**The Observer**

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## Trustees to determine Malloy's future

Board expected to name Executive Vice President at next week's meeting

By MEGHANNE DOWNES

University President Father Edward Malloy said he has entrusted his future at Notre Dame to the Board of Trustees, which is currently reviewing his tenure at the University's highest position.

According to Malloy, he asked the Board to evaluate the University's performance after his 17th year as president, believing it was the ideal time for a review to determine what Notre Dame needed and in what direction it should be headed.

"I have no idea myself how it'll go," Malloy said. "I'm happy with whatever the outcome is because I asked them to do it. ... I'm not seeking to say on, because I think that should be the decision of the Board — but I will do whatever the Board wants in terms of what the future has in store."

The Board of Trustees elected Malloy as president in November 1986, and has served in that role since June 1, 1987.

However, Malloy said he would remain as president past 2005 if that were the Board's request.

If the Trustees meeting they'll say, 'Monk, we've decided that it's time to begin the search process,' Malloy said. "Or they could say, 'We'd like you to stay for some additional period of time.'"

If the Board decides to begin the presidential search process following next week's meeting, Malloy said the trustees could announce his successor in November. The chosen candidate would then take over the helm of the University the following June.

While Malloy believes the decision will be announced in upcoming weeks, he said it was uncertain whether the Board would deliver its decision at the April 29-30 trustee meeting.

Malloy does, however, expect the Board to name a new Executive Vice President at the next meeting. The third highest-ranking position at the University has been vacant for nearly a year, after Father Tim Scully resigned prior to the Board's Spring 2003 meeting.

Though previous Executive Vice Presidents have been priests from the Congregation of the Holy Cross, University spokesman Matt Storin said there are no prerequisites for the position.

"They look for an aptitude for business and administration in choosing someone for that job," Storin said.

The Executive Vice President oversees approximately 3,000 employees and is responsible for overseeing Notre Dame's financial affairs, WNDU, the endowment and the campus plan, among other responsibilities, Storin said.

Since Scully's resignation, Malloy has taken on the responsibilities of the Executive Vice President position.

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**ND grad Roemer serves on 9/11 panel**

By CLAIRE HEININGER

*News Editor*

Forgive Tim Roemer for disliking the blame game.

As one of 10 commissioners on the National Commission on Terrorist Acts Upon the United States, he has seen recent bursts of partisan politics steal the spotlight and personal agendas dominate the national press. But amid the September 11 commission's public debates, Roemer — who holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from Notre Dame and represented South Bend for 12 years in the U.S. House of Representatives — has not lost sight of its true purpose.

"There's been a lot of finger-pointing and pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey, the 47-year-old said. "But the goal of the panel needs to be tough, persisting, bipartisan questions to target the threat and to move forward."

Moving forward, however, first requires the painful process of looking back. And as Roemer has emphasized since the panel's creation — which came about largely due to legislation he, along with Senators Joe Lieberman and John McCain, authored and helped push through Congress — a deep and comprehensive examination of the attacks is not only what the families of September 11 victims deserve.

It's what they demand.

"If a family member could say, 'I'm tired, I've lost a husband or a wife,' he said. 'But when they have every excuse to walk away from the system, they've demanded a change. They've fought tenaciously, being tough, and sometimes successfully to be tough, in doing what is not only painful but painful yet necessary.

Similarly, as Tim Roemer, a Democrat, serves on the panel's National Commission on Terrorist Acts Upon the United States, he has seen recent bursts of partisan politics steal the spotlight and personal agendas dominate the national press. But amid the September 11 commission's public debates, Roemer — who holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from Notre Dame and represented South Bend for 12 years in the U.S. House of Representatives — has not lost sight of its true purpose.

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**Shirt 2004 design unveiled today**

By ANNA GELHAUS

*News Writer*

Will the tide of the "Sea of Green" rise again? That question will be answered this afternoon as The Shirt 2004 is unveiled.

Designer Brittany Becker said she cannot comment on the color or design of this year's shirt, but she said, "It has a little more of a vintage feel than before. The main facet of the design is the role students play in Notre Dame tradition and the atmosphere in the stadium."

Kate Crossin, 2004 president of The Shirt Committee, said the shirt is aimed with students in mind.

"I really wanted to focus more on the students," she said. "We are selling more than a shirt," she added. "We wanted a color the students liked, a design the students liked. From my talks with coach [Tyrone] Willingham, we decided we wanted to bring the football simulation to April."

Becker added that she hopes it creates unity.

Crossin said there is a big emphasis on this year's unveiling as it is the 15th anniversary of the shirt. The original shirt, designed by Ron Harvath, the original president of The Shirt, will be present and wearing the original "90s design. Various hall presidents and Courtney Schuster, the 2002 Shirt president, will be modeling the other Shirts from past years.

Chuck Lennon, executive director for the Alumni Association, said that the shirt will be dedicated to the late Bob Stotz, who was the first president of The Shirt.

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Funny friends**

Seeing as I'm not a very funny person myself, I love to be around people who are. And one thing that concerned me about matriculating at Notre Dame was that there might not be a lot of, well, amusing people. It's not something you can ask for or do much about. It probably doesn't come through on college essays too often. And you certainly can't make a type of comedian SAT's. Affirmative action for funny people? I don't see the admissions office making a statement on that anytime soon.

Luckily, the Dillon Pep Rally at the beginning of the school year pretty much assuaged my fears. I knew there were humorous people out there, I just had to find them. I was also moderately familiar with the Keenan Revue, as my best friend's older brother lives in Keenan, and we would amuse ourselves by watching the 2002 Keenan Revue. However, I didn't know many people participating in these activities. Failed attempts at jokes in my chemistry lab also disheartened me. Where were these elusive jokesters? I kept looking, and fortunately found Kirsten, who lives across the hall from me and is renowned, at least among our group of friends, for her rather unique sense of humor. At least her roommate always laughs at her jokes. Still, more fortunately, we made the acquaintance of several outlandishly funny guys, who will remain nameless for obvious reasons.

So the not-so-funny Kate was able to laugh through laughing in the innate hilarity of these people. But I remained saddenl that more events did not showcase the funniness of my fellow students. And then came Bookstore Basketball. I ended up writing the article previewing tournament teams and began flipping through a book of names. I honestly could not stop laughing. Participants — you are great. You are funny. You are my collective heroes. Who comes up with these elusive jokesters? I kept looking, and fortunately found Kirsten, who lives across the hall from me and is renowned, at least among our group of friends, for her rather unique sense of humor. At least her roommate always laughs at her jokes. Still, more fortunately, we made the acquaintance of several outlandishly funny guys, who will remain nameless for obvious reasons.

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The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of honesty at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT THE BLUE-GOLD GAME?**

Meghan Lawless
Junior Cavanaugh
Sports Production

"With Bookstore almost over, I think basketball will finally be more important than football."

Morgan Dill
Freshman Pasquerilla East

"Go yellow ... I mean gold ... I'm awesome."

Patrick Downey
Junior Keenan

"It's a win-win situation."

Ashley Bentzel-Smith
Senior Pasquerilla West

"Of course! It's the only time I get to see my two favorite-colored uniforms in one game."

**OFFBEAT**

Man passes off murder suspect's ID as own

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — A man made a mistake by using a fake driver's license with the name of a person wanted for attempted murder.

Theorid Partida Ceja, 36, spent several hours in jail after he gave a state trooper who stopped him for speeding south of Lafayette an Indiana driver's license with the name Jose Fabela. A check of the license found that Fabela, 39, was wanted in Texas for attempted murder, police said.

Investigators suspected Ceja might not be the wanted man and had officials in Hidalgo County, Texas, where Fabela is wanted, fax them a photograph of Fabela.

"Right away, when we saw the photo, we knew it wasn't our guy," Trooper Troy Fischer said. Ceja later gave investigators an Indiana state identification card and Mexican credentials in his own name.

Man designs underwear for dogs

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Dogs may no longer be the butt of their owners' jokes, thanks to Frank Morosky.

Morosky, owner of Flat-D Innovations, has developed a product to reduce the odor of flatulence in dogs.

"Arms and the Man" runs today and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Student tickets are $5 and may be purchased at the door or at the LaFortune Box Office.

PASO and the AAA will sponsor an island-style Barbeque tonight from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are $3 person or $5 per couple.

SUR will show the critically-acclaimed drama "Mystic River" tonight at 10:30 p.m. and tomorrow evening at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased for $3.

Students can hone their dance skills with Swing Night tonight, at Legends from 10 to midnight.

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

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**TODAY**

HIGH 61
LOW 51

**TUESDAY**

HIGH 48
LOW 39

**SUNDAY**

HIGH 59
LOW 39

**MONDAY**

HIGH 56
LOW 43

**SATURDAY**

HIGH 59
LOW 48
Kevin Bacon at Notre Dame? Well, sort of.

Notre Dame's 6 Degrees of Kevin Bacon

Kevin Bacon (actor) and Knute Rockne (coach)

Come see Mystic River

Thursday, April 22 from 7:30 pm

Price of local theater: $10

Price of seeing a SUE movie: $3

Winning a 27" TV/VCVR/DVD combo for going to see a movie: priceless

Don't miss your last chance to enter the TV giveaway!

