Health care billing changes affect students

By LAURA VILIM

The University Health Center Pharmacy recently announced that Notre Dame students who fill their prescriptions at Osco Pharmacy will no longer be able to bill the cost of their medication to their student accounts, but will now have to bill their insurance company directly. The change in policy, which will go into effect May 1, results from the campus pharmacy’s decision to close its unique account with Osco that previously allowed students to fill prescriptions at the drug store and bill their student accounts in cases of emergency. Because the Osco pharmacist would contact a UHC pharmacist who would then bill the student’s account, this policy made it easier for students to pick up prescriptions quickly without having to present their insurance cards or pay out of pocket co-pays. However, this easier way to fill prescriptions began to be used more often than on the emergency basis for which it was intended. According to Notre Dame pharmacist Betsy Creary, the account created extra work for Notre Dame’s own pharmacists, who had to act as the middlemen between the pharmacist and the insurance company.

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IRAQ: ONE YEAR LATER

War media coverage shapes views

Embedded reporters travel with members of the Army in Iraq in March 2003. Journalists traveling with the military have provided "real time" coverage, but have also been the source of controversy due to a perceived bias in their coverage.

Hehir wins Laetare Medal

By KATE GALE

The University of Notre Dame's Laetare Medal was awarded to Father J. Bryan Hehir, president and treasurer of Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Boston on Sunday.

"Father Hehir has been exemplary in ministry, scholarship and administration alike," said University President Father Edward Malloy in a press release. "In honoring him and his service, we wish to refresh our vision of and renew our commitment to a just and compassionate society rooted in the dignity of all people."

"Father Hehir is a great example of service and dedication to the church and the people of God, especially the poor and people in need," said Father Peter Jarret, counselor to the president.

The Laetare Medal is the oldest and most prestigious award given to American Catholics. It was established in 1883, with notable past recipients including President John F. Kennedy, novelist Walker Percy and Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day.

"We just thought it was time (Hehir) was recognized for his incredible dedication and work," Jarret said on behalf of the selection committee.

Hehir was ordained in 1966 and was appointed to his current post of president and treasurer of Catholic Charities last January. Prior to this, Hehir served as executive director of Catholic Social Services for Miami-Dade County, Florida.

"I just thought it was time (Hehir) was recognized for his incredible dedication and work," Jarret said on behalf of the selection committee.

Council of Representatives

Members discuss constitutional revisions

By KATIE LAIRD

Members of the Council of Representatives met Monday to discuss new revisions to the Student Union Constitution that will be voted on next week. Possible changes range from the opening of new positions and the setting of a universal meeting procedure in student government that will follow certain guidelines outlined in Robert’s Rules. A rough draft of the constitution was passed out, and COR members discussed the effectiveness of the new changes. One issue that was discussed...
Queen Week fun

Imagine 60 girls shoveling huge bowls of ice cream down their throats as fast as possible — all in preparation for their formal at the end of the week.

Imagining the making-of session as balls are thrown, and the once-friendly section rivalries escalate into an intense game of dodgeball.

"Ah, yes, I think I'm finally getting a sense of what it's like to live in Dujac Hall.

For the next week, or so I'm told, schoolwork is to be pushed aside in Pasquerella West and section activities take top priority.

With the movie Jaws as my section's theme, we stress over our professional lives may not allow for us to be such goofballs.

Early in the afternoon.

Events and it's this enthusiasm and energy that sets Notre Dame apart.

And there will be pictures as proof lest we ever deny this moment.

"It would help boost my attendance."

So, we came and we went and we fought for our yearly goodbye.

My friends at state schools often don't know what will. And there will be pictures as proof lest we ever deny this moment.

But, I couldn't ask for a better ride.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Annie Brusky at abrusky@nd.edu

Corrections

Due to a reporting error in the March 22 issue, the last name of Dr. Coll. David C. Corby was incorrectly spelled in the article "Students cope with family in Iraq."

In the March 22 issue, Jacqueline Barrett's first name was misspelled in the caption on page 28.

Inside Column

QUESTION OF THE DAY: SHOULD ND CANCEL ALL CLASSES BEGINNING BEFORE 9:30 A.M.?

"Sure."

"There's a class before 9:30."

"It would help boost my attendance."

"Why not?"

"Huh?"

"Yes, to pass my classes."

Offbeat

Wells Fargo CEO invents fictional band to motivate employees

ST. PAUL — Most likely you've never heard of a band called Dick K. and the Revolving Loaners. It is also doubtful you have seen Center Stage play.

But if you work for Wells Fargo & Co. in the Midwest, you may have.

Center Stage is a real band, made up of Wells Fargo employees who play at company events. Dick K. and the Revolving Loaners is a fictional group — "led" by Wells Fargo CEO Dick Kovacevich and including seven Twin Cities-based Wells executives — that was invented as a part of an internal motivational campaign.

The communications campaign was designed by Wells Fargo to make work fun and to reinforce Wells Fargo's mission to its more than 28,000 employees in eight Midwest states, including Minnesota.

The yearlong campaign centers on the fictional "Rock the Stagecoach" tour of the fictitious Revolving Loaners. The bank's corporate logo is a stagecoach. A poster for the "tour" features Kovacevich decked out as a hip singer and the other execs in business garb, singing or playing instruments.

"We wanted something fresh and fun," said regional president Jon Campbell in Minneapolis, who oversees the eight-state Midwest region for Wells Fargo. "It's always been part of our values to have fun, but we slip sometimes with all the other things we have to do."

The timing for something new seemed right since Campbell last year added new employees in North Dakota and South Dakota to his group, he said.

In Brief

John Unsworth, dean of the Graduate School of Library Information Science at the University of Illinois will give a lecture entitled "Variations on Open Access" today from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

The mechanical engineering honors society, Pi Tau Sigma, is sponsoring a blood drive today from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students can donate in 217 Cushing Hall.

Tomie DePaola, children's book author and illustrator will hold a presentation and book signing today from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hames Notre Dame Bookstore.

International Student Services and Activities will be showing the Chinese film "Shower" in room 117 DeBartolo tonight at 7 p.m. as part of the International Film Festival.

The Kroc Institute will sponsor "Just Peacemaking Theory: A Better Approach to Terrorism?" today at 4:15 p.m. in room 103 of the Hesburgh Center. The lecture will be given by Glen Stassen, Smedes Professor of Christian Ethics at the Fuller Theological Seminary and visiting Kroc fellow.

As part of Disabilities Awareness Week, a panel discussion will be held today at 8 p.m. at Reckers. Students with disabilities, as well as those who have siblings with disabilities, will share their stories.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer@nd.edu.
Welsh Family wins contest

Dorm with greatest energy reduction awarded cash

By JOE TROMBELLO
Assistant News Editor

In the dorm energy conservation contest held last month sponsored by the Students for Environmental Action, Welsh Family Hall reduced their total energy output by 8,310 kilowatt-hours as compared to February 2003. This was enough to secure the dorm first place and a $1000 cash prize, according to club co-president Virginia Kelly.

Kelly said the total amount of energy reduction by all dorms was nearly 42,000 kilowatt-hours, an amount she called "pretty significant."

Badin and McGlinn took second and third places respectively. Family Hall reduced their total energy consumption by nearly 42,000 kilowatt-hours, an amount she called "pretty significant."

Some dorms experienced an increase in energy consumption, a factor that Kelly attributed to a variety of factors. Differences in energy consumption habits of people who reside in each dorm and dorms that might have increased the number of residents could not be directly assessed by the contest.

Overall, however, Kelly said that she was very pleased with the student response to the contest.

"I hope students just learned to be aware of [the energy that they are using]... and the simple things that are really painless to decrease energy consumption," she said.

Kelly said she heard through word of mouth that some dorms were making a particular push to notify residents, including providing information about the contest in their hall notes and getting the word out to other residents in their sections.

Chau Nguyen, the environmental commissioner from Welsh Family Hall, said that she and other residents specifically pushed energy conservation for the contest. Although she said she continually promoted conservation by making signs to remind residents of ways to reduce their energy use, she said she made a special effort in February.

"We really emphasized it," Nguyen said.

Nguyen notified residents of the contest through hall council and also encouraged residents at the meeting to spread the word to other people in their sections. She made signs and even placed index cards on radios in each section's room to remind residents to turn off their radios when they were done using them.

"I feel like there is always something you can do to improve," she said. "The little things will help make a difference."

Nguyen said dorm residents frequently would leave radios, lights and their computers on when not in use, actions that she tried to encourage residents to reduce.

Nguyen was surprised, but pleased, that her dorm won the contest.

"I'm still really surprised and proud," she said. "I just [didn't] think we'd make that big of a difference in one month and conserve that much energy."

Nguyen said the money would be put back into the environmental committee and would possibly be used to partially fund the events they have planned for Earth Day. She said that as a freshman, she strove to become active in campus life and believes that serving as her dorm's environmental commissioner was a good way to get involved.

"I always wanted to be involved [and] do something in the dorm," she said. "I wanted to be more aware of it [energy conservation] for myself and thought it (being environmental commissioner) was a good way to be more active," she said.

The club has several events planned for the remainder of the semester, including a panel discussion on the environmental policies of the 2004 presidential candidates that will probably occur on Earth Day, April 22, as well as a neighborhood clean-up and tree-planting day that will probably occur in late April.

Contact Joe Trombello at jtrobelo@nd.edu.

Campus Life Council

Group updated on projects, successes

By ANDREW THAGARD
Assistant News Editor

Campus Life Council members received updates on various ongoing projects and the success of alcohol awareness week during Monday's short meeting.

With only a few meetings remaining in the semester, Jeremy Lao, student body president and CLC chairman, announced that the council would focus most of its energy on laying the foundation for a successful argument to establish a mandatory, semester long social awareness class that teaches students about racial, cultural and religious diversity.

The class would also address other topics.

"We decided we're going to spend the six weeks (remaining in the semester) to come up with... a plan of action so the next group of CLC members will take this on as a priority next year," Lao said.

"I'm still really surprised and proud," she said. "I just [didn't] think we'd make that big of a difference in one month and conserve that much energy."

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Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

Examine.

No Greater Love: Pray.

A Notre Dame day of prayer, music, & renewal.

No Greater Love is a half-day retreat open to the entire Notre Dame community. It is designed for those who hunger for new ways to deepen their relationship with God by exploring a variety of prayer styles and traditions. Join us in this opportunity to reflect on the unconditional love God offers us through his son, Jesus.

