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Final three election tickets approved

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

The remaining three tickets in the student body president/vice president election have received approval of their petitions to run. The tickets of Ralph Keough and Mike Healy, Adam Istvan and Karla Bell, and Ryan Craft and Steve Lynch were notified last Tuesday of their approval.

In order to be approved, petitions are first verified by Judicial Council president Elliot Poindexter. Petitions are then sent to the Office of Student Affairs and to the Registrar. The candidates must be in good standing with each office.

The tickets approved were due Jan. 23, but three tickets were turned in well before the deadline. Mark Healy turned in the Ebersol-James Leito ticket, which the candidates turned in on Jan. 15, was approved Jan. 20, said Director of Student Activities Brian Coughlin. The three other tickets, however, were not approved until Jan. 27.

Student body presidential candidate Mark Healy said he was notified of its approval until Jan. 27. He said he was unaware of any problems with either the Office of Student Affairs or the Registrar. "I was not notified of any problems," Mark Healy said. "I went almost every day at the Student Government was open to meet Elliot Poindexter to see if my petition had been approved, and he said that it wasn't."

Mark Healy said he felt the length of time it took to get the final three petitions approved needed to be explained. "I think that it's something that needs to be looked into," he said. "It seems peculiar that it would take so long for the rest of us to be approved, when it didn't take that long for the first ticket to be approved."

The Istvan-Bell petition was turned in on Jan. 21. Istvan said, and Craft said he was turned in his petition on Jan. 23. Neither candidate said they were notified of any problems in approving their petitions.

"It's taking forever to go through the approval process, trying to get everything in," Istvan said.

When asked about the amount of time it took for the Healy-Healy and Istvan-Bell tickets to be approved, see ELECTION/page 4

White, Moran win SMC elections

By ANNELEISE WOOLFORD
Saint Mary's Editor

Sarah Catherine White and Mary Pauline Moran were elected four years ago for the 2004-05 student body president and vice president Friday. White and Moran will take office April 1.

The ticket received 58 percent of total votes Thursday, beating out Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald, whose ticket received 38 percent of votes. Four percent accounted for abstentions in an election where 50 percent of the student body voted; a turnout considered successful by election officials.

"I'm extremely pleased with the student body's involvement in this election," said elections commissioner Nicole Haebler. "Forty percent of the campus voting is well above national averages for campus elections and shows that all of the candidates captivated the attention of Saint Mary's women."

Haebler added that this year's election exemplified the strides made by Saint Mary's student government in recent years. Most notably, this election marked the first time in three years that more than one ticket ran for the student body presidency. In addition to White and Moran and Brown-Fitzgerald, Shay Jolly and Veronica Saabedra rounded out a group of candidates going into the primary election, Haebler said.

Both White and Moran agreed, citing a respectful election with tough competition. "It's an honor," White said. "We're delighted and thrilled to see that so much of the student body supports us. It's exciting to see the school take interest in student government through the election."

"It really revitalized things on campus for people to know that they have a choice," Moran said of the competing candidates.

Before taking office, White and Moran will shadow current student body president Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl to better understand what their roles will include. The shadowing process will consist of attending both administrative and student government meetings and evaluating the leadership demonstrated by past administrations.

The ticket said that their first priority upon taking office is to welcome new College president Carol Ann Mooney on behalf of the stu-

Students seek off-campus housing

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

Many Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students have already signed their leases for off-campus housing next year, said managers of local apartment complexes. Officials representing traditionally popular off-campus options consider that leasing is proceeding strongly for 2004-05. Tammy Michaelbrink, the property manager at Turtle Creek, said many students have chosen to renew their leases this year, while the number of new renters is about the same as in previous years.

"Students like it here, and we love to have them," Michaelbrink said. "Pretty much all of the renters here are students, besides the staff. I live here, and we have on-site maintenance and two security officers."

Turtle Creek — drawing 95 percent of its renters from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students — maintains a flexible system and is still taking applications for new tenants, Michaelbrink said.

"We had just started leasing in October," she said. "We don't like to pressure kids three years in advance to sign to live here."

Castle Point Apartments also attracts many students, sales manager Marianne Lofthus-Heon said.

"Twenty-five percent are students, but out of that 25 percent, there are three and four students per apartment," she said.

Notre Dame junior Kathryn Weidell said the mixed atmosphere of students and older residents is one of the reasons she chose Castle Point.

Lozar named 2004-05 Observer editor-in-chief

Observer Staff Report

The Observer General Board elected associate sports editor Matt Lozar as the 2004-05 editor in chief on Saturday.

Lozar, a junior MIS major from Willoughby Hills, Ohio who lives in K e e a u g h Hall, joined the Observer as an interhall football reporter during his freshman year. Since then, he has covered a wide variety of sports, including football, men's basketball, softball and the national champion fencing team.

"I look forward to the opportunity to use the experience I've gained with the sports department to improve the paper as a whole," Lozar said. "It is a tremendous challenge, but one I am willing to accept."

As an associate sports editor, he helped run the sports department while coordinating a variety of projects. Lozar's primary responsibilities included planning and producing the Irish Insider, a special section used to preview multiple sports events.

He is the fourth editor in chief in the last five years to come from the sports department.

"I have complete confidence in Matt's ability to lead The Observer next year," outgoing editor in chief Andrew Sookup said. "He has a wealth of great ideas and an excellent relationship with the staff."

Among the projects Lozar hopes to undertake during his tenue include establishing a recruiting and training system across all departments and getting color into the paper five days a week.

"I was excited to see what I could do to see The Observer improve next year," Lozar said. "And I'm extremely eager to work with a very talented staff."

Lozar officially takes over as editor in chief on March 1.
Love and Hallmark

The countdown has begun. As calendars flipped to February this weekend, moans of absolute agony and squeals of delight were heard echoing off of dorms and Domes alike. Sarcasm-intently sweet red and silver heart decorations have appeared in the most unprepared places, including the walls of South Dining Hall — and never has 24-hour fruit salad been more romantic.

Atria is stuck solidly on repeat as couples gear up for candlelight dinners and moonlight walks, and singletones simultaneously loathe and revel in their solitude.

The ultimate Hallmark holiday is within sight. That’s right: Looming just beyond the weekend, moans of absolute agony and sweet red and...
Movie ‘Black Barbie’ Beauty plays at SMC
Film depicts African-American’s struggles with concepts of beauty

By ANGELA SAOUD
News Writer

Kareemah El-Amin’s “Black Barbie Beauty,” a film that portrays a young African-American woman struggling to fit in with society’s image of beauty, premiered Friday night in Carroll Auditorium at Saint Mary’s.

“I wanted to make this film because, growing up in the ‘70s and ‘80s, I struggled a lot with the image I saw looking in the mirror,” El-Amin said. “I look at young women today, and I see these women dying their hair and wearing contacts to try to fit in.”

Throughout “Black Barbie Beauty,” the lead actress is shown staring at herself in the mirror. She applies baby powder to her skin in order to lighten her appearance and wears blue wigs. In a voiceover, the audience hears a poem that El-Amin wrote nearly seven years ago.

Many audience members provided El-Amin with positive feedback on the film. Others shared their personal experiences with not fitting the ideal American image of beauty.

“You just don’t see black magazines on the newsstands in the grocery store, and when you do see an image of African-American beauty, it’s someone like Beyoncé [Knowles] who has a blond hair weave and colored contacts,” the audience member said. “This world is too slow still.”

El-Amin and the actors in the film then fielded questions and commented on the creation of the movie.

El-Amin has entered “Black Barbie Beauty” into the film festival circuit in hopes that it will reach many more young women who struggle with the way they look.

“I think it’s important to affirm young women,” she said. “Don’t let the mainstream influence who you are, because you are beautiful.”

Contact Angela Saoud at saoud@smu.edu

In Focus conference draws 120

By CLAIRE HEININGER
Assistant News Editor

Despite clashes over the publicity scheme leading up to the third annual AAA In Focus Student-Run Conference, executive chair Ryan Leung said the event successfully boosted recognition of Asian and Asian-American issues at Notre Dame.

“I think that, overall, the conference was a success,” Leung said Sunday. “People’s eyes were opened to some things they weren’t aware of before.”

Leung said the conference was well attended, with 120 people present at the closing banquet and most of those also participating in various workshops throughout the day.

“Being an all-day Saturday event, it was hard to get people to attend every workshop we had,” he said. “But I’m glad we were able to get people to come to parts of it.”

Prominent Asian-Americans in a variety of career disciplines led workshops at the conference, including actor Parry Shen’s presentation of “Personal Journey,” which narrated his experiences as one of the few Asian-Americans in Hollywood.

“We also furnished workshops for students to discuss the social aspects of Asian-American being,” Leung said.

“The conference was well attended, with 120 people present at the closing banquet and most of those also participating in various workshops throughout the day.”