SMC, ND students plan neighborhood cleanup

By ANGELA SAOUD

Though the farm at Saint Mary's no longer exists, the love for the land and the environment is still present.

Many years ago, a farm was run by members of the Saint Mary's community, and the products from it were used not only to feed the college, but the community as well. But with changing times come changes to the land.

Members of the Saint Mary's Student Environmental Action Coalition and Notre Dame's Students for Environmental Action will combine efforts this weekend to plant trees in the South Bend community to celebrate the end of Earth Awareness Week.

Saint Mary's senior Virginia Kelly is co-president of SEA. Kelly said with Earth Day being yesterday, and Arbor Day in the near future, now is a great time to hold this event. She said the groups plan to plant trees and perform a neighborhood cleanup.

"SEA purchased five trees from the city of South Bend," Kelly said. "Trees are really expensive, up to $200 each. We'll be collaborating with the Near Northwest Neighborhood Inc. We'll be planting these trees and also helping the NNN with a neighborhood cleanup." Saint Mary's SEA will also be joining the tree planting effort. Earlier in the week, the group held a vegetarian dinner, sponsored a film viewing and led a study mild and minor. And they examine the importance of the literature as an information clearing house and referral center dedicated to increasing awareness about issues affecting women on campus and around the world.

Chandra Johnson assistant to the president

"As we do what we do with our lives, those who come after us will watch what we do, and they listen to what we say, and they examine the nature of our personal relationships." - Chandra Johnson

Chandra Johnson awarded at the Women's Resource Center Centers 4th annual award ceremony

Women's Resource Center honors four Notre Dame women

The Women's Resource Center honored its four annual Women's Resource Awards at the awards ceremony Thursday night, honoring four Notre Dame women for their dedication and improvements to the University community.

The Distinguished Notre Dame Woman Awards were presented this year to Kathleen Brannock, Howard hall resident; Ruthann Joh­ansen, professional specialist for arts and letters core; Catherine Perry, associate professor of French; and Catherine Pieronek, director of women's programs for the College of Engineering.

"Trees are the world's best friends. We need to help each other grow." - saint Mary's, according to group mem­bers.

"We have a strong history of earth awareness at Saint Mary's," said SEAC members. "We have over 130 different plant and tree species on our nature trails alone. We're working hard to retain the nature area we have currently, and we are also a project in the works by COLQ to set up an earth studies major and minor. And we're hoping that history will move into the future."

Contact Angela Saoud at saoud03@stmarys.edu

Kevin Bacon at Notre Dame? Well, sort of.

"I think a lot of a lot of local South Bend issues are largely unknown to the students. We want to make sure there isn't very much interaction between the community and students." Members of Saint Mary's SEAC agree with Kelly. They feel that in order to grow big, people must start small.

"By recycling is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to earth issues, but at least it's a start," said SEAC members. "We believe you have to start in your own backyard, that being the South Bend community. We want to raise awareness because we have a lot of room to grow."

And now, the future of earth issues is looking bright at Saint Mary's. The future of earth awareness at Saint Mary's, according to group members.

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"Trees are the world's best friends. We need to help each other grow." - Saint Mary's, according to group members.
Husband of ND employee wins lotto

By JANICE FLYNN
News Writer

After spending several exhausting days in Alabama on a field trip with 31 high school students, University employee Stephanie Bridges was looking forward to coming home two weekends ago. What awaited her was not with a winning lottery ticket pretty hectic; [I've] not [been] earlier, but waited until his expected.

"The past days have been pretty hectic; if I've not [been] able to sleep well," said Bridges, a South Bend native, and a graduate of Clay High School and Oral Roberts University. She has been an advisor for the University's Educational Talent Search program for 11 years.

Kevin Bridges had won the Hoosier Lotto several days earlier, but waited until his chance to make many decisions. They have been meeting with financial planners to determine the best way to manage their money, and they also plan on spending some time away to discuss the details of their future.

The couple does not plan on changing its lifestyle in any drastic way. Bridges said that she will continue working at her current position, and that her husband will return to school full-time. Kevin Bridges is a purchaser for Mohawk Flush Doors, Inc. of South Bend.

Kevin Bridges played the lottery frequently, and like many Americans, he and his wife often imagined what it would be like to win. But when it actually comes true, your plans become "totally different" Stephanie Bridges said.

"When you get it, the responsibility sets in, and you want to be more reasonable," Stephanie Bridges said. Stephanie and Kevin Bridges, who are very close to both of their families, said their families will support them in any way they can. Though, they are trying to be "extremely conscious" about how they spend their money. Their first priority is "securing the future" for their three children, a 16-year old son and two-year old twin daugh­ters.

Despite the stressful past weeks, Stephanie Bridges said her family is very pleased. "It's a good thing," she said.

Contact Janice Flynn at jflynn@nd.edu

Lecture discusses theology

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

Saint Mary's Center for Spirituality presented its 20th annual Madeleva Lecture Thursday night with guest lecturer Mary Ann Hinsdale, who spoke of the role women have played in modern theology.

Hinsdale has been a Sister of the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Monroe, Mich. since 1965. She has also taught theology for over 25 years and is currently an associate professor of theology at Boston College.

The Madeleva Lectures in Spirituality are named for Sister Madeleva Wolff, past president of Saint Mary's, and are intended to honor Wolff and her initiative of creating the Graduate School of Scared Theology in 1944 — the only institute of its time to admit women into a Ph.D. program in theology.

"I encourage all women to give a voice to the who and what that have shaped us in theology," Hinsdale said.

Hinsdale began her lecture by encouraging the audience not to sing of "Everyday God" to celebrate Earth Day, and the realization that God is present in our everyday physical and emotional life. Women were rarely professors, yet alone theology professors, said Hinsdale.

Hinsdale said many factors have led to women shaping theology. One of the most notable is the influence of women's Catholic educational institutions. She commented that these institutions frequently graduate strong women, with a long legacy of graduates becoming theologians. Involvement in such organizations, such as the Peace Corps, often results in people "getting bitten by the theology bug" said Hinsdale.

The increased interest in theology through volunteer work is often due to increased prayer and community living while volunteering.

In her own life, Hinsdale's interest in women shaping theology was a result of her growing up. "I've not been involved in any religious practices often seemed exclusive, especially towards women. This caused her to further her education through obtaining her B.A. in theology and German from Marygrove College, M.A. in religious education from the Catholic University of America, a Licentiate in sacred theology from Regis College and a Ph.D. from the University of St. Michael's College.

The future of women in theology lies in the hands of laywomen, she said. An overwhelming 78 percent of today's women theologians are single or married laywomen. Hinsdale pointed out that this will greatly impact the future of women in theology, for it will be less about the careers of theolo­gians and more about the "word of (God) becoming flesh.

Hinsdale concluded her speech by encouraging those in attendance — particularly women — to consider becoming theologians.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeehan@stmarys.edu

This Week in the Department of Music...  

ND Chorale & Chamber Orchestra  
Wednesday, April 21, 2004  
8 pm, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Russ Gavin, euphonium  
Thursday, April 22, 2004  
5 pm, Carey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library

ND Collegium Musicum  
Wednesday, April 21, 2004  
8 pm, Moreau Seminary Chapel

Katie Hunt & Mark Thomas, organ  
Thursday, April 22, 2004  
8:15 pm, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

ND University Band & Brass Ensemble  
Sunday, April 25, 2004  
3 pm, Rotunda, Notre Dame Main Building

All events FREE and open to the public!

For more information call the Department of Music at 631-4201.

The Promise and Hope of Cuba  

CRS/Caritas on the Forefront of Catholic Solidarity  
Monday, April 26, 2004 at 7:00 pm  
C-103, Hesburgh Center  

Students interested in the course for Spring 2005 are encouraged to attend.

Sponsored by the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies and Latin American/ North American Church Centers

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Iraqis must hand over weapons

Associated Press

FALLUJAH — U.S. Marines warned guerrillas in this insurgent-held city Thursday that they have only days to hand over their weapons to avoid violence or face a possible American attack. So far the insurgents have turned in mainly dud rockets, rusty mortar shells and grenades labeled "inert.

Lt. Gen. James Conway said the battle could be "coldly" if Marines launch a new assault to unseat insurgents from Fallujah, saying foreign fighters in the city have been reinforcing their positions and have no interest in surrendering.

The stark warning came two days after city leaders called on insurgents to hand over their heavy weapons in return for a U.S. pledge to hold back on plans to bomb Fallujah and allow the return of families that fled the city. Now Marines have halted the return of families because of the failure to disarm and the desire to have fewer civilians in the city if fighting resumes.

More than a third of Fallujah's 150,000 people fled to Baghdad and elsewhere during the fighting that began Friday, and allow the return of families that fled the city. Now Marines have halted the return of families because of the failure to disarm and the desire to have fewer civilians in the city if fighting resumes.

The violence across Iraq remains at a high level after a weekend of heavy attacks, with the health administration and severely wounded his translator Thursday, a U.S. spokesman said. The shooting took place near northern Baghdad's Sunni Muslim neighborhood of Aza­miah, where gunmen have been active.

