Board responds positively to Lao's report

By SHELLIA FLYNN

Topics include drunk driving, social responsibility and programming fund

Housing surveys sent out

By MEGHANNE DOWNES

Within the next two weeks, the Office of Student Affairs will be e-mailing 1,000 undergraduate students a survey about the future of on-campus housing.

Events planned for Black History Month

By ANNA GELHAUS

A variety of cultural events, including a film series, will occur throughout the semester to celebrate Black History Month, said Keith Lee, the assistant director for program development for the Department of African and African-American Studies. Lee said that his department has decided to schedule the events during February, rather than concentrating them only in February. In addition, Lee said that the planned activities are targeted toward a student audience.

Participants act out a skit during a recent Notre Dame Encounter. The retreats attract students throughout the year.

Campus Ministry gets creative with retreats

By MATTHEW SMEDBERG

It begins at Freshman Orientation, with posters on residence hall bulletin boards advertising the Freshman Retreat. It continues with the Notre Dame Encounter and the Sophomore Road Trip. If you are a senior, man, woman, Asian, black, Latino, MBA student, gay, lesbian or bisexual, Campus Ministry has a retreat for you.

Campus Ministries offers retreats throughout the year attracting about 3,200 students, or more than a third of the undergraduate population. Each retreat is unique, according to Father Kevin Russeau, director of freshman retreats. Russeau said that the retreats do not contain a set format, though certain elements appear in all, such as presentations by the retreat director and his or her assistant leaders, as well as icebreakers and small group discussions.

The retreats vary widely in length, size and scope. A freshman retreat, offered six times a year, lasts 26 hours and can accommodate up to 90 participants. The Man's Weekend, Campus Ministry's newest offering, lasts two days.

The Man's Weekend is a unique event in many ways. The first one, which took place last October, included a pig roast — but it is still geared towards developing the spiritual life of each participant. Students who attended the retreat spoke very highly of the experience. "It was an awesome experience," said junior DJ DiDonna. "There was a good balance of spirituality and time to be alone, to pray, to relax. It was great to have the leaders give talks about what it means to be a man in the Church today, to have a chance to think about vocations, not necessarily as a priest, but just as a man. It was a very refreshing experience."

Russeau said that student response coming out of retreats is overwhelmingly positive. He said that freshmen wish that their retreat could be longer, while seniors attending their first retreat wish they had done one sooner. Nevertheless, there is a certain amount of salesman­ship involved in getting students to sign up. Russeau said that his colleagues have had to essentially reinvent the women's retreat, because so few students signed up for it in previous years that several had to be cancelled.

Students from all religious backgrounds are invited to participate, he said.

While the spirituality we offer in retreats is overwhelmingly Christian in nature, we do not concentrate on doctrinal issues, but on relationships.

In the retreats he has led, students whom he knew were not Catholic "asked some of the best questions" out of all students; he has had non-Catholics as leaders and presidents.

DiDonna said that, coming from a Catholic high school, he had been to many retreats before, but the voluntary nature of Notre Dame retreats meant that "a different crowd" participated. He said that, for someone who is serious about deepening their relationship with God, whether Catholic or not, a Notre Dame retreat is ideal.

"Not every student will go on a retreat," said Russeau. "However, we like to think of those of us who are acting as a kind of 'leaven' for the campus. We hope that they will be better equipped to make good decisions."

Contact Matthew Smedberg at smedberg.1@nd.edu

see REPORT/page 4

see SURVEY/page 3
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Why me?**

My aunt has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Her youngest child is four years old. What did she do to deserve this? I have weekly dinner with a group of elderly Holy Cross sisters who are in the late stages of Alzheimer’s disease. What did they do to deserve this? I listen to a lecture by Jimmy Dunne, whose business lost a third of its employees in the Sept. 11 attacks. What about him — what did he do? I think about the heartbreak I will feel after my boyfriend graduates. What will happen to the connection we’ve made. What, I ask myself, did I do to deserve this?

This is only a glimpse of the pain I’ve encountered, and I’m just one person in a world of six billion. Tragedy — and sadness — are everywhere. We often wonder why, but we never find an answer. Yet I promise you … there is one. And figuring it out will change you. As I sit in my Irish Film and Culture class, a lecture about Yeats quickly shoots me a line that I will never forget. “Love cannot exist without pain,” my professor says, “for if there’s no pain, the feeling isn’t real.” It takes a minute to sink in. I ask myself, do I buy it?

Six hours later, I am sure that I do. My aunt’s cancer whispers that life is precious, and so is too short. The stories of love and life the sisters tell increase in volume after two years of listening to their repetition. I listen to how Jimmy Dunne risked his entire business, but managed to send millions of dollars to the families of those who fell in the Towers. I realize that the tears I cry in May will reflect some of the greatest love I’ve ever felt, and one connection that I know will never die.

I think back on the family I’ve been given, the opportunities I’ve had, the love I’ve encountered. And I’m sure that no tragedy, no pain, no sadness can lessen that. In fact, it serves not to break us, but rather to make us realize the full force of life, of love, and of experience. I’ve had all of these things, and so have you.

Now I guess all that’s left for us to ask is … why could we have possibly done to deserve it?

This article is dedicated to Jessica McManus Warnell, Luke Gibbons, Father Michael Baster, Ed Kelly, Jackie Backshaw, Lee Ann Moore, Queen of Peace Convent, Mark & Barb Knorr, Paul Green, and to all those people who know not just how to touch, but to hold, a heart.

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**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** What reality TV show would you like to see on TV?

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<th>Adam Kaufmann</th>
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Katie Knorr
Illustrator

"Celebrity Deathmatch."
"The Fluffer."
"Survivor: Gary, Indiana."
"Bring back Man versus Beast."
"I just thought of this. Seven to eight people living in a house and taping them in the real world. It'd be new and awesome."

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**IN BRIEF**

FlipSide will sponsor ice skating tonight at the Joyce Center. Admission will cost $1, while skate rentals will be $3.

The Ahn Trio, a classical ensemble, will perform at 7:30 tonight in O’Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary’s Moreau Center for the Performing Arts.

Comedians A.J. Jamal and Rick Colon will perform in Backers tonight from 7 to 9:30 p.m. as part of the MSFS Comedy Show. The stand-up comedy show is free.

The Pasquerella East Music Company will perform West Side Story today and Saturday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. in Washington Hall.

SUB will sponsor two showings of the movie Cold Creek Manor tonight and tomorrow at 8 and 10:30 pm.

Guitarist John Rush will perform in the LaFortune Basement Saturday night. Other LaFortune events include a Euchre tournament in the Dooley Room — the winner will receive two DVDs of their choice — and a pool tournament in the Dooley Room. Both events will begin at 10:30 pm. The activities are part of FlipSide Takes Legends.

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**The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Katie Knorr at kkorr@nd.edu.**

**CORRECTIONS**

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and stories for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our errors.
LAST STOP ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL...

Student Body Presidential Debates

Come here what the future leaders of our student body have to say. The candidates running for the office of Student Body President will be participating in a debate, Sunday February 8, 2004. This is your last chance for you to meet them and get to know the where they stand on the issues that matter to you!

Candidates:
Ryan Craft & Steve Lynch
Charlie Ebersol & James Leito
Mark Healy & Mike Healy
Adam Istvan & Karla Bell

Hesburgh Library Auditorium
Sunday, February 8, 2004
7:30pm

Remember elections are Monday, February 9, 2004. Vote online at https://apps.nd.edu/elections

Voice Your Choice '04
Report continued from page 1

Finally, Lao led his team in previewing a student programming endowment, which would allow an increased budget for big-name concerts and speakers at the University.

"We don't want to put the full burden of financing this on just student shoulders," Lao said.

The Student Union Board's current allotment ranges between $30,000 and $60,000, Lao said, and these funds are not adequate for luring the famous acts desired by students.

"The major challenge here is to have big signature events," Poorman said, adding that officials do "have a willing participant rate."

Board members suggested that, before student government finalizes its proposal and report for the Board's May meeting, representatives should compile a list of sample bands and speakers and their respective fees, differentiating between various entertainment levels.

"Come back to us with some ideas and price tags," one Board member said.

The Board also suggested that student government explore the option of finding sponsors to match funds that they, as a body, raise. Lao and his team said they will look into this idea of making the body, raise.

Lao and his team said they found a recent study conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA.

The study — The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 2003 — reported that the number of freshmen that discuss politics regularly has increased from 19.4 percent in 2002 to 22.5 percent in 2003. Student political interest has not been as high since 1993.

"Some students said they believe that the college experience allows them to identify their beliefs and become more involved with political parties. Others credited the increase in political awareness to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, "students say they are willing to take any new movement; it just raised interest and strengthened groups," said UC Davis sophomore Cynthia Funes.

Some students said they pay more attention to politics because they feel sti­fled by the views they were taught before coming to college. Lindsey Krabbenhoft, a UC Davis sophomore who graduated from a conservative Catholic high school, said that the university has offered a broader spec­trum of political views.

"There's more of a vari­ety (of political groups) and they are more publi­cized," said she. "You find out about things easier."

Krabbenhoft also attrib­uted her political interest to her belief that as stu­dents get older, they care more about what is going on in the country.

Funes felt that since high schools are much smaller than many uni­versities, her political opinion didn't carry much weight. But once she started attending UC Davis, she said, she felt like she had more of a voice. She joined the National Organization for Women and found many individuals who shared her political views.

Since Funes is in a large organization, she shares her views, she feels she can participate more actively and has a stronger political impact.

by TARA EDWARDS

Student political interest increasing

The Colonial Pancake House
Family Restaurant
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 6:30-2:30 PM
• Gourmet coffee • Batters made from scratch • Famous apple pancake
• Dinner specials • Jumbo omelettes
Daily lunch specials Call us for all occasions - ask for Dave

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The College of Arts and Letters Invites Student Nominations for Kaneb Teaching Awards

Each year Kaneb Teaching Awards recognize approximately 25 Arts and Letters faculty for excellence in undergraduate teaching.

Tetured faculty as well as professional specialist and adjunct faculty who have taught at least five years are eligible.

Take advantage of this opportunity to have a voice in the selection of these recipients by nominating one of your outstanding teachers for this award.

Send a brief letter indicating what is special or significant about this instructor to:

Hugh Page, Associate Dean
105 O'Shaughnessy Hall

Deadline
Friday, February 27, 2004

U-WIRE

Student political interest increasing

By TARA EDWARDS

Various student organi­zations assembled at tables on the University of California-Davis quad on Wednesday, providing reg­istration forms and infor­mation on their particular groups — and encourag­ing other students to vote. Recent study shows that this sort of student political interest is increasing significantly. Students are discussing politics more frequently and are much more aware of current events, found a recent study conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA.

The study — The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 2003 — reported that the number of freshmen that discuss politics regularly has increased from 19.4 percent in 2002 to 22.5 percent in 2003. Student political interest has not been as high since 1993.

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Since Funes is in a large organization, she shares her views, she feels she can participate more actively and has a stronger political impact.

U-WIRE

Voter independence affected by colleges

By ALEXANDRIA BURRIS

A New York Times column­ist recently told a crowd at Dartmouth College that people with college degrees vote less independently.

David Brooks said rising education levels have helped shape modern politics and voting in the United States.

"The effect of this increasing education level for vot­ers should be to make voters independent, open to argument, rational and sophisticated," Brooks said.

"It's just the opposite," he said. The number of people voting independently decreases as the voting pop­ulation becomes more edu­cated.

Robert Hogan, a political science assistant professor, said Brooks' argument makes sense to him, because college-educated people tend to vote along party lines.

People with college degrees know more about politics, Hogan said. He said strong Democrats and Republicans happen to be well-educated people who understand more about what they believe and what each political party rep­resents.

