 percent for this academic year.

"Looking at the complexity of this, it is huge. It is one of the biggest disturbing factors that I think any of us have ever seen," said Navy Rear Adm. Stephen Turcotte, who as commander of the Naval Safety Center is responsible for investigating every aviation mishap in the Navy and Marine Corps.

Thousands of pieces of debris have been found in a 500-mile area across Louisiana and Texas. The search is expected to take at least several more weeks.

The head of the investigation board, retired Navy Adm. Harold Gehman Jr., said the panel was still collecting data and hasn't ruled out any potential cause. He said no debris has been recovered west of Fort Worth, Texas.

"We don't have proof, but we have reason to believe that we should keep looking west of Fort Worth," Gehman said in the board's first full news conference since taking over the investigation from NASA last week. He said NASA is tapping into military and weather radar to try to pinpoint wreckage.

"Any piece west of Fort Worth could be extremely important because it would help investigators understand how the shuttle fell and when Columbia started breaking apart as it aimed for a Florida touchdown the morning of Feb. 1. All seven astronauts aboard were killed when Columbia broke apart at an altitude of more than 200,000 feet."

Air Force Maj. Gen. John Barry, a board member, noted there was no "black box" aboard Columbia, as there is on every airliner. Instead, each shuttle has "on command of 4,000 sensors that we're going to be able to take advantage of." Gehman renewed NASA's request that amateurs turn over any photos and video of the shuttle as it flew over the United States. Those pictures, along with telemetry data and radar, will enable experts to build "a stereoscopic mosaic of the shuttle as it came across the sky."

NASA released tapes of the final conversations between Mission Control in Houston and the shuttle crew. The tapes include the final communication from spacecraft commander Rick Husband, whose is abruptly cut off, and the calm demeanor of the flight controller as he slowly realizes the shuttle is in trouble.

Separately, NASA also said officials from Johnson Space Center called experts at its Langley research facility in Hampton, Va., on Jan. 27 to ask what might happen if the shuttle's tires were not inflated during a landing attempt.

NASA spokesman Keith Henry said the question was based on assumptions that damage to the shuttle's thermal protection system would cause the tires to deflate. The Langley experts said such a failure could cause broad damage to the shuttle's tires to comment on what impact or debris tests might be performed, saying: "We don't have favorite theories. We're pursuing everything."
MARKET Recap

By ANDREW THAGARD New Writer

A team of five Notre Dame students did it to the extreme — accounting that is.

The group participated in PricewaterhouseCoopers' inaugural eXtremeTAX learning experience and finished first out of four Notre Dame teams, going on to receive honorable mention at the national level, according to Craig Oliver, a sophomore on the team.

In addition to Oliver, Notre Dame's winning team included sophomores Jason Kingery, junior Mark Bellantoni, senior Andrew VanCura, and graduate student Matthew Fumagalli and faculty advisor James Wittenbach, an accounting professor.

The program, called eXtremeTAX for short, was implemented in 21 universities by the international accounting firm and was designed to give college students a perspective on real world work, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers' press release.

The contest required students to develop a tax policy case study on Panadrevia, a fictitious country with economic issues similar to those of former Soviet republics. Teams were needed to address and suggest ways of implementing solutions to problems plaguing the nation's economy, including an exodus of youth, an aging population, stagnant industries, defense issues, and declining tourism.

"This isn't your typical competition," said Tyrene Federick, a public relations manager for PricewaterhouseCoopers. "It's designed to get students to think outside the box. There is no right answer."

Representatives from PricewaterhouseCoopers visited the 21 participating universities in November and December to review teams' presentations. The four Notre Dame teams presented their proposals in front of six to eight judges from the accounting firm at the McKenna Hall and engaged in question and answer sessions. The presentations were video taped. Judges selected a winning team from each school and their tapes were judged at the national level.

"We focused on changing the tax structure and creating more industry growth," Oliver said. "At the same time we wanted to increase tourism but not decrease defense funding."

The group criticized Panadrevia's existing personal income tax and corporate tax systems as too high. They recommended introducing a lower, graduated tax rate at the individual and corporate level, adding a nationwide income tax and launching a social security program to service the aging population. For improving tourism, the team not only suggested more aggressive, visual advertising campaigns, they passed out sample brochures.

Fumagalli attributed the team's success to the diverse talent of the individual members and their ability to work together well. As a graduate student who had worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers, Fumagalli did the bulk of the research while Van Cura spearheaded work on the presentation graphics.

"The rest of the guys were phenomenal," Fumagalli said. "I was really impressed."

Wittenbach, the team's advisor, was available for feedback and guidance but also let the students take control, according to Oliver.

"He was really helpful," he said. "He took sort of a detached role. He didn't help us with the presentation or anything along that line."

According to Federick, the first run of eXtremeTAX was very successful. PricewaterhouseCoopers plans to increase participation in next year's event, she said.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu.

BP makes $6.75 billion deal

\[ \text{Acquires 50 percent share in Russian} \]

Associated Press

LONDON

British energy group BP PLC said Monday it plans to pay $6.75 billion for 50 percent stake in a major oil and gas company in Russia, pinning its hopes on growth in the countries' vast reserves of oil and gas.

BP and its Russian partners — Alfa Group and Access-Renova — have agreed to combine their interests in Russia to create a new company with 5.2 billion barrels in oil reserves and daily crude production of 1.2 million barrels.

The new venture would be Russia's third-largest energy business, with stakes in five refineries and 2,300 retail outlets, BP said.

The deal is one of the largest ever by a Western company in post-communist Russia, as it marks a major strategic move by BP into an energy-rich nation it almost abandoned after a commercial disaster.

"BP's made a very bold move into this deal," said Daniel Spedding, an analyst at ING Barings. "It would have been a major strategic error and possibly disastrous if BP left."

Spedding added.

"This isn't your typical competition," said Tyrene Federick, a public relations manager for PricewaterhouseCoopers. "It's designed to get students to think outside the box. There is no right answer."

Representatives from PricewaterhouseCoopers visited the 21 participating universities in November and December to review teams' presentations. The four Notre Dame teams presented their proposals in front of six to eight judges from the accounting firm at the McKenna Hall and engaged in question and answer sessions. The presentations were video taped. Judges selected a winning team from each school and their tapes were judged at the national level.

"We focused on changing the tax structure and creating more industry growth," Oliver said. "At the same time we wanted to increase tourism but not decrease defense funding."