~Saturday, March 27th
~1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
~Coleman-Morse Lounge
~No Sign-up Necessary!

For more information contact Keara Coughlin at 631-3389 or kcoughli@nd.edu or visit us online at campusministry.nd.edu
Council continued from page 1
was whether or not future COR meetings should be closed to the public.
Emily Chin, the student body vice-president, explained that closed-door meetings are more effective.
"The dynamic of the group totally changes... it's so much more productive," she said.
People are more open.
Student Union President Charlie Ebersol disagreed.
"Most of you people are publicly elected officials... [We are representing a constituency... they should be open]," Ebersol said. "Closed doors equal decision. Period. It's a bad idea."
James Leito, sophomore class president, agreed with Ebersol, saying, "I am willing to speak my mind whether The Observer is here or not."
Members also discussed creating a main government Web site with links to Senate, Hall Presidents Council, OIT, Office of the President, and the Student Union Board.
A new position entitled the Student Union Web site Administrator would be in charge of updating and maintaining the Web site which includes student organizations, events and other activities of various student government meetings.
The proposed constitution states that the Web site will facilitate communication and collaboration among student groups and "effectively publicize all student group events and programs to the student body."
Director of Student Activities Brian Coughlin explained that currently this is the role of the Under the Dome Calendar sponsored by Student Activities. However, it has not been in service for the past couple of weeks due to technical difficulties.
"Unlike the University calendar, with the Under the Dome Calendar, anybody and anything can be on it," Coughlin explained.
COR plans to meet twice more this week to discuss several more revisions to the constitution. The meetings will take place Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m. The final changes will be made in next week's meeting.

Osco continued from page 1
Osco and the students' insurance companies.
"The account) was being used beyond the purpose for which it was intended," Creary said. "It became too much to manage."
Creary emphasized the fact that students are not being charged more for prescriptions under the new policy, and their insurance companies will still be paying the same costs. The change that was made was to set up a separate account to pay for the difference between the insurance companies and the pharmacy.
"Students who are taking medication, the need is to bring a personal insurance card to Osco when presenting a prescription and have the pharmacy settle co-payments directly at the pharmacy. Then when the prescription is filled, students can also pay for their medication when they pick up their medication. In addition, the prescription can then file independently with their insurance companies.
The policy toward Osco is thus very similar to the ones the pharmacy has with other drugstores in the area.

Irag continued from page 1
more time devoted to reporting that news. Cable news stations like CNN, Fox News and MSNBC presented nearly 24-hour coverage of the conflict and the events leading up to it, and a proliferation of internet news sources offered different perspectives that challenged the main-stream media coverage.
At the same time, Sieber said, the public was forced to take the initiative and consult multiple sources if it wanted to obtain truly balanced news.
"It's very important for every person to pay attention and not just get their news from one source," he said.
Coverage in 'real time'
The media coverage of the Iraq War also differed from previous conflicts in its ability to provide information on events in 'real time,' according to Jack Colwell, an American Studies professor and columnist for the South Bend Tribune.
"People are seeing instantly what is going on and they're reacting instantly as a result," he said.
"They're going to watch CNN cross country for several days for dispatches to arrive to the United States.
"Osco is a bit like a Vietnam," Sieber said, reports on battles were often presented two or three days after they occurred due to the lengthy editing, editing and transporting process. He added that today the presence of so-called embed journalists and new technology allows the American public to get up close and personal with the conflict and watch aspects of a war from their living rooms never before seen.
"I think it's going to be something different as we enter the 'postmedia' in the future," Golow said.
At the same time, however, Sieber said that instant coverage often provides excessive detail that does not always contribute to the bigger picture.
"The nice thing about (the older system) was you had two or three eyes or gatekeepers to look at it [to evaluate its importance]," he said. "Now you've got a reporter corresponding from the back of a... tank in the desert of Iraq. It's riveting; it gives you a perspective of what it's like but does it really tell you about the overall conflict?"

News media making news
Perhaps most interestingly, coverage of the Iraq War was characterized not only by news of the conflict but also by conflict created by the news media itself.
Celebrity journalist Rivera drew the ire of the U.S. military early in the war when he maneuvered for his camera team to film the ground as he drew a map of Iraq in the sand and outlined the movements of American troops. The reporter subsequently announced that he would continue his coverage of the war from Kuwait.
The BBC also came under fire in January after a judicial inquiry criticized its journalistic integrity when it used false information to accuse the British government of arming the Iraqi regime with missiles; instead it was the BBC's own weapons of mass destruction. When the news reached the public, five Sunday morning talk show editors resigned and forced the organization's leadership to publicly apologize to British Prime Minister Tony Blair.
"It's something you don't expect from the BBC," Golow said. "It's [problematic] when you have one of the most respected news agencies involved in something like this."
Both he and Sieber, however, agreed that the incident alone would likely not have long term adverse effects on the public's perception of the media.
Biased coverage?
Siegell said the old system of coverage was biased; however, the event provides further proof of the existence of biased media coverage of the conflict, though the direction of the perceived bias depends on who is asked.
In an article posted on the Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR) organization's Web site, for example, the trade magazine Editor and Publisher accuses The New York Times of downplaying anti-war sentiment.
Additionally, a study by the University of Maryland's Center for International and Security Studies concluded that media coverage of the war failed to adequately challenge information provided by the Bush administration.
"Too many journalists acted as virtual stenographers for the current administration, in effect validating President Bush's link-age of terrorism, Iraq and weapons of mass destruction," Susan Mueller, director of the study, told Ascribe Newswire.
At the same time, the Bush administration has leveled its own criticisms against the media, charging that it excessively dwells on negative aspects of the campaign while routinely ignoring its positive benefits.
"This war has produced [an] incredible vantage point for people to set their own agenda," Sieber said.
Those who were watching the conflict in their living rooms never before were often presented two or three days after they occurred due to the lengthy editing, editing and transporting process. He added that today the presence of so-called embed journalists and new technology allows the American public to get up close and personal with the conflict and watch aspects of a war from their living rooms never before seen.
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Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

Ballroom Dance Club
This week learn how to
Samba
(no partners or experience needed)
Tuesday, 7:30-8:45 pm
301 Rockne - 54
Advanced Class: HUSTLE!
Sponsored by the ND/SMC Ballroom Dance Club
We've changed our name!
OIT's Multimedia and Event Services is now Academic Media Resources
Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pakistanis uncover terror tunnel

While a top Pakistani official claimed on Monday that authorities had evidence that a terror tunnel stretching from Pakistan to Afghanistan had been uncovered, a U.S. official said the U.S. government had no proof that the tunnel had a link to Osama bin Laden or al-Qaeda.

The discovery of the tunnel was a significant blow to the Taliban, which has been fighting the Afghan government for more than a decade. The Taliban has been linked to al-Qaeda, which is believed to be behind the 9/11 attacks.

The tunnel was discovered by Pakistani security forces during a military operation in the Waziristan region, near the border with Afghanistan. The tunnel is thought to be used by foreign fighters who are able to enter and leave the region without detection.

Officials in Washington said they were not sure if the tunnel was used by al-Qaeda or the Taliban. The U.S. government has been fighting the Taliban for more than a decade and has been unable to bring about a political solution to the conflict.

The discovery of the tunnel is likely to increase tensions between the United States and Pakistan, which has been a key ally in the fight against terrorism.

chiefs of security for the tribes.

Afghan troops battle warlord

In southern Afghanistan, Afghan forces have been battling warlord Ahmad Shahmassoud, who is thought to be backing the Taliban. The warlord is thought to be behind the attack on a U.S. military base in Kandahar.

The warlord has been fighting the Afghan government for more than a decade and has been linked to the Taliban. The warlord is thought to be behind the attack on a U.S. military base in Kandahar.

The warlord is thought to be behind the attack on a U.S. military base in Kandahar.

National News

Bush admin defends terror record

President Bush defended his administration's record on terrorism on Monday, saying that it had taken steps to prevent future attacks.

The president said that his administration had taken steps to prevent future attacks, including the creation of a new Department of Homeland Security.

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State News

Gypsy moths bug state officials

In Indiana, state officials are warning residents about the spread of gypsy moths, a pest that can cause serious damage to crops and forests.

The gypsy moths are a serious pest in Indiana, where they have been found on trees and shrubs. The insects can cause serious damage to crops and forests.

The insects can cause serious damage to crops and forests.

Nichols begins trial in Okla. blast

Timothy McVeigh, who was convicted in the Oklahoma City bombing, is set to be tried in Oklahoma City on Monday for the 1995 bombing.

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Pro-life
continued from page 1
use of graphic anti-abortion imagery to post-abortion counseling. The conference was co-sponsored by the Student Activities Office and the Knights of Columbus.
One of the speakers was Vicki Thorn, the founder of Project Rachel, a Catholic ministry that offers counseling to those affected by abortion, including women who have had abortions. Thorn founded the ministry in Milwaukee in 1984, and has since spread to more than 110 dioceses across the country. In her remarks, Thorn discussed the psychological and physical problems women often face after abortions.
Thorn told women who have abortions frequently encounter emotional problems following the procedure, a phenomenon Thorn attributes to the natural bond between a mother and her fetus.
"By the fifth week, there is an infinite number of messages from the mother to the child through the cells," Thorn said.
"The messages begin at conception."
The she said post-abortion women are three times more likely to commit suicide than women who have never been pregnant, and six times more likely than women who have had induced abortions.
Thorn added that under the age of 18 who have abortions, "We are witnesses to a higher-than-normal risk of developing breast cancer.
"Terry said the week-end's events were successful.
"We were all so happy with the way the conference turned out," Daubenschaf said. "It was great."
Galgano agreed, saying the conference will lead to stronger pro-life sentiment at Notre Dame.
"I was really encouraged by the number of students that came to the talks, as well as their enthusiasm," Galgano said.
"We have a very strong core group of people who are ready to be leaders." The more activities we do, the more people we will get for support for the pro-life movement.
One of those activities will be held Apr. 22-24 in Washington, D.C., where a conference from the Right to Life Club will participate in Operation Witness. The event is a large protest meant to counter pro-choice demonstrations held that day. Pro-life organizers have received permits to assemble on sidewalks along the parade routes.
"I think our goal is to sponsor a huge event.
"We're sending out twelve people, and they're shooting for a few hundred thousand," Galgano said.
Contact Matt Bramanti at mb Bramanti@nd.edu

Pastors rally against gay marriage

ATLANTA—From the cradle to the grave, the civil rights movement, severe hundred black pastors are voicing their opposition to the gay marriage movement and rhetoric that equates it with the struggle for racial equality. The pastors rallied last Monday at an Atlanta-area church where they signed a declaration outlining their beliefs on marriage and religion. They are pressing for a state constitutional ban on gay marriages, which will be considered again by the Georgia House as soon as this week.