Hogan said people who identify as politically inde­pendent do not hold the staunch political positions of Democrats and Republicans. There is a lot of evidence that shows people who iden­tify themselves as independ­ent voters are more per­suaded by political ads, Hogan said. It is hard to determine whether they are less educated than partisan voters.

In a Jan. 14 article in The Dartmouth, Dartmouth College's campus newspaper, Brooks said education leads away from independ­ent thinking.

"The more educated you are, the more partisan you are, the less independently you think," Brooks said to the Dartmouth.

Hogan said he thinks Brooks is not implying that staunch party supporters are closed-minded or that independent voters are more open-minded.

He said partisan voters just have decided what they believe politically.

Kristal Williams, political science senior, is one of the many students who identifies her beliefs with a cer­tain political party.

Williams is president of College Democrats at Louisiana State University. She said she believes political ideas people have are set in them.

Williams said her Democratic ideas were always a part of her because she came from a Democratic family.

But Williams said she did not realize she wanted to work in Democratic politics until she came to LSU.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Trade talks stall over U.S. subsidies
PUEBLA, Mexico — Talks on the Free Trade Area of the Americas have largely stalled over South American demands for an end to U.S. farm subsidies, negotiators said Thursday.

The prospect that the talks could fail — or result in a less ambitious agreement as vanguards to as many as 25 countries — seemed far less likely Thursday than it had been a day earlier.

Thursday, burning a police station with fuel and lighting incendiary devices, 20 wounded in clashes with police

Leaders of the opposition Resistance Front began their third assault of the year Thursday, burning a police station with fuel and lighting incendiary devices.

At least 55 people have been killed in the clashes since mid-September in clashes between police officers who have been trying to put down the unrest.

At least 25 people have been killed in violence blamed on a band of anti-Aristide former soldiers.

Thursday’s clashes in Gonaives came a day after Bahama’s Foreign Minister Fred Mitchell and Colin Granderson, assistant secretary general of the Caribbean Community, concluded talks with the opposition and met separately with Aristide.

Leaders of the opposition Democratic Platform said in a statement Thursday that during the two days of talks they sought to “explain why Aristide and his government have to go.” The opposition leaders said they would never engage in any kind of negotiation to maintain Aristide in power.

LOCAL NEWS

Ind. House passes pay raise

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana House passed legislation Thursday that would give at least a 6 percent pay raise to members of the General Assembly.

Democrats and Republicans voted to increase the legislative salaries to $12,000, a move that would provide $1,600 for each legislator’s office.

The move, approved on a 71-29 vote with strong Republican support, now heads to the Senate.

Gov. Mark S. Warner, a Democrat, vetoed the legislation last year that would have forced illegal undocumented immigrants living in Virginia to pay out-of-state tuition rates.

NATIONAL NEWS

Counselor convicted of abuse

MOBILE, Ala. — A former Roman Catholic high school counselor was convicted Thursday of molesting a 14-year-old student in 1991.

Bendillo, known as "Brother Vic," had told him his brother was gay. The 65-year-old was convicted of crime.

The former student, who testified as an anonymous witness, said the 65-year-old had told him he was concerned about his end to domestic abuse in the city after a hotel over the weekend.

Va. aliens denied in-state tuition

RICHMOND, Va. — Illegal aliens would be barred from attending Virginia’s state-supported colleges and universities, and those already in school would be expelled under legislation that passed the House on Thursday.

The measure, approved on a 71-29 vote with strong Republican support, now heads to the Senate.

Gov. Mark S. Warner, a Democrat, vetoed the legislation last year that would have forced illegal and undocumented immigrants living in Virginia to pay out-of-state tuition rates.

FBI expands ricin investigation

WASHINGTON — Investigators expanded their search Thursday for the source of the ricin discovered in the Senate office mailroom.

The ricin was discovered in Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist’s office.

Law enforcement officials say no letter from the militant group had been found indicating how it got there, who was behind it, and whether the Tennessee Republican knew of the shipment.

"We’re not at the point in time where we can say how it was delivered," said Michael Mason, assistant FBI director in charge of the Washington metropolitan office. "We have not found a letter.

Mayor has been the primary focus of the probe since Monday, when an intern found a small amount of ricin on a mail-sorting machine in Frist’s office. But no further ricin or other evidence was found in the stacks of letters nearby.

Because no answers have come from mail or items in the mailroom, investigators now consider the ricin placed on the machine by someone, or on a letter posted by an older letter and been there for a long time. If so, investigators would have to trace the paths of these older letters, some of which may have been destroyed.

"We are taking a look at every possible angle," Mason said.

The discovery prompted the closure of three Senate office buildings, the shutdown of which began Thursday, and decontamination procedures for staff and Capitol police officers who were at the scene.

Ricin is a highly toxic substance with no known antidote. It can easily be made from castor beans.

Although no one has become ill from the ricin, nine staffers in Frist’s office have been asked to submit two blood samples to Navy medical researchers, Frist spokesman Nick Smith said. The aides were told it was to see if they had developed antibodies to the ricin, which might help in development of an antidote.

Investigators are interviewing people who visited the buildings before the ricin’s discovery, as well as employees. They described everyone so far as cooperative.

One Senate aide who was questioned and spoke on condition of anonymity said he had not been contacted for a second round and knew of no other staffers who were being questioned again.

Haiti

Revolutionary army occupies city

A soldier of the Gonaives Resistance Front, which has occupied the city of Gonaives, aims his rifle in a demonstration calling for President Jean Bertrand Aristide’s resignation.

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE — An armed opposition group seized control of Haiti’s fourth-largest city Thursday, burning a police station and closing government buildings.

Members of the Gonaives Resistance Front began the assault shortly after noon in Gonaives, setting fire to the mayor’s home and then dousing the police station with fuel and lighting incendiary devices, the city’s police said.

At least four opponents of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide were killed in gunbattles with police, according to a witness.

Opposition leaders have demanded Aristide’s resignation, accusing his government of incompetence and corruption.

Aristide has refused to step down before his term ends in 2006 and has defended his government, saying it has made progress despite many obstacles.

The city, located 70 miles north of Port-au-Prince, has been the site of many protests led by Aristide’s supporters, who recently changed their name from the "Cannibal Army" to the Gonaives Resistance Front.

At least 55 people have been killed in the Caribbean country since mid-September in clashes between police, protesters and Aristide supporters.

Aristide has failed to prepare for the presidential election that is scheduled for November.

Friday, February 6, 2004

Compiled from The Observer's Wire Services

Page 5
Witness e-mails excluded

Key witness in Stewart trial wrote disparaging e-mails

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The star witness against Martha Stewart testified Thursday that she had berated him at least twice and once even threatened to leave his life because she didn't like the telephone hold music.

The testimony by Douglas Faneuil came during cross-examination by a defense lawyer who sought to show that the young brokerage assistant may have been out to get Stewart.

Faneuil, who handled the questionable stock trade at the heart of Stewart's trial, confirmed that he wrote e-mails to friends describing tiredness by the homemaking queen.

In one e-mail on Oct. 23, 2001, after handling a call from Stewart at Merrill Lynch & Co., Faneuil told a friend: "I have never, ever been treated better in my life. I'm sorry. I just did not have a choice in the matter."

"I believe I wrote those words exactly," Douglas Faneuil said.

Legal System

Blake trial postponed after lawyer relieved

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Robert Blake murder case was thrown into disarray Thursday when the actor's defense attorney was replaced by the court's own decision.

"We had no idea this was coming," Gibbons said. "It's like being punched in the stomach. It's like having the rug pulled out from under us. We're a little shell-shocked right now."

Blake's original lawyer, Harland Braun, left in November 2002, followed by attorney Jennifer Keller in January 2003. His fourth lawyer could have been the toughest to find.

"How can a new lawyer get up to speed with 60,000 pages of evidence?" Mesereau asked.

Sources close to the case who spoke on condition of anonymity said it was Mesereau's decision to leave the case, and that Blake wanted him out.

Cole, who won a dismissal of charges for Blake's co-defendant, Earle Caldwell, said he spoke to Blake after the announcement. "I know what was not the reason," Cole said.

"It was not pertaining to an evidentiary issue. And he does not want to represent himself but he said he would be some kind of consultant," Cole said.

"I'm very, very sorry that Mr. Mesereau left," Blake said outside court. "I am deeply, deeply grateful to him for saving my life."

It will be Mesereau who won Blake's release on $1.5 million bail after many months in jail.

Blake, 70, is charged with shooting his wife, Bonny Lee Bakley, 44, to death as she sat in a car outside an Italian restaurant where the two had just eaten in 2001. Blake is best known for playing a television detective in the 1970s show "Baretta."

The announcement is certain to have a huge impact on the trial. District attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said preliminary jury selection that was done weeks ago must now be scrapped, and the new lawyer will have to digest reams of evidence in a short period of time.

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Cisco, Ciena trigger NASDAQ skid

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A tentative forecast on business spending from Cisco Systems Inc. hit the technology sector hard Wednesday, and the Nasdaq composite index plunged 2.5 percent. The selloff dragged the rest of the market downward in volatile trading.

Cautious investors moved to defensive positions, with blue chip shares showing greater strength than more speculative tech and small-cap stocks. As earnings season winds down, some analysts say the market may be headed for a pause, but despite Wednesday's tech sell-off, investors don't seem ready to pull out in large numbers yet.

"Today, there's a lot of indecision. This market is as wimpy as I've seen in a long time," said Brian Belski, market strategist at Piper Jaffray. "But there's a lot of pent-up buying demand, lots of inflow into the market, so I tend to think it's too early to jump on the correction bandwagon."

The Nasdaq tumbled 52.07, or 2.5 percent, to 2,019.56, its biggest one-day point loss since Sept. 22, when it closed down 58.02 at 1,843.70. The tech-heavy index was at its lowest level in more than a month, but was still up 0.9 percent for the year.

The Dow Jones industrials, the Nasdaq Composite Index, the Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 9.51, or 0.8 percent, to 1,126.52. While the Dow had the highest level in more than a month, but was still up 0.9 percent for the year.

The Nasdaq's slump on Cisco and Ciena's less-than-stellar forecast underscores that "a lot of good news is priced in, and any sort of disappointment can affect prices disproportionately," said Brian Pears, head of equity trader at Victory Capital Management in Cleveland.

"Broadly speaking, I still feel pretty good; the economy is clearly growing at this point," Pears said, adding that he would be keeping an eye on the government payroll report due Friday. "I think the market's going to hold its breath until we get those numbers."

Corporate earnings have been forecast overall and economic numbers have been consistently strong. A better-than-expected rise in factory orders for December, reported Wednesday by the Commerce Department, offered further evidence that the recovery remains on track. Cisco Systems dropped $2.33, or 8.8 percent, to $24.08, although its earnings beat Wall Street's expectations. Industry observers had watched the results for signs that businesses were investing more in tech, but the networking equipment company indicated any rebound in spending remains uncertain.

Another significant decliner in the Nasdaq was Ciena Corp., which plummeted $1.30, or 18 percent, to $5.99, after the telecommunications equipment maker warned investors that its first-quarter revenues were likely to drop below forecasts. The company blamed the shortfall on the timing of a single order.

Tech stocks on the Dow also fell. Hewlett-Packard Co. skidded 72 cents to $23.19, while Intel Corp. dropped $1.34 to $30.02 and Microsoft Corp. fell 28 cents to $27.01.

McDonald's Corp. rose 26 cents to $26.41 after Smith Barney raised its price target for the fast-food retailer, citing a franchisee survey that points to strong sales momentum.

Wall Street

Dana taps Burns for top job

Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — Auto parts maker Dana Corp., a leading supplier of shocks, struts, suspensions and exhaust systems, tapped its second chief executive in 20 months when it named Joseph Magliochetti, who died Sept. 22 after developing pancreatitis, its new chief executive officer and president, the company said Wednesday.

Mike Burns, 51, will replace former Dana CEO Joseph Magliochetti, who died Sept. 22 after developing pancreatitis.