The group criticized Panadrevia's existing personal income tax and corporate tax systems as too high. They recommended introducing a lower, graduated tax rate at the individual and corporate level, adding a nationwide income tax and launching a social security program to service the aging population. For improving tourism, the team not only suggested more aggressive, visual advertising campaigns, they passed out sample brochures.

Fumagalli attributed the team's success to the diverse talent of the individual members and their ability to work together well. As a graduate student who had worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers, Fumagalli did the bulk of the research while Van Cura spearheaded work on the presentation graphics.

"The rest of the guys were phenomenal," Fumagalli said. "I was really impressed."

Wittenbach, the team's advisor, was available for feedback and guidance but also let the students take control, according to Oliver.

"He was really helpful," he said. "He took sort of a detached role. He didn't help us with the presentation or anything along that line."

According to Federick, the first run of eXtremeTAX was very successful. PricewaterhouseCoopers plans to increase participation in next year's event, she said.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu.

BP makes $6.75 billion deal

\[ \text{Acquires 50 percent share in Russian} \]

Associated Press

LONDON

British energy group BP PLC said Monday it plans to pay $6.75 billion for 50 percent stake in a major oil and gas company in Russia, pinning its hopes on growth in the countries' vast reserves of oil and gas.

BP and its Russian partners — Alfa Group and Access-Renova — have agreed to combine their interests in Russia to create a new company with 5.2 billion barrels in oil reserves and daily crude production of 1.2 million barrels.

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Government had clues before Okla. City attack

ATF documents show the informant provided 4-gals with fragments of practice explosives detonated by Elohim City members and had suspicions about a possible target. "It is understood that ATF is the main enemy of the people of EC," one report states. ATF officials were in the building McVeigh struck.

Gram also disclosed that Howe, provided before McVeigh's attack, a copy of "The Turner Diaries," a book about a plot to blow up a federal building with a truck bomb that was circulating among Elohim City. Prosecutors later would contend the book inspired McVeigh's attack.

A former top law enforcement official said the documents show evidence of miscommunications between the FBI and ATF, and within the bureau. In particular, the FBI's Oklahoma City Office, located about three hours east of McVeigh's compound, did not share information about the earlier plot to bomb the Murrah building.

For instance, ATF officials had evidence that McVeigh had received some information that led them to believe his client had anything to do with the Murrah bombing. The information suggested that McVeigh had received help from Elohim City members.

The ATF also did not know that Millar had suspicions about the compound and that McVeigh had been to Oklahoma City.

The ATF also did not know that the FBI had suspicions about the compound until an Oklahoma state trooper tipped off the ATF in late February 1995 that the FBI also had an investigation on Elohim City.

Ricks said his FBI office in Oklahoma didn't have an ongoing investigation and he was unaware of the Washington FBI debriefing of Noble, the reformed white supremacist with the earlier plot to blow up the Murrah building.

Noble said as soon as McVeigh struck he became a person of interest, and he was connected to the Oklahoma City bombing and the Murrah building.

"I don't see any other possibility, honestly. It's not a coincidence that he picked April 19, and even if it was, to pick the same building that we had picked? There are only a handful of people that know about that," he said.

FBI officials said they suspected Millar was initially involved, but he cooperated with the investigation and was eventually ruled out as a suspect.

Millar died in 2001. His former attorney, Kirk Lyons, said he doubts his client had anything to do with McVeigh's attack and that Millar's fiery rhetoric was aimed at uniting members at his compound than inciting violence. "He was trying to keep his followers together," Lyons said.

Though ATF agents had reports of dramatic threats against the government, they focused their investigation on making a gun violence case against a German citizen there, documents show.

Come the re-off debate for the student body president.

8th floor
Library Auditorium
"WE PRAY WITH OPEN HANDS: VOICES OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE"
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2003
3:30 pm STAPLETON LOUNGE
A conversation with Sheila Provencher, who recently returned from a Pax Christi delegation to Iraq. An exhibit of some of her photos will accompany.

"IRAQ BRIEFING"
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2003
7:00 pm CARROLL AUDITORIUM
Background information on the conflict with Iraq from a variety of perspectives, to initiate an informed dialogue with the audience.
Moderator: Sr. Kathlee Dolphin, Director, Center for Spirituality
Panel Participants: Teresa Marcy - the political/historical background on Iraq
Linda Berdayes - media coverage of the conflict
Joe Miller - the psychology of war-making
Jerry McElroy - the economic costs of war

A STUDENT PANEL DISCUSSION ON IRAQ
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2003
5:00 pm WEDGE ROOM OF THE DINING HALL
Hosted by the Political Science Student Club and Peacemakers

"IRAQ: A JUST WAR?"
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2003
7:00 pm CARROLL AUDITORIUM
A fictitious letter from the heavens to those left behind

My Dearest,

Writing a letter to you that can never be delivered, I know, may not come as any consolation after recent events. It doesn’t bring me much consolation, either. I only write it for myself with the hope that somehow you will feel the presence that my message intends. I can’t seem to explain it any other way. All you know is that I am lost and will never see me again. I am left with much the same sentiment having lost both you and the life we had together. But no matter what happens, I don’t want you to worry about me.

I know it is hard to understand my death, especially since I was within minutes of holding you in my arms when things went wrong. But, as much as my world revolved around my love for you, I have no regrets of the choices I made in life and the direction in which I led you. I knew the dangers that were involved when I volunteered for the astronaut corps and accepted them. In the end, we paid the ultimate price, but any confusion our crew might have felt upon our arrival at the water was eased by a group of old friends who have gone through this before.

My darling, I’ve grown up with the idea that I was meant to make a difference in the world and I believe, now, that I have. In the 16 days I spent on the Columbia, I realize we were helping the world sail into unforeseen waters and doing it with our sails at full mast. And sod though it may be, the deaths of my crew and I are making a difference around the world. Nations will mourn now, but things will only get better because of this. The program must move forward, and hopefully the first Israeli man or Indian-born woman in space will not be the last. It’s too important to world relations not to extend the necessary olive branch to all nations around the world. I was part of a space exploration project that furthered people’s understanding of God’s plan. In my crew of seven, we have two women (one which was born in India), an African-American man, and the first Israeli in space. The Columbia was a guiding light of human liberties and world relations, and I was proud to be a part of her crew. The shuttle and others like it have brought the nations of the world together in concert with a common goal to improve humanity.