The violence across Iraq has interrupted some infrastructure repairs and forced giant firms Siemens AG, Bechtel and General Electric to suspend some reconstruction projects, threatening to undermine the U.S. goal of rebuilding Iraq.

Even a U.S. government official that oversees some reconstruction projects has been affected. Some 10 percent of its non-Iraqi employees are outside the country, either sent out of Iraq or unable to return because of the violence.

The rising in violence has made April the bloodiest month for the American-led military since the invasion of Iraq. At least 100 soldiers and five American civilian contractors have been killed. Dozens of foreigners have been abducted in a wave of kidnappings, with about 15 still captive.

New figures for the Iraqi casualty toll from this month's fighting emerged Thursday, with the health minister saying 576 Iraqi insurgents and civilians died in fighting since April 1 — sharply lower than earlier estimates.

A spokesman for British forces responsible for the southern Iraqi city of Basra lowered the reported death toll to 50 from a series of suicide bombings that targeted police stations there Wednesday.

It was still too early to say who was behind the Basra attacks, Capt. Hisham Halawi said. "We can't discount al-Qaeda, we can't discount former regime loyalists," he said.

Basra is overwhelmingly Shiite, and the last major suicide attack also target­ed Shiites: a series of sui­cide bombers who struck holy shrines in Karbala and Baghdad on March 2. At least 181 people were killed.

BUSH PROMISES TO RESTORE WETLANDS

WASHINGTON - Airport security remains lax despite billions of dollars and thousands of federal employees added since the Sept. 11 attacks, lawmakers were told Thursday.

A pair of government investigations submitted to the House aviation subcommittee found dangerous objects still get past security checkpoints. And they said neither government nor privately employed screeners performed their jobs well.

The findings are "pretty scary," said Rep. John Mica, R-Fla., the panel's chairman. They plans to hold an emergency meeting with Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and other key agency officials in the next 10 days to discuss ways to tighten airport security.

Police officers acted in self-defense

LaPorte — Two police officers acted in self-defense when they shot and killed a black fel­luid man who pointed a sawed-off rifle at them, prosecutors said Thursday. The officers - Detective John Murray and a sergeant - fired no shots and didn't know the names of the two deputies involved in the March 26 shooting of Keith Strahan, 40. But district attorney's conference Wednesday, LaPorte County Prosecutor Robert Beckman said the officers acted properly in the shooting.

"They acted within the protocol of all law enforcement to discharge their weapons in the manner and at the time they did," he said.

"Instead of just limiting our losses, we will expand the wetlands of America," Bush said after highlighting efforts to help wetlands at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. The 1,600 acres of salt marshes, beaches, forests and freshwater wet­lands are located a few miles from the Bush family's compound at Kennebunkport.

"For many years our nation has been working to prevent the net loss of wetlands and there is a reason why. America's wetlands are the habitat for thousands of species of wildlife," Bush said.

"Good conservation and good stew­ardship will happen when people say, "We're just not going to rely on the government to be the solution to the problem," he said.

Ed Hopkins, a spokesman for the Sierra Club, said that "this initiative pales in comparison with the damage the Bush administration is doing to wetlands" by not requiring more strenuous protections under the Clean Water Act.

Wells, Maine — Taking advantage of a courtyard on the porch of a Town Hall, Bush tried to improve his environmental image and said he offered Maine Democrat John Kerry a promise to restore or protect as much as three million acres of wetlands in the next four years.

Bush said after touring a Maine nature reserve with his mother that the nation's wetlands are for the first time holding steady in the battle to stop their annual net loss.
Roemer continued from page 1
intelligence agencies such as the FBI and CIA to declassify records to grilling National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice about what she knows and when, the commission has tried to thoroughly expose the government's internal workings — and internal failures and gaps — more publicly than before, he said. And perhaps more openly, he added, than ever again.

"This will be the most rich, penetrating and in-depth look at our government that the American people may ever get," he said. "It's a truly phenomenal, maybe once in a lifetime, once in history look at how government functions. Only in America could this take place."

However, not all Americans have agreed with the transparency of the commission. Critics have blasted panel members for being too public too prematurely with their opinions, and some have even called for a voluntary gag order to prevent the panel's integrality. But others point to one answer for the critics' complaints — the past.

"Many previous commissions with prominent members, distinguished reporters and deep resources changed as a result of those commissions' hard work and valiant effort," he said.

Recalling the Warren Commission, which investigated the Kennedy assassination and was chiefly behind closed doors, Roemer said that the "conspiracy theorists still joking today never got the answers they were looking for. This panel, he added, must be different. Americans are watching, and watching closely. Many are interested because of the political climate. Many are in awe of just how much intellig- ence has come to light, he said, and it matters to those who have lost their loved ones. There is a bittersweet personal stake."

Roemer, who credits his South Bend upbringing and Notre Dame experience with his "sense to use your con- science, decent beliefs and hopefully your analytical and academic skills to be constructive rather than destructive in the political process," said he has always cared about the audience of victims' families the most.

"Maybe a part of their healing process is their involvement in figuring out what's going on and what cost them dearly," he said.

Roemer recalled a meeting in his office shortly before the commission's work began. A widow of a September 11 victim took off her husband's wedding ring — which had been recovered from Ground Zero — and put it in Roemer's hand. The former Congressman still has it — and he uses it to remind him, "We hope you won't lose sight of the symbolism of this ring." He keeps the pressure and the partnership, it is clear that he hasn't.

"Those kinds of poignant and profound moments," he said, "stick with you."

Contact Claire Heisinger at cheising@nd.edu

Roemer continued from page 1
"I think the Board looked at several models about how this job should be fashioned," Storin added. "But with the possibility of some tweaking here and there, the job will remain as is."

When he does step down as president, Malloy said he will look back on his tenure as an exciting point in Notre Dame's history, adding that he is "trying to be part of an era distinguished by the work of great people and a tremendous amount of support."

In his remaining time at the University, Malloy hopes to work on the completion of the new strategic plan — "Notre Dame 2010: Fulfilling the Promise" — and to prepare the community for its implementation, joking that this was "enough to keep anyone busy."

"That's what we're about right now," Malloy said. "In my remaining days as president, that's what I hope to be able to do. And when I pass on the mantle to the next president, I hope to leave the University in good shape."

"Fulfilling the Promise," which Malloy said builds on previous strategic plans, focuses on the reaffirmation of great teaching, graduate research and scholarship, promotion of Catholic intellectual life and internationalization and diversity. Storin said he expects the Board to approve "Notre Dame 2010: Fulfilling the Promise" at next week's meeting.

Contact Meghanne Downes at mdowes1@nd.edu

"We will be getting a more sufficient amount than in the past," she said. Performances by the band The Undertones, Irish dancers, the Notre Dame cheerleaders, the marching band and choirs will entertain those in attendance.

There will be an opportunity to win one of two $500 shopping sprees at the bookstore and a set of football tickets for the 2004 season. Other events this week have also commemorated The Shirt's 15th anniversary. Five hundred white shirts promoting the unveiling were given to dorms and passed out at DeBartolo Hall.

"I wanted to see walking billboards," said Crossin. "We wanted to make the 15th anniversary big."

Contact Anna Gelhaus at agelhaus@nd.edu

Malloy continued from page 1
Shirt continued from page 1
Association, will kick off the event at 4:45 p.m. outside the Hammes Bookstore with a "mini pep rally" said Crossin. The official unveiling and press conference will begin inside at 5 p.m. with various members of the Notre Dame community, including athletic director Kevin White, Lennon, Harvath and Sister Jean Lenz.

Lenz encouraged students to buy The Shirt in 1990 to cover the medical expenses of Notre Dame graduate student, Zheng de Wang, a victim of a hit-and-run in Notre Dame Avenue. The proceeds from the shirt are evenly split between a fund to help with student medical expenses and The Shirt Charity Fund. Thirty-five percent of the charity fund goes to the Rector Fund, and the rest supplements Student Activities fees.

The Rector Fund allows dorms to provide students, who have financial concerns, with extra money to cover events like football tickets that they might otherwise be unable to participate in. (They [rectors] can allocate how [the fund] they see fit," said Crossin. "It's really a great resource for the dorms."

Becker says she's "a little nervous, but excited" about the unveiling. "I hope everyone wears it, likes it and raises money for the cause," she said. "Because that's what it is really about."

The Shirt will be available for a student discount of $11 today, Saturday and Sunday. There is a limit of one shirt per student with valid student ID.

Crossin said there will be roughly 9,000 shirts in the first shipment, which will come in four sizes: small, medium, large and extra large.

Spring Carnival featuring: free subway name certificates dog tags bouncy boxing free photo key chains balloon artists bungee run On the fieldhouse Mall 2-6pm (LaFortune Ballroom if rain) (Inflatables on North Quad 1-5pm) Jason LeVasseur Concert opener Lawrence Santiago of Station One 5pm on Fieldhouse Mall (IPod giveaway)

Coming Tomorrow: Jay Hansen Movement Legends 10 pm with XBox give away at 11:30

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Gasoline futures hit record high

NEW YORK — Gasoline futures hit a new record trading high of $1.9300 a gallon Thursday in New York as strong demand, trimming from threats to crude supply to a refinery outage fueled traders’ fears of insufficient inventories during the peak U.S. summer driving season.