"We're being attacked by the same people who divide us," the Rev. Paul Turner, a gay pastor from Atlanta who helped organize last month's rally. "This is just a way for those in power to suit the preference of the black community to say, 'Look, this isn't a matter of civil rights because we're black and we didn't have a choice in being black.' And they think gays do, and that's not true," Turner said.

Some same-sex marriage is already illegal in Georgia, but supporters of the ban say the constitution needs to be changed to make sure a judge does not strike down Georgia to recognize gay marriages performed in other states.

Anyone interested in running for Off-Campus President, Off-Campus Senator, or Off-Campus Programmer needs to inform the Judicial Council immediately.

Contact:
Judicial Council
jcouncil@nd.edu
or
call 631-7668 asap.
The retail store in the Snite Museum of Art closed its doors Friday afternoon, after years of faltering sales. The shop struggled to attract pedestrian traffic after nearby parking spaces were removed during the expansion of Notre Dame Stadium.

The store did not make a profit, Knoll said. She said plans for the new museum include a "much larger shop" and a cafe or restaurant, but the plan has not been set in stone.

"We're really deeply in need of gallery space as the collection continues to expand," Knoll said. The store was a "valiant" review of the collection's effectiveness, which criticized the lack of space available to show the museum's growing collection of works on paper. The collection includes photographs, drawings, and prints.

"The best use of that retail space was to turn it into a gallery," Knoll explained. The store had also been hit by competition from the Hammers Notre Dame Bookstore, a facility that is more than 150 times larger than the Snite's shop.

"We were really feeling the effects of the bookstore," Knoll said. "It's hard to compete with them." Knoll praised the efforts of the store's manager, Iris Menzing, who will take early retirement as a result of the closing.

"It's not her fault...she has tried very valiantly," Knoll said. "We wish her well."

The 400-square-foot store, discreetly tucked in a corner of the museum near the entrance, opened in 1986, operating nearly 18 years until its demise.

"It will be down by the new campus master plan," Knoll said. "We've asked to be down by the new DeBartolo Performing Arts Center." She said plans for the new museum include a "much larger shop" and a cafe or restaurant, but the plan has not been set in stone.

"When it will be constructed is anybody's guess," Knoll said.

Contact Matt Bramanti at mbramanti@nd.edu

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**BUSINESS**

**MARKET Recap**

**Stocks**

| Dow Jones | 10,064.75 | -128.15 |

**S&P 500**

| Company | 1,095.40 | -14.34 |

**NASDAQ**

| Company | 1,909.90 | -30.57 |

**NYSE**

| Company | 6,404.27 | -97.26 |

**AMEX**

| Company | 1,239.19 | -13.31 |

**FTSE 100(London)**

| Company | 3,433.80 | -83.90 |

**Commodities**

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**COMPANY Briefs**

Walgreen profits jump in Q2

CHICAGO — Another quarter of soaring prescription drug sales lifted Walgreen Co. to a 17 percent profit increase in the second quarter — the latest evidence that rapid expansion is paying off for the nation's largest drugstore chain.

Walgreen's earnings came in slightly below Wall Street's high expectations Tuesday and already have people getting married later in life, per­haps for a second time, and already have the company to enhance its relationship with cus­tomers, even if it isn't a boon for the bottom line. The initiative will be formally launched Tuesday.

The home improvement chain says it is banking on its research showing that more people are getting married later in life, per­haps for a second time, and already have small appliances, fine china and cutlery.

**ENERGY**

**Retail**

Snite store goes out of business

Art museum shop had been plagued by low customer traffic, space pressures

By MATT BRAMANTI

The store in the Snite Museum of Art has discon­nected a second time, and already have the company to enhance its relationship with cus­tomers, even if it isn't a boon for the bottom line. The initiative will be formally launched Tuesday.

The home improvement chain says it is banking on its research showing that more people are getting married later in life, per­haps for a second time, and already have small appliances, fine china and cutlery.

**Shell to trim Nigerian operations**

Shell announced an additional cut to its global reserves on Thursday. The company's revised reserves. Shell also faces a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into its accounting for its reserves.

Reserves constitute an energy company's most valuable asset, and any reclassification of reserves is less certain categories is a major concern for investors.

**Shell's managing director, Chris Finlayson, said the reclassification of reserves" was a "major concern for investors."**

**Religious Press**

Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria — Oil giant Royal Dutch/Shell said Monday it plans to streamline its operations in this West African nation, cutting jobs even as its plans to boost oil production by half a million barrels daily.

Rival ethnic groups in the oil rich Niger Delta — where the bulk of Shell's oil is drilled — responded by threatening to force Shell to close oil production facilities if any of their people lose jobs. Since last year, the militants have captured several international oil facilities, forcing the closure of sites producing hundreds of thousands of barrels of crude daily in both the United States.

The disclosure of streamlining plans in Nigeria comes as the government tries to con­tain the fallout from its recent reduc­tions in its estimates of proved reserves of oil and natural gas around the world. Shell reduced its estimate of reserves in Nigeria by 1.3 billion barrels in January, as part of a larger reclassifi­cation of 3.9 billion barrels in its reserves. The company announced an additional cut to its global reserves on Thursday.

The January reductions caused a shareholder uproar that led to the resignations of chairman Sir Philip Watts and its head of exploration and pro­duction.

The company has also postponed the release of its annual report to give independent auditors time to review the company's reserves. Shell also faces a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into its accounting for its reserves.

Reserves constitute an energy company's most valuable asset, and any reclassification of reserves is less certain categories is a major concern for investors.

The New York Times reported Friday that Shell had kept secret key details of the January downgrading of reserves, especially those concerning Nigeria. The newspaper quoted "confidential documents" from late 2003 as showing that 60 percent of Shell's Nigerian reserves didn't meet widely accepted accounting standards for proved reserves.

But Emmanuel Adegbor, a spokesman for Nigeria's ministry of petroleum, said earlier Friday that any confusion about the size of Shell reserves in Nigeria has arisen because the company "lumped together" data about its reserves in different countries before submitting it to financial regula­tors in the United States.

"Nigeria's reserves are proven and they're not of a questionable nature. Our reserves are near proven and that's the truth," Adegbor said.

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MADRID — A Spanish judge charged four more suspects early Tuesday with terrorism and mass killings for alleged roles in a string of railway blazes that killed thousands of people.

The charges against the three Moroccans and one Spaniard followed hours of interrogation and brought to nine the number of suspects charged in the March 11 terror attack.

The court action came as outgoing Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar defiantly declared that he has no regrets over supporting the Iraq war, adding that his son's new plan to likely pull troops from Iraq would weaken the international coalition against terrorism.

Aznar's party suffered a surprise electoral rout in Spain on Sunday as the center-right ruling coalition realized a massive defeat amid charges that it was aılıng responsible for his party's loss.

Joseph del Olmo charged Spaniard Jose Emilio Suarez, accused of providing explosives for the March 11 attacks with 190 counts of murder, 1,430 counts of terrorism and 900 counts of terrorism and weapons charges, with being held but haven't been formally accused.

Aznar, who has been in office for 13 years, said he was happy with his job and was quoted as saying that he was happy with his job and has been working '24/7'.

The allegations that there is a link between the Iraq war and the March 11 attacks have led to the arrest of several people in the last days, including a former policeman.

Stanescu was among the Tens of thousands of Romanian Jews sent to the camps. Most of the deportees died, but executions and other brutalities continued.

The Gypsies were used as slaves by the Nazis and their allies, forced to work on farms, subjected to extensive forced labor, and subjected to forced labor, including the use of children as slave laborers.

The Gypsies were also known, for their suffering in the camps, as the 'Gypsies of Auschwitz'.

The Gypsies are still not recognized as a distinct ethnic group, and their rights are still not protected by law.

The report also predicted the trend could reverse if AIDS education programs are expanded successfully in developing countries, and pointed to positive signs in Thailand, Senegal and Uganda, nations in which the AIDS epidemic appears to have been stemmed.

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The Notre Dame Law School Natural Law Institute presents

The 2004 Natural Law Lecture

Morning-after Pills, "Miscarriage" and Muddle: The Judicial Decriminalization of Pre-implantation Abortion

John Keown
Rose Kennedy Professor of Christian Ethics
Kennedy Institute of Ethics
Georgetown University

Wednesday, March 24, 2004
4 p.m.
Notre Dame Law School Courtroom
When I chose to come to Notre Dame, two main attributes influenced my thinking: its Catholic foundation and its prestige. In my Jesuit educated, black Catholic, 18-year-old mind I figured this University would be an adequate fit for my intellectual curiosity and social concerns. These past two years have marginally refuted those hopes, yet I hold onto the future benefits, the excellent education and good reputation Notre Dame stood to deliver. Yet, even that vision is not a definite possibility. I am not one of the wealthy students. The contribution of generous benefactors and substantial sacrifices by my family enable me to attend school. Mounting tuition makes me apprehensive about my ability to complete my studies, driving me to look for outside sources of funding, receiving amounts of debt or disadvantage to my loved ones.

Tuition of prestigious universities climbs higher each year across the board. Yet, my是怎样 at the 6.0 per cent tuition hike here stems from the revelation of a better and more just way for low income students like myself to access accredited college programs: the Harvard way.

Last month, Harvard announced a new financial aid and admissions initiative to ease the burden of low-income students, increase economic class diversity and enrich its local community relations. Harvard students from incomes under $40,000 will pay nothing towards tuition and others with incomes falling between $40,000 and $60,000 will receive a substantial increase in financial aid.

Admissions department will vigorously encourage low-income students who would normally never consider Harvard to apply to. Lastly, to revitalize their position in the Boston community, Harvard will institute the Crimson Summer Academy for outstanding high school students from low-income families. The program offers no-cost, peer interaction, mentoring and encouragement to make colleges reachable and useful. Not only is this delightful program free, but Harvard also will pay for the student’s transportation costs, medical insurance and meals, provide a stipend to cover forgone summer wages and reward accomplishments at year-end with any program.