Sweetheart, there is a lot of noise in the world today. There is talk of war, disease and terrorism. But this much I know. If God’s sacrifice of our lives can help soften the voices of hostility, I would die a thousand deaths to ease the suffering of mankind. I am certain that if the leaders of the world could have seen through my eyes the past 16 days, politics and partnership would cease to exist. They just don’t understand that the questions of power and ownership can be muted by a few inches of a space shuttle’s window. God’s power can be spoken without words.

My love, it is hard for me to bear the thought of being without you, even in this place. How thoughtless and foolish

I feel I have to put you in the position that you are in now. I can do nothing to change the circumstances that have befallen you. And for that I am eternally sorry. I only wish I could have done more.

But this I promise you. If you ever worry about my fellow astronauts and their families who are and will continue to follow me into the frontiers of space, do not be troubled. We will always be with them. Always.

For when the next landing of astronauts takes place, they shall have new sets of eyes watching over them. And when the wings of the shuttle waver in the wind, they will remain firm. When the astronauts touch down on the runway, know that they floated back to earth under the wings of angels.

I can do nothing to change the tragedies of the past, but I will do all that I can to prevent them from happening again. I believe that Sullivan Bailou, a union major in the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War, said it best in a letter to his wife, “Do not mourn me dead, think I am gone and wait for me, for we shall meet again.”

My dear, tell our friends that heaven is on their side and when we meet again the mood will be heavenly. I promise.

All my love,

One of Columbia

Adam Cahill is a junior majoring in history and American studies. His column appears every other Wednesday. He can be reached at acbhill@nd.edu.

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

Quote of the Day

"The guardian angels of life sometimes fly so high as to be beyond our sight, but they are always looking down upon us."

Jean Paul Richter

German author
I would like to respond to both Kiffin Turner's Inside Column and Kristine Rosario's letter in Viewpoint from last Wednesday, February 11.

First of all, I have had my valid Connecticut ID card recognized at three different South Bend establishments—the Unibar, Corby's, and yes, Heartland. And while there have been instances, the bouncers at each respective bar told me to go home and get my passport, regardless of how many credit cards or student IDs I had with my name and picture. If a driver's license looks fake, most bars will request the next most verifiable piece of identification, which in most cases is a passport. Because of this, I have a tendency to take my passport with me whenever I go to bars. If Rosario's ID is as phony and easily replicable as she says it is and she often has trouble with it, I would suggest carrying around some sort of identification that is less questionable. The fact that her ID was questioned and they asked her to get a passport as a second form should not even be an issue.

Second, I completely agree that any derogatory remarks or attitudes are intolerable, and they should be ignored immediately. However, I do not believe it is applicable in this case. I happen to waitress at a South Bend bar (Stroh's, which as many of you may know is attached to and under the same management as Heartland) and have come to the conclusion that things did not go quite the way they have been portrayed. For those of you who may not know, the doors of Heartland are under video surveillance. According to the video of that night, the bouncer looked at the ID and refused Rosario's admittance. She then proceeded to talk with him for 35 to 40 seconds, presumably about her ID. She was not heard, then turned to walk away, which, according to her version of the story, is when he made the negative remarks to her. Most of Rosario's friends had already been admitted to the bar ahead of her, out of hearing range of anything that could have been said.

In addition, neither the bouncer was identified nor the other bouncer standing at the door that night, nor any of the many people standing in line heard any derogatory statements. (If a third party does happen to come forward and refute that, I will gladly retract these statements and apologize.) (I had the pleasure of working with Rosario and Turner.) However, after the fact, Rosario was referred to as "the person that was described as the matter of fact, is remarkably distinguishable from the one described.

Personally, if I had been so offended by someone's comments, I would have heard exactly what they were and what they looked like. In addition, the caller did not bring up the derogatory comment supposedly made by the bouncer until the very end of the conversation. Now it seems to me that the comment is the main point in this case, and it strikes me as odd that it is only mentioned as an afterthought.

Serious claims of discrimination deserve review. If this was indeed the main problem, it should have been brought up first and foremost.

Joe Millionaire: Who's laughing?

There I was in our dining hall after deciding not to pursue this issue, when I was incessantly aggravated by the conversation a table over: Joe Millionaire. Please understand that I do have some sympathy, for the premise truly is idiotic. You get to laugh at a mimicked Joe Millionaire and his naive female gold-diggers every Monday night. Picture this: a multitude of children all gathered around the clown relentlessly yelling, "Entertain us! Make us laugh! Make us happy!"

Now put this in the context of the millions of viewers of Joe Millionaire and other reality television programs. Is life today, reality television is more real than life itself? Is this so far from the truth?

The question I pose is this: Who is really having a good laugh here? Is it simply the viewers that get a good chuckle out of Joe and his pursu-...?
Valentine’s Day is rolling around again, and everyone is searching for exactly the right way to show their love for the special someone in their life. Of course, with the stress of classes and Junior Parents Weekend coming up, the special someone in your life may recently have taken second place to books and other plans.

Don’t panic yet. The world is wired to make up for the inconveniences bothering busy people like you. You can still find the perfect gift for your boyfriend or girlfriend, no matter how long you’ve been together—without even leaving campus. Grab a credit card and you can find gifts for anyone and everyone online.

Combine that with a reservation at one of South Bend’s finest restaurants and you’re good to go. Whether you’re entertaining your parents or your significant other this Friday, it can still be a fun night.

Tips for successful Valentine’s Day online shopping

By MARIA SMITH and CHRISTIE BOLSEN
Scene Editor and Assistant Scene Editor

A pricier and more unique selection can be found at www.architectstouch.com. This site offers architect designed gifts ranging from distinctive jewelry to designed vases with pretty paper roses.

The site is also affiliated with a fresh flower site that can send flowers to your sweetheart direct from the grower. The prices are higher, like the silver and black Night and Day vases and flowers for $85 on sale, but are a change from the ordinary.

If you’re fed up with your Valentine and don’t know quite what to do, www.despair.com can help you out. The site offers candy hearts that say exactly what you’ve been thinking with 37 different messages including “WANT 2C OTHERS?,” “SHE COOKS” and “RETURN MY CDs.” Also available are greeting cards to remind you that the only consistent feature of all your dissatisfying relationships is you. Get a look at the flip side of Valentine’s Day for under $10.