"It looks to me that we will be testing $2.00 a barrel eventually," said Phil Flynn, an analyst who trades with Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago. "We're going into the weekend tomorrow, and with concerns about terrorism, I'd have to say that the bull market's still on." 

Tyco subsidiary to pay 810M fine

HARTFORD, Conn. — A Tyco International subsidiary will pay $10 million in fines and admit covering up the illegal release of wastewater into a sewer system. The Associated Press has learned.

"I don't think we're at the point where interest rates are going to curtail the market's advance, but the market has to go through a digestion phase," said Steven Goldman, chief strategist at Weeden & Co. in Greenwich, Conn. "In general, the market has really built up a lot of strength." 

The Dow closed up 143.93, or 1.4 percent, at 10,461.20.

The broader gauges were also markedly higher. The Nasdaq gained 37.28 or 1.9 percent, to 2,032.91. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 15.84, or 1.4 percent, to 1,213.93.

Greenspan's message to Congress — that the economic recovery is stable and the expansion will likely continue — was inevitable, the recent jump in advertising revenue hurt the financial sector. 

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan speaks during his two days of Congressional testimony. Greenspan's warning of a rate hike did not deter investors.

IN BRIEF

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Tyco Electronics printed Circuit Group has been the subject of a long federal investigation. Three former employees have pleaded guilty to covering up the release of wastewater into a sewer system. The Associated Press has learned.

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Among the best gains on the Dow, Caterpillar soared $3.39, or 4.2 percent, to $84.10, after more than tripling its earnings and surpassing analysts’ estimates. The world’s largest manufacturer of construction equipment also raised its outlook for the year.

American International Group Inc., just added to the Dow this month, rose 50 cents to $73.70 after beating expectations, despite concerns that rising rates might hurt the financial sector.

ABC’s profile jumped 36 percent over the year-ago period on strong performance at its life insurance and retirement services operations.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Data slows down dollar’s advance

NEW YORK — Benign U.S. economic data took some wind out of the dollar’s recent advance Thursday, pushing it lower against the euro.

In a mixed session for the currency, the dollar'sлицой strengthenered against the euro, the Swiss franc and the yen. For the day — before slipping back a bit following the release of a smaller-than-expected decrease in weekly jobless claims.

The latest weekly jobless claims fell by 9,000, but economists were expecting a fall of 20,000. The euro had fallen to a five-month low of $1.1781, rebounded on the claims report, while the dollar cut some of its gains.

Tuesday’s data ”hit home the point that monetary policy officials can remain ‘patient,’” as to when they start the tightening cycle, Bezu said, repeating the key word for Fed-watchers: “There was nothing in the numbers to bring forward that timeline.”

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Jackson defense plans new strategy

LOS ANGELES — Michael Jackson's secret indictment on child molestation charges sets the stage for a unique defense challenge on grounds that extraordinary security measures may have intimidated witnesses and grand jurors.

Authorities blocked side roads, hid witnesses and delivered grand jurors to secret locations in buses with blacked-out windows to keep the proceedings secret. In one case, a photographer outside the building where grand jurors were meeting was ordered to delete photos from his digital camera because they revealed too much of the people entering the building.

Jackson attorney Mark Geragos, unable to comment directly because of a gag order, suggested grounds for a challenge as he protested the secrecy before a Santa Barbara Judge last week.

"If you believe what is reported, we've got people covered up, wrapped in blankets, put into vans driven around like they're Osama bin Laden's lieutenants and put into a training facility, then admonished in the procedure and then spirited out into the afternoon sun," Geragos told Superior Court Judge Clifford Kron.

"That has had an enormously chilling effect on the defense in terms of all of the witnesses," said Geragos, who was seeking approval to interview witnesses. He won that approval but little else. An indictment was returned Wednesday. Authorities would not confirm what had happened even after major news organizations reported it. The documents remained sealed and its details unknown.

Sources told The Associated Press on Thursday that 25 witnesses testified.

The indictment was to remain under wraps until April 30 when Jackson is scheduled to be in court in Santa Maria for a preliminary hearing. He could be arraigned on the indictment that day.

\"I've never seen anything go off the charts like this.\" — Laurie Levenson, law professor

The defense has said Jackson will plead innocent as he did to previous charges lodged by the district attorney. The defense could interview witnesses both to verify or quash the indictment.

Criminal defense attorney Steve Cron said Geragos' plan of attack is unusual but he drew the attention of an appeals court, if not the trial judge.

Cron said that District Attorney Tom Sneddon would likely argue that the secrecy was designed to protect grand jurors and witnesses from the media.

\"It may have been taken a bit too far,\" said Cron. \"They were probably made to believe they were evaluating someone particularly dangerous.\"

Loyola University law professor Laurie Levenson said a challenge because of secrecy would be "novel" but she said unusual motions seem to go hand-in-hand with high-profile cases.

\"It's not a standard motion. And Geragos is going to be pushing the envelope here\" — she said. \"But I've never heard before of a hide-and-seek grand jury.\"

"We've had grand jury hearings for a United States president in the Monica Lewinsky case," she said, "hearing in the Rodney King cases, but I've never seen anything go off the charts like this. And even with such secrecy you have a believably indictment.\"

Attorney Theodore Boutrous, who represents media companies challenging secrecy in the case, said authorities' tactics infringed on the press First Amendment rights to report on the case for the public.

"It forces reporters into back-alley reporting and that is not good for the public," said Boutrous. "It closes a window on the public's ability to serve as a check on the system.\"
China, Libya improve U.S. relations

Meanwhile, relations with other countries, United Nations sour

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Across the world, it seems that U.S. diplomacy is breaking down.

America's ties with Europe and the United Nations are frayed. The Arab world is furious over U.S. support for Israel on West Bank settlements. Asia for help in stabilizing Iraq have found few takers. Troops from Spain, Honduras and the Dominican Republic leaving. And coalition leaders still standing with President Bush face rising political dissent at home.

On the other hand, relations are clearly improving with China and Libya. The U.S. overtures in these old totalitarian foes might have startled administration foreign policy hawks just a few years ago, but the Sept. 11 terror attacks and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have produced some seismic shifts in global dynamics.

Libya is Bush's poster child of a rogue regime that saw the light. The administration is poised to lift some sanctions to reward Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi for abandoning weapons of mass destruction and accepting responsibility for the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing.

And forging closer ties with China is a courtship of convenience. The United States is looking to Beijing to help defuse the North Korean nuclear standoff and to open more of China's markets to U.S. companies. It has also helped on the global war on terror.

Given the turmoil in Iraq and the rest of the Middle East, the last thing the Bush administration needs is confrontation with Beijing or a flare-up in North Korea. The administration also is under political attacks for not doing enough to narrow America's soaring trade deficit with China.

"This really is an amazing relationship. It's gone from almost nothing to one of the most significant bilateral relationships anywhere in the world today," Vice President Dick Cheney said on a recent trip to China.

China, now America's third-largest trading partner, agreed during high-level talks in Washington last week to a series of agreements to open more markets to U.S. goods and to crack down on piracy of copyrighted CDs, movies and computer software. Commerce Secretary Don Evans called it "a landmark day."

Meanwhile, China's leaders apparently went along with a direct appeal by Cheney to exert more pressure on North Korean leader Kim Jong II to dismantle his nuclear program.

Visiting Beijing last week just days after Cheney, Kim told Chinese officials he is committed to continuing six-nation talks and ending the nuclear dispute through dialogue. China's official Xinhua News Agency reported.

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Witneses testify in Nichols trial

"The bomb was made of ammonium nitrate fertilizer and racing fuel, according to authorities.

In other testimony Thursday, defense attorneys questioned Michael Fortier for a third time about his dealings between Nichols and Fortier's relationships with executed bomber Timothy McVeigh and their involvement in the bomb plot.

Nichols already is serving a life sentence on federal convictions for the deaths of eight federal law enforcement officers in the bombing.

Fortier, serving 12 years in prison for not telling authori­ties about the bomb plot, has said McVeigh told him Nichols was deeply involved and helped gather bomb comp­onents. Fortier said he was not d i e t­y involved.

Under cross­examination, Fortier said he received stolen weapons allegedly sold to Nichols to finance the bombing and helped Nichols in other ways. Defense attorney Brian Hermanson asked if McVeigh gave Nichols and Fortier accompanied McVeigh on a trip where they cased the federal building four months before the bombing.

Defense attorney Brian Hermanson asked Fortier if his activities were enough to make authorities suspicious.

"Yes, I would agree to that," Fortier said.

But when questioned by prosecutor Sandra Elliott, Fortier said he didn't acquire any of the bomb components or help make the bomb and tried to talk McVeigh out of the bombing.

"I asked him about the peo­ple," Fortier said.

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Moussaoui case allowed to proceed

Harsh penalty lifted that would have weakened government's case

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court on Thursday allowed the government's case against terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaoui to proceed and threw out a penalty that would have eliminated the heart of the government's only Sept. 11 case.

The three-judge panel backed Moussaoui on the key issue, granting him access to three al-Qaeda prisoners who have made statements that potentially could exonerate him.