Leung agreed that the goals of the weekend were achieved. “The most important mission of the conference was to spark that fire in students’ hearts to promote a better understanding of multicultural issues on campus,” he said.

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

Students take a break from the In Focus conference this weekend to grab lunch.

We Do Mondays Like No Place Else!
Enjoy a double order of chicken steak or combo fajitas (enough for two) for just $11!

Halaga: A Qur’an Discussion and Conversation Circle
Tuesdays starting
Tuesday, February 3, 7–8:30 pm
Meditation Room, 102 Coleman-Morse Center
Introduction on the basics of Qur’an & Discussions on Chapter 19, verses 1-32
Presented by the ND Muslim Students Association and Campus Ministry.
Housing
continued from page 1
dents was one deciding factor in her choice to live in Castle Point next year. "Castle Point is the least expen-
sive and nicest of the complexes, despite its longer distance from school," Wendel said. "Also, because it is not just for students, I will be able to interact with many different types of people, which is something that I think many people forget about while on campus at Notre Dame."
In preparation for studying abroad this semester, Wendel signed her lease in early October. Some students, however, are not so prepared — causing complications as the signing deadline nears.
College Park property manager Patty Russell said students attempting to renew their leases later in the year can create prob-lems. "Five percent of them just assume that since they're already there, they automatically get their apartment next year," Russell said. These students then are left to sign up late or not at all — College Park has been sold out of apartments since early October.
"We have a list for the 2005-06 school year starting already," Russell said. "One hundred percent of all our renters are stu-dents."
Some complexes, however, have not begun that redesigning process yet. The Former Campus View Apartments, renamed Clover Ridge, has come under new ownership that aims to focus on this year first.
Lisa Donlon, property manager of the recently purchased apartments, said the complex is remodeling and does not want to begin leasing until the renova-tions are complete. "So far, we're in the middle of remodeling. We're putting in new carpets, fresh paint, washers and dryers — all of it," Donlon said. "We're looking to start leasing at the end of February or early March."
Management hopes that new rent-covered inclusions such as Internet access and basic cable will lure students to Clover Ridge.
Many Saint Mary's students, however, said they will not take the bait — instead turning to the new on-campus apartments. Junior Michelle Firmstone said the proximity of the apartments is a major selling point.
"It's convenient. There's no driving issue," Firmstone said. "The apartments are already for-
nished, and we won't have to worry about paying rent and utili-ties every month."
Saint Mary's director of Residence Life Michelle Russell believes the apartments are a strong draw.
"It's an option to the independ-ence of students without having to move away," Russell said. "You're close to class, close to the heart of campus — yet you still have your own kitchen, your own apartment. You get that free-dom."
Saint Mary's Residence Life reported receiving more applica-tions than there are spaces for the new apartments. There will be a lottery for the 12 double and 12 quad apartments on Feb. 3. If a student is not chosen, her room deposit will roll over to the requi-rements of the next year.
Firmstone said relying on the dorms as a back-up plan is not an option for her.
"As students stay here longer, they know more and more students who hire off-campus think that means that everyone wants to move."
Jeff Shoup
director of Notre Dame Residence Life and Housing
White
continued from page 1
dent body. This goal will be followed closely by their sec-on priority to form a Board of Governance.
"We truly realize that we're not the only ones who will be doing all of the work," White said. "It's everyone who is interested and wants to get involved."
Confident in their leader-ship capabilities, White and Moran look forward to repre-senting students' voices in a year filled with internal and external change on Saint Mary's campus.
"I think Sarah Catherine and Mary Pauline will do a fabulous job transitioning into their new roles and tak-ing the lead in furthering stu-dent government," Haebeler said.
Contact Annemise Woolford at Wool8338@Saintmarys.edu
Lecture to discuss the 'other' Americas
Special to The Observer
J. Michael Dash, professor of French and director of the Africana Studies Program at New York University, will deliver a lecture titled "The Relating Island: The South of the South in the Americas" at 4 p.m. today at the Eck Center auditorium.
Presented by the University's Working Group for the Americas, in conjunction with its Institute for Latino Studies and African-American Studies Program, the event is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception. The lecture is a con-tinuation of the "Caribbean Inventions" conference held last fall at Notre Dame.
Born in Trinidad, Dash previ-ously served for 21 years as professor of Francophone litera-ture and chair of modern lan-guages at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica. He spe-cializes in the study of Italian literature and French Caribbean writers, especially Edward Gladsby whose works "The Ripening" and "Caribbean Discourse" he has translated into English. He is the author of numerous books, including "The Other America: Caribbean Literature in a New World Context," "Libete: A Haiti Anthology" [with Charles Arthur], and "Culture and Customs of Haiti."
The event is co-sponsored by Notre Dame's Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Cashwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, the Departments of Romance Languages & Literatures, English & Anthropology, and French and Francophone Studies.

Housing
continued from page 1

Rafael M. Donlon, president of Management Corporation, said that all of the 30 percent of all our renters are stu-
dents."
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Hundreds killed in hajj disaster
MINA, Saudi Arabia — At least 244 people were trampled to death and hundreds more hurt Sunday under the crush of worshipers in one of the deadliest disasters during the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

The stampede occurred during the stoning of the devil, an emotional and notoriously perilous hajj ritual. Pilgrims frantically throw rocks, shout insults or hurl their shoes at three stone pillars — acts that are supposed to demonstrate their deep disdain for Satan.

The stampede broke out on one of two ramps leading to the 50-foot stone pillars. Tens of thousands of people were on the uppermost ramp, which is about the width of a five-lane highway.

Islamic leaders now Israeli targets
JERUSALEM — The leaders of violent Islamic groups are targets for assassination.

Israel's defense minister said Sunday, raising the possibility of a further escalation in the three years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

Shaul Mofaz issued the threat in response to a declaration by the spiritual leader of Hamas, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, that the group plans all-out effort to kidnap Israeli soldiers.

"The statements of Yassin just emphasize the determination of the bearers of the sword and the Islamic Jihad," Mofaz told the weekly meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, according to an Israeli official who attended the meeting.

The statements by Mofaz and Yassin threaten to inflame an already violent confrontation that has led to the deaths of more than 3,500 people on both sides during three years of fighting.

LOCAL NEWS

Bush to order intelligence probe
WASHINGTON — President Bush, under mounting political pressure, will sign an executive order to establish a full investigation of U.S. intelligence failures in Iraq, a senior White House official said Sunday.

The investigation will look at what the United States believed it knew before the war against Saddam Hussein's regime and what has been determined since the invasion.

Former Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld, who had resisted an investigation of intelligence failures in Iraq, has concluded that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction, a chief rationale for the war.

The investigation will examine not only Iraq intelligence but will also look at issues dealing with stateless groups such as terrorists and secretive regimes such as North Korea, the official said.

The broad mandate of the investigation, it is not likely to be completed before the November elections.

Bush had resisted an investigation of Iraqi intelligence but agreed to the point to protect war casualties.

The blast of a suicide bomber Sunday ripped apart the headquarters of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, one of the primary Kurdish political parties in Iraq.

IRAQ

Suicide bombers hit Kurd headquarters
Associated Press

IRBIL — Two suicide bombers with explosives wired to their bodies struck the offices of the country's two main Kurdish parties on Saturday, killing at least 56 people wounded 150, police said.

The attacks struck in the Kurdish heartland and took a heavy toll among senior leaders of Iraq's most-pro-American ethnic group.

Elsewhere, an American soldier was killed and 12 were wounded in a rocket attack on a logistics base in Balad, 50 miles north of Baghdad, the U.S. command said. The death raised to 523 the number of U.S. service members who have died since the Iraqi conflict began in March.

The Irbil attackers slipped into the offices of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) along with hundreds of well-wishers gathering for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of Sacrifice.

Kurdish television said both bombers were dressed as Muslim clerics.

Leaders of both parties, whose militias fought alongside U.S. soldiers during the invasion of Iraq last year, were receiving hundreds of visitors to mark the start of the four-day holiday when the blasts went off.

Guards said they did not see people because of the tradition of receiving guests during the holiday. Neither party's top leader — Jalal Talabani of the PUK and Massouud Barzani of the KDP — was in Irbil when the attacks occurred.

Although Iraq has suffered numerous suicide bombings in recent months, the attack Sunday marked the first time perpetrators have worn explosives rather than using vehicles.

Sunday's blasts came a day after a car bomb outside a police station in the northern city of Mosul killed at least nine people.

Hours later, a mortar attack hit a Baghdad neighborhood, killing five people and wounding four.