Through this decision, Harvard is recognizing class as an important aspect of a student’s academic persona and breaking down barriers for a group of eager and widely neglected students. In many discussions with professionals here, I have gotten the sense Notre Dame harbors some Harvard envy. Could our school ever be as forward thinking? Harvard does not want to see students from the bottom class raise academic level not best? Yet, as a Catholic institution, Notre Dame ought to fill its own authentic niche, which I feel is currently lacking in many parts.

Catholicity in general, and Catholicism in particular, has rich working and lower class origins. The New Testament, the foundation of our faith, depicts a new world order and the process by which we can arrive there. The Gospels call Christians to be bearers of goodwill, advocates for peace and promote for economic justice. The revolutionary message of Jesus attracted followers from the underside of women and the poor and who the faith into this ideology based on the dignity and beauty of all personality — on property, wealth holdings.

Catholicism all over the world reaches out to marginalized and oppressed, not only with spiritual relief. People of faith immerse themselves in struggling communities, becoming one with the poor and working alongside them to bring about changes. Poor and lower class origins, evident in the extraordinary lives of Archbishop Oscar Romero and Dorothy Day, two of the greatest examples of the Catholic existence.

As administrators resist pleas for certain programs by asserting the need to maintain the Catholic nature of this school, I see it as a self-sacrificial nonsense. A school with a sizeable business school, ROTC program, un-united workers and a wealthy student body seems pretty secular to me. I say, put your policies where your mouth is and make this University a beacon for Catholic Social Teaching and their appeal to the society of the world, which ought to be highlighting instances of injustice, campaigning against war, eradicating poverty and cooperating with organizing drives for worker’s rights. Things like the Preferential Option for the Poor, radicalism and Conscientious Objection say Catholicism to me, but certainly not to Notre Dame.

I call the University to adopt a financial aid program like Harvard’s, to give lower income students a chance to study here. Economic downturns may shake our $3 billion-plus endowment and merit tuition hikes, but I call you to think of what a fulfilling and unfair economy does to low income families with zero assets. There is no comparison with the level of damage experienced.

Without help, an entire class of Americans is denied access to schools like Notre Dame. To allow this to happen is an atrocious sin and a rejection of our Christian call. So, let’s chase Harvard, if not for this one because love can never be lost, the field, easing the burden on the poor and promising justice is such a Catholic thing to do.

Kamaria Porter, a sophomore history major, would like to thank Mr. Larry Costin, Mr. Sturm, Mr. and Mrs. Connelly, Ms. G. Burger and Ms. Porter. Her every effort is to merit their generosity. Contact Kamaria Porter at kporter7@college.harvard.edu.

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

In gratitude for solidarity

I would like to thank all who participated in "Gay, fine by me" and attended the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) Issues forum last week. As a student leader from a peer institution, I was delighted to be a part of such a great series of events. I believe that both "the shirt" campaign and the forum represent the strength that many at your University are willing to begin talking about. This truly is a wonderful starting point that will allow the University to first serve those who need it most.

I would like to quickly address a correction to a misprint in The Observer as well. I truly support the right and ability to convey that the staff has given to the past week’s events, but I would also like to correct a quote that was printed. In the article regarding the forum, it states that I said, "I said that "justice comes from recognition." I stated, which was also the theme of my address, that "acceptance comes from recognition." Again it is a small mistake and I still believe that the entire staff of The Observer did a wonderful job in covering the event.

I would also like to congratulate Joe Dickmann, members of the panel and the GLBT/Allied community for their commitment, hard work and love that was put into these events. All who participated have truly strived to make the spirit of inclusion visible to everyone. We are poor. It cannot save the few thousands with the level of damage experienced.

As I stated in my address, acceptance is found in recognition. As members of the Catholic community all should look to the teachings of Christ and tradition of the Catholic Church as the foundation. From this support and love of all, especially to the least of those among us, acceptance can become a reality. Only through you, as members of the student body, can true inclusion be realized. Thank you again for your warmth, compassion and hospitality.

Michael Yotsich
Director of GLBT Issues
Boston College
March 21

Quote of the Day

"If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich."

John F. Kennedy
U.S. president

Observer poll

Should the United States withdraw from Iraq by the June 30 deadline?

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at www.ndsmobserver.com
Perusing Parisian culture

Well, it's been a long time since I've last written. Right now, we are enjoying some much-needed relaxation from tutorials (yes, six; I'm somewhat embarrassed myself). But this long break affords us internationals the opportunity for travel (even for such stick-in-the-muds as myself) and I wanted to tell you about my adventures in Paris.

Now, a few weeks ago my parents decided to make the trip here to England to visit Oxford, London and then Paris, and so I accompanied them to France.

The first real snag hit when we tried to enter the Metro, the French transit system. I will admit that one of us was pick-pocketed, but in order to protect the innocent (or in this case, perhaps all not-so) I won't mention any names. The sing was actually pretty clever. What happened was that, as one of us was passing through the turnstile, a man came from behind and stopped the turnstile from fully turning over. Then someone poked a stick into the turnstile and the person was struggling to move it forward, the criminal reached into his/her pocket, took the wallet and took off off of the other way, leaving the person caught in the turnstile. C'est la vie, eh?

Well, other parts of Paris were a little more friendly. Notre Dame Cathedral lived up to its reputation and then some. We wandered around admiring the façade for a while, then went inside and enjoyed the beautiful stained glass and the world's most immaculate pieta in the Lady Chapel.

Unfortunately, the entire upper floor of the lower was cordoned off for some reason, but luckily enough as we were passing by a woman decided she wanted to enjoy the view and unclipped the rope, and we gladly followed her up. The view from the frosted glass platform is breathtaking.

First, you have an unobstructed view of all of Paris and the Seine, since Paris has enacting regulations that limit the height of the buildings. Second, the gargoyles and chimneys themselves are fascinatingly detailed, and each one frozen in a different position; one is covering devouring some wild animal, another holds its face in its hands, fretting over some unknowable worry. When I visited I was wearing a Notre Dame sweatshirt, and lip I fully expected meeting a few Domeers there; thankfully I was not disappointed.

We also visited St. Chapelle, a glorious little Gothic church consisting of its surrounding office buildings, and one of Louis IX (Saint Louis) to house the Crown of Thorns and a piece of the True Cross. This Chapel is divided into two tiers, a lower chapel, which was for commoner folk, and an upper Chapel which was to serve as a reliquary for these artifacts. The upper chapel is hauntingly beautiful; three of its walls are dominated by huge stained glass panels showing the history of the Jewish people. When we visited the Louvre, which houses such treasures as the Venus de Milo and the Mona Lisa. Thankfully we visited on a Wednesday evening, when the lines were shorter; a suggestion for all of you future travelers is to visit the touristy stuff on weekdays. Oh, and Mona's "enigmatic smile"? Well, her smile really is in unique. Leonardo pur­posefully painted it to appear vague and lazy, and the longer you stare at it the more possible emotions can be read from her face.

What about the Eiffel Tower? The Eiffel Tower is to Paris what the Dome is to Notre Dame; they both are so unforgettable, so grand that they define their relative areas. You can see the Eiffel Tower from anywhere in the city: during the day it stands as a symbol of progress and industry, and at night, when its huge lighthouse beam sweeps the sky over the city, it serves as a beacon beckoning people to the home of so much art and culture. And the food: France is famous for her bread, wine and chocolate. The chocolate and Nutella crepes, the soft ice-creams, the pastries for breakfast were all so rich, so fresh... and now it's back to British food.

I hope you all enjoyed your trip to Paris; I know I enjoyed relishing the sights and smells. Now where can I get a Nutella crepe around here?

Geoff Johnston is enjoying his break by travelling and reading. He hopes that the seniors are able to enjoy every minute of their last semester under the Dome and to house the Christian Sweatshirt. He spent a few considerable moments in Paris and was fascinated. Geoff Johnston at pjohanstad@gmail.com.

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Shirts advocate respect, love for homosexuals

Espousing a scientific defense

In response to Gus Zuehlke's March 22 the­oretical argument against the "social promotion of the homosexual lifestyle," which is "counterproductive to the true interest of homosexuals," and "results in monstrous human behavior," I provide a simple scientific refutation (though I am aware that theolog­i­cal arguments are strictly irreducible): there is overwhelming scientific data that social pressure and coercion cannot alter the sexual orientation of a homosexual.

Homosexuality is not a disease that can be cured either by Mr. Zuehlke's preaching or by any other medicine or physician.

In fact, as Chandler Burr states in his book "A Separate Creation: The Search for the Biological Origins of Sexual Orientation," homosexuals is no more a disease than human handedness. Differences about the genetic origin of both of these behavioral traits have always resulted from empirical observations, because neither the gene for human handedness nor the gene for homo­sexuality has been discovered.

Burr provides evidence, showing that there is a striking similarity between the trait of human handedness and homosexuality: both have a majority and minority orientation (right- and left-hand, and hetero- and homosexual people). In recent years; there is an elevated rate of minority orientation in families with other minority-oriented members; the minority orientation seems to be genetically inhe­rent, implying a X-chromosome linkage. But the most striking statistically deter­mined fact suggesting the genetic determina­tion of homosexuality consists in the follow­ing:

1. One of two monozygotic (identical) twins is homosexual, his or her sibling has a 50 percent chance of being homosexual as well.12 percent in the case of human hand­edness, meaning that there is more indirect proof that homosexuality is genetically deter­mined than human handedness is. And yet, we intuitively agree that human handedness is a genetic product, while strongly oppose and refuse to admit the notion that homosexu­ality is simply a genetic variation. One can argue that homosexuality is a dis­ease in a Darwinian sense, since homosexu­als cannot actively reproduce and have off­spring. However, since our society does not "sanction biologically sterile individuals, why would it have to sanction gay sex?"

2. Ongoing studies and research on the heated topic of homosexuality, such as Burr's, invite me to disagree with St. Paul's centuries-old description of homosexuality as a punishment from God. It is not a disease, it does not inhibit a person from working or performing any other social function, it does not make people commit more crimes or other illicit acts. And finally, it is not chosen, much in the same way that human handedness is not cho­sen. So why, then, call it "monstrous" and why not accept a homosexual lifestyle?