Burns, president of GM Europe since 1998, will take over at Dana on March 1.

"Mike Burns has the leadership skills, depth of industry experience, international acumen, energy and personal qualities to lead Dana forward," said Glen Hiner, Dana's acting board chairman.

Dana, which makes parts such as brakes and axles, has struggled in recent years because of auto industry slowdowns.

Two years ago it began eliminating 11,000 jobs through plant closings and consolidations. Those reductions came on top of about 10,000 job cuts because of declining auto production and slow U.S. sales.

In October, Dana reported sharply higher third-quarter earnings, crediting its restructuring plan.

Dana's board also announced Wednesday that Hiner, the board's acting chairman since September, will continue in this role.

William Carroll, who was acting president since September, will retire in March.
Super Bowl halftime outrage continues

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The one-second flash of Janet Jackson’s breast at the Super Bowl could end up putting the brakes on years of plunging standards in the down-and-dirty entertainment industry.

"This particular event might be, for the moment, the straw that broke the camel’s back on the patience of the audience," said talk show host Carson Daly, a veteran presence on MTV, which produced the offending halftime show.

"Tolerance of this sort of sexual imagery may have reached its peak." Carson Daly talk show host

The fallout continued Thursday:

• CBS, already facing an FCC probe for the show, said it would broadcast Sunday's Grammy Awards with a five-minute delay to allow time to edit out any offensive imagery. Jackson had been scheduled to appear on the show, but her publicist, Steven Huvane, said Thursday she would not attend.

• A banker from Knoxville, Tenn., filed a class action lawsuit against Jackson, dance partner Justin Timberlake, CBS, halftime show producers MTV and the network’s parent company, Viacom.

Terri Carlin said the "sexually explicit conduct" by the performers caused millions of people to "suffer outrage, anger, embarrassment and serious injury."

• NBC cut a scene from Thursday's "ER" that showed an elderly patient's breast, saying the current atmosphere made it too difficult for affiliates to air the segment.

• ABC said it would add a delay for its Feb. 29 broadcast of the Academy Awards. TNT also said it was considering a delay for the entertainment portion of the NBA All-Star Game, featuring Beyonce, Outkast and Christina Aguilera.

• The NFL cut a halftime production number by one of Timberlake's 'N Sync bandmates, JC Chasez, planned for Sunday's Pro Bowl in Honolulu, because Chasez's song contained the words "boring" and "naughty." He will be replaced by burl dancers and local singers.

• AOL spokesman Jim Whitney declined to comment on reports that the company would seek a refund of the $7.5 million it paid to sponsor the halftime show.

Beryllium found at plant

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The toxic metal beryllium has been detected in everyday production equipment at one of two government uranium plants, and it could be sickening plant workers, Energy Department officials said Thursday.

The beryllium was discovered last month in aluminum blades used to produce enriched uranium at the plant in Piketon, Ohio, said William Murphie, the Energy Department official who oversees cleanup efforts at the Ohio nuclear facility and a plant in Paducah, Ky.

Murphie said the agency had not thought the metal was present at the Ohio plant, believing it was only found in areas of the sprawling Paducah plant where old weapons work had been performed.

"This was in fact a surprise to us," Murphie said Thursday. "The Louisville Courier-Journal first reported the discovery of the beryllium in its Thursday edition."

Murphie said USEC Inc., a Bethesda, Md-based company that runs the government plant, made the discovery. He said it started testing work areas in Paducah and Piketon after the workers' union shared the results of screenings it had conducted.

More than a dozen current and former workers had beryllium sensitivity, Murphie said. Blood tests indicated their bodies have formed a reaction to the metal and they could develop chronic beryllium disease later. The scarring lung disease can be fatal.

One worker at each site tested positive for the disease, Murphie said.

Murphie said the area in the Piketon plant where the beryllium was detected last month has since been cordoned off and similar steps were taken protectively at the Paducah plant.

He said further testing will be done at both plants.

"We're still just at the very beginning of the sampling program up here," Murphie said. "We may well find it in some of the other places."

Beryllium has been used to make triggers for nuclear weapons, nuclear plant rods and computer circuit boards. It is not dangerous in solid form, but its dust can cause serious respiratory ailments if inhaled. Government regulations call for tight controls and protection for workers from the metal.

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Target - Internship
2/10 A&L, BUS

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2/10 SCI, ENG

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2/10 ENG
Only 14 applicants

Progressive - F/T
2/10 A&L, BUS, SCI, ENG
22 applicants for 42 slots

Travelers Insurance - F/T
3/13 A&L, BUS, SCI, ENG
Only 19 applicants

Group One Trading - F/T
2/14 A&L, BUS, SCI, ENG, Grad
Only 6 students have applied

Starcom Media - F/T
2/14 A&L
ONLY 4 students have applied
Frist staffer to resign over leaked memos

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's key staffers will resign Friday because of an investigation into how Democratic memos concerning opposition to President Bush's judicial nominees were distributed within the Senate.

Manuel Miranda, who worked for the Tennessee Republican on the Judiciary Committee, was looking at work he performed Friday, Frist spokesman Bob Stevenson said Thursday.

A message left at Miranda's home was not immediately returned. He said The Knoxville News-Sentinel on Thursday he resigned to spare Frist.

"I have departed so as not to distract the majority leader or the Senate from the very important issues we're facing," Stevenson said Thursday.

Miranda told the newspaper he was "certainly not a part of anything" involving the release of the memos.

"I have no involvement or knowledge of any memos being released other than what was in the public domain," Miranda told the paper.

Miranda's resignation comes as Frist struggles to deal with a political scandal that has resulted in a growing number of Democrats joining Republicans to criticize the president's judicial nominees.

The Judiciary Committee is investigating how the memos were released.

"There is no way to verify that the vote recorded inside the system is the same as the one cast by the voter," said Barbara McLaughlin, vice president of system vendor

McLaughlin said the Senate should conduct a similar investigation into whether the results of the trial before computers.

"We are confident that sending absentee ballots via the Internet is just as secure and reliable as sending them by mail."

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Donors may transmit CJD

Blood may pass on human variant of mad cow disease

Associated Press

LONDON — British scientists studying how the human form of mad cow disease could be transmitted through transfusion, the scientists said in their report in Friday's Lancet medical journal.

The researchers, led by Professor Robert Will at the National CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, wrote that "although the epidemic of vCJD presently seems to be in decline, a proportion of the U.K. population could be incubating vCJD and acting as blood donors."

The scientists based their study on records from United Kingdom blood services and the national CJD surveillance unit. The report said 48 people had been identified as having received blood from 15 donors who later developed the variant disease.

By December 2003, all but 17 of the recipients had died but vCJD was the cause of death in only one case. The disease can only be confirmed during an autopsy by examining brain tissue.

"Our findings raise the possibility that transfusion transmitted the disease," the report says, adding that infection also "could have been due to post-dental exposure." Scientists already believe people can get variant CJD from eating products from cows infected with a similar illness, bovine spongiform encephalopathy — or BSE — or mad cow disease.

Statistical analysis indicated that the odds of the man not being infected by his blood samples were between one in 15,000 and one in 30,000.

"In an accompanying independent commentary, Dr. Adriano Aguzzi and Dr. Markus Galzat from the University Hospital of Zurich in Switzerland, said, "the chance that this case is not transfusion-related is very small."

"Shocking as it may be," they wrote, "the finding that vCJD can be transmitted via blood transfusion is not surprising. Stringent studies in sheep show that prion diseases — such as CJD — can be transmitted via blood, even if blood is collected in preclinical stages of prion disease."

Besides the transfusions, 20 units of plasma from people who later developed variant CJD were used to make blood products before 1998, when Britain stopped using British blood, the Lancet report said.

The scientists said that before 1998, "1998, many thousands of individuals may have been exposed to blood products derived from people who were later found to have an individual incubating vCJD."

So far, they said, no case of variant CJD has been identified as connected to exposure to such plasma products. The risks from plasma products are probably less than from transfusion, they added.

Variations between allies are inevitable, Rumsfeld said in an interview en route here from Washington, and he dismissed suggestions that a major diplomatic effort will be required to mend fences.

Rumsfeld flew here for a meeting of NATO defense ministers on Friday and for the weekend Munich Conference on Security Policy, which attracts officials, analysts and military leaders from around the globe.

Throughout NATO's 55-year history, he said, the trans-Atlantic relationship "has gone from little difficulties to things better — it's been a pattern over my entire adult lifetime."

"I would say the relationships right now are fairly normal," Rumsfeld said.

Rumsfeld said that although NATO may get more involved in Iraq at some point, its "first task really is to do well in the Afghan task" of leading the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, the Afghan capital, and managing civil aid teams in several provinces.

Rumsfeld said he expected Iraq to be a major topic of discussion during his two days in Munich. On Sunday he is scheduled to travel to Zagreb, Croatia, followed by meetings in London on Monday.

While he spoke to the Munich conference one year ago, Rumsfeld was critical of European allies who favored giving a "second bite" to United Nations inspectors in Iraq to look for weapons of mass destruction.

"It's true that better inspections are a priority today," he said last year, "but we must accept that we may have to reason the inspectors to do more, and we must give them the time they need to do that.

"I'm looking forward to a more deliberate, patient and measured approach to the future of the inspectors," he added.

"The United Kingdom is committed to the future of the inspectors, and an inspection capability is required," he said.

Rumsfeld said the administration wants NATO to continue its ongoing efforts to get "meaningful commitment" from nations, "including our allies," in Iraq.

"I want to say this is a work in progress and is clearly going to take time. I don't think it's likely that we'll get a perfect answer," he said.

"The United Kingdom is committed to the future of the inspectors, and an inspection capability is required," he said.

"I'm looking forward to a more deliberate, patient and measured approach to the future of the inspectors," he added.

"The United Kingdom is committed to the future of the inspectors, and an inspection capability is required," he said.
Residential life is both a tradition and hallmark of Notre Dame. It fosters the family community that Notre Dame boasts about and the friendships that last long after students leave the University. However, traditions can suffer when they have not been refined. The administration realizes that residential life at Notre Dame could fall victim to this fate and should be commended for seeking student input on the future of residential life at Notre Dame. Within the next two weeks, 1,000 students will be given the opportunity to reply to a survey about the quality of residential life and what changes they would like to see in the future.

Students constantly criticize the administration for neither consulting them nor including them. This committee understands that students must be consulted because they see the best sources for ideas that maintain the tradition of residential life. Essentially it is letting students play a role in enhancing residential life for future students.

Happy Valentines Day

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Guest Column

What I know about racial preference

In response to the recent spate of affirmative action articles in The Observer—some of which, I must say, were deeply disturbing—I felt the need to voice my thoughts. At some level, these debates revolve around questions of racial preference, something I know a good deal about.

Tom Guglielmo
American Studies

Consistency, please

Ah, Notre Dame. A place where young minds came to search for new ideas, expose themselves to perspectives other than their own. A place where not just the physical landscape has beauty, but so too do our thoughts of common and uncommon, controversial and uncontroversial. Catholic and non-Catholic alike. Notre Dame must be more than simply a place where "children learn footballs and "family and friends visit to see their darling sons and daughters and brothers and sisters," as Ricky McRoskey's article points out.

McRoskey is apparently offended by the fact that his younger brother will have to be traumatized by the word "vagina" appearing in the dining hall. Rather than force such horror on this innocent mind let us rid the campus of these outlandish slogans. I'd like to further this line of thinking. My younger sister has read The Observer, and I'd really rather her not be exposed to such excessive close-mindedness as displayed by McRoskey's letter. Let us rid the campus of this too. In fact, let us rid the campus of everything remotely controversial. McRoskey is right; our standards of appropriateness should be those of a ten-year-old.