U.S. officials said foreign militants or Ansar al-Islam, an al-Qaida-linked Islamic militant group based in the north that has frequently clashed with the Kurds, may have carried out the attacks. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

"We have no proof at this point that who is responsible," said U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer pledged to work with Iraqi security forces to capture those behind Sunday's bombings. The attackers "are seeking to halt Iraq's progress on the path to sovereignty and democracy," Bremer said in a statement.

In statements, the leaders of both parties, once bitter rivals, expressed their resolve to defeat terrorism together.

"These terrorist acts are against the Islamic religion and humanity and we shall work more seriously toward uniting our (Kurdish) government," Talabani said. "We will work together in order to live in a democratic, federal Iraq.

"No matter who was behind them, the blasts may heighten tensions between the Kurds and Sunni Arabs. As U.S. and Iraqi leaders try to map out the country's new form of government, some Arabs have sharply opposed Kurdish demands to retain or even expand their self-rule region in the north.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rovers still plagued by software glitches

LOS ANGELES — NASA said Sunday its Spirit rover was a week away from rolling on Mars again and that the software problem vexing the space craft may trouble both it and its twin, Opportunity, for the duration.

"Then I think we can declare we are completely back in our normal mode," Adler said during a conference call with reporters.

Engineers will have to keep deleting computer files from Spirit's flash memory to keep their numbers low enough for the rover's random-access memory to manage the same. The will be done for Opportunity.

"Engineers also may regularly reformat the robots' flash memory, perhaps every week or two," Adler said.

Even with the computer glitch, engineers believe at least one of the 384-pound robots may last longer than their warranted 90-day lifetimes. A 15-minute break has been turning on unnecessarily on Opportunity may curtail its extended mission, however.

NASA scientists said the solar-powered spacecraft have ample time to roam like no other missions to Mars ever has. Once underway, the rovers could cover thousands of yards a day.

"I don't think the mobility side of the equation has hit us in the head yet," project manager Pete Theisinger said recently. "The first time we take a panorama and the lander's not there, it will hit home what we've accomplished."

Monday, February 2, 2004

WORLD & NATION

Compiled From The Observer's wire services
One-third of legislators resign

One of Iran's lawmakers resigned in protest Sunday over disputed elections and the parliamentary speaker charged ruling clerics with trampling on the rights of his constituents.

Saeid Jowkar, Karroubi's brother, appeared on Iran's Supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to help resolve the crisis by disqualifying thousands of liberal candidates from the Feb 20 vote.

Some 124 lawmakers in the 290-seat Majlis, or parliament, resigned Sunday in a dramatic gesture intended to force the clerical hierarchy to reinstate the disqualified candidates.

The mass resignation "will determine Iran's direction: rule of absolute dictatorship or democracy," reformist lawmaker Mohammad Khadam-Nejad told The Associated Press.

Karroubi said he and his former President Mohammad Khatami started new efforts to resolve the crisis, holding discussions with Khamenei, who has the final say on all state matters.

But Khameini left the capital Tehran on Friday to attend a vacation, making it difficult to reach him, parliamentary officials said.

Jowkar, the parliamentary speaker, said a rare verbal attack on the Guardian Council, the unelected body of hard-liners that disqualified 2,400 reformist candidates from running.

"Are you loyal to Islam if you pray daily, but then trample on the constitutional rights of the people?" said Jowkar, himself a cleric.

He accused the Guardian Council, whose 12 members are appointed by Khamenei, of "disrespecting democratic values and having no faith in a popular election.

The furor began early January when the Guardian Council disqualified more than 3,600 of the 8,200 people who filed candidates to run in the polls.

After protests and an opinion Sunday from the prison guard, petitioned by her two young daughters.

"We will not participate in this sham election. Even if all those disqualified are reinstated today, there will be no time for competition. Elections on Feb. 20 are illegitimate," said Reza Khataei, the prisoner's younger brother and a deputy speaker.

Karroubi's efforts toward greater democracy and a relaxation of the Islamic social code.

The council denies political motives and argues that the disqualified candidates lacked the criteria to stand for election, even though more than 80 of them were elected in 2000.

Those lawmakers resigned Sunday.

"An election whose result is clear beforehand is a travesty to the rights and ideals of the nation," resigning legislators Rajali Ali Mazzoni told the parliament.

The leader of the biggest reform party in parliament, Mohammad Reza Khataei, resigned and accused the Guardian Council of killing all opportunities for resolving the dispute.

"There is no hope for a solution. We will not participate in this sham election. Even if all those disqualified are reinstated today, there will be no time for competition. Elections on Feb. 20 are illegitimate," said Reza Khataei, the prisoner's younger brother and a deputy speaker.

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MARKET RECAP

**Dow Jones**

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**Companies**

- **AMEX**: The consensus forecast of analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call was for a loss of 37 cents per share.
- **NYSE**: The consensus forecast of analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call was for a loss of 37 cents per share.

**Treasuries**

- **30-Year Bond**: 10.60 - 0.10 96.94
- **10-Year Note**: 1.41 - 0.59 10.03
- **5-Year Note**: 1.87 - 0.60 10.51
- **3-Month Bill**: -2.18 - 0.80 9.77

**Commodities**

- **Light Crude (Brent)**: 24.95 0.24
- **Gold (Spot)**: 275.30 -0.58
- **Baa Bonds (USD)**: 6.20 0.36
- **Canadian $**: 1.25

**IN BRIEF**

Winn-Dixie reports severe losses

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Supermarket chain Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. reported a loss for the latest quarter, suspended its dividend and announced plans to cut $100 million in annual costs that could include store closings.

The announcements Friday came as Standard & Poor's lowered the company's corporate debt rating and said it was reviewing the situation to see if further reductions were warranted. Winn-Dixie's shares tumbled $2.53, or 28 percent, to close at $6.56 on the New York Stock Exchange.

The company, which operates a 1,078-store chain in 15 Southeastern states and the Bahamas, said Friday it plans to cut payroll and corning spending, close money-losing stores and tighten its centralized purchasing.

U.S. Steel reports fourth-quarter losses

PITTSBURGH — U.S. Steel Corp. on Friday reported a net loss for the fourth quarter following a year in which the company pared corporate debt and reported a profit of $235 million, or 85 cents per share, for the same period in 1999.

The company said Friday it plans to cut payroll and corning spending, close money-losing stores and tighten its centralized purchasing.

**AIR TRAVEL**

ATI strike deal with bondholders

INDIANAPOLIS — The parent company of ATA Airlines Inc. Thursday reached agreement with bondholders Friday, buying itself more time to repay debt and ease a cash crunch that threatened to bankrupt the nation's 10th largest carrier.

ATA Holdings Corp. said it had met bondholders' conditions for completing a bond exchange offer. The conditions included gaining satisfactory consent from bondholders to complete 5-year note amendments for leasing Boeing 737s and 757s that ATA had ordered before the Sept. 11 attacks.

ATA also said it had won approval from the federal Air Transportation Stabilization Board, which guarantees loans to airlines.

The low-fare carrier had faced the prospect of paying off $300 million in debt over two years while making aircraft lease payments.

Friday's announcement "will certainly give ATA a lot of breathing room to recover from the last couple years of industry difficulties," said Richard Bitenson, an airline analyst at Moody's Investors Service.

ATA shares closed up 41 cents, or 3.3 percent, at $12.84 on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Indianapolis-based ATA said last summer that it could not meet debt obligations unless it won more time to repay bondholders. The airline warned of a possible Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing unless it secured new repayment terms.

Under the bond swap, ATA has more time to repay $175 million in bond notes originally due in August and $125 million in notes that were due next year. In exchange for stretching out the repayments, bondholders receive more favorable interest and cash consideration terms.

ATA made its initial bond exchange offer Aug. 29, but was forced to revise the terms and extend the offer's deadline several times after failing to win enough bondholder support.

**COMPETING AND ELECTRONICS**

Gateway to buy eMachines

Associated Press

SUN VALLEY — Gateway Inc., the nation's second-largest personal-computer manufacturer, plans to buy struggling eMachines Inc. in a deal valued at $235 million.

The agreement announced Friday would keep trail Dell Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co., but executives hope the increased volume will give it more leverage in negotiating with suppliers. A similar argument was made when HP announced it was buying Compaq Computer Corp. in 2001.

"There's an element of last man standing here," said Roger Ray, an analyst at the research firm IDC. "The PC industry is definitely consolidating and, at this stage, bulk counts."

Gateway and eMachines, each about 3.4 percent of the total U.S. market, in the fourth quarter last year, according to IDC. By comparison, Dell and HP together captured more than half.

The agreement announced Friday came a day after Gateway posted its 12th loss in 13 quarters, a result of sharply declining sales and charges related to its successful Internet service and consumer electronics company.

"Competing against Dell and HP is tough," said Stephen Baker, an analyst for NPD Group, "but anything they can do to close that gap that would be meaningful. That gap is so big that there's just nothing you can do."