Christians are called to love, not condemn

In response to Gus Zuehlke's March 22 letter, "Wearing of Shirts is Sinful," in which he quoted St. Paul to the Romans, I would like to respond with several other quotations from the Bible.

From 1 Corinthians 13, arguably the greatest chapter on Christian love in the Bible, "If I speak in human and angelic tongues, but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or clashing symbol. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge, if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing... So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

Mr. Zuehlke, I wore that shirt on March 18. I have friends as well as family members who are homosexual, and I have never stopped loving them, despite the fact that I understand the Bible says they are living a life of sin.

Before disparaging them, however, I fulfill my Christian duty to love them as myself, to treat them equally and to respect their choices, whether or not I agree with them. As Christians, we are taught to love others above all else, and I believe that's what many of the students and faculty were demonstrating with their shirts. On a campus of 85 percent Catholic back­ground, and undoubtedly much higher Christian percentages, 1,600 people in shirts can't be a mistake, a fluke or an inten­tional uprising against the Word of the Lord.

It is our duty as Christians to love one another in the same way that Jesus loved the adulteress in John 8, when he said "He that is without sin among you is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

When he was left alone, he added her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" The woman replied in the negative, and Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you."

Mr. Zuehlke, are you without sin? Because I think that everyone in the shirts realized that they weren't.

Brittany Sahel
Jones
Lewis Hall
March 22
Reservoir Dogs
Director: Quentin Tarantino
Year: 1992

The Observer

A new look at so

The switch of film format from VHS to DVD gives movie fans ti

REVI

Author's Note: Instead of spending my break getting taxi ni

Notre Dame. Over the week, I naturally watched a lot of movie

review some of my favorites. I have found that the more distr

hopefully this might help some of you with your transition. Ey

Quentin Tarantino's breakthrough movie asserts the fast-paced and violent style that would become his trademark, complete with snappy dialogue and erratic storylines that all eventually converge in the last moments of the film. The film follows the exploits of a group of criminals put together to pull off the perfect crime. None of them know who the others are, yet they are known only by monikers like "Mr. Pink," "Mr. White" and "Mr. Blonde." But when their caser goes awry, they realize that they have a police informant among their ranks. The most famous and most disturbing part of the film is the infamous "ear scene," set to the Steeleters Wheel tune, "Stuck in the Middle With You." This scene highlights Tarantino's penchant for combining violence with a strange kind of comic irony, as well as his frequent use of somewhat quirky music selections in his films to highlight key moments. Reservoir Dogs marked the beginnings of "indie" films having debuted at Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival. It truly shows that a good movie doesn't need to cost a lot. The combination of a great director, a tricky film noir plot and excellent actors like Steve Buscemi and Harvey Keitel produces an interesting and unusual movie.

Reservoir Dogs

Tigerland

Director: Joel Schumacher
Year: 2000

Now a major star of cinema and the tabloids, Irish actor Colin Ferrell got his start playing a young soldier from Texas in director Joel Schumacher's Tigerland. Ferrell plays Roland Bozz - a soldier in constant battles with his commanding officers. His refusal to follow orders and his tendency to overtly help his fellow trainees escape using his knowledge of the military system gets him into trouble. The other soldiers soon turn against Bozz because the consequences of his actions fall on them as well. When his unit is sent to Tigerland, a camp in Louisiana that closely resembles Vietnam War scenes, he is forced to assume a new mantle of leadership. The movie deftly combines concerns about the war with the ethos of the military, and this movie proves that Ferrell has what it takes to be a star. He completely carries the movie, and he portrays the strange combination of defiance and fear that keeps Bozz from willfully bending to the military rules. The Texas accent he bears in the film is a big plus as well. The movie shows only men on their way to Vietnam, not actually there or on their way home, so it gives an interesting perspective to war in general and how it affects the young men who must face it.

Tigerland

Casablanca

Director: Michael Curtiz
Year: 1942

Even if you have never seen Casablanca, it is more than likely you have heard of it, or at the very least have seen it quoted or parodied at some point in your life. It has become more than just a movie — it has become a classic, and a part of our collective conscious as a society. The film follows Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), a cyn­
ical American ex-patriot who owns a bar in pre-World War II Morocco. The bar has become a haven for people fleeing the nefarious forces collecting in Europe. He is a man, who in his words "sticks his neck out for nobodies." But his continence changes when the woman who broke his heart, Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman) arrives in Casablanca. She has come with her new love, Victor Lazlo (Paul Henreid), who is a Czech resistance leader fleeing his pursuers. In the midst of a difficult love triangle, Rick must choose between his own desires and the lives of others who depend on his decisions.

The film captures an atmosphere of desperation and isola­
tion that marks the people who live in Casablanca, and reveals that in the scope of war "...the problems of three people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world." The movie has everything going for it including great dia­
logue, a great story, fantastic cinematography, elegant cos­
tumes and perfectly cast actors. The special edition also has original trailers. It also includes a documentary about the movie’s origins and information on the film’s far-reaching effects on other movies. Casablanca achieves a kind of cine­
matic perfection that films rarely achieve. Age does nothing to diminish enjoying the story or the impact it will make.
old classics

the perfect excuse to watch some old favorites in a new way

Hollywood loves to make mob movies, but it is rare when one distinguishes itself from the pack and strives to be more than a mere Godfather rip-off. Martin Scorsese's Goodfellas earns its own merit by taking the often mythologized world of the mafia and putting it in the harsh perspective of reality. The film follows Henry Hill (Ray Liotta) through three decades of life in the mafia, revealing the effects of the lifestyle on himself, his fellow mobsters and his family. Hill rides the peaks and valleys of mob life, living from one job to the next, all of which ultimately takes a huge toll on himself and those around him. Hill must ultimately turn to being an FBI informant to avoid prison or the victim of a mob hit, and living a normal life proves to be the hardest challenge of all.

The portrait Scorsese paints is not a flattering or particularly glamorous one. He shows the tenuous nature of the business and lifestyles that the men leave, as well as how it can devastate families and friends. The movie is full of great performances from Liotta, Robert De Niro (as Jimmy "The Gent" Conway), Joe Pesci (as the homicidal Tommy DeVito, which won him a Best Supporting Actor Oscar) and Lorraine Bracco (as Hill's long suffering wife, Karen). Scorsese vividly presents the violent and desperate lives the men lead in the mafia, but also the sense of family and power that attracts them to the lifestyle. It is a long film that requires patience and commitment to watch, but it is deeply moving and interesting, as well as an example of great direction.

Goodfellas
Director: Martin Scorsese
Year: 1990

Silverman is one of those movies that is so unabashedly dumb and silly that you just have to laugh in spite of yourself. It follows the exploits of three best friends, Darren Silverman (Jason Biggs), Wayne Lefessier (Steve Zahn) and J.D. McNugent (Jack Black), who have known each other since childhood and perform together in a Neil Diamond cover band. Their friendship is torn apart when Silverman starts dating the catty and controlling Judith Peet). Silverman's two friends concoct a plan to kidnap Judith so that they can set their friend up with a past love of his from high school who is about to become a nun.

The film really deserves a better film, because all of the actors, particularly Peet and Black, are skilled in comedy. The film definitely has some funny moments. The cast works surprisingly well together, but the movie as a whole is kind of a stretch. Saving Silverman is OK, but it could have been better. There are certainly a lot better dumb comedies out there.

Silverman
Director: Dennis Dugan
Year: 2001

Chocolat attempts to throw a new light on the season of Lent by showing the need to balance self-denial with a spirit of joy. This film will be somewhat painful for anyone who may have given chocolate up for Lent, but it does provide an optimistic view of the season.

The film follows Vianne (Juliette Binoche), a free-spirited wanderer who opens a chocolate shop in a secluded French village during Lent. The town turns its back on the non-conforming woman, but her open and accepting mind helps some of those suffering under the facade of perfection and conformity that the town constructs. Judi Dench plays an older woman estranged from her daughter who finds comfort in chocolate and secret meetings with her grandson. Lena Olin plays a married woman who finds the courage to leave her oafish husband and venture out on her own. Included in the supporting cast are Alfred Molina, Carrie Anne Moss and Johnny Depp. The townspeople learn to be more accepting and less rigid from Vianne's unique ways, and she, after a lifetime of wandering, finally joins a community and finds love. The film lags in parts, and is occasionally a little heavy-handed with the allegorical elements of the story, but it is nonetheless a charming and funny story.

Chocolat
Director: Lasse Hallstrom
Year: 2001

Saving Silverman is one of those movies that is so unabashedly dumb and silly that you just have to laugh in spite of yourself. It follows the exploits of three best friends, Darren Silverman (Jason Biggs), Wayne Lefessier (Steve Zahn) and J.D. McNugent (Jack Black), who have known each other since childhood and perform together in a Neil Diamond cover band. Their friendship is torn apart when Silverman starts dating the catty and controlling Judith (Amanda Peet). Silverman's two friends concoct a plan to kidnap Judith so that they can set their friend up with a past love of his from high school who is about to become a nun.

Centering a comedy around a kidnapping, which is a tragic and dangerous undertaking, makes it hard to suspend belief enough to laugh at some of the jokes. The movie adds a few scenes and storylines that really aren't necessary. A more streamlined story would have helped the movie out. The actors in the film really deserve a better film, because all of the actors, particularly Peet and Black, are skilled in comedy. The film definitely has some funny moments. The cast works surprisingly well together, but the movie as a whole is kind of a stretch. Saving Silverman is OK, but it could have been better. There are certainly a lot better dumb comedies out there.

Saving Silverman
Director: Dennis Dugan
Year: 2001
Salmons leads 76ers to victory over Mavericks

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — With Allen Iverson out of the lineup, John Salmons got a chance to show off his scoring prowess.

Salmons set career highs with 21 points and five 3-pointers to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to a 107-98 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Monday night. "Salmons got a chance to show his stuff and he back to 17 and put the game out of reach," Thomas said.

"Thomas was exceptional," Dallas assistant coach Don Nelson said. "I gave us all kinds of problems and we didn’t have an answer for that." Don Nelson too over when his father, Don Nelson, was ejected for the first time in the second half for arguing a foul call. Thomas made 11 of 13 free throw attempts and a game-high seven assists. McKey had 16 points to help the Sixers bounce back from an 0-4 road trip that ended with a 101-69 loss in Miami on Saturday night.