For some less expensive but romantic gift ideas, check out www.redenvelope.com. The site features traditional candy, jewelry and flowers, as well as more unusual choices such as hugging teddy bears, an aphrodisiac garden and erotic fortune cookies.

There are several reasonably priced sale items, and also more extravagant choices for the more serious couple. Whether you get the $15.99 pearl ring, the $75 cocktail set or the $48 steamy love spa kit, there is something for every type of relationship.

Contact Maria Smith and Christie Boisen at msmith4@nd.edu and cbolsen@nd.edu
Grecian Delights offers a tempting array of delicious Greek dishes

By ERIN ENGLISH
Scene Restaurant Critic

Ever seen an egg tossed four feet in the air, bit metal and not break? Well, it is a common occurrence at Hana Yori.

Hana Yori Japanese steakhouse is a place where they cook the food right in front of you. It is an unusual break from the usual routine of Steak 'n Shake and fajitas. Cook, however, is not the word for the show - case you get while watching your meal being prepared before your eyes. Chef toss food up in the air, hit metal and not break? Well, it is a common occurrence at Hana Yori.

Hana Yori is not just a place to eat — it is a place to be entertained at the same time. Service is friendly, and the chefs are quite entertaining, even when they aren't amazing you with their acrobatic culinary skills.

Meals range in price, but usually fall in the range of $15 or more. While this may seem like a lot, it is a good deal for the amount of food that is served, which is enough to burst your stomach. The menu offers you a choice between their many dishes, including steak or lobster tail on the grill or sushi and sashimi a la carte. All entrees on the grill come with a salad, soup, a shrimp appetizer and a hearty helping of fried rice. Recommended are the Samurai meal, which includes shrimp and chicken grilled to perfection, or the Shogun dish, featuring savory steak and chicken and a glass of sweet plum wine for after dinner.

"Hana Yori is not just a place to eat — it is a place to be entertained at the same time."

Erin English
Scene Restaurant Critic

Contact Erin English at english.17@nd.edu.
Timberwolves topple league-leading Mavericks

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS—It wasn’t just the aggressive fast breaks and the pounding of the crowd that had the Minnesota Timberwolves playing like a championship-oriented Dallas Mavericks.

Kevin Garnett, Richard Jefferson and Elton Brand all had big nights as the Timberwolves rolled past the Mavericks 105-98.

"That’s the shot Wally always makes," said Minnesota’s Anthony Peeler.

Dirk Nowitzki had 34 points and 10 rebounds as the Mavericks scored their most points in the second half for Dallas, which had its four-game road winning streak snapped.

The Mavericks, who trailed by as many as 25 points in the first half, held 96-92 at the start of the fourth quarter. Garnett scored 15 before intermission and added two more baskets to start the fourth quarter to seal the win.

"I think our guys were ready to play," said Minnesota’s Richard Jefferson scored 15 before intermission and added two more baskets to start the fourth quarter to seal the win.

"I think our guys were ready to play," said Minnesota’s Richard Jefferson.

"We have a number of people coming in from the bench who give us energy," said Minnesota coach Flip Saunders.

The loss was the second in eight games for the Nets, who won three straight going into the second half of the record win in the East with the Indiana Pacers.

"It was a stupid play," Finley said. "I don’t know where he was at.

There were 37 seconds left. Szczerbiak set an off-the-corne pointer to seal the win.

"I wasn’t really sure where that came from. I was having a good time," Garnett said.

"That good time extended onto the court," said Indiana’s Tinsley who led Indiana’s fast-breaking offense with 17 points and five assists.

The Cavaliers, who trailed by as many as 15 in the first half, closed to 99-92 following a three-point play. Artest said.

"Neither team shot well," said Indiana coach Silas.

"I went on about a 10-point lead," Brand said. "I didn’t want to let my defense down."

"I think our guys were ready to play," said Minnesota’s Richard Jefferson.

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Sources say Sorenstam could play in PGA

Associated Press

TRUMBULL, Conn. - Anika Sorenstam of Sweden could be offered an exemption to the Colonial and become the first woman in 58 years to play on the PGA Tour, a magazine reported Monday.

Golf World cited unnamed sources as saying Bank of America, in its first year as the title sponsor, wants Sorenstam to play. The Colonial is May 22-25 in Fort Worth, Texas.

The 32-year-old, who last year won 13 times around the world and shattered the LPGA Tour scoring average, said two weeks ago that she would love to compete against the men if offered an exemption.

"I have nothing to lose," Sorenstam said. "It would be a challenge."

Her only stipulation was to play on a course where she would not be at a huge disadvantage off the tee. Colonial is only 7,070 yards, although it plays to a par 70.

Messages left for Sorenstam's agent and her husband by The Associated Press were not immediately returned.

Tour commissioner Tim Finley suggested last week that Sorenstam be required to show that she could be competitive against the men if offered an exemption.

"It would be fun to see her play, but I'm afraid that will not be possible for Colonial this year," Finley said at the time.

On Monday, Finley told Golf World that talks had reached an advanced stage.

The last woman to play a PGA Tour event was Babe Zaharias in the 1945 Los Angeles Open. Zaharias not only qualified for the tournament, she made the 36-hole cut but a 79 eliminated her for the final round.

If Sorenstam were to play Colonial, she would steal the spotlight from Connecticut club pro Suzy Whaley, who has said she will play in the Greater Hartford Open in July.

Whaley qualified by winning a PGA of America sectional tournament, even though she was allowed to compete from a shorter set of tees.

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MLB
Matsui swinging for fences

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - Hideki Matsui hit six homers in 67 at-bats during his first batting practice session Tuesday with the New York Yankees.

With about six dozen Japan media on hand to watch at New York's minor league complex, Matsui went deep for the first time on his 32nd swing.

The three-time MVP of Japan's Pacific League met several of his new teammates for the first time.

He was in a hitting group with Derek Jeter, Alfonso Soriano and Jorge Posada, also on hand for early workouts ahead of Sunday's reporting date for position players.

"I think they are nice guys," Matsui said through an interpreter. "We talked about hitting.

Two of Matsui's homens went over 400 feet. "It's tough to decide in only one day," Posada said. "But, when he swings, he's got a lot of top spin. It carries. The ball keeps going and going." Matsui, known as Godzilla, signed a $21 million, three-year contract during the offseason after becoming a free agent in Japan. He wore a T-shirt and Yankees' souvenirs during the work-out.