Gateway's revenue last year was little more than one-third what it was in 2000. The company introduced a raft of flat-panel TVs, cameras and music players last year, but lackluster holiday sales failed to validate its gamble to branch into consumer electronics.

Last year, Gateway's PC shipments fell 24 percent to just under 2.1 million units. E Machines shipped 1.9 million PCs last year, meaning the transaction would effectively double Gateway's PC business.

Ted Waitt, who founded Gateway in 1985 and returned as chief executive in 2001, said skepticism by analysts about the future of the company's PC business, which still accounts for about 70 percent of its revenue, "basically gets answered" by the acquisition.

"Once the deal is closed in about six to eight weeks, Waitt will be replaced by eMachines' CEO, Wayne Inouye. Waitt, 41, will remain Gateway's chairman. Inouye, 51, was senior vice president of computer merchandising at Best Buy Co. before joining Gateway in 2001 to turn around the struggling company."

The two companies, which began negotiating about a month ago, have targeted different consumer segments. eMachines employs only 138 people, mostly in Orange County, hiring outside firms and selling its lower-end PCs through major electronics retailers, including Best Buy, Circuit City Stores Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Gateway, which employs about 7,500 people, sells its higher-end gear at its shrinking chain of 190 stores and over the Internet and phone.

Gateway said it had no plans to carry the eMachines brand in its stores and hasn't approached eMachines' retailers about carrying the Gateway brand.

Two customer service representatives work at an Illinois Gateway Store Wednesday. Gateway announced its $235 million acquisition of eMachines Friday.
Don't appeal to Catholicism in election

Speculating whether a more Catholic voter should choose a Republican or Democrat in a presidential contest is absurdly and intellectual incoherence. Anyone who requires the comfort of knowing that God will approve of his political position will not avert the implications for his political preferences. Simply put, the answer is incoherent. We live in an era wherein the complete deconstruction of political figures is a reality. As Americans, we need to understand the implications for our political decisions.

The reality of the modern political arena is that no candidate will ever espouse every social tenet of Catholicism, so many try to find comfort in the ability to weigh certain Catholic issues and vote for the lesser of two evils. It is an unfortunate position for any voter to find himself in, but I take issue with anyone who allows such a strong religious bias into their voting preferences.

No single vote will ever make you a saint or a sinner. To vote for a single candidate is an unhealthy for the nation as a whole. We don't ask God how to run our country, nor does He directly influence election, which is a test of our religious views. Any election, which is a test of your religious views. Analyzing the future of the world, not just one's religious views, is an unfortunate reality. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Bill Rinner is a junior economics major studying abroad at the London School of Economics. He's a religious liberal who believes in individual freedom and that the role of the president has eroded significantly after countless scandals and a media that revels in inflating every minor wrongdoing or misstep for the sake of higher ratings. His戲曲 challenge or bemoan this development, which is the product of a free society, but I can understand that those with only moderate political views would feel insecure choosing between two flawed candidates. I don't challenge or bemoan this political bias, but rather a human who is abusing his office and has the responsibility to speak for the sake of higher ratings. The solution I offer to this tendency is to ask yourself, "Who am I?" and "What is the true role of the president?"

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Letter to the Editor

Appreciating NDSP

I am currently a junior here at Notre Dame, and for almost three years I have heard many negative stories concerning the NDSP while positive experiences seem to have been at a minimum. I myself had had a bad nor positive experience with the NDSP, until last Friday.

Upon walking out to the D6 parking lot and finding that snow had been plowed two feet high around my car, I knew I needed help getting my car out of the parking space. After about five minutes of futile attempts to remove such large quantities of snow by myself, an NDSP officer drove up and offered to let me borrow a snow shovel. After clearing a path, the officer then helped push my car out of the parking space and I was on my way.

Only a week before, my roommate had suffered a severe allergic reaction and had to be taken to the hospi
tal. At five in the morning, an NDSP officer was helpful enough to give my roommate a ride back to campus and drove him right to the front door of the dorm. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the men and women of the NDSP for doing more than what is required of them, and to the rest of us students: Cut these guys some slack — they aren't so bad after all.

Michael Milligan junior O'Neill Hall Feb. 1
Defending 'The Vagina Monologues'

I would like to respond to Professor Rice's Jan. 28 column concerning "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. In 2002, when "The Vagina Monologues" first came to Notre Dame, Professor Rice expressed concern and distress for some of the content of the play, as he did again this week. He worried, among other things, that the play may cause fear or pity, or ideological incoherence, perhaps a mix of the two.

After his wins in Iowa and New Hampshire, "The New Republic" magazine a few weeks ago, would not have an unsightly commander-in-chief. The GOP barely passes muster here. Not so the Democrats. The tradition of handsome, youthful Democratic candidates begins, of course, with JFK. Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush. The soothing, warm, smiling candidate, Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush. The soothing, warm, smiling candidate, Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush.

Americans simply don't have a credible alternative. The GOP barely passes muster here. Not so the Democrats. The tradition of handsome, youthful Democratic candidates begins, of course, with JFK. Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush. The soothing, warm, smiling candidate, Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush.

Professor Rice chastises the administration for its decision to allow such a play to be performed on the campus of Our Lady. I say that Our Lady would be proud. She, too, had a story to tell. Pregnant out of wedlock with only an incredible explanation for her husband-to-be, she asked that others hear her story and have faith that, although she did not fit into the mold that society expected her to, she was an important and worthy woman.

Mary had a vagina. And I bet she would have agreed.

Finally, I find it disturbing that Professor Rice refers to the administration's responses to criticism as "sexist." In a University as well-respected as Notre Dame, how can any academic pursuit be considered banal? Have faith, Professor Rice, that the students of Notre Dame will see the play, take it all in, and decide for themselves. I encourage everyone, even the most steadfast critics, to see the play. Explore the complexities of the stories, of the women and of their lives, and decide for yourself how you will interpret them.

Congratulations to the amazing women of V-Day November 2004. Your hard work and dedication will no doubt make this year the most fun and memorable. Every woman you put into the spotlight, every person you talk to about the play or about V-Day, and every time you think about your own experiences with them also suggest to me something else: a collective hope that, after each successful debate, Edwards will, Mia Hamm-style, tear off his Oxford shirt and bare his sculpted pecs in all their hirsute majesty.

Looks matter — I think we have a consensus here. America simply would rather not have an unsightly commander-in-chief. The GOP barely passes muster here. Not so the Democrats. The tradition of handsome, youthful Democratic candidates begins, of course, with JFK. Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush.

An equal opportunity production?

I am writing to address a grave concern of mine: the travesty known as "The Vagina Monologues." Clearly, allowing them to come here will put a blemish in our school's otherwise great reputation. I cannot believe that we are allowing ourselves to take such a significant step backwards in the development of our atmosphere of sexual equality. Where, I ask, are the "Penis Monologues?" What kind of equal-opportunity campus are we if we can't even provide comparable theatre experience for our men and our women? I mean, do you really think our students are so unadventurous that, after each performance of this theatre play, but I do know that it has vagina in the title, and to me, that just echoes discriminately. Clearly, this can only be balanced out with a play that has penis in the title. I mean, come on. Men have sex organs, too. We can get upset and talk about them. Ever think about that? Seriously. I hope if you have been reading this far, you are as angry as I am. It's about time this issue is given the attention it deserves.

Kerry Walsh
Jan. 30

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Kerry Walsh
Jan. 30
Rocking the I

Motion City Soundtrack, Sugarcult, MxPx and Simple Plan hit Chicago Friday

By MAUREEN BUSH

The first large pop punk tour of the year breezed though the Windy City Jan. 30, leaving the young adults of Chicago with a warm feeling despite the biting cold outdoors. Motion City Soundtrack, Sugarcult and co-headliners MxPx and Simple Plan took the downtown Riviera Theater by storm that night, filling the theater to the brink and pleasing the anxious crowd.

The show opened with guitarist recording artist Motion City Soundtrack from Minneapolis. This excellent blend of unusual vocals, electric keyboards and beats was a powerful way to start the night. The band played their much too short eight song set with flare. They began their set with "Cambridge" and continued by playing the majority of the songs on their full-length album, "I Am the Movie." Lead singer and guitar Justin Pierre, has an excellent voice, and the quality shone through to the crowd of exuberant teenagers.

Motion City Soundtrack is rounded out by Joshua Cain on guitars and back-up vocals, Tony Thaxton on drums, Jesse Johnson on moog (a small keyboard-type instrument), and Matthew Taylor on bass and backup vocals. Their set flowed beautifully as they finished up with fan-favorites, "The Future Freaks Me Out" and "My Favorite Accident." This band has an amazing amount of talent and this was evident as they played their set. The group could do something specta
cular in the future.