But really, let's have some consistency. McRoskey's point about his inability to sell shirts with a beer logo on campus, or ones with "lewd or sexual slogans across them," is well taken. Clearly the signs saying "vagina" are similarly motivated, as a theatrical performance trying to evil violence against women is as reprehensible as a student selling "shirt" shirts.

Since when is a college campus subject to censorship at the elementary school level? May we have a little appreciation for something with a noble cause and an original approach.

Ray Schleck
Businessman
Kconto Hall
Feb. 5

Another rationale for Monologues

I find the "Vagina Monologues," based on what I have read about the play by both supporters and detractors, to be totally classless and unintellectual as well. These criticisms have been aired quite well already, so I will not waste any more time on them. What I would like to do is defend the play from an angle I am quite certain nobody else has even considered.

Vocations. We all know about the vocations crunch and how it will probably get even worse in the years ahead. As a man, having spoken to many other men about the issue, I can say with confidence that, for us, the biggest obstacle to the priesthood is the desire to marry. I think, "Vagina Monologues" can effectively blunt this desire for many, if not most, men. If I were a Holy Cross priest teaching theology, I would drag my male students to this play, and then ask them afterward, "Now are you sure you really want to get married?" This is not to say, of course, that most men are unaware that women have vaginas, and need to see this play to inform them of that fact. It is just not what men tend to consider primarily when they think of the fairy sex, or in such a crude and juvenile fashion. "Vagina Monologues" can fix that.

I think Internet pornography can serve the same role, by the way. Watch enough of that, so disgusting and degrading and you will be far more likely to agree with the Church that celibacy is indeed the superior way of life. There is a danger with some men getting addicted to that stuff, though. As a feminist for the seminary I would not promote it. "Vagina Monologues," like "Sex & the City," is a safer alternative. Or have them read the "Wife of Bath" tale in Chaucer. That tale is difficult to understand, though, and perhaps a little bit above the heads of most college students today. No danger of that in "Vagina Monologues," not intellectually anyway. And the best part of the show is how female college students would produce and promote something so conducive to contempt for women.

Eric Marnoski
Junior
Chicago 1997
Feb. 5
Parking Rules

Yes, they also apply to you

Hello Notre Dame! It's time to learn something really important that will be good to know for the rest of your life. No, it's not metaphysics of weasels or advanced basket weaving. This, my fellow Domers, is a basic tutorial on parking.

Now parking is something that should have been learned naturally around the age of 16, or whenever a driver's license was acquired. It's a sad fact that many members of the Notre Dame community are inexplicably incapable of placing their cars in an at rest position correctly. I am willing to assume that this is due to no fault of students themselves. Perhaps you had no good parking role models. For example: your parents didn't drive, had chauffeurs or are wild dogs. So to make Notre Dame a more responsible parking community, let's run through some common parking misconceptions.

"Sometimes I can't see the yellow lines in the parking lot — should I just park anywhere?"

If there's a space between existing cars — you should park parallel to the other cars, not at an extreme angle. Also make sure that you are parking in an actual row — not the aisle.

"I'm really important! Can my car occupy more than one parking space?"

No.

"It snows a lot in South Bend, but I just don't understand why you can't park where the snow piles go from plowing the parking lot — what do those crazy signs mean that say 'no parking January-March.' What if I just park behind the snow pile?"

When there's a complicated question, first off, it does snow a lot in South Bend, and this time of year, it's not going to get warm enough to melt all the snow anytime soon. That means that every time it snows there is more and more snow in the lot. To stop the entire thing from becoming a slushy mess, Notre Dame has to navigate the aisles is pushed to these specially designated areas. Think of them as parking designated areas. This means no parking where other cars have to navigate the lot. So, no creating that special parking spot at the end of the row just for you. Lots are carefully organized to allow cars to both be at rest and navigate through the lot — it's not up to you to change them.

"I really want to find a parking space — is it polite to follow people around until they reach their car?"

Following people is, in most cultures, considered stalking. It creeps out the people you are following while at the same time makes you look like a big jerk. So please leave the pedestrians alone and just find an available spot.

I hope that this little tutorial will be a help to the Notre Dame driving community. If you need more help, try practicing at large parking lots — like the mall or Meijer. Take the time to park correctly in every available spot. And don't come back until you figure it out.

*The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Rachel Ourada at rourada@nd.edu*
to the leader of the Sharks who is looking headstrong aggressiveness needed to into the storyline. Director Ray Areaux al dance numbers that are interwoven Lauren Beth Planalp as stage manager. also had to rehearse the vocal numbers amount of hard work and effort that theater companies. performances of the actors reveal the lar choice for high school and college Pasquerilla the large cast make the musical a popu­ widely recognizable songs in addition to most widely recognized pieces of musical Soundtrack. Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Academy Awards. October returned to Broadway for 249 more per­ played for 341 performances. It opened in pastel dresses that reflect the e e p t Lawrence Santiago plays Bernardo, and white sneakers, along with sport purples. The men wear blue jeans and black sneakers and occasionally Sharks' costumes are lively and vibrant oranges and yellows with black jeans and black sneakers and occasionally moveable boxes. The absence of large decadent sets and props leaves as props are a few tables and chairs and a canvas with colored lights on it. The only Calcutt's chose to reflect the original stage setting of the play and use a minimal amount of set design. The orchestra does not per­ form from a pit, but rather behind the set of scaffolding in front of a plain white canvas with colored lights on it. The only props are a few tables and chairs and a few moveable boxes. The absence of large decadent sets and props gives as much room as possible open on stage for the elaborate dance numbers. The costumes are timeless, but easily convey the identities of the rival gangs. The men are in jeans and T-shirts, while the women are primarily in dresses. The Sharks' costumes are more muted and metropolitan, with blues, greens, and purples. The men wear blue jeans and white sneakers, along with sport coats and khakis. The women are always in pastel dresses that reflect the 1950s style. The contrast between the costumes, and between the gangs, is stark when the cast members are together onstage. It is fitting that the honor of having so many sold out shows goes to The Pasquerella East Musical Company, the organization that was responsible for bringing musical theater back to Notre Dame. Starting in 1987, the University experienced a decade long drought of musical theater productions. Neither the Department of Music nor the the Departments of Film, Television and Theater would sponsor such activities.

Then, in the spring of 1997, Kelly McGann, a resident of Pasquerella East, worked with Student Activities to develop a campus group dedicated to musical theater, under a mission statement dedicated to "provide an outlet for musical and artistic expression and enjoyment, for Pasquerella East and the University of Notre Dame community." The Pasquerella East Musical Company first performed "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," a musical take on the biblical story of Joseph in the Book of Genesis, in the fall of 1997. The production was a rousing success, and since then the group has gone on to stage productions of other several other famous musicals. In 1999, the Pasquerella East Musical Company performed "Godspell," the story of Christ set in the psychedelic '60s, fol­ lowing it the next year with "Grease," one of the most staged musicals in history. "Guys and Dolls," performed in 2001 told the gang­ster-era story of danc­, marriage, and gambling. The following year staged "Damn Yankees," set in the golden age of baseball and telling the story of a baseball team with plenty of heart. This year, the Pasquerella East Musical Company has upheld their excellent tradi­tion with yet another strong performance of a classic musical. The singing, acting and dancing all provide an exci­t ing experience of authentic Broadway theater, 800 miles from the great white way. "West Side Story" is a tale about hatred, prejudice and vengeance, but above all these, it is a story about love overcoming all bounds. Shakespeare wrote his theater for the masses of his time, as snuffly as it may seem to many readers today. The P.E. Musical Company's production succeeds in tak­ing that classic love story and bringing it to a contemporary audience with an excitement and enthusiasm that is hard to find in any other medium but musical theater.

Contact Jon Retartha and Ryan Rafferty at jretarth@nd.edu and rraffert@nd.edu

"Jet Song," "Maria," and "I Feel Pretty" are staples of the Broadway canon. The widely recognizable songs in addition to the large cast make the musical a popu­lar choice for high school and college theater companies. As for Notre Dame's own The Pasquerella East Musical Company, the performances of the actors reveal the amount of hard work and effort that went into the production. Besides the lines and blocking of standard dramatic plays, the actors in "West Side Story" also had to rehearse the vocal numbers and learn the choreography to the sever­al dance numbers that are interwoven into the storyline. Director Ray Areaux also acted as choreographer, with Lauren Prieto as music director and Beth Planalp as stage manager. Lawrence Santiago plays Bernardo, the leader of the Sharks who is looking for a turf of his own for his Puerto Rican brethren. Santiago plays the role with a headstrong aggressiveness needed to convey his role of authority in the organ­ization. Santiago also displays the confident qualities of a wom­anizer, while at the same time being protected in his caring of his sister Maria.

Natalie Martinez, in the role of Maria, has a sim­ply beautiful voice and commands the stage wherever she is present. The role of Maria is multi­faceted, and Martinez makes the perfect trans­ition from being a wide-eyed girl with dreams of a bet­ter future to assuming the role of the love stricken protagonist. Like Maria, the character of Tony, played by Jack Calcutt, is torn about his present life at the onset of the musical. Tony is reluctant to join the Jets, but Calcutt's motivation stems more from having an unspoken knowledge of what the gang life is all about, rather than from fear of the unknown. Calcutt beautifully balances that initial mature reluctance with his later infatuation with Maria.

KC Kenney plays Riff, the leader of the Jets who has finally gained respect for his gang by ousting another rival city gang. Kenney plays Riff with a zeal that reflects his war-hawkish qualities and his slight overconfidence. Kenney was also one of the producers of the show. Jenny Radelet plays Bernardo's girl­friend Anita. She gives a powerful vocal and acting performance. She is Maria's only real confidant and is as torn as her friend over her connection with the Tony and the Jets.

Unlike the movie version, which obviously needed a realistic setting in order to make the story believable on screen, the Pasquerella East Musical Company chose to reflect the original stage setting of the play and use a minimal amount of set design. The orchestra does not per­form from a pit, but rather behind the set of scaffolding in front of a plain white canvas with colored lights on it. The only props are a few tables and chairs and a few moveable boxes. The absence of large decadent sets and props allows as much room as possible open on stage for the elaborate dance numbers. The costumes are timeless, but easily convey the identities of the rival gangs. The men are in jeans and T-shirts, while the women are primarily in dresses. The Sharks' costumes are more muted and metropolitan, with blues, greens, and purples. The men wear blue jeans and white sneakers, along with sport coats and khakis. The women are always in pastel dresses that reflect the 1950s
Associated Press

MONTREAL — Rookie Michael Ryder scored the winning goal midway into the third period, lifting the Montreal Canadiens to a 2-1 victory over the New York Islanders on Thursday night.

Ryder, selected to play in Saturday's YoungStars game during the All-Star weekend in St. Paul, Minn., scored his 15th goal of the season with a shot from the right side that went in off goalie Garth Snow's glove.

Ryder leads all NHL rookies with 39 points, three more than the standard for a 20-game season. He will be teammate Saturday's YoungStars game.

Mike Ribeiro scored for the third straight game and Jose Theodore made 27 saves for Montreal, which won its third straight.

Justin Papineau scored a power-play goal for New York, which lost for the first time in seven games (3-6-0). Snow stopped 36 of 38 shots.

The Canadiens, seventh overall in both the Eastern Conference with 64 points, opened a five-point lead over the eighth-place Islanders.

Sheilon Souray, who leads all NHL defensemen in goals with 15 and will make his first All-Star appearance Sunday, drew his 26th assist on Ribeiro's power-play goal in the first period. He'd never had more than 11 points in a previous season.

Souray's assists each of the teams each converted their first man-advantage opportunity of the game.

Ribeiro tied the scoring with his 15th of the season. With less than a minute remaining and the shot clock expired, Ribeiro banked a shot from behind the goal line into the net off the back of Snow's pads.

New York drew even when Papineau converted an opportunity 45 seconds into a double minor to Montreal's Richard Zednik for high-sticking Oleg Kvasha.