"It's exciting," Matsui said. "A lot of famous players wearing the Yankees' uniform. The Yankees' uniform is historical. I'm proud of the Yankee uniform."

Matsui arrived in Florida on Monday after spending a week in New York. Yankees general manager Brian Cashman accompanied him on the flight.

"It looks like he has a good swing," Jeter said. "Good guy. They signed him for a reason. Obviously he can play."

Matsui also took part in fielding drills during his two-hour work-out.

"I have a little pressure, but I think baseball is the same in Japan and the United States," Matsui said. "I didn't play with American pitchers. I have to pick up (on American pitchers)."

Notes
- Soriano, who pulled out of a home run-hitting contest last weekend, has been cleared to practice. "No concerns whatsoever," Cashman said. "He passed all tests." After taking batting practice, Soriano took grounders and had a 15-minute throwing session with Jeter.

There will be no restrictions on closer Mariano Rivera, who was slowed by shoulder problems last season and had a shoulder operation. If needed he's a "very good," manager Joe Torre said. "He's fine physically. He'll get his innings." - Biff Stove Karsay probably won't pitch in games until the last 2 1/2-to-3 weeks of spring training due to back surgery. Torre says the setup man will be ready by opening day on March 31 at Toronto.

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NASCAR

Five-car collision ends practice for Daytona 500

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Jeff Burton, Elliott Sadler and Mike Skinner will switch to backup cars after a crash Tuesday proved just how risky even practice for the Daytona 500 can be.

The five-car crash came on the front straightaway of the 2 1/2-mile oval with about four minutes left in the 60-minute practice, the only Winston Cup track time on the day's schedule.

Rookie Jack Sprague, a three-time NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series champion, was riding in the middle of a three-wide pack, with Steve Park above him on the banked Daytona International Speedway track and Skinner on the low side.

Sprague's Pontiac appeared to slide up the track, banging off Park, then sliding down into Skinner, who went sideways. Burton and Sadler then drove into the melee.

There were no injuries, but Skinner's Pontiac and the Fords of Burton and Sadler got the worst of the accident and were put out of action for the rest of the week.

The three drivers have to get their preparations for Thursday's twin 125-mile qualifying races done in the single 45-minute Winston Cup practice on Wednesday.

It was the second year in a row that Burton and Sadler have been in wrecks that put them in backup cars for the season-opening race.

"I'm tired of wrecking in practice," Burton said.

"To the best of my knowledge, we got ran into by a rookie," Skinner said. "Whether he got pushed down there or not, I don't know.

Sprague said he was in the middle, while Park was on the outside "and he didn't stay up and he hit me in the right front, drove me into Skinner and it was all over." Park disagreed with that version, saying Sprague "bounced off me."

"I was up by the wall and couldn't go any higher, except for the grandstands," Park said.

"I've been here a lot more than Jack's been here. We all know how to race here, and we all know you don't even want to consider causing a crash during practice. You have to look at having the experience to run here, and not put yourself or your car in jeopardy. It's hard to avoid this type of crash at Daytona. Thanks to the horsepower-sapping carburetor restrictor plates used here to slow the cars, the racing is often in huge packs."

"One thing about restrictor-plate racing is to go ahead and put your nose in there," Burton said. "You've got to run two- and three-wide in practice because that's what you're going to do in the race. Accidents happen."

Sadler was less forgiving.

"It's a shame to wreck a bunch of good cars on the straightaway. I mean, we're supposed to be professionals and using our heads, and they're out there running into the side of each other on the straightaway. There's not much common sense going on," Sadler said.

It's hard to avoid this type of crash at Daytona. Thanks to the horsepower-sapping carburetor restrictor plates used here to slow the cars, the racing is often in huge packs.

"This was our first race practice of the year, so I would say it was preventable," he said. "Nearing the end of practice, people doing stupid things, I guess I made mistakes when I was a rookie, too."

Dale Jarrett had the fastest time in the practice in a Ford at 188.494 mph, followed by the Pontiac of Jerry Nadeau at 188.336, the Ford of rookie Greg Biffle at 188.111 and the Chevrolet of Jimmie Johnson, also at 188.111. Daytona pole-winner Jeff Green was 20th at 187.141 in a Chevy.

Of the drivers in the crash, Skinner was fifth at 188.025, Sprague 12th at 187.578, Park 19th at 187.149, Burton 25th at 186.939, and Sadler 41st at 186.343.
High School Basketball

James' referee may face sanctions for photo

Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — The postgame encounter was brief, just long enough for LeBron James to put his arm around a referee, lean in and smile for the camera.

Now, however, that seemingly innocent moment could hurt referee Tony Celantano, who faces possible sanctions for his actions following James' impressive performance.

Celantano posed with James after the senior scored a career-high 52 points to lead top-ranked Vincent-St. Mary's of Akron, Ohio, to a 78-52 victory over Westchester of Los Angeles at the Prime Time Shootout in Trenton.

"He's a very professional person; he's an experienced official," Celantano told The Times of Trenton that the photo was taken by a relative and was not for personal use.

Celantano did not return several telephone messages left at his Hamilton home Tuesday by The Associated Press.

Jim Loper, associate director of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, saw the pose during television coverage of Saturday's Prime Time Shootout.

"I thought, 'Holy cow.' As officials, you want to stay in the middle," he said.

OHSA director Bob Goldberg said that if the same thing happened in Ohio, "we would deem it unethical, and we would have the authority to fine or suspend an official in that case."

Goldberg said it would not affect James' playing status in Ohio.

NBA

Kemp suspended for violation

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Orlando Magic center Shawn Kemp was suspended without pay by the NBA on Tuesday, the third time he has violated the terms of the league's anti-drug policy.

Kemp's suspension is to begin with Tuesday night's game between the Magic and the New York Knicks, taking a leave of absence from Portland and entering a substance abuse program.

Because he volunteered to enter the program and has not been suspended by the league at that time.

Certain substances, such as cocaine and LSD, call for dismissal from the league, although players may apply for reinstatement after two years.

The league, its teams and the players' association are prohibited from publicly disclosing information regarding the testing or treatment of any player in the program, other than to announce a player's suspension or dismissal from the league.

The Communication group of the Institute for Latino Studies is looking for a part-time job.

The Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) at the University of Notre Dame is seeking a part-time student worker.

The ILS is looking for a part-time student worker who will be working during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The position requires knowledge of Microsoft Office applications, strong writing skills in English, and the ability to multitask.