As Simple Plan lead singer Pierre Bouvier said later that night, "Give it up for Motion City Soundtrack. We're OK. They are great." The next act of the night was Santa Barbara, California's own Sugarcult. This powerful pop-punk foursome put together an excellent set that was very well received by the crowd who was looking to take the energy level up a notch. Sugarcult did just that entering the stage to popular song, "Stuck in America." The high energy continued through the night as they played songs from their full-length album, "Start Static," such as, "Daddy's Little Defect," "She's the Blade," and "Pretty Girl." They also played their new song, "Memory," to supplement the older favorites. This song is on their new full length titled, "Palm Trees and Powerlines," which is scheduled to be released on April 13.

Leading the way was singer/guitar Tim Fagota, with band mates Marko 72 on guitar, Airin on bass and vocals, and Ben Davis on drums and vocals. Their books were incredibly catchy and kept the crowd jumping the whole set. Their clever use of lyrics enhanced the melodies. The music had enough pop credence to draw the crowd in and was smart enough to keep them excited for the next song.

Sugarcult played an excellent set and made one lucky fan's night by pulling him out of the crowd to videotape the set for their impending DVD they will be releasing. Members of the band could also be found out by their merchandise booth during the show and after the show to take pictures and sign autographs for the fans. This kind of attitude, supplemented by their punchy music, will help them continue on their path to fame.

Next in line was veteran Christian punk act MxPx, bailing from Bremerton, Washington. Made up of Mike Henners singing and playing bass, Tom Winiowski on guitar, and Yuri Ruley on drums, MxPx has released over 11 albums since 1995, the most recent being, "Before Everything & After," released in August on A&M Records. They began their set with "Play It Loud" and kept up the intensity all night. They played their set like the veterans they are.

The show was an excellent mix, hitting both old favorites and the newer songs. They played "The Next Big Thing," "Northbound," and brought out the acoustic guitar for "Quit Your Life" among the others. Like Sugarcult, they made two girls' night by bringing them up on stage to have the band's first ever bass-off. The band gave each girl a bass guitar and had them battle it out to see who was the best. Neither girl had ever played before, but the use of crowd participation was a hit with the fans.

After the bass-off, the band finished up with a cover song followed by one of their own, having Winiowski sing "Should I Stay or Should I Go." They left the stage and came back momentarily to break into a cover of "Summer of '69" and popular song, "Chick Magnet." As always, they finished their set playing "Punk Rock Show" to the delight of the crowd.

The set was perfect length and was well planned. Hearing the older songs was nice, but it was a surprise that they only played six new songs in a 17 song set list. Still, it was a well played set that kept the predominantly Simple Plan fan crowd happy.

The final act of the night was north-ern neighbor Simple Plan from Canada, with Pierre Bouvier on vocals, Chuck Comeau on drums, Jeff Stinco on lead guitar, David Desrosiers on bass and backup vocals and Sebastien Lefebvre on bass and back up vocals.

California's pop-punk foursome Sugarcult was a hit with crowds at the Riviera Theatre in Chicago last weekend.
These French-Canadian punks were the high-light of the night for many of the teens in the crowd whose resounding screams filled the building as they took the stage to the Star Wars theme, "The Imperial March." They immediately ripped into their set, playing many of the songs off their 2002 debut album, "No Pads, No Helmets...Just Balls," including radio hits, "I'm Just a Kid," "Addicted," and "I'd Do Anything."

This high-energy band is very reminiscent of fellow pop punk band Good Charlotte. Both have catchy hooks and fast paced anthems for disillusioned teens who want to scream their frustrations about growing up. The band played their songs and made jokes between them in Blink-182 fashion for the captivated audience. After playing some of their songs, the band really kicked in covering Pink's, "Get the Party Started", The Black Eyed Peas "Where's the Love", and also the Turtles 'Happy Together". Hearing so many cover songs in one night was a bit surprising.

Bouvier and his acoustic guitar provided the second encore of the night with Simple Plan’s latest radio hit, "Perfect."

Bouvier started the song himself, but then stopped and allowed the thousands of voices in the Rivera to do the work for him. Halfway through the song the rest of the band joined in on stage and they filled out the rest of the music in an excellent end to the concert.

Overall, it was a well-crafted tour with an interesting mix of different bands. The talent of some of the bands was over the heads of the kids who were seemingly there for one purpose, to see Simple Plan. Simple Plan deserves a lot of credit for realizing this talent and taking these bands on tour to give them exposure to the masses.

Contact Maureen Bush at bush3328@stmarys.edu

I come to you today, my dear friends, to bring to light the dire situation we are facing concerning The Observer Viewpoint section. Many people turn to the Viewpoint section in order to explore the various perspectives of fellow students and faculty, hoping to gain insight on current issues that are relevant to the student body and in our world. This, after all, is why the section exists.

I have noticed, however, that the scope of the issues covered in The Observer by the student body has become increasingly narrow. In fact, on any given day, there's a pretty good chance that most students can name two or three of the articles that are published before even opening the paper. Because of this, I have decided to layout for you a quick list of what I believe to be the most played-out Viewpoint articles of all time.

First of all, I must point out the "obscure political reference that no one cares about" article. This is typically a full-page article that attempts to turn the student body's focus toward their tree-hugging liberalism or "ostracize everyone but the upper-middle class" conservatism. Thanks for the effort guys, but if I were looking for an article like this I would've picked up copies of "Common Sense" or the "Irish Rover."

Second, there's the typical "Cherish your time at ND" article that someone is sure to send in once a week. This usually comes from a senior who is lamenting over their experiences at Notre Dame and talking about anything from what they think to be a funny Frosh-O experience to their experiences here, but after awhile they start to sound like an NBC "the more you know" commercial. This type of article can also easily be coupled with the "thank God I'm finally 21" article, which generally recounts close calls with bar brawls or fake ID stories.

Then, of course, there is the "I'm ultra-sensitive and [my] feelings or offended you. This is when someone writes a Viewpoint about something that offended them and the next day another article comes out about how offensive the previous article was to another person. These articles can get a little ridiculous and are at times hilari-ous because the writer often ends up looking like a total crackpot.

I consulted a classmate of mine, fellow writer of theViewpoint major Dan Block, for a reaction to lack of diversity in the Viewpoint's majors. He submitted and he had this to say, "I'm just surprised that no one has written on the plight of the three-toed Sri Lankan tree lemur. This rare species travels the forests in fear of his life while heartless poachers chase him like they're playing some kind of game. It's a damn shame, Jenkins, a damn shame." Upon hearing this, I shed a tear then quickly reminded him that my name was in fact Tom, not Jenkins.

I would continue on my little ramblings about the common Viewpoint themes, but then my article would look really long on the page and everyone would skip over it.

So, in closing, I must say this: if anything I have said hurt your feelings or offended you, I'll see you in the Viewpoint section tomorrow.

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

Contact Tom Raaf at traoafw@nd.edu

Monday, February 2, 2004

A cry for the original Viewpoint

The Observer

Scene
Irish down slew of challengers at dual meet

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

Saturday's dual meet marked the first occurrence in the Notre Dame fencing team's history where the defending national champions did not disappoint. The dual meet began on Saturday with Notre Dame facing off against Cleveland State and Air Force. Neither the men nor the women had any problem taking either match. The men topped the Vikings 24-3 while the women dominated with a 26-1 victory. Air Force didn't put up much of a fight, as both squads dispatched the Falcons 21-6 in the men's match against Ohio State, as expected, proved to be the most difficult of the weekend.

Against an Ohio State team ranked No. 1 at both sides, the Irish faced a much steeper challenge. Against the Buckeyes, the men and sabers struggled to a combined 9-9 record leaving the 130th meet the foilists to decide. But the Irish foilists faced a formidable foe in the person of Ohio State freshman Boaz Ellis. Ellis quickly swept aside both Jordan Light and senior All-American Forest Walton 5-1 and 5-0, respectively. That was when senior Derek Snyder put the team on his back.

In his bout against Buckeye sophomore Alexander Fick 12-0 record faced a 4-0 deficit and match point. But he battled back, scoring five unanswered touches to win in a 5-4 decision.

His greatest test, however, came in the team's final match against Ohio State when he faced Ellis. "Seeing where he finished in all the world cups he always does really, really well," Snyder said. "It was going to be the toughest match up to this point in the season.

A roar from the Notre Dame faithful as the men defeated Ohio State by a 15-12 score. Snyder's win comes on the heels of his win the previous Saturday's dual meet marked the halfway point of the season. This time, Snyder jumped out to an early lead, putting Ellis in a deep 4-1 hole. Ellis fought back and used a furious rally to record the next three points and then the bout at four.

Both fencers struggled in freestyle but Franky Snyder scored the finaltouch to win in a 5-4 victory.

The women's match was even closer.