The Islanders kept it tied with a scoreless second period despite drawing three straight minors, which kept them short-handed for 10:41 of the final 6:27 of the period.

Canucks, Devils 0-0

Antero理由 and Daniel Sedin set up goals for each other Thursday night and the Vancouver Canucks avoided a winless tour of the New York metropolitan area with a victory over the New Jersey Devils.

Dan Cloutier stopped 24 shots in his third shutout of the season and Brendan Morrison and Trevor Linden added power-play goals. The Canucks head into the NHL All-Star break with six wins in eight games.

The only two losses in that span came this week against the Islanders and the Rangers and an overtime set-back against the Islanders.

Vancouver, wrapping up a five-game road trip, outplayed New Jersey so badly that Devils fans booed in the second period of what was only their second loss in seven games.

It was appropriate the Sedins did most of the damage, the twins have been on a tear in recent weeks. Daniel has three goals and seven assists in his last six games; Henrik has two goals and six assists.

The two combined with Mike Keane on a beautiful goal just 1:11 after the opening faceoff. Keane sent the puck from behind the Devils' net to the right sideboards. Daniel Sedin then converted his initial shot attempt to his unguarded brother for a 1-0 lead at 13:26, and Amante converted an opportunity of the game. Trevor Linden added power-play insurance at 1:11 after the opening face off.

The goal came 2:01 after Boyle scored just nine seconds into the game by scoring twice in five of his last six games since being chosen to the All-Star team.

Canadian defeat Islanders in close 2-1 game

Jeremy Roenick of the Philadelphia Flyers speeds by Thrashers defender Daniel Tjarnqvist on a fast break in the second period of Thursday's game. Philadelphia won over Atlanta 2-1.

Roenick scored in the second period for the Flyers, 5-0-1 in their last 10 road games.

Serge Aubin had a goal for the Thrashers, winless in eight games, Ilya Kovalchuk, voted in as a starter in Sunday's All-Star game, was bench in the second period after his turnover led to Roenick's goal.

Nikitaaly, a 23-year-old Finn, won for the second straight night in place of Robert Esche, expected to miss at least three weeks with a sprained left knee. Jeff Hackett, Philadelphia's other experienced goalie, is sidelined indefinitely by vertigo.

After Game's goal tied it at 1, the Flyers broke open the game by scoring twice in 32 seconds. Recchi beat Paul Nunnari from the shoulder from near the end line with the Flyers on the power play at 12:54, a goal that gave him an eight-game point streak.

Kapanen then sent a floating shot from the slot over Nunnari to give the Flyers a 3-1 lead at 13:26, and Amonte completed the second-period rally when he was credited with a goal that actually bounced in off Atlanta's defender Frantisek Kaberle with 42 seconds left.

LeClair completed the scoring with a wrist shot from the slot with 23:34 remaining in the game.

Lightning, Panthers 2-1

Pavel Kubina, Dan Boyle and Ben Clmeroy scored second-period goals and Cory Stillman added three assists, leading the Tampa Bay Lightning to a victory over the Nashville Predators on Thursday night.

Denis Arkhipov swept it into the open net. He made it 3-2 after taking a pass from Orszagh just inside the blue line and putting it through Khabibulin's legs.

Clmeroy stopped Nashville's momentum and gave the Lightning a two-goal lead again by scoring off his own rebound with 37 seconds left in the peri­od. 0-lead late in the second period by poking a backhander past goalie Tomas Vokoun.

Vokoun has given up three or more goals in five of his last six games since being chosen to the All-Star team.

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Pittsburgh's Fitzgerald eligible for NFL draft

Associated Press
PITTSBURGH — Heisman Trophy runner-up Larry Fitzgerald, the Pittsburgh sophomore who set NCAA receiving records in his two college seasons, was declared eligible Thursday for the NFL draft.

The NFL's ruling came on the same day a federal judge opened the door for running back Maurice Clarett to also turn pro despite playing only one season at Ohio State.

Under league rules, a player must be in college for three NFL seasons before he can be drafted. Fitzgerald left the Academy of Holy Angels in Minneapolis, Minn., midway through his senior year in 2001 and transferred to Valley Forge (Pa.) Military Academy to boost his grades for college. After spending nearly 1 1/2 academic years there, Fitzgerald signed with Pittsburgh and immediately became the most productive receiver in school history. He owns NCAA records for consecutive games with a touchdown catch (18) and most TDs receiving as a freshman and sophomore (34).

The NFL determined Fitzgerald was eligible because he would have graduated from high school in 2001 had he not transferred and thus is three years past his senior year of high school.

Fitzgerald declined comment after learning of the NFL's ruling. His father, Larry Sr., said, "We choose to let them [the NFL] do what they do, and then we'll do what we do." With numerous NFL scouts saying Fitzgerald likely will be a top five pick, his departure from Pitt was considered a foregone conclusion for weeks. Pitt's offense would be in a rebuilding mode next season even if Fitzgerald returned, with star quarterback Rod Rutherford, running back Brandon Miree and most of the offensive line departing.

"Whatever Larry decides, this university is going to support him wholeheartedly," assistant athletic director E.J. Borghetti said Thursday night. "The opportunity to be a top five pick can be a fleeting one in the game of football. But education is important to Larry's family, and whatever he decides to do, he will still be our son. It was important to his [late] mother and to his dad and I know it remains a priority of his." Fitzgerald's case differs from Clarett's. The Pitt star played two college seasons, while Clarett played only one.

Clarett graduated early from high school in December 2001, and his lawyer contended that came before the end of the 2001 NFL season and thus made him eligible under the three-year rule.

The Clarett ruling, if it holds up on appeal, means high school football players and college underclassmen would be able to make the jump to the pros just as NFL, NHL and major league baseball players can.

Fitzgerald is not believed to have formally petitioned the league to be declared eligible. But his lawyer sent a letter to the NFL last month asking that his draft status be clarified.

The 6-foot-3, 225-pound Fitzgerald already has an NFL background. His father, a former college lineman, is a sports writer and radio-TV show host in Minneapolis, and his son was a Minnesota Vikings ball boy for several years while in high school.

While working in the Vikings' training camp, the younger Fitzgerald became friends with receivers Cris Carter and Randy Moss. It was Carter, a former Ohio State star, who suggested he consider playing in the NFL.

Pitt coach Walt Harris is a former Buckeyes assistant coach.

With Fitzgerald's departure now imminent, the Panthers will be losing their most productive player since the days of Dan Marino and Tony Dorsett.

Fitzgerald won the Biletnikoff Trophy as college football's top receiver last season and the Walter Camp Award as the nation's best player. He was a close runner-up to Florida's Burt Reynolds for the Heisman Trophy, nearly becoming the first sophomore to win the award.

Fitzgerald, a first-team All-American, caught 87 passes for an NCAA-leading 1,995 yards and 22 touchdowns last season, making him the first player with a touchdown catch in all 12 regular-season games. His record streak of 18 consecutive games with a touchdown catch ended in the Insight Bowl loss to Virginia that wrapped up Pitt's 8-5 season. As a freshman, Fitzgerald already had six catches for 100 yards and 12 touchdowns in leading Pitt to a 10-2 record — its first nine-win season in 20 years. Pitt was 17-9-0 with Fitzgerald in its lineup.
Burks signs one-year contract with Red Sox

Associated Press

BOSTON — Ellis Burks was let go 12 years ago by the Red Sox, who weren’t sure he’d stay healthy and become a productive player. Now they’ve changed their minds.

On Tuesday, the team’s former top draft choice finalized a $750,000, one-year contract with Boston.

"It’s like a fine wine — I got better with time," Burks said.

Now 29, Burks said his release from Boston crushed him but spurred him to adopt a work ethic that led to his best seasons when playing with four other teams. He’s back in Boston looking to help the team and win a championship.

Burks accepted Boston’s offer over a proposal from Seattle. His choice was made after hours on the Internet, comparing the teams’ pitching staffs and lineups.

He was selected by Boston in the 1983 draft and arrived in the big leagues in 1987. "It was a lot of pressure on a young kid, to hear comparisons to Willie Mays," Burks said. "I put too much pressure on myself instead of relaxing and playing like I can play."

Burks was among a handful of black players on the team. Burks said he never had any problems on the Red Sox, but remembered being uneasy at times in Boston. He cited the infamous Charles Stuart case in 1989, which awoke racial tensions when a white man killed his wife, then blamed it on an unknown black man.

"The whole city was looking for a 6-foot-1 black man in a warmup suit," Burks recalled. "So I didn’t wear any warmup suit."

The organization has changed in his absence. It has new owners, numerous minority players and a reputation for working together.

"That goes to show you, everything grows in time," Burks said.

Burks made the All-Star team and won a Gold Glove in 1990, when he hit .296 with 21 homers and 89 RBIs. He didn’t match those numbers in 1991, then missed most of 1992 with a serious back injury. In December that year, Boston let him go.

After the Chicago White Sox signed Burks, he committed himself to working hard and being a student of the game.

"A lot of times when you have something you love so dearly taken away, that helps you re-evaluate things," he said.

Burks also played for Colorado, San Francisco and Cleveland. His best season was in 1996, when he hit 344 for Colorado with 40 homers and 128 RBIs.

In 2002, his last full season, he batted .301 with 32 homers and 91 RBIs. Last year, his season was cut short because of a nerve condition in his right elbow that required surgery.

He figures to see time mainly as a designated hitter and right-handed pinch-hitter, and will compete for playing time with Kevin Millar and David Ortiz, both coming off good seasons. Burks also is prepared to play outfield and maybe first base.

"He’s been an everyday player, and now he’s kind of coming down to the twilight of his career," manager Terry Francona said. "Like he said, he can still impact a baseball team."
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UConn defeats Tennessee

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — No mater who's ranked No. 1, Diana Taurasi and Connecticut know how to top Tennessee.

The All-American guard scored 18 points to lead the No. 4 Huskies to an 81-67 victory Thursday night, their fifth straight win over the top-ranked Lady Vols.

Taurasi had 16 points and nine rebounds. Ashley Battle scored 11 points.

Connecticut (17-2) improved to 12-6 all-time against Tennessee (15-2) in a rivalry that began in 1995. The series has included a 12-6 advantage for Tennessee.

Connecticut is the career leader at 33-24 against Tennessee.

Connecticut has a one-stroke lead after the morning round Wednesday.

The Lady Vols got as close as 67-63 with 6:28 remaining after Tasha Butts made two free throws, but Connecticut had a quick 5-0 run to go up by nine.

The Huskies outscored Tennessee 7-2 down the stretch to win their sixth straight game after losing at Notre Dame last month.

Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma often complained about fouls not called on Taurasi, who fouled out with 46 seconds left.

After Turner picked up her fourth with 2:05 to go, Auriemma ran to the near sideline and clapped sarcastically in front of a small contingent of Huskies fans.

Connecticut often had several shots on each possession, grabbing 17 offensive rebounds and scoring 20 second-chance points.

The Huskies owe much of their success against Tennessee in games she played against the Lady Vols.

Taurasi was 3-67 from beyond the arc, and the third made her the career leader at Connecticut with 230 3-pointers.

She hurt her back Saturday at St. John's and played only 12 minutes as a precaution but showed no signs of problems against Tennessee.

Connecticut (17-2) improved to 12-6 all-time against Tennessee.

Tennessee looked out of sync on offense again without point guard Loree Moore, who is out for the season with a torn knee ligament.

Shyra Jackson added 20 points apiece.

And again Tennessee melted on defense in the biggest regular-season game in women's basketball.

Turner's team has been hurt by foul trouble all season. She averaged 23 points in the previous six games she played against the Lady Vols.

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Duke beats UNC 83-81 in overtime thriller

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Mike Krzyzewski thought this was more than just one of the best games in the storied rivalry between Duke and North Carolina.