Please send resume and cover letter to:

Caroline Domingo
University of Notre Dame
Publications Manager
ILS Latino Studies
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556
314-461-4714
c.domingo@nd.edu
Spikes wants out of Cincinnati

Associated Press

CINCINNATI Linebacker Takeo Spikes was tagged as the Bengals' transition player Tuesday, disappointing one of Cincinnati's top defensive players and emotional leaders.

Spikes, the Bengals' top draft pick in 1998, wants to leave as a free agent because he's worn out from five years of losing. The Bengals have the NFL's worst record since 1991.

Marvin Lewis told to Spikes several times since he became the Bengals' head coach last month, but the club couldn't convince him to accept a contract extension.

The tag allows the Bengals to match any offer from another team, keeping Spikes in Cincinnati for another season.

Spikes has led the team in tackles four times during his five seasons. Winning over Spikes is one of Lewis' first challenges. Several of the team's leaders said at the end of last season that they had given up hope the Bengals would ever win.

"I don't have to persuade him. I can just say it," Lewis said. "It's a very difficult job to be a professional football player. It's a privilege to do a lot of things of him. I don't need to talk to him into it."

Lewis said the club will continue talking to Spikes about a contract extension.

The Bengals tendered Spikes a one-year, $4.8 million offer — the average of the top 10 linebackers' salaries last season — to make him their transition player.

The Bengals also tendered offers to receivers Ron Dogus and Denny Farmer, kicker Neil Rackers, linebacker Armegis Spearman and snapper Brad St. Louis. The fourth-year players will become restricted free agents on Feb. 28 if they don't sign with the Bengals.

Worn out by all the losing, Spikes stopped talking to the media midway through the Bengals' 2-14 season, the worst in franchise history. After Lewis was hired, Spikes told The Associated Press that he still wanted out.

"I don't want a tag on me," Spikes said at the time. "I feel like my time is done. I did all I can do. I did all that I owed not only to them, but to myself."

"I just want to win. I just want to compete. That's my whole objective. I don't look at the time I spent in Cincinnati as wasted time. I just want to go somewhere to compete and win."

Spikes and his agent, Todd France, did not immediately return phone messages Tuesday. Spikes told the team's Web site that his feelings hadn't changed and he still wanted out of Cincinnati.

"The tag is something they're using to keep me there, even though I'm not happy and I don't understand it," Spikes said.

Spikes has insisted that change has to start at the top. Team owner Mike Brown has used Lewis' hiring as an opportunity in a different manner than coaches as far as the team

"To me, we've become good friends," Ferguson said. "We just hit it off. I understand what he wants and he wants the same thing I do. That's a championship."

Ferguson played linebacker at the University of Washington and worked with the Seahawks as director of sales and special events in the 1970s.

He has spent 29 years in the NFL, including the last seven with the Cardinals, where he was hired as general manager in 1999.

"I don't expect to be here," he said. "I was going to retire completely. This kind of opportunity just kind of fell out of a tree."

He thinks he can become a major asset for Holmgren so he can concentrate exclusively on coaching again.

"I think it's the best situation for Mike Holmgren because there are just so many things that can come up that he has to be dealt with in a different manner than the head coach," he said.

"Bob's a very good person- nel man," Whisttilst said. "If you can get a good personnel person in your organization, you get him. I like his experi- ence."
AROUND THE NATION

NBA
Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

Team | Record | Perct. | Last 10 | GB
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
New Jersey | 30-15 | .653 | 6-4 | 1
Boston | 27-21 | .553 | 7-5 | 2
Philadelphia | 25-26 | .500 | 7-6 | 3
Washington | 24-28 | .458 | 10-14 | 4
Orlando | 23-29 | .448 | 4-14 | 5
New York | 21-27 | .438 | 8-14 | 6
Miami | 17-32 | .347 | 4-14 | 7

Eastern Conference, Central Division

Team | Record | Perct. | Last 10 | GB
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Indiana | 31-16 | .667 | 6-4 | 1
Detroit | 30-16 | .630 | 7-5 | 2
Milwaukee | 28-20 | .588 | 9-6 | 3
New Orleans | 24-24 | .500 | 6-6 | 4
Atlanta | 23-25 | .479 | 6-6 | 5
Chicago | 17-22 | .453 | 1-7 | 6
Toronto | 14-31 | .306 | 6-6 | 7
Cleveland | 12-24 | .348 | 2-6 | 8

Western Conference, Midwest Division

Team | Record | Perct. | Last 10 | GB
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Dallas | 28-10 | .725 | 7-3 | 1
San Antonio | 27-13 | .662 | 8-5 | 2
Utah | 26-23 | .522 | 6-5 | 3
Minnesota | 22-28 | .444 | 7-6 | 4
Huston | 17-32 | .357 | 6-6 | 5
Memphis | 15-33 | .313 | 1-9 | 6
Denver | 13-21 | .381 | 3-9 | 7

Western Conference, Pacific Division

Team | Record | Perct. | Last 10 | GB
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Sacramento | 31-17 | .650 | 6-4 | 1
Portland | 29-19 | .604 | 9-6 | 2
Phoenix | 29-19 | .604 | 9-6 | 3
LA Lakers | 24-22 | .511 | 7-3 | 4
Golden State | 12-26 | .330 | 5-6 | 5
LA Clippers | 17-22 | .453 | 4-6 | 6

Women's College Basketball

Big East Conference

Team | W-L | Pct.
--- | --- | ---
Connecticut | 7-0 | 1.000
Rutgers | 7-0 | .778
Virginia | 7-0 | .778
Boston College | 7-0 | .778
Virginia Tech | 6-1 | .857
Miami | 6-1 | .857
St. Joseph's | 5-2 | .714
St. John's | 5-2 | .714
West Virginia | 4-3 | .571

CCHA Standings

Team | W-L-T | Points
--- | --- | ---
Ferris State | 17-5-4 | 38
Ohio State | 17-6-1 | 35
Michigan | 14-7-1 | 33
Michigan State | 12-9-2 | 26
Western Michigan | 11-8-0 | 22
Minnesota | 10-10-2 | 22
Northern Michigan | 9-6-1 | 21
Nebraska-Omaha | 8-13-0 | 17
Alaska-Fairbanks | 7-11-3 | 17
HOTIE Game | 7-10-3 | 17
Western Michigan | 6-6-4 | 16
Lake Superior | 1-5-1 | 5

49ers search for coach ends with Erickson

Associated Press

Dennis Erickson, former Oregon State head coach, was hired by the San Francisco 49ers to replace Steve Mariucci. Erickson is only the fourth head coach of the 49ers since 1979.