Despite the epee team winning only two of nine matches to Ohio State, junior Natalie Bustamante's surprising 5-4 victory over top Buckeye epeeist Alexandra Shklar proved critical.

Both the men and the women advanced to 18-1 on the season.

Wolverines have managed to mow down their opposition, including either match. The men advanced to an 18-1 mark. The women improved their season record to 20-4 while the men advanced to an 18-1 mark.

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Against an Ohio State team ranked No. 1 at both sides, the Irish faced a much steeper challenge. Against the Buckeyes, the men and sabers struggled to a combined 9-9 record leaving the 130th meet the foilists to decide. But the Irish foilists faced a formidable foe in the person of Ohio State freshman Boaz Ellis. Ellis quickly swept aside both Jordan Light and senior All-American Forest Walton 5-1 and 5-0, respectively. That was when senior Derek Snyder put the team on his back.

In his bout against Buckeye sophomore Alexander Fick 12-0 record faced a 4-0 deficit and match point. But he battled back, scoring five unanswered touches to win in a 5-4 decision.

His greatest test, however, came in the team's final match against Ohio State when he faced Ellis. "Seeing where he finished in all the world cups he always does really, really well," Snyder said. "It was going to be the toughest match up to this point in the season.

A roar from the Notre Dame faithful as the men defeated Ohio State by a 15-12 score. Snyder's win comes on the heels of his win the previous Saturday's dual meet marked the halfway point of the season. This time, Snyder jumped out to an early lead, putting Ellis in a deep 4-1 hole. Ellis fought back and used a furious rally to record the next three points and then the bout at four.

Both fencers struggled in freestyle but Franky Snyder scored the final touch to win in a 5-4 victory.

The women's match was even closer.

Despite the epee team winning only two of nine matches to Ohio State, junior Natalie Bustamante's surprising 5-4 victory over top Buckeye epeeist Alexandra Shklar proved critical.

Both the men and the women advanced to 18-1 on the season.
Federer defeats Safin to capture Australian Open title

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Roger Federer skipped the shivering this time. He is, after all, getting familiar with the honor: Grand Slam tournament champion.

Playing shrewd and confident tennis that has left him at No. 1, Federer won the Australian Open 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-2 Sunday against a weary and frustrated Marat Safin.

Federer has captured two of the last three majors following his Wimbledon triumph.

"I feel like I'm living the game when I'm out there," the Swiss star said. "When a guy is going to hit the ball, I know exactly the angles and the spins. I just feel that I've got that figured out."

It was enough to end Safin's great run. The unseeded Russian beat top-seeded Andy Roddick in the quarterfinals, then stopped defending champion Andre Agassi's 26-match winning streak at the Australian Open in the semifinals.

But after more than 18 hours and 27 sets in six rounds, Safin had little left. Federer clearly was fresher, having spent just more than 10 hours on court and losing only two sets.

When Federer won Wimbledon last summer, he moved, but far more composed and controlled.

"What a great start to the year for me, to win the Australian Open and become No. 1 in the world," Federer said. "It means a lot to me."

A day earlier, Justine Henin-Hardenne added another title, winning a third all-Belgian Grand Slam final against Kim Clijsters to remain No. 1. The 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 victory was her third major in eight months.

Federer, seeded second, was already assured the top ranking by beating third-seeded Juan Carlos Ferrero in the semifinals. Roddick's loss in the quarterfinals ended the U.S. Open champion's stay No. 1.

In addition to his two major titles, Federer also won the season-ending Masters Cup at Houston.

"When it gets important, I feel like I can raise my game," he said.

He surely did that against Safin. The Russian slammed his racket to the court and drew a code violation when he smashed a racket after a double-fault. He talked to himself and to the crowd; he shook his head and shrugged after most of his 41 unforced errors. Against Agassi, one of the best serve returners in the game, Safin had 31 aces and no double-faults. Against Federer, the balls kept coming back.

Federer chased overheads and forehands down the line that had the look of winners. Safin, the 2000 U.S. Open champion down, was drained.

"I was out of energy, my legs were just too tired," he said. "I was a little too tired to keep up with him. I felt that I was missing just a little bit. Against Roger, you have to do better than that. I'm not playing a good game."

Safin lost his last six matches in 2003, a rough year in which he struggled with an ailing wrist. He entered the tournament at No. 86 and will improve to the low 30s on Monday.

"I'm actually very glad to be in finals again," he said. "I'm really glad to play my best tennis after the injuries I had last year."

He did get one reward for his marathon effort in Melbourne, matching Harold Solomon's record of 30 sets for a Grand Slam tournament set in the 1976 French Open.

Henin-Hardenne, with three Grand Slams, wants a fourth -- on grass.

"Wimbledon this year, for sure, is going to be another goal," she said after adding the Australian to her wins at the French and U.S. Open last year. She's proved too good for Clijsters in their last three meetings in majors following a stretch in which the Williams sisters dominated.

"I still have to improve my game on grass, especially against the strong players like Venus or Serena," Henin-Hardenne said. "I always lose against them over there because they're so powerful."

In Melbourne, she didn't have to face Venus Williams, who was upset in the third round by Lisa Raymond.

--

NCAA BASKETBALL

Providence falls to Seton Hall in Big East play

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Seton Hall decided not to double team Providence's Ryan Gomes, and see if anybody else could beat them one-on-one.

The plan worked.

Gomes got 28 points, but Seton Hall never let any of the Friars get going. The Pirates held No. 23 Providence to its lowest point total of the season in a 55-46 victory on Sunday.

"It was our best defensive game from beginning to end," Seton Hall coach Louis Orr, in his third season at the head of the Pirates, said. "We played back on our heels and sideways, but they make you play that way. We just didn't have that look."

Gomes, who had 13 rebounds, scored 20 points in the second half, including 16 straight for the Friars at one point.

Gomes "is a tough guy to stop. I thought we did a good job to make him work for his points, but also did a good job with the other people," Orr said.

J.R. Morris scored 13 points for Seton Hall, which shot 54 percent in the second half, including 16 straight for the Friars at one point.

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J.R. Morris scored 13 points for Seton Hall, which shot 54 percent in the second half, including 16 straight for the Friars at one point.
Brady, Vinatieri fail, then deliver

Brady, who didn’t throw an interception in any home game during the regular season, simply threw it and hoped. Reggie Howard’s interception in the end zone left him hoping for another chance.

Brady got it, and delivered twice. He led a pair of scoring drives in the final minutes, including a last-second drive that was bookended by the closing seconds of the Patriots’ win over the Rams two years ago.

With the score tied and 68 seconds left, he made three clutch throws that decided it. Thirteen yards to Troy Brown, then 13 more to the same guy. Then, with overtime looming and the clock running down, a perfectly timed 17-yard pass to Delton Branch along the right sideline.

As Branch tumbled out of bounds with 9 seconds left, another Lombardi Trophy was within the Patriots’ grasp. All they needed was a 41-yard field goal from Vinatieri, but he missed the PATs with just such a kick.

“I looked up and it was going down the middle,” he said. “I’ve been very fortunate, very lucky to be on such great teams.”

NASCAR will not penalize Spencer for comments

NASCAR will not penalize driver Jimmy Spencer for a remark about the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor or his hope that Toyota’s venture into truck racing will be a failure.

“That’s Jimmy Spencer,” NASCAR spokesman Jim Hunter said Sunday when asked about comments the outspoken driver made last week about Toyota’s entry into the sport.

They “bombed Pearl Harbor, don’t forget,” the San Antonio Express-News quoted the 46-year-old driver as saying during media day at Texas Motor Speedway.

“As long as it’s good for the economy, I guess it’s OK,” said Spencer, who but added that he was rooting for Ford, Chevrolet and Dodge to humiliate Toyota.

The Associated Press was unable to reach Spencer for comment.

In Brief

CBS apologizes for end of halftime show

NEW YORK — CBS apologized on Sunday for an unexpectedly R-rated end to its Super Bowl halftime show, when singer Justin Timberlake tore off a leather gladiator outfit and pulled off her breast when singer Justin Timberlake tore off part of Janet Jackson’s top, exposing her breast.

The two singers were performing a flirtatious duet to end the halftime show, and at the song’s finish, Timberlake reached across Jackson’s leather gladiator outfit and pulled off the covering to her right breast.

The network quickly cut away from the shot, and did not mention the incident on the air.

It was unclear whether Timberlake intended to expose Jackson’s breast.

Thomas Jackson’s leading scorer arrested

TERRA HAUTE, Ind. — David Moss, Indiana State’s leading scorer, faces a domestic battery charge for allegedly attacking a woman following an argument.

Moss, 20, was arrested early Saturday after police responded to a 19-year-old student’s report that she was being battered at a campus residential hall, according to an e-mail from university spokesman Teresa Exline.