The judges of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va., ordered the trial judge - Leonie Brinkema in Richmond, Va., ordered the trial judge to work out a compromise that would give Moussaoui access to written accounts of the witness statements.

Moussaoui's constitutional right to a fair trial demanded such access, even trumping the government's need to protect national security by denying an accused terrorist access to his former al-Qaeda colleagues, the court said.

However, the judges said the trial judge — Leonie Brinkema in Alexandria, Va. — went too far in punishing the government for disobeying her orders to allow Moussaoui and his lawyers to question the captives by a remote video hookup.

The appeals court threw out Brinkema's two-pronged penalty, which consisted of banning any government evidence related to the Sept. 11 attacks and barring the death penalty — a punishment the government vowed to seek if Moussaoui is convicted.

"No punitive sanction is warranted here because the government has rightfully exercised its prerogative to protect national security interests by refusing to produce the witnesses," the court said.

Moussaoui, who was arrested a month before the attacks while arouses suspensions at a flight school, is the only U.S. defendant charged as a conspirator with the 19 Sept. 11 hijackers. He has admitted belonging to Osama bin Laden's terrorist network but denied he was part of the plot, indicating instead that he was to have participated in a subsequent al-Qaeda operation.

The FBI in Minneapolis had sought to search Moussaoui's computer after the French citizen's arrest for immigration violations, but was turned down by bureau headquarters. Members of a commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks have expressed concern whether the plot would have been discovered if the Minneapolis request had been granted.

In the key issue of access to witnesses, the appeals court said that from at least one witness, "a jury might reasonably infer that Moussaoui was not involved in Sept. 11. We therefore conclude that Moussaoui has made a plausible showing" that the witness would be favorable to him.

Chief Judge William W. Wilkins wrote the opinion. Judges Karen J. Williams and Roger L. Gregory concurred with portions but dissented from other parts.

The appeals court rejected Brinkema's view that it was not possible to craft a compromise to give Moussaoui access to the witnesses — saying that written statements from the prisoners could substitute for direct questioning.

Gregory said in his dissent that the instructions for drafting the witness statements for the jury put Brinkema "in a thoroughly untenable position."

The court instructed Brinkema to work with the government, Moussaoui and his court-appointed attorneys to draft the language of the statements that will be presented to the jury. The judges said the statements should use "direct quotations." They implied they would reject any "makeweight" statements.

"Many parts of the country there is a systematic attempt at the starvanation of the Jewish population," wrote in his letter of resignation.

Two years before, he had heard from G e o r g e M e s s e r s m i t h , then U.S. consul general in Berlin, about a conversation with Hermann Goering, Hitler's top deputy. According to McDonald's diary, Goering told Messersmith that there was "the greatest extent possible."

friend, Hitler whom McDonald had known when he and Hanfstaengl were students at Harvard.

Hanfstaengl said then, according to McDonald's own words, that a storm trooper had been assigned to each Jew in Germany and that in a single night it could be finished.

"He did not explain," McDonald wrote, "but I assume he meant nothing more than wholesale arrests and imprisonments."

McDonald also reflected on his 1933 meeting with Hitler in his diary, and wrote that the Nazi leader had looked at him half-suspiciously.

quoted him as saying that Jewish people have to fight for the world."

"We are not primarily attacking the Jews," Hitler told him, "rather the Socialists and Communists."

The United States has shut out such people. We did not do so, therefore, we cannot be blamed if we now take measures against them."

M c D o n a l d described his impression of Hitler: "The man does have... the eyes of a fanatic, but he has in addition... a slight, much more reserve and control and intelligence than most fanatics."

A month later, McDonald reported to President Franklin Roosevelt, who told him of a plan to appeal to the German government. But this was never done.

McDonald became U.S. ambassador to Israel in 1948. He died in 1964. Over 10,000 pages of his writings were given to the museum by his daughters Barbara Ann McDonald Stewart and Janet McDonald Barrett.
MCLEAN, Va. — A second top editor stepped down from USA Today on Thursday as the fallout from a fraud scandal involving a former star reporter spread. A third told staffers he would be departing soon.

Hal Ritter, the newspaper's managing editor of news, submitted his resignation to publisher Craig Moon on Thursday. He had been in his current role since 1995 and had worked at the paper since it was founded in 1982.

Ritter's departure came on the same day the newspaper revealed the scathing conclusions of an investigation by three veteran journalists into the work of former star reporter Jack Kelley.

The panel determined that editors should have looked into concerns about Kelley's work long ago and that poor editorial oversight and a "virus" of fear helped Kelley continue his improprieties for years. The newspaper's top editor, Karen Jurgensen, retired abruptly in the wake of the scandal on Tuesday.

Also, Brian Gallagher, the newspaper's executive editor, told his colleagues at a meeting Thursday that he would stay in his current role long enough to make a transition to the next editor, but would not remain in that job for the long term.

In a note that Moon distributed to the paper's staff, Ritter said his departure will "make it easier for my colleagues in News to continue the job of making the newspaper even greater."

The panel reviewed and found that Kelley committed many acts of fraudulent reporting for more than a decade, including fabricating parts of at least 20 stories and stealing at least 100 passages from other news organizations.

The scandal has deeply embarrassed USA Today, the nation's largest-selling newspaper, and paralleled a debacle last year at The New York Times involving former reporter Jayson Blair.

The panel's findings, which were delivered to Moon last week, were detailed in a full page of articles in USA Today's Thursday editions, and a good portion of the report was posted on its Web site.

The panel said USA Today's policies as well as routine editing procedures "should have raised dark shadows of doubt about Kelley's work, had his editors been vigilant and diligent. They were not."

Prior to Ritter's resignation, Moon said in an interview that he anticipated making other personnel changes, but had declined to be more specific. He also said he expected to keep Kelley's wife, Jacki, in her current position as the newspaper's top advertising executive.

As for addressing the panel's concerns about a fearful culture in the newsroom, Moon said: "I think new leadership fixes that."

Unlike Blatt, who was a young reporter trying to make a name for himself, Kelley was a well-established star at USA Today. His work was held up to others as an example, he was given plum foreign assignments and asked to speak to various groups on behalf of the newspaper. He also co-authored two books with USA Today's founder, Al Neuharth.

Kelley, who is 43, resigned in January after admitting to trying to deceive a team of editors examining the veracity of his work. A subsequent review by the outside experts found that Kelley had engaged in extensive fabrication and plagiarism dating back as early as 1991.

"I recognize that I cannot make amends for the harm I have caused to my family, friends and colleagues," Kelley, a former USA Today reporter, said in a statement.

The panel said that the newspaper failed to act on early warnings of problems with Kelley's work. The editors spent more than 10 weeks interviewing current and former USA Today staffers in their investigation, which was also aided by several reporters and editors at the paper.

They also found that an earlier investigation into Kelley's work, conducted by USA Today editors last year, failed to turn up most of Kelley's misdeeds because the investigators "set out to prove that he had been guilty of nothing."

The panel also found that a fearful atmosphere in the newsroom inhibited staffers from complaining about Kelley. Some were scolded when they expressed concerns about Kelley, who was considered a "Golden Boy" with close ties to the paper's top managers.

The report found that the newspaper's culture and top-down management tended to "silence" the editorial staff, discourage give-and-take among reporters and editors and "separate responsibility from accountability."

Lines of communications running both vertically and horizontally among the newspaper's divisions were "palkably defective," the review found, adding that "communications deficiencies promote turf problems among depart­ments."

They also found that Kelley was able to "routinely abuse" rules governing anonymous sources, exploiting the confidence his editors had in him. Kelley also billed the paper for thousands of dollars in cash that was purportedly paid to translators or drivers who said they never received the money.

Accountants for the newspaper plan to investigate.

Seigenthaler, the head of the panel, is a former editor and publisher of The Tennessean in Nashville and the founding editorial director of USA Today. Kovach is chairman of the Committee of Concerned Journalists and former chief of the Washington bureau for The New York Times. Hilliard is a former editor of The Oregonian in Portland.
The Notre Dame name has not always been synonymous with football. It has not always been synonymous with academics. Now, it seems to be synonymous with both — the University's two pillars of pride have been set at odds.

When Father Edward Sorin founded the University in 1842, he did not envision it being one of the greatest Catholic institutions in America. Yet it remained relatively unknown until the 1920s, when with the help of Knute Rockne and the Irish football team, this vision began to take form.

Rockne put Notre Dame on the map, taking his teams from New York to Los Angeles to face the best football competition in the country. During Rockne’s time, the University was not just introduced to the nation, but began to draw a following of fans that loved the combination of Catholicism, athletics and academics that Notre Dame stood for.

Football also kept the University from shutting down during World War II. At that time, the Naval Academy bailed Notre Dame out of financial struggles in return for one thing — an athletic football competition between the two schools that continues as a tradition today.

As Notre Dame continued its growth throughout the 20th century, Father Theodore Hesburgh, President Emeritus, was the principal figure in building the University into a place known for more than football. Hesburgh's vision moulded Notre Dame into an outstanding academic institution that also frequently succeeded on the gridiron — and neither came at the expense of the other.