"I think you do it an injustice to say it was a great Duke-Carolina game," he said of the top-ranked Blue Devils' 83-81 overtime victory over No. 17 North Carolina on Thursday night. "It was a great game. You can't match the intensity level.

There was a buzz in the Smith Center to match. After the game ended. It was the noise a crowd makes when it's disappointed, yet still energized.

"You're told it's a rivalry and everything, but when you're on the court, the emotion of everybody — your teammates and the Carolina players — it's like you're giving it everything," Duke freshman Luol Deng said. "It was just a fight from both teams and Chris (Duhon) made an unbelievable play to win it for us.

Duhon's reverse layup with 6.5 seconds left in overtime gave Duke its 16th straight victory overall and fifth in the last six years on North Carolina's home court.

This one was over first-year Texas coach Roy Williams, and the former assistant to Dean Smith left the court as did National Coach of the Year Bill Guthridge and Matt Doherty, losers at home to Duke.

"That was the pivotal point of the game," Williams said. "If I could coach to a championship, we had in the building, I'd be one hell of a coach."

Shelden Williams had 22 points and 12 rebounds for Duke, and J.J. Redick added 14 points.

Randolph battles UNC's David Noel for a loose ball in Thursday's game. Duke beat North Carolina in one of college basketball's most heated rivalries at the Smith Center.

Rick Colon
With appearances on
- The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
- B.E.T.'s Comic Relief

A.J. Jamal
With appearances on
- The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
- H.B.O.'s Comic Relief

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FEATURING...

A.J. Jamal

Rick Colon

The Observer • SPORTS
Friday, February 6, 2004
Ohio State's Maurice Clarett scores the winning touchdown in last year's BCS national championship against the Miami Hurricanes. A federal judge ruled that Clarett could turn pro.

Clarett granted option of NFL draft

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A federal judge opened the door for Ohio State sensation Maurice Clarett and teenage football stars to turn pro, declaring Thursday that an NFL rule barring their eligibility violates antitrust law and "must be sacked." 

Clarett's lawyer, Alan Milstone, called it a "total victory." 

Clarett declined to say whether he'll enter the April draft after his lawyers advised him that Ohio State has warned even a declaration to join the NFL would rule out any chance of returning to college ball.

Jeff Pass, the executive vice president of the NFL, said the ruling left him "really surprised" but confident on appeal because its findings contradicted those of past court rulings.

"If the ruling holds up, means that high school football players and college underclassmen will be able to make the jump to the pros just like their counterparts in the NFL," said Pass. "They've been waiting for months for him to make the decision. If he chooses to play in college, that's fine." 

"If he chooses to play in college, that's fine," he added. "If he chooses to turn pro, that's fine, too." 

Associated Press

LONDON — Looks like Lennox Lewis is ready to do what no heavyweight champion has done in nearly half a century: leave boxing for good with a championship belt around his waist.

The 38-year-old Lewis will hold a news conference Friday amid reports he will retire rather than risk his World Boxing Council title in a rematch against Vitali Klitschko.

Secretive to the end, Lewis was keeping his decision to himself. His trainer, Emanuel Steward, did not return calls. But Lewis has made no effort to meet a March 1 deadline set by the WBC to set up a fight with Klitschko, and the consensus among the boxing fraternity is that he will retire.

Lewis hasn't even told HBO what he plans to do. The television network paid him tens of millions to fight and has been waiting for months for him to commit one way or another to a return to the ring.

The ruling, if it holds up on appeal, means that high school football players and college underclassmen will be able to make the jump to the pros just like their counterparts in the NFL. "It gives kids an opportunity to choose," Clarett's lawyer, Alan Milstone, said as a "total victory." 

Clarett's lawyer, Alan Milstone, called it a "total victory." 

"We have had no contact with Lennox or his representatives," HBO Sports President Bill Greenburg said. "We're standing by." 

Assuming Lewis does end his 14-year career, he will become the first reigning heavyweight champion to quit since Rocky Marciano in 1956. 

Muhammad Ali retired with the WBA title in 1976, but came back to lose fights to Larry Holmes and Trevor Berbick.

"It's a sort of conduct that the antitrust laws were designed to prevent," said Scheindlin. "One can scarcely think of a more blatantly anti-competitive policy than one that excludes certain competitors from the market altogether," she wrote.

Clarett, a 20-year-old sophomore, played just one season at Ohio State.

PHILADELPHIA — Heisman Trophy runner-up Larry Fitzgerald, the Pittsburgh sophomore who set NCAA receiving records in his two college seasons, was declared eligible Thursday for the NFL draft.

The NFL's ruling came on the same day a federal judge opened the door for running back Maurice Clarett to turn pro despite playing only one season at Ohio State.

Under league rules, a player must be in college for three NFL seasons before he can be drafted. Fitzgerald left the Academy of Holy Angels in Minneapolis, Minn., midway through his senior year in 2001 and transferred to Valley Forge (Pa.) Military Academy to boost his grades for college eligibility.

"We're standing by."
EMphasis the doubles play as matches - they won all three, really solid doubles; it was a well. Captain Matthew Scott said. "There's a always a tradition of really solid doubles. It was a focal point in practice this week."

Irish coach Bobby Bayliss emphasized the doubles play as well. "We worked really hard on doubles," Bayliss said of his team's preparation this week. "Purdue just absolutely pulverized us last year in doubles matches — they won all three, and did so convincingly."

This year's matchup presents a special challenge to the Irish, as their No. 1 doubles team of Luis Haddock and Ryan Keckley will not be playing. Haddock will be playing for Puerto Rico in the Davis Cup and Keckley remains out with an ankle injury suffered against Duke. Ranked No. 18 nationally, Haddock and Keckley are also the No. 1 and No. 6 singles players, respectively. "The good news is that this is one of the deepest teams I've ever coached," Bayliss said. "We're filling their shoes with Matt Scott, who is capable of playing the No. 1 spot and is regaining the form he had. He played his best match in a long time against Duke, so I expect Matt to play extremely well."

Erie Langenkamp and Patrick Buchanan are also expected to see time to fill out the Irish roster. Langenkamp has yet to lose a match, and Buchanan won his singles match at No. 5 last year against Purdue in a 4-3 Irish victory. Bayliss expressed confidence in the ability of his freshmen and in the bottom part of the lineup for this weekend's match.

"Usually, when you lose a couple of players it's catastrophic, especially at No. 1," said Bayliss. "We're a stronger team with them, but I don't think that the task ahead of us is an impossible one. Scott agreed, as he and his teammates are ready for a tough match. "This is a very important match," Scott said. "We're just looking to go out there and hope for business. It's disappointing for us but I think presents a challenge and the team is ready to rise to the challenge and meet it."

But the Irish will have to do it without Haddock and Keckley. "It's some great motivation to beat a Big Ten team without two key players, a third of our starting lineup," said Bayliss. The Irish are set to face Purdue at 1 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Kate Gales at klgales@nd.edu

Irish face tough doubles test

By KATE GALE

NO. 49 Notre Dame faces another tough match this weekend, as they face No. 53 Purdue at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The Boilermakers will travel to Western Michigan on Saturday and then face the Irish on Sunday at 1 p.m. With a 2-0 record and wins against Ball State and Butler, the non-conference match to Purdue is not to be overlooked. A key point of this match will be doubles.

"Purdue always comes out strong when they play us especially in doubles," senior tri-captain Matthew Scott said. "There's always a tradition of really solid doubles. It was a focal point in practice this week."

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Contact Kate Gales at klgales@nd.edu

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Ivester dominates in 76ers’ home win

Allen Iverson 76ers guard

"We don't play with no heart, we don't take a challenge."

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — After ripping his team for having no heart, Allen Iverson showed they still have a pulse.

Iverson played one of his best offensive games of the season Thursday night, scoring 39 points to lead the struggling Philadelphia 76ers past the weary and depleted Los Angeles Lakers 96-73.

In a game that stayed competitive for only a few minutes, Iverson had his way against defender Derek Fisher and repeated­ly freed himself for mid­range jumpers and drives.

Iverson shot 15-for-29 from the field — missing his final four shots — and added six assists in one of the 76ers most lop­sided victories of the season.

The Lakers, playing their fourth road game in five nights and extra tired after arriving in Philadelphia around 4 a.m., lost Gary Payton to an ejection in a first quarter in which they scored just 10 points — matching their season low set earlier this week at Indiana.

Shaquille O’Neal missed 11 of 15 foul shots in the first half, finishing 3-for-15 from the line with 17 points.

The Lakers were supposed to be joined by Kobe Bryant, who was on the injured list with a lacer­ated finger. But Bryant deferred coach Phil Jackson and did not show up, leaving the team won­dering about his whereabouts until shortly before gametime.

Bryant’s agent said the Lakers that Bryant would join them in Orlando on the fifth stop of their seven-game road trip.

Glen Robinson added 26 points for the 76ers, who were ripped by Iverson two nights ago, and were also without point guard Trajan Langdon.

The Sixers led 44-29 at half­time behind 20 points from Iverson, and he reached 30 points with 3:35 left in the third quarter by hitting a 21-footer. Iverson quieted down for good with 4:02 remaining and the 76ers ahead 89-66.

"It's a very important match," Scott said. "We're just looking to go out there and hope for business. It's disappointing for us but I think presents a challenge and the team is ready to rise to the challenge and meet it."

But the Irish will have to do it without Haddock and Keckley. "It's some great motivation to beat a Big Ten team without two key players, a third of our starting lineup," said Bayliss. The Irish are set to face Purdue at 1 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Kate Gales at klgales@nd.edu

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The Actors From The London Stage
SMC BASKETBALL
Belles look to knock off Hope

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

After a demoralizing 65-42 loss to Calvin (16-3) at home, the Belles will have little time to recover as they go on the road to play the best team in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Saturday the Belles (6-14) will face MIAA leader Hope (19-2).

The momentum from a critical win Monday against Olivet failed to carry over into Wednesday's game against Calvin. Despite a second half comeback, the Belles only shot 27 percent from the field and the 36-18 halftime deficit proved to be too much to overcome.

In the Belles 67-64 victory against Tri-State Jan. 24, Emily Creachbaum led the team with 26 points. However, in the last three games, the Belles have had 23 turnovers and had difficulty finding open shots.

As a result, the bench has taken a more active role with strong efforts from Bridget Lipke, Anne Hogan and Bridget Boyce.

Against Olivet, the bench combined to score 33 points. As a result, the bench players saw nearly as much floor time as the starting five.

The Belles have had a problem with turnovers when they have played aggressive teams this year. In their loss to Calvin, the Belles had 23 turnovers and had difficulty finding open shots.

Hope's dominating offense will also provide a challenge for Saint Mary's, averaging 73 points per game this year. On the other hand, the Belles' offense has struggled this year and has averaged 58 points per game on 37 percent shooting.

Despite this, the Belles look to come away with an upset on Saturday. "A team that's such a good team, it's a little bit intimidating," guard Katie Miller said. "But we need to come out strong, win and have confidence in ourselves."

Contact Steve Coyner at scoyer@nd.edu

ND SWIMMING
Irish hope for dual meet wins

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The men's swimming and diving team hopes to secure a winning dual meet record for the seventh time in nine years when the Irish (6-7) play host to Cleveland State (9-2) tonight at 7 p.m. and Oakland (5-3) Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

While the Vikings have won their last four meets, the Irish have taken 16 of the last 17 meetings between the two schools, including each of the last eight.

"Cleveland State is a chance for us to even our record," head coach Tim Welsh said. "So far they've been having an excellent season. One of the interesting match-ups will be to see some of their speed against our depth."

In addition to the Cleveland State match-up, Welsh stressed the importance of the Oakland match because less than 24 hours later, "It's very important for us to be able to race at night and then the following day," Welsh said.

"This is set up for championship time, so we're eager to see that."