The woman, who refused medical treatment, reported that she had been in an argument with Moss and that he had choked her, leaving abrasions on her neck.

Moss, a sophomore from South Holland, Ill., was being held without bond Sunday at the Vigo County Jail pending a Monday morning hearing on the misdemeanor charge.

Indiana State Athletic Director Andi Myers said the school’s Student Judicial Office will look into the matter. “We’re going to have to see how this materializes,” she said.

## AP College Basketball Polls

### Men

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### Women

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answer the question. compare your opinions with others. explore what matters at pwc.com/lookhere.
Women's Tennis
ND tops 2 Big Ten teams
By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer
The women's team defeated No. 48 Ohio State, 5-2, Saturday. The win, built on the momentum to trounce Wisconsin, 7-0, this weekend.

"Winning against Ohio State helped our confidence a lot," said junior Sarah Jane Connelly.

Connelly and sophomore Kristina Statsny started the team off on Saturday, defeating Ohio State's Linda Adams and Sonja Rozuzowska, 8-2. The Irish swept the doubles with freshmen Christian and Catrina Thompson claiming a 9-7 win over Erica Fisk and Jackie Leskovar, and the No. 2 nationally-ranked sopho­more Lauren Connelly and senior Aliya Curry defeated Meghan Collville and Lindsay Williams, 9-7.

"It was better as [we went]," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "Our key was to get ahead early in doubles."

Salas, nationally ranked 14th in singles and 88th in couples, put the momentum provided by the early doubles wins to work with a 7-6 (7-3), 6-2 win over Lindsay Williams in singles. Following suit was Christian Thompson, who posted a 6-2, 6-2 win over Fisk. Lauren Connelly contributed a 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Adams. The Irish clinched the meet quickly after losing to Williams, 9-7.

"It was good to play so quickly after'focusing on Michigan," Louderback said. "Our kids are really competitive and losing their first match against Thompson.

"They played nervous on Thursday," he said. "You have butterflies before every match, but then your nerves disappear later.

"Overcoming that feeling of apprehension early on this weekend proved to be key to the team.

Sunday's match against No. 64 Wisconsin brought Irish wins across the board beginning with Salas and Lauren Connelly posting a 10-8 victory over Teresa Gonzalez and Shana MeElroy 8-2. Sarah Jane Connelly and Kristina Statsny knocked off Kayla Caiati and Lexi Golden 8-5 to give the Irish a point. Following, Christian and Catrina Thompson swept doubles with an 8-5 triumph over Lindsay Martin and Katie McGaffigan.

The Irish swept singles as well over Wisconsin with Salas remaining unbeaten this spring with a 7-6 (7-3), 6-3 win over McGaffigan. Christian Thompson, nationally-ranked and now priced in the top 20, tripped up No. 64 who started this season ranked 79th. Catrina Thompson eliminated her single point with a win against Martin. Lauren Connelly gave the Irish their third win, defeating Teresa Gonzalez 6-4, 6-2. Also successful was Sara Jane Connelly, who won 6-7, 7-9 (7-7) over Caiati. Statnsy swept singles, beating Golden 6-0, 6-4.

The Irish have a two-week break before their match on Feb. 13 against No. 16 Virginia Commonwealth University. Louderback said the team will focus on becoming whole by making inter-squad matches an integral part of practice.

"We're working really hard in practice (in the next weeks)," said Sarah Jane Connolly. "Because everyone wants to beat Notre Dame."

SMC SWIMMING
Belles finish season on high note
Saint Mary's beats Chicago, preps for championships
By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer
The Saint Mary's swimming team finished its season by defeating the University of Chicago this weekend, 124-77.

The Belles beat Chicago in both relay events, and four swimmers claimed first place in individual events. Senior Megan Ramsey led the Belles to their second win of the year, a high of 131 points, and the 100-yard butterfly in 1:01.72. Sarah Nowak won the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:14.32, and Maureen Falchak won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:07.28.

Junior Michelle Stanford finished fourth in the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard IM. Stanford's 1:16.62 backstroke time was her fastest swim in two years.

Other notable highlights were third place finishes by Kelly Nels in the 200-yard freestyle and Julie McGranahan in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Prior to the meet, Saint Mary's view Chicago as the most comparable team they would meet all season — and after a marginal victory, the Belles still view Chicago as a great competition.

"We were very competitive, with a team that is slightly taller than ours," Saint Mary's swimming coach Greg Petcoff said. "Our girls the team's success, which is a great deal of respect for them.

As the team prepares for the MIAA championships, the win against Chicago will help build the confidence of a team that has overcome many obstacles throughout the season.

"It was a really difficult season (with a lot of conflicts, and the team still did very well," Ramsey said. "This was a nice way to lift everyone's spirits."

In their preparations, Saint Mary's will reduce the amount of training and begin tapering for the next few weeks. The team hopes to go into the MIAA championships Feb. 19 well rested.

"They are not going to see a new Saint Mary's at the championships," Ramsey said. "They are going to see a more matured one that is ready to win."

Saint Mary's 123, Chicago 77 at MOUNT CHAINE POOL
400 medley relay: Bridget Lehbo, Katie Lehbo, Kelly Nels and Matthew Falchak (SMC), 3:59.01. 200-yard freestyle: Kelly Nels (SMC), 1:44.32. 100-yard backstroke: Maureen Falchak (SMC), 1:01.72. 100-yard breaststroke: Nowak (SMC), 1:12.68. 50-yard freestyle: Katie Lehbo (SMC), 24.90. 100-yard butterfly: Ramsey (SMC), 1:01.72. 200-yard freestyle: Ramsey, Leonard, Nels (SMC), 1:46.17. 200-yard medley: Testa, circa 2:00.83

Contact Dan Tapetillo at jtapetil@nd.edu

Men's Tennis
Notre Dame hits wall against No. 8 Duke
By KATE CALES
Sports Writer
The Irish had no luck at Duke this weekend, as the Blue Devils defeated them, 7-0, in dual match play.

"We had our chances," coach Bobby Bayless said after the match. "They're a Final Four team, in my opinion, and expect them to do very well (this season)."

No. 8 Duke lost just two sets in singles and swept doubles against No. 49 Notre Dame. The box scores, though, do not indicate that many of the matches were competitive.

"The doubles were pretty close; there was a break at No. 1 early, and we lost No. 1 and No. 3 doubles by one service break — both were 8-6," Bayless said. "No. 2 lost 9-8 in a tiebreaker, and we were actually positive in both cases — they were very, very close.

Duke (3-0) won against Texas A&M on Saturday. The Aggies beat Notre Dame 5-2 last weekend at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"We had our chances," Bayless said of singles play. "Matt Scott lost in a match tiebreaker... [and Brent] D'Amico lost in three sets.

Scott, ranked No. 66 coming off a recurrent leg injury, took the first set against Walter, 6-3. Feeling a bit on top, however, Walter — ranked No. 7 in the nation — battled back to win the second set and the last set in a tiebreaker.

D'Amico came out strong, taking the first set against Jason Zimmerman 6-1, but he then lost 6-2 and 6-1 and Duke received the point. Walter, Haddock, Stephen Bass and Barry King all defeated straight set No. 1, and 4, respectively, Matt Keckley,多样 at No. 6. It was forced to send Johnson after suffering a sprained ankle in the 2nd set.

Keckley went down in the third with a game of his match with a sprained ankle," Bayless said. "We gave him an injury time out — he got taped and tried to continue but had to end up defaulting, and that's a blow. Hopefully next week we'll get him back on track.

"We were down 2-0 right off the bat, which is a pretty big psychological thing to deal with, but you move on," Bayless said.

Despite Scott's defeat, Bayless considered his play promising.

"Matt's foot started to bother him a little bit toward the end of his match," Bayless said. "I was really satisfied with the way he played, he hit the ball better than he has since the fall. I hope he's okay for the coming weekend — with Ryan's status in question, Matt is probably the only one that could be without three starters."

Haddock will be playing in a tournament (in Chi) during next weekend's match.

No. 8 DUKE 7, No. 49 NOTRE DAME 0 at THE SHIFFIELD TENNIS CENTER

SINGLES
No. 1: Philip King (D) d. Luis Haddock (ND) 6-2, 6-2
No. 2: Luke Walter (D) d. No. 68 Andrew Fein (ND) 6-4, 7-6 (7-3)
No. 3: Jason Zimmerman (D) d. Brent D'Amico (ND) 6-2, 6-4
No. 4: Stephen Bass (D) d. Christian Thompson (ND) 6-4, 6-2
No. 5: John Rodrigues (D) d. Barry King (ND) 6-3, 6-2
No. 6: Christopher Brown (D) d. Ryan Keckley (ND) 6-1, 6-1

Contact Kate Cales at kcales@nd.edu

Monday, February 2, 2004

The Best of Notre Dame Theatre 2004-05

Actors From the London Stage
Romeo and Juliet
by William Shakespeare

Wednesday, February 11... 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 12... 7:30 pm

Playing at Washington Hall - Reserve Seats $10
Seniors $4 All Students $12

Tickets available at Notre Dame Student Center Ticket Office.
Mon-Fri 10-4, Sat-Sun 1-4 pm.