The answer to their offensive woes was a Dallas team that allowed 122 points in the first match up between the two teams on Jan. 14. "I don’t think we’ve scored like that all year," Thomas said. "At halftime, we had 61 points. It felt good because we had to match their intensity and knock down shots because they’re a scoring team." The Mavericks’ Steve Nash scored 10 points, but had just three in the first 3-1/2 quarters. Michael Finley also had 10. "There’s no excuse for our defense," Nash said. "You can at least guard somebody when things aren’t going well (offensively for you)."

The Mavericks’ Steve Nash scored 10 points, but had just three in the first 3-1/2 quarters. Michael Finley also had 10. "There’s no excuse for our defense," Nash said. "You can at least guard somebody when things aren’t going well (offensively for you)."

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

‘Hoosiers’ game is now 50 years old

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana high school basketball tradition for trophies in 1998 when it scrapped the tournament format that produced the most famous shot in Hoosier history.

Now, 50 years after Bobby Plump’s last-second basket lifted tiny Milan over big-school Muncie Central, the tournament is split into four separate classes. There’s almost no chance the state ever will go back to the open-class tournament.

“They put the emphasis on getting the trophy, and now you’re a champion. But you’re a champion of what?” Plump said.

“I don’t want to take anything away from the student-athletes. It’s still great if you’re a champion of 90-some schools. But you’re not the champion of the whole state.”

When the 380-plus-member Indiana High School Athletic Association changed the tournament format, more than 80 years of tradition was abandoned in favor of separate playoffs based on school size, to place the state’s smaller schools. That produced more champions, but it all but assured there will never be another Milan Miracle, a David-and-Goliath triumph for the heavy underdog.

Plump and other traditionalists are still aghast.

“I haven’t given up on trying to change it back, but I have no authority to change it,” said Plump, whose high school team was the inspiration for the 1986 movie “Hoosiers.”

“The IHSSA holds all the cards. ... They own the basketball, they own the goal, and they make the rules,” he said. “How can anybody penetrate that? It’s uninformative they can’t see what it has done to the student-athletes.”

Plump, the 1954 Indiana Mr. Basketball, formed a group of single-class supporters in an unsuccessful attempt to sway the IHSSA vote leading up to the format change.

He and other opponents of the switch from a single playoff to four separate classes argued that the divisional format robbed the athletes of the chance to compete against the state’s best and watered down a tournament known throughout the country.

In 1998, before the restructuring, more than 40,000 people watched as tiny Muncie Bedford North Lawrence team win the championship in the IHSAA Indiana — a national record for a high school game.

Attendance and profits have plummeted since the change to separate classes.

Total boys attendance at all four rounds of the tournament dropped from 786,024 in 1997, the final year for the single tournament, to 440,914 last year, a drop of 44 percent. Profit to the IHSSA plummeted 51 percent, from $924,016 to $440,914, over the same span.

Girls attendance and profit, much smaller numbers, rose the boys to begin with, dropped 23 percent and 36 percent, respectively.

“I just loved it when we had a one-class tournament and there was a possibility of a Milan, but that is just not even realistic in this day and age,” said Priscilla Dillow, former athletic director at Indianapolis Ben Davis, one of the state’s largest schools.

“Yes, you might have one every 50 years, but the bigger schools have so many more extras.”

Dillow was on the IHSSA board of directors and sided with the majority in the 12-5 vote for separate classes eight years ago. With Milan’s 50-year anniversary and a recent regular-season rematch against Muncie Central, the subject of class basketball has again been widely discussed.

Dillow said she would vote the same way now.

“When I voted, I was representing my district, and we did a district polling to see how the principals felt. And in my district it was 40-60. ... I figured if you’re not winning the state’s best and second best in the state, you might still find just about the same split. Now, so many teams have experienced success, I can’t imagine them going back.”

Merrillville athletic director Janis Qualizza, the only current board member who voted against separate classes, also said she would vote the same way now.

“I had great reasoning back then, at my district’s the same,” she said. “We had the best state tournament in the country, and I couldn’t see any reason why we shouldn’t continue that tournament.”

That’s what Plump felt in 1995, as the push toward separate classes gained momentum. He formed a group called Friends of Hoosier Hysteria, which enlisted such basketball icons as John Wooden, Oscar Robertson and Bob Leonard to lobby on behalf of the traditional tourney format.

Acting on a study committee recommendation, the IHSSA board approved the plan in April 1996, splitting more than 380 schools into four separate classes based on enrollment. In 1999, after two years under the new system and several failed attempts in the state Legislature to force at least a public referendum, the IHSSA board voted again to keep the separate classes.

That’s the last time the IHSSA has considered it.
MEN'S TENNIS

Irish travel to Michigan to face near-perfect Wolverines

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

The Wolverines are hungry for a victory to close out their home non-conference schedule, but the Irish aren't planning on being dinner.

Despite dropping their last two matches at the Blue/Gray National Classic, the Irish may be playing their best tennis of the season. Ranked at No. 35 with a 10-7 record, Notre Dame boasts three solid doubles teams. Senior tri-captain Luis Haddock is ranked No. 14 when playing with freshman Ryan Keckley and No. 29 when playing with senior tri-captain Matthew Scott. Keckley is also ranked No. 44 when paired with junior tri-captain Brent D'Amico.

Freshman Steven Bass and sophomore Eric Langenkamp have also played consistently, reaching the consolation finals of the Pacific Coast Doubles Classic earlier this month.

The rest between today's match and the two tournaments the Irish played in early March plays to Notre Dame's favor. The Irish were forced into a difficult situation earlier in the season, as top players succumbed to injury and were exhausted by a tight schedule.

Michigan (8-1) is coming off a 6-1 win over Ball State on March 13. Nationally, Michael Bhim is ranked No. 46 in singles play for the Wolverines, and freshman Ryan Heller has posted an undefeated record playing at No. 3 and 4 in the dual-match season.

The Wolverines lead the all-time series with the Irish 40-23, although the Irish posted a 5-2 victory in last year's meeting.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles drop four games over the past weekend

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

Dropping back-to-back double-headers wasn't exactly what the Belles had in mind coming off their 5-4 spring break trip to Florida.

But that is exactly what they got over the weekend, losing a pair each to Rose-Hulman on Saturday and Saint Mary's of the Woods on Sunday.

"We don't want to play catch up anymore. Once we begin to start playing aggressively from inning one, then we will be a much more successful team," coach Anna Welsh said.

Traveling to Rose-Hulman after a Friday cancellation against Goshen, the Belles lost 4-1 in their first game and 4-3, in eight innings, in the second. Kate Sajewich lost the first game, giving up nine hits and striking out four.

In the second game of the double header, Libby Wibelmy gave up nine hits and struck out four. Karisa Tebbe went 3-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored.

On Sunday, Saint Mary's was defeated by Saint Mary's of the Woods 6-5 in the early game and 5-3 in the second game. Bridget Grall gave up six hits and walked none in the loss. Grall also went 2-for-4 at the plate, driving in two runs.

In the Belles' final game of the weekend, Sajewich pitched again, giving up seven hits in five innings. Laura Heine doubled for the Belles and drove in two runs. Erin Sullivan went 2-for-3.

Welsh attributed the losses to the team's failure to get anything going until late in the game.

"We had good comebacks over the weekend, however we waited until the later innings of the games to start hitting and playing defense," Welsh said. "In order to reach our goals on the season we are going to make adjustments to help us get prepared to have a better start in the first inning."

The Belles were supposed to play Goshen on Thursday, but inclement weather postponed the game until Friday. Goshen then cancelled Friday due to a lack of players because of a team illness.

Saint Mary's has one more game to start playing aggressively from inning one. The Belles travel to Purdue-North Central for a Wednesday afternoon contest.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin@nd.edu

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Safety Lynch signs with Denver

Former Pro Bowler is among three defensive acquisitions

Associated Press

DENVER — John Lynch is a Denver Bronco. The five-time Pro Bowl safety agreed to terms with the Broncos Monday after being released by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers last week.

Lynch, 32, can play either safety position, although he has played primarily free safety throughout his career.

Johnson, who spent his entire 11-year career with Tampa Bay, signed a three-year, $3.3 million contract that includes a $1 million signing bonus. The 33-year-old is expected to split time with Reggie Hayward at right end, helping compensate for the loss of Bertrand Berry, who signed with Arizona.

The Chargers released Johnson earlier this month to save salary-cap space, but tried to re-sign him. He also visited Baltimore. The Broncos have added defensive end Marco Coleman and re-signed middle linebacker Al Wilson.

Ellis spent his first nine seasons with Detroit and was a Pro Bowler in 1999 and 2000, but was released by the Lions on March 2 in a cost-cutting move.

Lynch struggled with neck problems last season with the Buccaneers and had surgery to remove bone spurs in January. He chose Denver over the New York Jets, coached by close friend Herman Edwards.

Johnson has 26 1/2 sacks the past three seasons, but missed the final seven games last year with a foot injury.

In Brief

Davis rumored to be candidate for Auburn

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Indiana coach Mike Davis says he has not been contacted by Auburn University about its vacant head coaching spot despite reports in three Alabama newspapers that he is a likely candidate for the coaching job.

Davis declined to comment Monday. He referred questions to the athletic director, who was not in.

"Everything I've heard about the job has been from people calling me and telling me about it," he said in the telephone interview Sunday.

Speculation has been fueled because Davis is from Fayette, Ala., and was that state's Mr. Basketball in 1979. He played four years at the University of Alabama, and spent two seasons as an assistant coach there.

The Mobile (Ala.) Register reported Friday that Auburn was moving quickly to find a successor to former coach Cliff Ellis, who was fired last week.

Toronto defense man suspended for slash

TORONTO — The NHL suspended Wade Belak eight games for his two-handed chop to the face of Colorado defenseman Ossi Vaananen.

The Maple Leafs defenseman will be out for Toronto's remaining six regular-season games and the club's first two postseason games.

The suspension will cost Belak $67,682.94 in forfeited salary.

Wade Belak, eight games for his two-handed chop to the face of Colorado’s Ossi Vaananen.

IN BRIEF

Belo washed Vaananen on Saturday night and was given a match penalty for attempt to injure. He met with Colin Campbell at the league’s office in Toronto on Monday before the NHL’s executive vice president and chief disciplinarian handed down his decision.