Last Saturday, Notre Dame won 11 of the 13 overall events to wrap up a 159-75 thrashing of St. Bonaventure (6-5) in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The meet's results were never in doubt as the Irish won each of the first ten events, including the top three spots in the first five.

"We're happy with how we swam and the way we raced," freshman Chris Zeches said. "We know that with two more weeks of rest we're going to be ready for go for Big East."

Irish Ted Brown (1,000-yard freestyle and 200-yard freestyle) and sophomore Jaime Lukus (200-yard individual medley and 500-yard freestyle) both won a pair of events.

Seniors Tim Keigelman (500-yard freestyle), Zeches (200-yard backstroke) and Scott Coyle (1-meter diving), sophomores Tim Randolph (100-yard freestyle) and senior J.R. Teddy (100-yard butterfly) each contributed with an individual event victory.

The women's squad looks to take care of Oakland in its final tune-up before the Big East Championships when the No. 21 Irish (7-2) welcome the Golden Grizzlies to the Rolfs Aquatic Center Saturday at 1 p.m.

"They have a pretty good team and always have some strong swimmers in the sprint events, which should present a different type of challenge for us," head coach Bailey Weathers said. "It will probably be a little bit closer as compared to last weekend's meets, but still a lot of fun for the girls."

Last Friday, the Irish won 11 overall events as they defeated two Big Ten squads on the road in East Lansing, Mich. Seniors Danielle Hullick (100 backstroke and 50 freestyle), Lisa Garcia (200 butterfly and 200 individual medley) and Meghan Perry Eaton (1 and 3-meter board) and freshman Katie Carroll (100 and 500 freestyle), each posted a pair of event victories as the Irish swam to wins over Michigan State and Ohio State, 160-138 and 194-105, respectively.

However, Notre Dame ran into trouble following the afternoon, but still a lot of fun for the girls."

Following this weekend, both the men and women will set their sights on the Big East Championships Feb. 19 to 21 in New York.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mmpugli@nd.edu
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Brian Grisham knew the school was looking for a replacement as head coach. He pointed the administration in the direction of then-associate head baseball coach Brian O'Connor, who for several years had been spoken of very favorably in college baseball circles as a young, talented coaching prospect.

"Over the past two or three years, Brian O'Connor got more and more recognition as a great baseball coach," Grisham recalled at the dinner. "This past summer, when Virginia decided to make a change, there were a few of us that thought we knew where to go."

The Cavaliers eventually lured O'Connor away from Notre Dame, with Irish head coach Paul Mainieri's blessing, and Grisham's ties to the Irish grew even stronger.

In fact, Grisham — for his part in helping steal O'Connor away from Notre Dame — joked that he felt obligated to speak at Thursday night's dinner. "I wanted to be here tonight, because I feel like I owe you one."

"The way Paul [Mainieri] was gracious enough to invite me, he said, "Although I did not grow up an ardent supporter of Notre Dame, I have become a huge fan of this baseball program."

Part of Grisham's support has come recently with his ties to Virginia — a school that is considered a northern program when it comes to baseball. The author understands the plight of northern schools like Notre Dame in trying to overcome obstacles such as wintry weather conditions, a late start to the season and recruiting difficulties stemming from their northern locations.

"Of course, it's been a rough adjustment for me as an enormous college baseball fan to belong to a northern school," Grisham said. "I've become very keenly aware of the unlevel playing field that exists when it comes to college baseball, and I hope that some day soon we can get a common start to make all things fair for us northern schools."

When the Irish overcame these obstacles in 2002 — earning their first No. 1 ranking and a trip to the College World Series for the first time since 1957 — Grisham was there cheering them on for northern schools everywhere that face similar problems.

"The real wakeup call came two years ago, when we looked up one morning and Notre Dame was No. 1 in the nation," Grisham remembered. "That was a huge moment, not just for you guys, but for a lot of us that realized it can be done. And when Notre Dame went to Omaha, and Nebraska was there too, we had two northern schools. We became rabid Notre Dame fans, because they were winning."

Grisham concluded his speech with a hopeful message for college baseball fans about the growth of the sport in the past two or a half decades. "It's become very rewarding in the past 25 years or so to see college baseball become such a popular sport," he said. "I think it's more popular now than it ever has been. The attendance figures go up every year. Attendance at the regionals and super regionals goes up every year, and crowds of 10,000 to 15,000 are not unusual at these events."

In his final message, Grisham appealed to local Notre Dame fans to take advantage of the Irish program and to support their team.

"You have great college baseball here. You have a wonderful program played by great kids and a wonderful coach," he said. "So I encourage all the fans to come out this spring and support the team, and I hope to see you in Omaha."

Notre Dame plays its first game Feb. 20, when the Irish take on San Diego State in Los Angeles.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu

Meet continued from page 28

Junior Tiffany Gunn and senior Kristen Dodd. Both are members of the 4x400 relay team that ranks first in the Big East. Gunn is also currently in the top ten in the conference in the 500 meters, 60-meter hurdles and the 400 meters. Dodd has already qualified for the conference meet in the 200 meters.

Molly Huddle and Lauren King have had much success in the distance events so far this season. Last weekend at the Notre Dame Invitational, Huddle broke her own school record in the 3,000 meters while King sped to the second-fastest mile in the country so far this season with a time of 4:45.61.

Both Huddle and King are returning All-Americans in their respective events and should be among the top athletes to watch at the meet this weekend.

On the men's side, distance runners Eric Morrison, Kaleb Van Ort and Todd Mobley will be ready to compete for the Irish, while the weight-throwing tandem of Juan Alba and Chip Roberts should hold their own.

Morrison spent last weekend with the distance medley relay team at the USA Track and Field Boston Indoor Meet. Both Van Ort and Mobley stayed at home last week and qualified for the conference championships.

Freshman pole vaulter Dave Viken is confident in his team's abilities heading into one of the biggest meets of the year. "We know we'll be facing some tough competition, but I feel the team is prepared and we'll be successful," Viken said.

Kaleb VanOrt, left, and Todd Mobley run the mile Jan. 23 at a home meet this season.

Viken has already qualified for the Big East Conference championships while his teammate, freshman Justin Oppel, won the pole vault in last week's meet. The top sprinter for the Irish men is Selim Nurudine. The junior has already qualified for the conference meet in the 60 meters, 60-meter hurdles and the 200 meters.

Senior Godwin Mbagwu will also be a contender as he currently leads the Big East in the triple jump and ranks fourth in the long jump.

Contact Mike Gillon at m agli on@nd.edu

2004 SUMMER RESIDENCE HALL STAFF

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Application deadline is February 13, 2004.

Kaleb VanOrt, left, and Todd Mobley run the mile Jan. 23 at a home meet this season.
Hockey
continued from page 28

behind Ohio State and Western Michigan for fifth place, and two points behind third-place Michigan State and Alaska Fairbanks.

Notre Dame earned three-of-four points against Alaska Fairbanks last weekend, devastating the Nanooks 3-2 on Friday and tying 2-2 Saturday. The Irish have two games in hand on Alaska Fairbanks and one on Western Michigan.

"From top to bottom, this is as competitive a league as I’ve seen," Poulin said. "The group in the middle that’s vying for home ice advantage in the playoffs — they’re all right there close to each other. Even the teams in the weaker half of the league are good teams that can beat any one.

The Irish will face a Miami team set on revenge for last season, when Notre Dame knocked the RedHawks out of the first round of the CCHA playoffs. The Irish fell behind in game one of the three-game series, with the Penalty kill currently on a game (14 straight kills) streak. Miami boasts one of the top power play units in the CCHA, connecting at a 21.2 percent clip, and it will be imperative for the Irish to stifle that unit.

"This is the traditional clash of offense versus defense." Poulin said. "But the best defense against a good power play is to not take penalties. The discipline is a real factor because when you’re killing three or four power plays rather than seven or eight, you’re a lot fresher and you make better decisions on the ice.

The Irish offense that averages 2.73 goals per game. "No matter where you play, scoring first is always a big part of getting a win. It’s important to come out and get some confidence, and get your team up on its toes and moving in the right direction," Poulin said.

Face-off for each game is scheduled for 7:35 p.m.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

Notre Dame travels to Miami of Ohio this weekend, where they face the CCHA leader in two games.
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The Observer

SPORTS

Friday, February 6, 2004

page 28

BASEBALL

For the love of the game
Grisham speaks of affinity for college baseball in opening dinner

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Writer

The 2004 Irish baseball season officially begins on Thursday night as the team hosted the Opening Night Dinner with guest speakers John Grisham and former Notre Dame All-American Steve Stanley.

Grisham, a rabid amateur baseball enthusiast and recent follower of the Notre Dame program, talked about his love of collegiate baseball and the role the sport has played throughout his life in the rural South.

"College baseball is fun to watch, and that is one of the reasons it's my favorite sport," the author said. "I go to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska, every chance I get just to watch great baseball. The reason I love the sport is that it's great baseball played by great players."

Grisham extolled the virtues of amateur baseball, especially on the collegiate level, for the great teams and respect the players have for their favorite past time.

"These kids respect the game, they know how to play it, they respect their schools and they're proud of their schools," Grisham said. "That's why I love college baseball. It's a great game, played by great kids at great schools like this.

The author contrasted the devotion that players on the collegiate level have to the game and to their schools with the selfishness and "me-first" attitude that often arises in professional baseball.

"College baseball players hustle, and for somebody that is a fan of the game, there is nothing so rewarding as to watch a kid hustle," he said. "And there is nothing more frustrating than to watch professionals who work in.""College baseball players play for the love of the game, they respect the game, and that's the cornerstone of college baseball."

In the last few years, Grisham has developed several ties to the Irish baseball program. The attraction started in the 2000 NCAA Regional hosted by Mississippi State in Starkville, Miss. The Irish were sent down South, and a scrappy Notre Dame team that would not be intimidated by the host team's home crowd almost knocked the Bulldogs out of the tournament.

The two schools played three grueling games in 24 hours before the Bulldogs eventually triumphed with a ninth-inning home run for a 10-9 win in the championship game. Grisham, a Mississippi State graduate, was unable to attend the regional that year, but he got a full report from friends and family about the feisty Irish team.

This past summer, with his son a member of the University of Virginia baseball team, Grisham has had success thus far, as they are currently ranked 21st nationally. They are led by see MEET/page 24

ND Women's Basketball

Defensive Irish go on the road

By HEATHER VAN HORGARDEN
Sports Writer

No. 23 Notre Dame looks for its sixth straight win as the Irish go on the road to face Seton Hall Sunday afternoon.

The Pirates (12-8, 4-5 Big East) come off a 64-40 loss to Virginia Tech, but hold an impressive 7-2 home record. Their only losses came against No. 4 Connecticut and Pittsburgh.

Meanwhile, the Irish have played outstanding defense in their past eight games, holding all but one opponent to 50 points or less in their seven wins. Notre Dame defeated Georgetown Wednesday night 69-44, holding the Hoyas to a season-low 29.6 percent shooting.

But Seton Hall is a defensive-minded team as well, as they only allow 56.6 points per game. Offensively, they average 61.4 points per game. Junior Ashley Bush leads the Pirates in scoring, averaging 10.4 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. However, she is the only Pirate with a double figure

Hockey

Irish travel to face first place Miami

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame has made a habit of relishing in the David role this season. This weekend they'll face another Goliath.

The Irish (13-9-4, 9-8-3 in the CCHA) travel to Oxford, Ohio, to face first place Miami this season. The RedHawks (16-9-3, 13-5-2 in the CCHA) are currently No. 7 in both national college hockey polls. To play the first place team in your conference at this point of the season is wonderful," Irish coach Dave Poelin said. "To play a similar style -- a real up-tempo, up-tempo brand of hockey. It should be a tremendous series."

Boston College, Maine and Wisconsin are three top-five teams that have already fallen to Notre Dame this season. For Miami to become the fourth, Notre Dame will have to defeat a RedHawks team on a five-game unbeaten streak, including a sweep of traditional powerhouse Michigan State last weekend.