The Future readiness is a performed by the Irish by Healy Lecture Series.

For inquiries, contact: Sports Writer.
Irish continued from page 20

spark." The Irish defense was up to its usual standard as both teams' offenses struggled. "It's really a great defensive stretch for us," McGraw said. "I think mental toughness is something that last year people questioned ... and this year I think we've proven, time and time again, that we are a very, very tough team. That was an incredibly physical game, and I thought we responded very well."

NOTRE DAME 50

JOYCE CENTER

NOTRE DAME (13-7, 6-2)
Starter's last name FUMA-FIT-FA
TP, Duffy 6-1 3-5 3, Jacobs 4-15 0-2 2, Borton 1-7 4-12 (Deveny 1-2, Jacobs 1-6, Marshall 0-3, Digges 0-3, O'Connor 1-2), Fiedler 2-3 0-0 4, Borton 2-3 0-0 6, Parham 1-2 0-2 0, Leaky 2-0 0-1,0.

NOTRE DAME 1st 2nd Total

BOSTON College 25 29 54

BOSTON College 22 28 50


Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu
Hockey

continued from page 20

great effort to help us get a big point.

Notre Dame has developed a habit of taking games to the extra period. The Irish are 0-2-4 in their six overtime contests this season. The Irish have not won a regular-season overtime game since a 4-3 win over Miami (Ohio) on Jan. 5, 2002. The Alaska-Fairbanks series marks the fourth consecutive series in which the Irish have played at least one overtime game, collecting two ties and two overtime losses in that span.

"Anytime you score in the last minute of play, it's a good trick," Poulin said.

The Irish got off to a quick start Friday, jumping out to an early 1-0 lead on a goal by Gill, who pushed a rebound off a Globeck shot past Nanook goalie Kelly Bartusch in the first period.

Notre Dame made it 2-0 when Gill found Globeck springing through the neutral zone on an Irish penalty kill, and the senior forward flipped the puck past Bartusch for a shorthand-ed goal. Notre Dame successfully killed four UAF power plays in the first period and took a 2-0 lead into the locker room at the first intermission.

UAF came back quickly in the second period, with Ryan Lang beating Bartusch for a shorthand-ed goal. Notre Dame got the game winner in the third, though, when Walsh took a hard shot from the slot to beat Bartusch less than five minutes into the third period.

Cam Keith would score a late goal in the third for the Nanooks after pulling Bartusch, but UAF was unable to get the equalizer. The Irish came away with the win despite being outshot 42-29. Brown matched a career best with 40 saves in the victory.

Saturday, each team was held scoreless in a wild first period, as UAF's McKay and Notre Dame's Brown stopped several quality chances. Notre Dame would get on the scoreboard in the second, with the freshman Paige scoring on a four-on-three Irish power play. The Nanooks would even the score on the next shift, however, as the ex-King mission stole the puck in the Irish defensive zone and slipped it to Aaron Lang beating Brown for a goal. Brown would then make a heroics save in the third period on a goal by Keith, who would score a late overtime goal to seal the series for the Irish.

Irish forward Jordan Gill, who is usually calm and collected on the court, let down his guard and retaliated, getting in the face of he Nanook goalie. But he would not prevent McKay from being named the number one star in the game. The Nanook goalie made 45 saves, the most any opponent has made against the Irish this season.

Notre Dame has eight CCHA games remaining, including a critical series on the road this weekend against first-place Miami.

NOTRE DAME 3, ALASKA-FAIRBANKS 2 at the JOYCE CENTER

First Period
ND- Aaron Voros 1 (Cam Fraser, Curtis Fraser), EX, 19:26.
UAF- Mike Walsh 10 (A. Gill, Wes O'Neill), 4:51.
Second Period
UAF- Cam Keith 11 (Ryan Campbell, Jason Cornette), EX, 1:16.

YOUR PROJECT IS MY TOP PRIORITY. TELL ME EVERYTHING THAT I NEED TO KNOW.

I'M SO BORED... CAN'T... STAY... MAKE...

I HAVEN'T STARTED TALKING YET.

IT GETS WORSE??

- O-OKAY

Observer in your home.

Mary's two campuses.

22

Mary's two campuses.

16

Observer in your home.

20

Observer in your home.

16

Observer in your home.

20

Observer in your home.

16

Observer in your home.

20

Observer in your home.
**Irish continue to suffer in torture RAC**

Scarlet Knights improve to 7-1 all-time versus Irish at home

**Irish Basketball**

By MATT LOZAR

The Irish probably wish Rutgers were switching conferences next year.

Eleven days after winning at Virginia Tech, who is joining the ACC next year, the Irish lost 81-70 at the RAC Saturday in a loss that has the Irish feeling they are not competing in a top conference.

Unlike last season, when the Scarlet Knights jumped out to a 43-19 lead in the first half en route to a 95-60 victory, the Irish were able to stay in this game during the first half, holding a 39-38 advantage after the first 20 minutes. But then the second half started.

Over the first 11 minutes of the second half, the Irish (10-7, 4-3 in the Big East) shot 1-of-12 from the field, committed five turnovers and scored only six points. Rutgers (12-6, 4-4 Big East) took advantage of Notre Dame's lack of offense to start the half and went on a 60-44 run to effectively put the game away. In the first half, Rutgers didn't attempt a free throw but took advantage of the

**HOCKEY**

Icers take 3 points against Nanooks

By JUSTIN SCHUVER

Now that's more like it.

The Irish (13-9-4, 9-8-3 in the CCHA) bounced back from a pair of disappointing one-goal losses last weekend against Northern Michigan by taking three of four points from Alaska Fairbanks (12-13-1, 11-10-1) in a series this weekend at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame won the first game 3-2 on Friday and came back to salvage a 2-2 tie against the Nanooks Saturday.

The Irish special teams had a solid weekend with the penalty kill, stopping all 11 Nanook power plays in the two games, including eight in the win Friday. Notre Dame's power play also chipped in with two goals, and Rob Glooke scored a shorthanded goal Friday to really put a damper on UAF's chances at a comeback.

Freshman David Brown continued to shine in net, playing both games and stopping 71 of 75 shots, a .947 save percentage. He also had a pair of goals, and the Irish defense ranked No. 1 in the CCHA to hold the league's top-ranked offense, which averages 3.42 goals per game, to just four goals combined.

"We took three of four points from a very good team this weekend," coach Dave Peulkin said. "I thought we played real well tonight — got good goaltending and some help from the special teams."

Notre Dame also got much-needed help on offense Saturday, as a player other than the trio of Mike Walsh, Rob Glooke and Aaron Gill scored a goal for the first time since Jan. 10 against Bowling Green. Walsh, Glooke and Gill scored the goals Friday, and Jason Paige and Brett Ledba scored on Saturday.

Ledba's goal was the key Saturday, as Notre Dame came back from a 2-1 deficit to tie the game in the waning seconds. With David Brown pulled for an extra attacker, the Irish won a face-off off their offensive zone. Neil Komadoski took a shot from the center point that was blocked. The puck hopped into the air, and David, who was hugging the right side, caught the puck with his stick and slapped it with a backhand swing into the net past UAF goalie Preston McKay with 28.5 seconds remaining.

The senior defenseman skated over to the bench and leapt into the arms of coach Jeff Jackson. Ledba was named the game's Most Valuable Player.

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"That was a big goal for us," Ledba said. "We really worked hard tonight. That's why I went over to celebrate with the team — everyone gave a

**ND Track**

Irish compete in Notre Dame Invitational

By MIKE GILLOON

Returning All-American Molly Huddle set the pace for the Irish as the Notre Dame track and field teams competed alongside Michigan State, Depauw, Marquette and Butler in the Notre Dame Invitational Friday night at the Loftus Center.

Huddle, a sophomore from Elmira, N.Y., broke her own school record in the 3,000-meter race with a time of 9:14.13. Huddle's time is the second-best time posted in the country this season. The race automatically qualifies her for the NCAA championships to be held March 12 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Another outstanding performance on the women's side came from junior Lauren King. Her time of 4:45.61 won the mile run and puts her in second place nationally.

Senior Tiffany Gunn won the 500-meter with a season-best mark of 1:13.37. Teammate freshman Okechi Ogbukiri finished second to Gunn in a time of 1:16.61.

**SMC Swimming**

Saint Mary's 124

Chicago 77

Adam Vinatieri hit a game-winning field goal to give New England its second title in three years.

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