Today, Notre Dame is ranked in the top 20 institutions by the U.S. News and World Report. The University has developed into one of the most academically elite in the country, as it was conditional love. Last November I lost Miss Beavis, a 13-year-old black Chow who looked like a small black bear. She was neglected and confined twice at the human door, before entering her world. Her love and loyalty taught me much about myself, and her simple style of life.

This year the world is not a pleasant place in which students may graduate. War rage abroad, our government scares the hell out of us about terror at home, the economy is sluggish, and it all reminds me of my graduation in 1973. With such a dismal outlook this year, I can say with all honesty that Notre Dame graduates are attracted to a higher call of community, public and family service. The trick is to think of others more often than of oneself.

Therefore, members of the Class of 1973, consider yourself a member of The Observer. The Notre Dame Alumni Association has asked the Observer to run this column in your honor, to remind you of the importance of the faculty flats at Trafalgar Square. It will be interesting to see how the University bureaucracy addresses this case with utmost seriousness and efficiency or typical red tape.

The point of the "Legs for Loezcher to put on his feet" campaign is that each of us, regardless of whether or not we gave, gained a further sense of community for having attended Notre Dame. While some of us are more conservative and fundamental with the teachings of scriptures than others, each of us can instantly recognize the worthiest of causes. Jesus would not heal just one eye of the blind man. He healed the whole. Notre Dame should do the same for its faithful son, Gil.

For me, after thirty years away from college, I finally see a thought of what is the meaning of our existence here on earth. At one time, I was one of those in the Dominico's commercial who runs blindly in a herd to the door at the sound of the bellmeet. I ask you, "Dominico's Philly Cheese Steak pizza?"

Now, life to me can partly be described by Judge Judy who often says in her courtroom, "Try to be nice to each other. That's what the world is all about."

It can also be partly explained by physicist John Edward, star of "Crossing Over," who announces, "Communicate, appreciate and validate those around you, and along the way enjoy life's journey."

I personally like to think that we exist for much more than the concerns of The Observer. If you can keep a watchful eye on those like Professor Gil Loezcher, if you can make time for others less fortunate than you, the meaning of life will be yours on the day of your graduation — which is a thirty-year advantage over me.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame class of 1973, served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at gc21@nd.edu.

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

John Donne
English poet

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent."
My hunger strike for... Crystal Pepsi

Bill Rinner

A Voice of Reason

Though I am bracing for a long wait before I can taste the sweet juices of a T-Bone steak once more, I must add more demands. Too many individuals and groups have suffered from the poor policies and our government. In fact, several American corporations are so opressed by the American tax structure that they would rather send jobs overseas than employ hard-working, God-fearing, taxpayer-waving workers. Right, I shall hunger strike for increased corporate tax breaks so more jobs will stay in America, and I hope to dine at the celebration feast of the Ralph Nader Nuke Act.

Now that I’ve riled up about international issues, my list must grow longer. After several conversations with my friends from the European Union, many are amazed by tales of America’s amaz­ingly prompt medical coverage that results from our free market system. When I say that two month waiting lines do not exist for major surgical procedures, and we’re still perfecting the system, they cannot contain their envy for our country’s efficiency and compassion. So stand back, Europe, I’ll starve before your socialists, post-modern dystopia allows more to suffer! Only when medical privatization sweeps across the continent shall my stomach be filled!

One more, just one more request shall increase my sacrifice. I demand that both escalate the violence and revenge, and dialogue, not dehumanization. I am a resident of Breen-Phillips Hall and former Marine told me that both escalate the violence and revenge, and dialogue, not dehumanization. Our concern is to wake up. I encourage all to volunteer in the midst of war.

Please.

Sheila Provencher
Chicago Peacemaker Team
Baghdad, Iraq

April 22

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taco Bell strike is a leverage tactic

I am writing to dispel some myths which have been following the nationwide boycott against Taco Bell, with particular attention to Bucky Schafer’s Viewpoint article from April 21.

First, I would like to apologize for any misinformation that Schafer or others may have received concerning the boycott. I hope that such misinformation is not being disseminated by Notre Dame students, such as the student quoted by Schafer; “If Taco Bell just raised the price of each taco just two cents the extra money would more than raise the pickers’ salary to above a living wage.” The actual argument is: Taco Bell would pay one penny more per one pound of tomatoes it bought, and institute a clause that it be passed directly to the farm worker who picks the tomatoes, it could almost double his or her wages. Right now pickers are paid 40 to 45 cents per 32 pound bucket they pick. If Taco Bell defrayed this cost to the consumer it would result in an increase of no more than of a penny in the price of one chalupa. This is vastly different from the misconstrued example of Schafer’s article, which would mean that each taco contains two pounds of tomatoes — we all know Taco Bell’s not that generous, even to its clients. To learn more about the boycott, please go to: www.ciw-online.org.

The Taco Bell Boycott is founded in the ideal that the consumer ultimately has the power to demand justice in the production of our food. We are not out to close down Taco Bell, as Schafer’s article claims. Rather, our boycott is a leverage tactic, used to give voice to the consumers and farm workers of our country. It is a call for corporations like Taco Bell — part of the largest restaurant conglomerate — to wake up. I encourage all to reconsider the potential of the word “boycott.” Addressing the Montgomery bus boycotts Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Our concern would not be to put the bus company out of business, but to put jus­tice in business.” Our concern is not to put Taco Bell out of business, but to put justice in business.

Dana Sovall
juni­or
Bow­ers-Phillips Hall
April 22

Volunteering in the midst of war

I am a resident of South Bend, Ind., and Notre Dame alumni who is currently working with Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) in Baghdad, Iraq. These are frightening days for the many people as well as for the Coalition soldiers. A young friend of ours just came back from a harrowing trip to Fallujah. In Winter, fellow soldiers were brought in with bullet wounds and were amazed by tales of America’s efficiency and compassion. I saw in the streets of that beleaguered city. She saw a hospital bombed by the U.S. Marines. She sat in a make-shift clinic (in a converted garage) and watched as an old man and two children were sent home with bullet wounds they received from insurgents in the American-controlled part of the city. The children died. She tried to rescue a woman going into premature labor, until American soldiers fired, shattering her wind­shield of the ambulance and continued firing until the vehicle was disabled. As of this writing, CPT have reported more than 600 deaths, two­thirds of which are women and chil­dren. One hundred forty-six children are children under the age of 12. Forty-six of those children were under the age of five. One thousand, two hundred people have been injured. A newspa­per article I read quoted that “700 insurgents have been killed.” How many of the 700 were women and children?

The excessive and indiscriminate violence is creating a culture of hatred and revenge, and putting the entire country in much greater danger. I see it before my eyes — overwhelming force only makes matters worse. Please, please, urge our government leaders to exercise restraint in Iraq.

Last week, a CPA official and former Marine told me that our society has to become somewhat dehumanized so that he or she can actually kill another human being. Why do we accept this damage to the hearts, minds, and souls of our young men and women in the armed services? We are all responsible to respond to violence in ways that encourage transformation and dialogue, not dehumanization and escalation. Please, work for a new way, before it is too late.

Sheila Provencher
Christian Peacemaker Teams
Baghdad, Iraq

April 22

THE OBSERVER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Bleach to head!

Faith-based student group hopes just as talented

By PATRICK VASSEL
Scene Writer

It isn’t much of a secret that Christian rock music generally has a bad rap. For many college students it’s just “not cool enough.” If there’s any college campus that can make Christianity cool, it’s Notre Dame, and the group behind that work is Iron Sharpens Iron, the students responsible for this year’s third annual Faith Rocks Concert.

The Web site for the event states that the purpose is “to show college students that it’s OK to be public about your faith and that Christianity, and Christian music as well, are not dull or boring, but exciting and full of passion and joy.”

Iron Sharpens Iron is a faith-based group of students designed to allow people to come together in Christ and share their experiences and deepen their spirituality and commitment to their faith. It is a Christian based group that welcomes and reaches out to all faiths.

The inaugural event was held in the Coleman-Morse Center in 2002 due to bad weather. The concert was moved to South Quad in front of Dillon Hall in 2003 and is scheduled to be set up there again this year. While the venue changed, the idea hasn’t.

This year’s headlining band is Bleach, a young rock band touring hot off its new album release.

Spring picnic delights

COLUMNS BY MAUREEN MALLOY

What better way to compliment a lazy day on the quad than to bring out a spread of great picnic food? Skip the dining hall, lay out a blanket, and share some of these homemade favorites with your friends. The BLT wraps are quick and simple to make, and are easily transported outside. French Fried Potato Salad is a great spin on the original, and for dessert, lemon bars are a delicious way to end the meal.

French Fried Potato Salad
3 cups of crisp, hot French fries, roughly chopped-preferably homemade, but fast food take out fries or frozen baked in your oven will do
3 hard boiled eggs, chopped
1 cup finely chopped celery
1/2 cup chopped chives
1/2 cup minced fresh chives
1/2 cup fat free mayonnaise
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. garlic powder

Set aside.

3 hard boiled eggs, chopped
1/2 cup minced fresh chives
1/2 cup fat free mayonnaise
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. garlic powder

top cayenne pepper

Cream and sugar, then add the flour and oatmeal to make the dough (it will be a little crumbly). Set aside. Stir juice and zest into milk.