"It was a little severe I think," Belak said. "I wasn't expecting to walk away with less than three (games), but I thought no more than five. Getting six plus two, it's kind of harsh.

Belak is a repeat offender, having received a two-game suspension in November 2002 when he elbowed Washington defense man Brendan Witt in the head.

The suspension will cost Belak $67,682.94 in forfeited salary.

around the dial

MLB

Tampa Bay vs. Boston, 1:05 p.m., ESPN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Middle Tennessee State vs. Notre Dame, 7:00 p.m., ESPN

George Mason vs. Oregon, 11:30 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

New Jersey vs. Chicago, 8:30 p.m., WGN
Saint Mary’s sweeps Adrian 9-0 in MIAA contest Saturday

By RYAN DUFFY
Sports Writer

Senior Jeannie Knish was able to sum up her team’s performance in Saturday’s match against Adrian in one word: domination.

“We expected to dominate, and we pretty much did,” said Knish, who played a big role in the Belles’ 9-0 dismantling of Adrian in its first conference game of the year. “We worked really well as a team. I mean, the girls were some of the nicest we’ve played with, and they really played hard, which I really respect. But we were just all really on our ‘A’ game, and it showed.”

Knish certainly backed up her post-game talk, beating Laura Kelley 6-1, 6-1 from the No. 1 spot for her second win of the year and first in conference. The rest of the Saint Mary’s squad followed suit, giving up only 19 points across the board. While most matches take upwards of five hours, the Belles had finished taking care of Adrian within a speedy three hours.

Sophomore Kristen Palombo also played strongly, defeating Liz Filipiak from the No. 2 spot in consecutive sets, 6-0, 6-0. No. 3 singles player Katie Cutler continued her stellar season, taking down her opponent 6-1, 6-0, to improve her overall record on the year to 8-1.

No. 4 singles player Kris Spriggle also moved to an overall record of 8-1 after winning straight sets 6-1, 6-0 over Heather Fraser. At the No. 5 spot, sophomore Kate Bowler posted a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Karen Kruisenga to match her teammates’ success.

“It was just a great start to our season,” said No. 6 singles player Miranda Mikulyk, who took down Lyndsey Davis in straight sets, 6-4, 6-0. “It’s always helpful to our mentality as a team to get a conference win. I thought that we all played strongly. Each of us played our best game.”

“They’re a nice team, but they’re not actually our strongest competition. No matter the opponent, it’s always good to start a season out with a win.”

Although happy with the victory, the team was also looking forward to its next game against conference rival Hope College.

“We all played well, and we’re really looking forward to our next match,” said Knish. “We gave 100 percent in this match, and we plan on giving 117.5 percent in our next match.”

After demonstrating their skill in the six singles matches, the Belles showed a similar penchant for winning in their doubles matches. Knish and Bowler, who make up the No. 1 doubles team, defeated Adrian’s No. 1 tandem of Kelly and Cindy Kruisenga 6-2, 6-1 in straight sets. The other two doubles teams followed in form. The combination of Cutler and Spriggle took down Adrian’s pair, Liz Filipiak and Heather Fraser, 6-1, 6-1, to improve their doubles record to 7-1 on the year. In the No. 3 doubles spot, Palombo and freshman Grace Gordon were easily victorious over Adrian’s Karen Kruisenga and Davis, 6-0, 6-1.

“It was just all around a good day,” Palombo said. “It was the first match where every single flight won, and we were very happy about that. Because it was on a Saturday, a lot of the parents showed up to watch, which was great. We’re all very happy about how we’ve started the season, and we’re looking forward to our game against Hope.”

Contact Ryan Duffy at rduffy@nd.edu

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Women continued from page 24 before knocking out North Carolina — just the third time in the NCAA era that a team has advanced past the first round.

Patricia Hoopes and freshman Keysonna Huloton led the Blue Raiders. Those two combined for 34 points on 13-of-26 shooting and had just three turnovers.

"Hoopes is a great player, their team leader and their go to player, but the entire team is good," McGraw said. The Blue Raiders trailed the Tar Heels 13-6 after five minutes, but came back to take the half on a 9-0 run and took a 35-26 advantage into halftime.

With 6:48 left in regulation, Middle Tennessee State built a 12-point lead before North Carolina stormed back with a 10-0 run to close within two points.

But the Blue Raiders didn't waver under the pressure, and hung on to a 67-62 victory.

Middle Tennessee State's momentum down the stretch of its first-round game impressed McGraw.

"They play with great emotion, but also were very poised when North Carolina made their runs (Sunday)," McGraw said.

Meanwhile the Irish needed an extra period to stop a determined Missouri State.

"Southwest Missouri State ran a 2-3 zone and doubled and tripled me a lot when Batteast was interviewed by the press.

So we had a pass at the top of the block,Batteast made a 3-pointer and was still an average scorer at the game's high scorer.

Smith said her team has thrived and is confident after its first-round upset, but is not ready to exit the tournament just yet.

"It doesn't matter what the rest of the world thinks, and I know there's going to be a very boisterous crowd out there, and majority of them will not be cheering for Middle Tennessee, but we're here to win, we are not just happy to be here," Smith said. "That's been our mindset the entire time. We wanted to get to the NCAs, that was our goal the entire time, its why you've worked so hard, and if you're going to go, why celebrate on just going? I think we have a very good chance to win, if we play well."

Contact Joe Hettler at Jhettler@nd.edu

COACHING

McGraw has led five of her last seven teams into the Sweet 16 and this year's team has the ability to go far. She has as much experience as any coach and has been down this road before. McGraw has built Notre Dame into a national power.

This is the second team under Smith to make the Sweet 16. She has never coached a team past the first round and has much less experience than McGraw. She is a tal­ented young coach but has not yet built a proven program.

McGraw also plays tough defense, allowing just 58 points a game. They're a more athletic team than Southwest Missouri State. The Blue Raiders are led by Hoopes and Horton, who average nearly 30 points a game between them.

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No question — McGraw knows what it takes to reach the Sweet 16. She's been there nine times in her career and is familiar with the territory. Smith is still looking for two wins in the tournament as a head coach and is in uncharted waters.

This is close, but the Irish have the X-Factor in Batteast. She is one of the best players in the country and can take over a game at any time. Stopping her is virtually impossible, something no team has done this season.

The Irish have a much stronger bench than should help stretch the bench. MTSU is the year's Cinderella for the most part, even if they tire during the second half.

MTSU certainly could be the best eight players and all can be effective in different ways. Horton, Joyce and Erwin may all be needed to make contributions at some point during the game.

No question — McGraw knows what it takes to reach the Sweet 16. She's been there nine times in her career and is familiar with the territory. Smith is still looking for two wins in the tournament as a head coach and is in uncharted waters.

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Thomas continued from page 24

court just prior to tip-off.

Or he could have noticed the waves Thomas gave to dozens of family members who live in Fort Wayne, many of whom were watching Thomas play live in an Irish uniform for the first time. The Billikens, still in the locker room, didn’t see the confidence Thomas exuded either. Then again, by the way Thomas was able to score at will in Notre Dame’s 77-66 win Monday, it didn’t seem like they were on the same plane of the game, either. It wasn’t really fair that they happened to be the team standing on the tracks when the Thomas expressed roared past.

Legendary among his teammates for the way he religiously pops in Michael Jordan highlights on road trips, Thomas carried the Irish past Saint Louis by stepping into the zone himself to turn in a spectacular performance which included 12-of-20 shooting from the field, including 6-of-11 from 3-point range, and zero turnovers. Sure, he took a while to get rolling — but Brey thought it was because the Irish point guard was deliberately trying to take it slow. And when the Irish walked into the halftime locker room trailing 26-25, the entire arena collectively wondered when the Irish would get going. The Irish never really did get going. Just Thomas. But that was more than enough.

Shooting between driving to the basket to draw fous and draining long 3-pointers, Thomas single-handedly picked apart Central Michigan with 25 3-pointers and boasts a .358 batting average. The first pitch is slated for 5 p.m. today at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu

Piranides, Palacios y Playas

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INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday, March 24, 2004
5:00 PM
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Attention First-Year MBA’s

Would you like to earn a FULL TUTION fellowship for your second-year?

The William G. McGovern Charitable Fund has just awarded the MBA program a grant that covers full tuition for the second year for one MBA student. Applicants must comply with the following criteria:

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• Must submit a 300-350 word essay on the contributions of William G. McGovern, founder and Chairman of MG, to today’s business world in general or to the telecommunications field in particular.
• Must submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member.
• Must exhibit attributes such as scholarship, ability, leadership qualities, character and community involvement.

All First-Year MBA’s are eligible, including those that are already receiving a full tuition fellowship.

Deadline: Applications due at the MBA Office by Friday, March 26, 2004.

Winners will be announced at the spring Banner Bash. L102-103.

Baseball

continued from page 24

“We didn’t really swing the bat as well this past weekend as we would really like to see,” he said. “But I attribute that to the fact that we didn’t play during the week. When we start playing these mid-week games, I think we’re really going to get into a groove and the bat is not going to be so good stuff is going to happen to us here in the future.”

Central Michigan is battling .310 as a team on the season and average eight runs a game. The Chippewas are led at the plate by infielder Jim Geldhof with a .412 batting average, 22 runs scored and a slugging percentage of .626. First baseman Kurtis Wells leads Central Michigan with 25 RBIs and boasts a .358 batting average. The first pitch is slated for 5 p.m. today at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu
Billikens

continued from page 24

hit back-to-back 3-point goals, putting the Irish up 46-41. Saint Louis' Anthony Dreijaj then missed two free throw shots after being fouled by Chris Quinn and the Billikens would never recover the lead.

The Irish defense was strong throughout the contest, especially against 3-pointers by only allowing one during the entire game.

Against Iowa in the first round of the NIT, Saint Louis shot seven 3-pointers, which helped the Billikens recover from an 18-point first half deficit.

"We defended the 3-point line, they didn't shred us from there. We could absorb the twos because ... [Thomas] was scoring enough to absorb the twos," Brey said.

The difference between the first and second half for the Irish was staggering. In the first half, Notre Dame couldn't get a shot to fall, making 11-of-27 field goals and only 2-of-10 3-point goals.

But in the second half, the Irish made 14 of their 22 field goals and 6-of-13 3-point goals.