**NBA**

**NFL**

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**IN BRIEF**

**Stewart's term with Steelers may be ending soon**

Kordell Stewart could be in his final season with the Pittsburgh Steelers. With a pair of important deadlines approaching, the Steelers may decide whether to re-sign their franchise quarterback, who is under contract until 2003. If the Steelers do not re-sign Stewart, he will become an unrestricted free agent.

**Cardinals' Jones accused of assault**

A Tempe barber has accused Arizona Cardinals running back Kordell Stewart of beating him at a Scottsdale nightclub in November. Stewart is scheduled to make $6.3 million in 2003. No matter what he does, he is expected to make at least $4 million after various 2002 player bonuses and incentives are paid.

**49ers search for coach ends with Erickson**

leaving the restroom when a man he later learned was Jones said "I'm tired of you" and punched him in the face. May said Jones then tackled him, sat on him and punched him in the face 10 to 12 times.

The report indicates May showed the reporting officer achopped tooth and some residual swelling around his right cheekbone; the result of the alleged attack. May said he also received 18 stitches to close a split lower lip.

On Nov. 23, the day before the alleged assault occurred, Jones told the Cardinals that he broke his hand reaching for a telephone in his home. The Cardinals placed Jones on the reserve/final list following the incident.

**Around the Dial**

**College Basketball**

Virginia at North Carolina 7 p.m., ESPN

**NBA**

Dallas at Milwaukee 9 p.m., ESPN

**NHL**

Toronto at Chicago 8 p.m., ESPN2

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Woods returns to PGA after knee surgery

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Dressed in a black rain suit, Tiger Woods ducked out from under his umbrella on the 13th tee at Torrey Pines Golf Course Wednesday, February 12, 2003, and gazed down the fairway to the first hole. It was his return to professional golf after an 18-week absence because of knee surgery, and the only red car parked out front was a limousine. Woods was back in his game. Tiger Woods practices in the gloomy conditions at Torrey Pines Golf Course. Woods is making a return to professional golf after a two-month hiatus following knee surgery.

"He's my favorite player besides me," said Chris Riley, a golfer who grew up playing junior golf with Woods. "He gives the Tour a lot of notoriety." Tiger Woods ducked out from under his umbrella on the 13th tee at Torrey Pines Golf Course Wednesday, February 12, 2003, and gazed down the fairway to the first hole. It was his return to professional golf after an 18-week absence because of knee surgery, and the only red car parked out front was a limousine. Woods was back in his game. Tiger Woods practices in the gloomy conditions at Torrey Pines Golf Course. Woods is making a return to professional golf after a two-month hiatus following knee surgery.
At the team that set a new meet held at the Rolfs Aquatic St. stroke (59.400 beyond the individual events. Garcia continued her setting the school record at the dominance during Notre Dame's 9-1-1 campaign of other areas as well.

Garcia runs away with honors for the best butterfly swimmer in the Big East. After setting the school record at the Big East championships last season, she continued her dominance during Notre Dame's 9-1-1 campaign of #14 Indiana.

In the team's first dual meet against Colorado State (162-100), Garcia posted two victories in both the 100 and 200 butterfly. She also captured both butterfly events in a 150-100 victory against Uniondale, N.Y., in January, as well.

Proving the butterfly is not the only individual event she can dominate in a meet, Garcia won the 200 freestyle (1:52.17) in the team's only dual meet victory, 195-105, over Pittsburgh.

Garcia's talents extend even beyond the individual events. At the 2002 Notre Dame Relays in Uniondale, N.Y., when Notre Dame was a close, 153-147 home victory, however, Garcia exhibited this work ethic during the team's week-long training program in Arapahoe, which culminated in a 129-69 spanking of Kansas. Garcia won the 200 IM with a time of 2:22.24.

The highlights of Garcia's and the team's season, however, came fittingly in the team's dual meets competition against Michigan on Feb. 1. It was a close, 153-147 home victory in which Garcia won the 200 butterfly (2:01.03). This butterfly victory, however, meant more than the others.

"For me that was a big race because I know their butterfly was ranked 9th in the nation. Going in knowing that was mentally difficult," Garcia said. "For me to overcome that is something I've really been trying to work on, to not be worried about. I'm racing against and instead just go out and race." Not only did the Michigan meet give Garcia fulfillment, it also marked an important confidence booster for the team heading into the Big East championships.

"For the team, that game was a huge barrier," she said. "We did all have to pull together. This year) we won some races we didn't expect to win and lost some we didn't expect to lose. But we bounced back from things that didn't quite go our way. Ending on that note for the dual meet season was a real big confidence booster."

Though she shows individual leadership and accomplishes her individual goals, Garcia's mind and comments always return to the status and well-being of the team.

"Actually one of my favorite quotes is four short words: a little bit more," Garcia said. "What puts the most successful swimmers above the crowd is that little bit more. I do what coach tells me to do and a little bit more. When I do that, others around me do that and it has a chain reaction effect. I know I couldn't swim without my teammates, and it's really important to do everything that's expected."

"Garcia's drive to succeed is contagious. The team hopes it will continue to be contagious in Uninotdale, N.Y., when Notre Dame competes for its seventh straight Big East title.

Garcia runs away with honors for the best butterfly swimmer in the Big East. After setting the school record at the Big East championships last season, she continued her dominance during Notre Dame's 9-1-1 campaign of #14 Indiana.
CLARE O'BRIEN

SO, DID YOU TAKE PRECAUTIONS? YOU KNOW THESE DAYS, YOU GOTTA BE SAFE...

NAN—IT WAS JUST A ONE TIME THING.

BUT IT'S LIKE YOU'RE SETTING UP AN EMAIL FROM EVERYONE THERE, THEN GETTING IT FROM THEM SO THEY COULD HAVE A VIRUS!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO? PUT CONDOM ON THE HAND GIVE IT TO THEM?

JACK MONAHAN

HAPPY TOWN

Past—
you're a jack.