Sprinkle the remaining dough (kind of like streusel) over the top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes until golden. When cool, slice into 1-inch squares.

Lemon Bars
1 cup plus 2 tbsp. butter
1 cup sugar
2 cups flour
1 1/4 cup oatmeal (not instant)
Juice of 2 lemons, chopped fine
Zest of 2 lemons, chopped fine

Blend. Add French fries to mixture in bowl; blend in with spices, using folding motion, being careful not to break fries. Serve immediately.

Serves four.

Recipe courtesy of Flo Dwek; Copyright © 2003 Television Food Network, G.P., All Rights Reserved

BLT Wrap
A good variation is to substitute taco meat and grilled onions for the bacon
4 (12 inch) flour tortillas
1 pound thick sliced bacon, cut into 1 inch pieces
1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Serves four.

Recipe courtesy of Karen; Copyright © 2004; www.allrecipes.com; All Rights Reserved

Contact Maureen Malloy at mmalloy@nd.edu

Smooth sailing for Fisher’s Regatta is a fun tradition unlike any other

By MEGG CONROY
Scene Writer

Saturday will mark the 18th year of Fisher Hall’s Signature event, the Fisher Regatta. What began as one New Jersey student’s suggestion, has flourished to become one of the most well-known campus-wide events. Nearly 3,000 students participated last year. This year, co-commissioners Russell Morton and Joe Caruso plan on making it the biggest Notre Dame has ever seen.

From 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, all students, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy the Fisher Regatta. The grill will be fired up at twelve while crews get organized for the race. As in past Regattas, the race will be held on St. Mary’s Lake. The course follows a line of buoys approximately 1,000 feet long. Crews of two or more are welcome to participate, as long as their boat is homemade and man-powered.

The rules are pretty basic. Morton said the boats can’t have a motor or sails, be longer than 20 feet or have less than two people in the boat. While male and female crews are alternated for races, music and food will be available for all those at the event, including Subway, Pizza and the traditional hamburgers and hotdogs. At the end of the races, the traveling trophies will be presented to the male and female crew winners. In addition to the trophies, gift certificates and T-shirts will also be given.

Last year Badin and Carroll won the women’s and men’s divisions respectively. Badin had an impressive run in their new wooden canoe, and Carroll continued their winning streak from the previous three years.

“Carrol’s always been strong. They have a great design as well as rowers, said Caruso.

The win last year was especially impressive, considering that Carroll’s boat was sabotaged the night before. Caruso and Morton admit that some of the Fisher guys sunk the Carroll boat.

However, others returned to help Carroll fish it out of the lake. The boat was dried out overnight, and “seem-worthy” the next day.

Other Regatta Shaniganis Morrissey’s attempt to steal the boat last year.

“We caught some of them with the boat away, but we went and stopped them,” Morton said.

However, everything is meant to be public about their tradition.

The general atmosphere of Regatta is fun and entertaining of the crews create costumes or decorations for their boat. Dorm crews Knott and Howard reflect the spirit through orange and yellow paint, respectively. Other crews on traditions from previous years.

Serin will be sure to show up at “Navy Light Boat.”

Yet, one can never know what to expect from the Fisher Regatta for the biggest surprises from last year included the sinking of the Navy boat.

About 90 to 95 percent of the crews create costumes or decorations for their boat. Dorm crews Knott and Howard reflect the spirit through orange and yellow paint, respectively. Other crews on traditions from previous years.

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line Faith Rocks Concert is to show students that Christian rock bands can be ed as other mainstream rock bands

**THE OBSERVER**

by Patrick Vassel

Shakespeare works to be performed for charity

Since freshman year, when Morton and Caruso served as "apprentices," for the Regatta, they knew they wanted to "be apart of the best event Fisher has to offer.""It's something the entire campus will appreciate," Morton said.

The traditions of the regatta include a myriad of events during the week of the event, known as Fred and Sally Week. On Tuesday Fisher moved its Spring B旅程, where live music, food, and games are available, inside due to inclement weather. On Wednesday the Red Fern Awards, a series of in-house awards, were given to Fisher residents. Thursday, or Traditions Night, usually has a special guest speaker for the dorm. Tonight there is a series of different festivities.

After the regatta, Fisher will hold its annual dance with Pangborn.

Contact Merg Conroy at mcconroy@nd.edu

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**By PATRICK VASSEL**

Some Writer

For those students who missed King Lear, this weekend there's a group of students who will allow you to see not only King Lear, but also the entire "Complet Shakespeare's Works of Shakespeare (abridged)."

Juniors Steve Hoepfinger and Paul Sifuentes and senior David Buckley are producing the play, which they describe as "Short, funny, and for charity."

Hoepfinger and Sifuentes spent last semester studying abroad in London, where they saw a production of "Complet Works" and discussed performing the show at Notre Dame. After returning to campus this semester, they revived the idea and brought on Buckley to round out the trio.

"We really wanted to do it," Hoepfinger said, "but also wanted to give back."

Though the show is free of charge, the performers are accepting donations for San Juan de Dios, an orphanage in Bolivia. "We were just doing this for fun, the money isn't important. We're suggesting a donation to help out a place that's doing some great work and can really use the money," Hoepfinger agreed.

Sifuentes has worked at the orphanage for the past two summers and said, "I really want to give back to that community."

Sifuentes said publicity has been limited because of the cost of advertising and the performers did not want to detract from the Department of Film Television and Theater's production of "Arms and the Man."

"We have a lot of friends in that show, and we're hoping that people can come to both, but we didn't want to undermine them at all," Buckley said.

Buckley has had extensive theater experience at Notre Dame. Sifuentes and Hoepfinger jokingly refer to him as their "ringers."

"Dave was our first choice and we're thrilled to have him on stage. He's a great actor and guaranteed to make people laugh," said Sifuentes.

The opportunity to see all of Shakespeare's works in such a humorous setting and to help a great cause doesn't come along every weekend, and it should be a great way to spend one of the last weekends of the year.

"This isn't an average play in which the actors are in a different world from the audience. It's fast-paced and interactive and should be a lot of fun for everyone in the crowd," Buckley said.

The "Complet Works of Shakespeare (abridged)" will be performed today and Saturday in room 102 DeBartolo.

Contact Patrick Vassel at pvassel@nd.edu

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Astronomy:"

When asked about the band's live show, they noted, "Energetic and fun, 'n roll, tightly wrapped in a beautiful package."

The group has been playing and touring in country to promote several albums, and has developed a devoted following. Each is considered by many to be on the rising edge of Christian music.

Extensive sponsorship from sources on and off campus, including help from Saint Mary's, helped expand the budget for the event from an original $500 to $30,000 this year. Iron Sharpens is only spending about half of that amount for this year's event.

The increased budget has allowed organizers to bring in as exciting a group as Bleach, as well as to continue traditions that have been implemented the last two years. As has happened before, T-shirts will be given out to those in attendance.

Opening up for Bleach are For the Love of Three and For All. Featuring three acts is quite a feat for any event, and the hemos who attended the performance in the Student Union at noon, where they saw a production of "Arms and the Man," know how much they should enjoy this event. Arounding Bleach and allowing students to see a broader range of musical talents in a Christian rock setting, the concerts also serve as a way to promote Christian music bands to a broader audience than the Basilica traditionalists.

Beyond the concerts, Iron Sharpens Iron is also arranged for some very special speakers. Scheduled to speak at the event is senior football captain Derek "DC" Hoeplinger and freshman quarterback Brady Sifuentes. "Brady and I.C. go to BSJ pretty regularly and are two guys who have a lot of respect in the Notre Dame community," Lee DeLeon, president and founder of Faith Rocks, said. "They're going to share a little bit about their faith, but also challenge the audience."

According to DeLeon, challenging and breaking down stereotypes is what the event is all about. "A lot of people feel like it's taboo to be open about your faith or that Christian music is cheesy or lame," DeLeon said.

"We want to allow people to come out and show their faith to everyone while listening to some really great bands that might be bigger than a lot of smaller bands that they listen to." DeLeon and others are hoping the event allows people to have a good time, enjoy some great food and some of the best live music available in a Christian or otherwise. There are obviously plenty of Christians here on campus, but very few events that try to put faith in more exciting and energetic settings than the Basilica traditionalists.

Bleach is one of the three Christian rock bands that will be showcased Sunday on South Quad. Bleach is an energetic band that has just released a new album titled "Astronomy."

"We're just trying to have fun and praise God with our music," DeLeon said.

Contact Patrick Vassel at pvassel@nd.edu

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18 years of other dorm event proved include Fisher'strying to but and to be in of the. Many dorm such as the dorm body or body carry a pastas with a to fully. One was all boats didn't. Navy's
Diamondbacks prevail in 15th inning against Brewers

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE - Danny Bautista connected for two career-highs and made sure the effort wasn’t wasted. He homered twice and singled the go-ahead run in the 15th inning as the Arizona Diamondbacks overcame the Milwaukee Brewers 11-9. Bautista set two career highs with five hits and five RBIs. He extended his hitting streak to 15 games, the longest in the majors this season.