A technical foul called against forward Chris Sloan following a controversial trav-

eling call shook the Billikens up even more during a media timeout with 7:45 remaining in the half. Thomas made both resulting free throws, followed by an unanswered 3-point goal and two 2-point goals to open a 17-point lead for the Irish.

"We don't really know what happened with the technical," Thomas said. "That gave us the opportunity for us to take control of the game, That fueled us to take control and keep the lead."

Jordand Cornette

Irish forward

"I love that, bumping heads, trash talking, up in each other's faces, how emotional. It was a great game. It had a tournament atmosphere and I was happy with it."

Chris Thomas
Irish guard

"We don't really know what happened with that technical foul. That gave us the opportunity for us to take control of the game."

Saint Louis threatened to open a large lead at the end of the first half, with Fisher shooting three unanswered baskets in between a foul shot by Bryant, and the Irish trailed 19-14.

But the Irish put up their own run, scoring eight unanswered points to put them back on top.

"There were a couple points in the game where our backs were against the wall and we took bad shots and made bad turnovers," Thomas said. "But for the most part we played well and with a lot of maturity."

Saint Louis also played tight defense for most of the game, resulting in a very physical, but satisfying game for Irish players.

"I love that, bumping heads, trash talking, up in each other's faces, how emotional. It was a great game. It had a tournament atmosphere and I was happy with it," Cornette said.

Notre Dame will face the winner of the Oregon - George Mason game in the Joyce Center Thursday night.

Season ticket holders and students may purchase tickets today, with sales being opened to the general public on Wednesday.

And while some have the attitude that the NIT is a great way to prepare for next year, Brey has his sights set on higher goals.

"We're excited to play ... this year's team is still playing well and you play for a champi-
one-ship in this tournament," Brey said. "We talked about three steps back to New York City — we're one step away."

Contact Scott Brodfuehrer at sbrodfue@nd.edu

Senior guard Torriana Jones follows through on a shot against St. Louis Monday. Jones had nine points and a pair of assists.

Senior guard Torriana Jones follows through on a shot against St. Louis Monday. Jones had nine points and a pair of assists.
**FIVES**

BRETT CAMPBELL & DAN ZYCHINSKI

Sure, Everyone enjoys the excitement that goes along with March Madness, but few ever get to see the darker side of this often debilitating disease.

---

**CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

1. Let out the waist
2. 6 Ark or barge
3. Mexican Mile
4. Left
5. To up
6. Fatter’s posture
7. Supporter of the arts?
8. Title start of a 2003 AI best seller
9. Old man to child actor?
10. Number one
11. Band hand
12. Chicago paper
13. Heads-up
14. Lehar’s “The Parasite”
15. Ornamentally
16. Rattler’s posture
17. “Sleepy”
18. Title start of a 47 Greasy
19. Let out the waist
20. Fooled a onetime child actor?
21. Telebrakers, briefly
22. Clean-air org.
23. Keep a sleepy old man to plumb?
24. Like a luxury car
25. Suit to
26. Guitarist Atkins
27. Car owner’s birth

**DOWN**

1. Make, in a way
2. Grazing locale
3. Bikini stoll, once
4. Any time?
5. Take over, as a pitcher
6. Europe’s Peninsula
7. Easter sashes
8. A Baltwin
9. New-Ager John
10. Dead Sea document
11. Band bend
12. Gets pooped
13. Heads-up
14. Number cruncher, for short
15. Croupier’s tool
16. “Bettle Bailey” star
17. Chicago paper, familiarly, with “the”
18. Panel layer
19. Lehár’s “The Merry _
20. Publicity, stingingly
21. Org., whose members are packing?
22. Chablis, for one
23. Park, III.
24. Rugg, so to speak
25. Should’ve
27. Gives the boot
28. It’s true
29. QB’s pickups
30. Abbrev.
31. 44 Encoded
32. Get off
33. Zero, QB’s pickups
34. Set
35. Atlantic
36. The out crowd
37. “Exodus” hero
38. Secret exit, perhaps
39. Doris’s cry
40. Part of CBS: Abbr.
41. Gives the boot
42. Election loser
43. Flaw
44. Fuss
45. The Observer

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

- B O R D E R
- S A M A R I A
- I T L E
- O W N E D
- R O S E
- N E C K
- S I L E N C E
- A R T I S T
- D E S T I N Y
- M E T E R
- A T T I C
- S E C L E N H A L F
- T A L E
- D A N K
- T A L E
- A E N E I N
- O N E
- S E D

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**JUMBLE**

**SCOTT ADAMS**

I DO IT MYSELF BUT I CAN’T DISGUISE THE BITTERNESS AND DESPAIR THAT CANAL AT MY SOUL.

PLUS MY SON HAS BEEN BAD AND I TOLD HIM I’D PUNISH HIM.

I’D BE HONORED TO SPEAK.

---

**HOROSCOPE**

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Juan Crawford, Chaka Khan, Menes Malone, Erich Fromm.

Happy Birthday: You’ll be your own worst enemy this year if you try to push your will on others. Do your own thing; don’t rely on what others can contribute. You have the know-how and the energy to do things yourself. Go it alone and you’ll discover that it’s much easier in the long run. Your success will be determined by your efforts. Your numbers: 2, 9, 18, 27, 36, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Ask for favors, but don’t take others for granted. Do not give donations if it will mean doing without necessities. You may have a problem with overeating. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your emotional response may cloud issues. Don’t make impulsive decisions. Your reluctance to see your partner’s position could make you the victim of a lonely heart. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): After huffing, you’ll respond. Get involved in projects that will allow you to do what you want. Children can be a source of frustration if you spend time listening to their point of view. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have to take care of those who can’t do for themselves. Rewards for your actions will be granted. Financial matters such as real estate and other solid investments look good. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug.),: You may feel a little turned around today. Confront the situation head-on and clear the air early in the day. Socialize, so you both can cash in on other people. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.): Your vitality is down. You are likely to catch minor ailments if you don’t get enough rest. Limitations due to bad eating habits will start to show. Bounty will be with you. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get involved in some form of physical activity. You will need to burn off some of that excess energy. Your faculties may tend to remain sullen and up in your head. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will have to be careful of how you deal with family members. Someone may try to take you for granted. You will have to stand your ground, even if you are afraid to give in. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make sure that your car is in good order before you take on a family junk. Check your money situation and limit family members who want to take advantage of your good nature. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.): Financial problems may be a worry. It’s best to refrain from spending on unnecessary items. You will be experiencing some personal changes. Be willing to accept the outcome. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You’re holding yourself back if you don’t realize your idea. It is best not to confide in friends or relatives today. Your reluctance to do what they want will only cause discord. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your depression will mount regarding the problem that exist between you and your relatives. It is best to let the situation calm down before you try to talk to these concerned. **

Birthday Babies: You’re bright, witty, articulate and have a huge capacity for helping others. You will always push up and help the ones you love accomplish their goals. Selfless and giving, you are a wonderful little tyke to have around.

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**THE OBSERVER**

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

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**DILBERT**

PUBLISHED BY DR. RANDY SCHALLER

**HENTI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION**

The Observer P.O. Box Q
Notre Dame, IN 46556
MEN'S BASKETBALL

Thomas, electric atmosphere spark victory

Irish advance to NIT quarters with win over St. Louis

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
Senior Staff Writer

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Listening to the roar of the crowd as the Irish came on the court, no one could tell that the team wasn't at the Joyce Center. From the band to the PA announcer to even corny timeout promotions, this was essentially a home game.

Notre Dame fed on this "home" energy throughout the game, recovering from a sluggish first half where they trailed essentially a home game.

With win over St. Louis on the court, no one could tell that the game to the delight of the Irish crowd.

Each display of athleticism simultaneously elicited a roar from those in the crowd and a grim from the player who just slammed the ball through the hoop. But Mike Brey noticed the unusual energy emanating from Thomas, and pulled him aside in the locker room. Calm down, Brey essentially told him, and let the game come to you.

"How stupid was I," the Irish coach said after the game where Thomas lit up Saint Louis for a career-high 39 points — 27 of which came in a second-half blitzkrieg that sent the Irish to the NIT's third round.

Then again, Brey should have seen how Thomas gazed around the Fort Wayne Coliseum, immersing himself in the roar the Irish received when they sauntered onto the court.

Junior guard Chris Thomas shoots against the Billikens in Notre Dame's 77-66 victory Monday. Thomas had 39 points, including 27 in the second half.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ND readies for Blue Raiders

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Middle Tennessee State may have been the No. 13 seed when it defeated No. 4 seed and 12th-ranked North Carolina in the first-round of the NCAA Tournament Sunday, but don't tell Muffet McGraw that.

To McGraw, the Blue Raiders victory was no fluke.

"I honestly think that the best team won that game," McGraw said. "I thought Middle Tennessee played much better as a team and played well together.

Notre Dame looks to end Middle Tennessee State's Cinderella run in the NCAA Tournament at the Joyce Center tonight in a second-round matchup that sends the winner to the Sweet 16 in Hartford, Conn.

The Irish (20-10) were pushed to the limit in their first-round game against No. 12 seed Southwest Missouri State. Notre Dame outlasted the Missouri Valley Conference champs 69-65 in overtime Sunday.

Middle Tennessee State (24-7) won the Sun Belt conference tournament as the No. 4 seed

BASEBALL

Irish open home season today

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Senior Staff Writer

After five weeks and 15 straight games on the road, the Irish are ready to return to Notre Dame and the comfort of Frank Eck Stadium for their home opener today.

Notre Dame (13-2) will host Central Michigan (6-10), as the Irish kick off their 2004 home season.

"It's going to be really great to finally be home at Eck Stadium after being on the road for five weeks," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "Our first 15 games have been on the road, so hopefully we'll be able to play at home (today). There are a lot of people on this team looking forward to that."

The Irish, who split a pair of games with Southern Illinois over the weekend, have climbed as high as No. 6 in the most recent Collegiate Baseball Newspaper poll. The most recent Baseball America poll has Notre Dame ranked 13th.

For an Irish team that began the season with some unusual hot hitting, the bats cooled off somewhat during the weekend series with the Salukis. In the two games, the Irish batted just .231 as a team and scored only nine runs.

Mainieri says he attributes the lack of Irish offense to the fact that the team had not played a game in a week before meeting the Salukis last Saturday. He hopes that the return to playing mid-week games and seeing action on a more consistent basis will return the pop to the Irish bats.

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