"I think that's why you schedule a tough non-conference schedule, is for situations like this," Poelin said. "Miami, Miami is the best team in the conference right now, I know that they claim they don't get much respect, but I know there's not one person in our locker room who doesn't respect Miami."

The RedHawks currently sit in first place in the CCHA with 28 points, seven points ahead of the seventh place Irish. Notre Dame sits just one point

see HOCKEY/page 25

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

MEN'S TENNIS
Notre Dame vs. Purdue Saturday, 1 p.m.
The Irish face a tough matchup against the Boilermakers' doubles teams.

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SMC BASKETBALL
Saint Mary's vs. Hope Saturday, 3 p.m.
The Belles look to recover after a big loss to Calvin.

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ND SWIMMING
Notre Dame vs. Cleveland State Saturday, 1 p.m.
Notre Dame vs. Oakland Saturday, 1 p.m.

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SMC BASKETBALL
Saint Mary's vs. Hope Saturday, 3 p.m.
The Belles look to recover after a big loss to Calvin.

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NCAA BASKETBALL
Duke 83 North Carolina 81
No. 1 Duke prevailed in an overtime thriller in Chapel Hill.

page 20

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see HOCKEY/page 25

ND Track and Field

Irish host top teams at Invite

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Many of the top track squads in America will compet in the Loftus Sports Center this weekend as the annual Meyo Invitational begins tonight at 7 p.m. The two-day meet begins Friday morning at 10 a.m., with the finals beginning at 2 p.m.

Teams are expected to face off against strong competition on both the men's and women's sides. The meet favorite is Arkansas, ranked first in the men's poll and eleventh in the women's, followed by Texas Tech. Alabama, Georgia Tech, Wisconsin, Georgetown, Mississippi, Wake Forest, Maryland, Michigan State, Michigan, Butler, Ball State and Western Carolina headline the 63-team field.

The Irish women have had success thus far, as they are currently ranked 21st nationally. They are led by see MEET/page 24
February stretch make or break for the Irish

Mike Brey is not a coach normally given to superlatives. But ask the Irish basketball coach what he thinks of Notre Dame's February schedule, and Brey offers a weak smile. 'This is,' he said, 'the toughest February ever in this program's history.'

Just how tough is the gauntlet the Irish must run? The month's first seven games are all against teams whose RPI rating places them among the nation's top 30. After losing 76-69 to Boston College, the first team in that stretch, Wednesday night, Notre Dame faces a difficult stretch when they host Pittsburgh and Connecticut in a 48-hour span beginning Saturday.

Then, the Irish get the better part of a week off before hosting Seton Hall, but two days later, have to travel to Syracuse. Five days go by before the Irish have to play Connecticut — in Hartford, this time — and then host Providence. The murderous stretch concludes with a trip to Los Angeles to play UCLA.

It's enough to make any head coach whimper. And with the Irish (10-8, 4-3 in the Big East) teetering on the brink of failure to qualify for the NCAA Tournament, the Irish have to manage to get several quality wins during that span.

'It's another opportunity for us,' Torrian Jones said. 'It's going to do nothing but help us out. We're ready for the challenge, and we've shown glimpses of our talent this year.'

Notre Dame's current predicament is eerily similar to the one the Irish faced in Brey's first year and Jones' freshman year. Then, the Irish had suffered through an unimpressive December and January and were poised on the proverbial NCAA Tournament bubble. But Notre Dame reeled off eight straight wins to clinch the Big East West Division title.

The similarities are something Brey and Jones talk about privately, but rarely discuss with the rest of the team. 'We're a little younger this time around, and we have the talent,' Jones said. 'But the older guys have to step up and get that eight-game winning streak.'

'Leadership is what we need most right now,' Brey said.

Brey isn't so optimistic, but he knows Notre Dame needs many quality wins to improve their tournament resume. Notre Dame's RPI rating is 82nd in the nation. Come Selection Sunday, teams who have an RPI rank around 40 are often considered bubble teams.

'What's more, the Irish have yet to get a quality win this season,' Brey has heard a team ranked this year, and its most impressive win, RPI-wise, came Jan. 10 at Villanova, who is ranked No. 62.

All season long, Brey has defended the Irish against their tough schedule, saying that it wasn't important for Notre Dame to beat every top-five team on its schedule as long as they beat a few. But these wins have been lacking.

'Nobody is thinking about the NIT,' Jordan Cornette said defiantly. He didn't have to add that the Irish have enough on their minds already.

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Every Friday, while hostilities continue in Iraq, the 5:15 p.m. Mass at the Basilica will be offered for Peace.

Peace is a gift from God but it is also the result of human efforts.

Please join us each Friday for this special Mass.

On First Fridays, beginning this Friday, we will pray for and remember all who have died in the conflict in Iraq, especially innocent civilians, and we will pray, as well, for peacemakers and all who yearn for peace with justice for all God's people.

Listed below are the names of family members, friends and alumni of Notre Dame serving in the armed forces of the United States in the Middle East.

Jon Arras  Daniel Bradley  Rusty Clark  Dan Darke  Michael Ellis
Beau Arsenault  Mike Clow  Danny Fitzgibbon  E. Mark Gehl  Gabe Johnson
John Paul Arsenault  Mike Conway  Col. Mark Gehl  Richelle Collard  Valerie June
Phil Barr  Pfc. Ryley J. Cook  Drew Hackey  Tracee Lee  Anna King
Salmon Cooper  Jason Crum  Donny Hail  Jamie Limogoni  Nicole King
Brandy Begaye  Ryan Daley  Jonathan Hall  Brian Ling  Scott Menoher
Candice Benally  Chris Davis  Nathan Hall  Aaron Lloyd  Spence Miller
Wally Bishop  Charles Davis  Theresa Hansen  Shannon Manson  Andrew Mitchell
Sean Brennan  Brig. Gen. Martin  Shannon Marian  Tony Scardino  Andrew Mitchell
Josh Carlisle  Dempsey  Shanon Holman  Poase Marshner  Mark Patanella
Christopher Brown  Michael Dougherty  Emran Huda  Jeff Mayer  Greg Reynolds
Joshua Carulee  Bob James  Katie McCauldon  Andrew Mayer
Andree Carper  Casimir Drowleski  Bob James  Katie McCauldon  Katie McCauldon
Simeon Chelf  Chris Eden  Jason Jenson  Ian McEwan  Paul Tiskay

Immediately after the Mass for Peace this Friday and every first Friday, Campus Ministry and the Center for Social Concerns will co-sponsor a round table discussion on a theme related to the conflict immediately after the Mass at the Center for Social Concerns.

A simple meal will be served with conversation led by Assistant Theology Professor Margie Pfeil.

Please join us in prayer and worship at the Basilica, and for discussion and an exchange of viewpoints afterwards.
Tom Timmermans attempts a reverse layup around the Orangemen's Craig Forth.
THE IRISH

COACHING
Brey had led the Irish to three straight NCAA Tournaments in his first three years at Notre Dame. Yet he faces arguably his most difficult task this year in trying to get the Irish to make a fourth straight trip.

STYLE OF PLAY
There’s two themes here. Notre Dame often begins games trying to get the ball to Francis in the post. But as the game wears on, the Irish tend to move away from Francis and win games with their outside shooting.

POST PLAYERS
One of the best big men in the Big East. Francis is a formidable weapon if he gets his hands on the ball. Cornette and Timmermans have both been playing well late, and they’ve also had a strong physical presence inside and often out-rebounded their opponents.

PERIMETER PLAYERS
With Thomas struggling, Quinn has emerged as the center of Notre Dame’s offensive attack. Jones gives the Irish a slashing, penetrating attack when he moves to the basket, and he’s easily the team’s most vocal leader.

BENCH
The Irish have used largely a seven-man rotation all season. While Cornette and Timmermans have done well off the bench, Falls has yet to emerge as the third shooter he was purported to be.

INTANGIBLES
The Joyce Center is geared for big games, and Notre Dame’s student section is one of the loudest in the league. However, the Irish have struggled at home this season.

THE OPPONENTS

COACHING
In his first year at Pittsburgh, Dixon has kept the Panthers in the hunt for a Big East title. A large part of that has to do with Calhoun’s effective leadership.

STYLE OF PLAY
The Panthers play a style of basketball similar to Notre Dame’s, where they use the 3-point shot to beat teams from the outside. However, they also have a strong physical presence inside and often out-rebounded their opponents.

POST PLAYERS
Brown, Trueman and Taft compose the Panthers’ inside game. All three are shooting 50 percent or better from the field, and combined, they generate an average of 32 points a game.

PERIMETER PLAYERS
Page is far and away the deep threat of this year’s team. His range is equivalent to that of Irish graduate Matt Carroll’s, but he can also create shots off the dribble. The freshman Kruser, has performed well at the point guard spot all year.

BENC
The Panthers can go eight-deep with ease, and they have an interchangeable lineup that allows them to start different players in different nights with minimal drop-off. No bench player averages more than 10 points a game.

INTANGIBLES
One of the league’s toughest teams to beat at home, the Panthers have only played four games on the road this season. However, their team has a chance to challenge for a Big East title — something not lost on the Panthers when they play.

THE ANALYSIS

COACHING
Brey has been successful in the past, but he’s struggling to get this young team find its identity this year. Still, his counterattack is benefitting — largely — from a wealth of talent — it’s tough to say how much of an impact Dixon has had.

STYLE OF PLAY
Pittsburgh typically kills the Irish inside when the two teams meet, mixing a punishing inside game with a deadly perimeter attack. Yet if Notre Dame is hitting their shots and Francis is a presence inside the Irish can counter the Panthers.

POST PLAYERS
There’s no question Okafor is the Big East’s best big man. The only question that remains is if he’s the nation’s best big man. He shoots a whopping 61 percent from the field, averages a double-double each game, and has blocked 96 shots this year.

PERIMETER PLAYERS
Gordon is an effective perimeter player, shooting 43 percent from 3-point range but in also a great point guard. His complemented well by Brown, a slashing guard who picks the Huskies up on the rare occasion when Okafor and Gordon are off.

BENCH
Connecticut can go eight or nine players deep, running bodies at opposing teams to tire them out. Their depth is one of their greatest strengths, and defenses is a hallmark of Calhoun-coached teams.

INTANGIBLES
Ranked No. 1 in the nation for one point this year, the Huskies are a team on a mission. Okafor’s calm leadership helps guide Connecticut in close games, and the Huskies have only lost one game on the road this year.

ND-PITT

COACHING
Calhoun has made several trips to the Final Four, while Brey is still trying to get the Irish past the Sweet 16. Plus, while Brey is trying to sort out his team’s struggles, Calhoun has the Huskies running like a fine-tuned machine.

STYLE OF PLAY
It will be tough for the Irish to match up with either team’s scoring. Calhoun and Okafor’s inside-outside combo of Okafor and Gordon. Plus, Connecticut’s deep bench will hurt an Irish team that relies heavily on its starters for minutes.

POST PLAYERS
The matchup between Francis and Okafor and Gordon. Okafor is an incredible defender and rebounder who has excellent basketball knowledge the Irish have yet to demonstrate.

PERIMETER PLAYERS
As good as Thomas and Quinn can be when their shots are falling, the pair has yet to have good games in the same game. Jones may be called on to contain Gordon, but the Huskies must be too deep for Notre Dame’s guards to handle.

BENCH
Again, there is little doubt here who has the edge. Connecticut’s depth enables them to run bodies at teams, thus keeping the stars fresh on the switch. The Irish, however, look tired in close games because they lack the bench support.

INTANGIBLES
With a difficult game against Connecticut looming, the Irish will be eagerly motivated to get a win. Their NCAA Tournament hopes are staring to slip away, and this game against Pittsburgh — who the Irish almost beat — is a must-win.

ND-UCONN

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