WILL SHORTZ

CROSSWORD

ACROSS 33 Response to an insult 11 40, e.g.
33 Santa Anna at the Alamo, e.g. 36 Hammertoot pooh 56 Mark with 59 Marathon, e.g.
35 Dixie" composer 46 Rest area sight 60 Gumbasia
43 Judge too highly 44 Favor one side? 61 Universe
18 Like a big grin 47 Nice food 62 Regarding
14 "The Mikado" composer 48 Rest area sight 63 Hand warmer?
13 BRAVO 49 Favor one side? 65 Resistance unit
9 "Dixie" 39 Comment, part 2 66 Ascended
12 Alfred E. Neuman 40, e.g. 67 Deco
53 Response to an insult 60 Iron
52 Plymouth 60 Conductor
51 Comment, part 4 61 Seaside rhapsody 61 A Scandal
19 Papas on the screen 62 Regarding 62 Middle of a word
20 "The Madding" accessories 63 Hand warmer?
22 "What was it? do?" 66 Ascended
23 To be, to Bernadette 68 End of the comment
24 Comment, part 2 69 Not so remote
25 It may be raw 70 Bombarding
26 Hind, e.g. 71 Take stock of
30 C.S.A. state 72 Brunch order

DOWN 1 Alamo defender 2 Three-time
21 Oyster's home 23 Reluctant confessor
24 Circle overhead? 27 Three-time
26 Norwegian king 29 Part of O.E.D
28 Sigmaid shape 30 They may be crunched in a gym
31 Get prone 32 User's offering
34 Bud 35 MAD
37 Pipe joint 38 Fries collection

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EXDULP

HENRI ARNOLD

MIKE ARGIRION

THE OBSERVER

Celebrities born on this day: Jim Stafford, A.J. Foyt, Mary Tyler Moore, E. Howard梅

Happy Birthday! You've had the staying power required to reach your goal this year, so don't let anyone tamper with your plans. Follow your own timetable if you want to receive the rewards you've been dreaming about. (Numbers 16, 21, 27, 30, 41, 46)

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be ready to pick a fight if anyone looks at you the wrong way. Back off and spare yourself the grief of making a mistake that is too costly to you. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Be a good listener and you will gain respect. I may not be apparent today, but in the long run, you will discover that the more you do for others, the more you will get back in return. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Although opportunities to make financial gains are evident, you may not take on too much of a burden in the process. Don't let someone put pressure on you. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let your sulkiness turn into a big production. You won't get the sympathy you expect if you try to make others feel guilty today. Be comforting, not judgmental or grinchy. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will experience difficulties if you are working with others today. Be extra careful not to ruffle feathers or push others into doing things your way. Pitch in and do the best you can. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Financial gains can be yours if you are willing to push a little harder and invest in yourself for a change. Don't pay for other people's mistakes.***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may take things the wrong way. Refuse from making statements that you'll regret later. Ask for help and guidance before making a decision. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will get the cold shoulder if you have no been doing your share. Listen to the complaints of others and assure them that you will help out more. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't be too quick to judge, but don't let someone put pressure on you. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It may be too late to start. You can rely on yourself to a stressful situation by setting up a strict budget. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Check out the possibilities for the upcoming weekend. You should be making plans early so that you won't be disappointed! Don't try to mother the world. ***

Birthday Baby: You will be sensitive, caring and always there for others. You will make decisions based on all sides of an issue. You will help those less fortunate and you'll be highly regarded for your kindness and generosity.

For answers, call 1-800-292-5656, $1.20 a minute, or, with a credit card. 1-800-814-5554.

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THE OBSERVER • TODAY

page 23

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Name ___________________________________________
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(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: ERASE LURID OPENLY SHOULD Answer: Important for a garage man to be—AT YOUR DISPOSAL

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**WOMENS SWIMMING**

**A little bit more**

By PAT LEONARD  
Sports Writer

U) job with [fewer] turnovers
the results
Sports
few games and we did a good

**WOMENS BASKETBALL**

**Storm warning for Irish at Joyce tonight**

By JOE HETTLER  
Sports Editor

Irish coach Muffet McGraw knows her team wants just one thing when it faces St. John’s tonight at the Joyce Center.

“We just want to win at home,” McGraw said. “We need to start another streak after losing four in a row at home.”

McGraw is referring to the month of January when Notre Dame lost all four of its home games. However, the Irish (13-8, 5-5 in the Big East) have won their last two home games and are looking to build on that momentum against the Red Storm (8-14, 2-9).

The Irish came calling at Cherry Creek High School in Denver, where Lisa Garcia had, among other accomplishments, set state records in the 200 individual medley and the 100 backstroke. Garcia chose Notre Dame over other top swimming schools and made an immediate impact on an already strong squad. While seniors graduate from championship teams — the Irish have won six straight Big East titles — swimmers like Garcia are the ones who keep the Irish program at the top of the Big East and in the national spotlight.

Born Elizabeth Louise Garcia, the junior has slowly shed her way among the toes- tier of swimmers for the Notre Dame women. As a sophomore last season, Garcia qualified for her first NCAA championship, setting a school record at the NCAs with a time of 1:59.28 in the 200 butterfly. She also finished runner-up in the 100 and 200 butterfly in the Big East championships.

**SMC BASKETBALL**

**Belles battle Britons**

By TREY WILLIAMS  
Sports Writer

The Belles have had their fair share of second chances. However, with their losing streak, this was the time to put in the physical effort but encourage her teammates to do the same.

He wanted what every coach wants. He wanted a leader, a team member who could not only put in the physical effort but encourage her teammates to do the same.

He wanted a contributor, a swimmer who could shoulder the burdens of regular season competition and then rise to the challenge in the post-season.

It was no surprise, then, that the Irish came calling at Cherry Creek High School in Denver, where Lisa Garcia had, among other accomplishments, set state records in the 200 individual medley and the 100 backstroke. Garcia chose Notre Dame over other top swimming schools and made an immediate impact on an already strong squad. While seniors graduate from championship teams — the Irish have won six straight Big East titles — swimmers like Garcia are the ones who keep the Irish program at the top of the Big East and in the national spotlight.

Born Elizabeth Louise Garcia, the junior has slowly shed her way among the toes-tier of swimmers for the Notre Dame women. As a sophomore last season, Garcia qualified for her first NCAA championship, setting a school record at the NCAs with a time of 1:59.28 in the 200 butterfly. She also finished runner-up in the 100 and 200 butterfly in the Big East championships.

**See GARCIA/page 22**

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**ChIP MARKS/The Observer**

Notre Dame’s Le’Tanla Severe dribbles up the court against West Virginia. The Irish face St. John’s tonight at 7 p.m.