Arizona used eight pitchers, who limited the Brewers to eight hits in stranding 12 baserunners. Steve Sparks (1-1) pitched two scoreless innings for the win and we can have a nice win, snapping his personal 12-game losing skid dating to Aug. 16, 2004. Matt Kata hit a leadoff single in the 15th and was sacrificed to second by Brett Matz.

Bautista singled with two outs."A guy that picks up the offense and he did a great job today," Matz said. "He’s actually done that for the last 14 games."

"You go out there and blow a three-run lead and you kind of feel pretty bad at first, but we’re most relieved with the win and we can have a nice flight home," he added.

Rookie Chad Tracy followed Bautista with a single and pulled out two bottles of expensive red wine, gifts from Urlas in Johnson Island.

The wines were a fine vintage. So was the single. Vitello’s milestone hit helped set up Cleveland’s three-run rally in the eighth inning, giving the Indians a win over the Kansas City Royals.

"What made it so special was that we came from behind," said Vitello, who started his career with Seattle. "That’s something we’ve struggled with all year."

Vitello and Victor Martinez hit back-to-back singles in the ninth inning, giving the Indians a 1-0 win over the New York Mets 3-2 on Wednesday night. The Indians extended their winning streak to five games.

"I knew he wanted to do that," said Mets manager Eric Wedge.

"It’s important if I’m swinging the bat well for me to be in the lineup."
**NFL DRAFT**

**Mannings want to be passed up by Chargers in draft**

Associated Press

Eli Manning is trying to pull a John Elway on the San Diego Chargers. The Mississippi quarterback has let the Chargers know he doesn’t want to end up choosing him with the first pick Saturday in the NFL draft.

He spent Thursday at an NFL luncheon with his famous relatives, father Archie and older brother Peyton, skirting around questions about the Chargers and what he would do if they drafted him anyway.

"I plan to be playing football next season," Eli said. "I’ve talked to New York. I’ve talked to Oakland. I’ve talked to a lot of teams, and I like a lot of teams."

Manning’s maneuver is similar to the one Elway pulled in 1983, when he made it known that he didn’t want to play for the Chargers or Colts, who owned the No. 1 pick.

Still, the Colts took Elway. The Stanford quarterback responded by playing minor league baseball and then the majors and threatened to stick with that sport if the Colts remained stubborn.

Eventually, Baltimore traded Elway to the New York Giants, where he went on to become a Hall of Famer.

"This is a bold move on the part of the family," Archie said. "But I am not bold enough to try to manipulate this draft. I would not do that."

Chargers general manager A.J. Smith said he would do "what’s best for the franchise.”

Archie said the decision to tell the Chargers to pass on Eli was made by his youngest son and agent Tom Condon with input from the family and others.

Archie Manning wouldn’t give specific reasons why San Diego was asked to back off.

"I don’t want the Chargers to be exposed in a negative way," he said.

The Mannings were surprised and disappointed that Smith went public Wednesday with Eli’s request.

"This was not the way we planned things. We didn’t want this to happen," Eli said.

Last week, the Chargers asked Condon to open negotiations with Eli in anticipation of possibly drafting him. Since then, Archie said he has spoken to NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue and has met with Chargers president Dean Spanos and coach Marty Schottenheimer.

"This is nothing personal," Condon said.

He was an outstanding player stuck on a dismal team, the passes Saints, for most of his career. Peyton was taken by the Indianapolis Colts with the first overall pick in 1998. At the time, the Colts also were a struggling franchise.

"There’s no rose garden out there for a quarterback starting in this league," said Archie, acknowledging that Eli probably will end up with a struggling team no matter who drafts him.

Condon has not returned phone calls from The Associated Press.

The New York Giants, who have the fourth pick, are one of three teams who liked to the Chargers about trading for the No. 1 selection. In recent days, there was speculation Condon was trying to swing a trade between the Giants and Chargers.

Archie said he has not expressed a desire to have Eli play for the Giants, despite what Smith said he was told by Condon.

The Chargers have missed the playoffs for the last eight seasons and are 43-85-1 in making their last postseason appearances in 1995. Since then, finding a quarterback has been a constant struggle.

The Chargers drafted Ryan Leaf No. 2 overall in 1998 after Peyton. Leaf turned out to be a bust.

In 2001, San Diego could have picked Michael Vick No. 1. But bid down and went with running back LaDainian Tomlinson in the first round and quarterback Drew Brees in the second.

But Brees hasn’t been the solution, making Manning a possible fit for the Chargers. Or so they thought.

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**MLB**

**Bonds’ fast start has many in awe**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Hall of Famer and all-time home run leader Barry Bonds is off to his latest record-setting start.

"He’s really tired," manager Felipe Alou said. "You can see it in the outfield. He’s been at the plate a lot."

That’s for sure.

Bonds’ hitting streak ended Wednesday, just short of tying the mark shared by Dale Long (1956) and Ken Griffey Jr. (1993). With the game out of reach — the Giants lost 11-0 — Bonds was asked to be taken out in the eighth inning.

Bonds, who turns 40 in July, has 667 home runs, behind only Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714). If he stays healthy and keeps up his pace, Bonds could reach 700 this season.

He set the single-season home run record of 73 in 2001. This season, he’s performed fantastically at the plate while dealing with questions about his personal training distribution case and whether Bonds has used steroids.

"His weapon is his mind," said Cepeda, who hit 379 homers in 17 major league seasons. "He’s so smart. He takes advantage of the plate twice a day. He’s the best in the game."

Rich Donnelly, now a third-base coach for the Brewers, was a coach for Bonds from 1986-92 when the slugger first came up with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Donnelly points out that Bonds has made his mark as more than merely a great hitter.

"The two greatest baserunners I’ve ever seen are Larry Walker and Barry Bonds," Donnelly said. "It’s not always about stolen bases. Nobody makes a play down the (first) base line field like Barry Bonds."

He’s still the best at it.

How does he keep his body going at this late stage in his career?

"Talent," Giants trainer Stan Conte said. "Talent sums up skill, genetics and psychological all in one."

His teammates can appreciate what Bonds is doing, even if the defending NL West champion Giants are having a rough April in the win column.

That seems to be bearing on Bonds, who fell six outs short of winning the World Series in 2002.

"I only take comfort in wins," Bonds said.

In his last two games, Bonds saw 29 pitches and only five strikes.

He swung once — connecting for his ninth homer of the season, a two-run shot off Brian Lawrence on Tuesday. Only 36 percent of the pitches Bonds saw last season were strikes, the lowest frequency in the majors.

He walked 148 times in 130 games.

"They have to get him in another league shortstop," Neifi Perez said. "He’s not for this league. They need to make another big league for him. It’s unbelievable."

Cepeda agrees.

"To me, he’s one in a million," Cepeda said. "You won’t see anything like that again. The things he’s doing are unreal. He thrills me every day. I’m praying I can be like him in my next life."
Danton finds himself behind bars after off ice troubles

Danton and a woman authorities say helped him were indicted by a federal grand jury Thursday of conspire to arrange a murder for hire.

Danton wanted Frost dead because he feared Frost would ruin his career by telling the Blues front office about Danton's supposed "promiscuity and use of alcohol," according to the FBI.

Also arrested in the alleged plot was Katie Wolfrneyer, a 19-year-old who worked at a mall where the Blues have a practice rink.

Authorities said Danton went to her for help in finding an informant that he wanted the killing to take place at his home April 15 — while Danton was in California, and he wanted it to look like a burglary gone bad.

Wolfrneyer was arrested hours later as she showed up with the informant at Danton's place, where Frost was said to be inside.

Authorities caught up with Danton the next day in San Jose, Calif., where the Blues had been eliminated from the playoffs.

A federal prosecutor said Danton was being brought back to Illinois. His lawyer did not return calls for comment.

During a court appearance Monday, Wolfrneyer's attorney Donald Groshong called her "the female victim" and "young girl smitten with a hockey player who lied to her." He did not elaborate.

Danton's involvement with Frost dates back a dozen years. Danton's father, Stephen Jefferson, introduced the boy to Frost.

By the time Danton was 15, Frost was serving as the Ontario native's agent. In 1999, Jefferson called the agent "the best thing to ever happen to my kid."

But Jefferson claims it was...
WASHINGTON

Maurice Clarett's bid to enter this weekend's NFL draft was turned down by the Supreme Court on Thursday, delaying for now his attempt to bypass the league's eligibility rules.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg rejected his first request, saying she saw no reason to overturn a lower court's stay preventing the Ohio State running back from being taken in the draft.

She cited the NFL's willingness to "promptly" hold a supplemental draft if the 20-year-old Clarett, out of high school two years, prevailed in his lawsuit challenging the NFL's requirement that players wait three years after high school before turning pro. Clarett filed a second emergency appeal with Justice John Paul Stevens, who quickly turned it down.

"Today's decision confirms the judgment of the court of appeals and allows us to turn our focus from the courtroom to the draft room," Jeff Pash, the NFL's in-house attorney, said in a statement.

Clarett's attorney, Alan Milstein, wouldn't comment on the rulings.

Messages left for Clarett and his mother weren't returned.

Milstein had argued in a filing with Ginsburg that the player would suffer substantial irreparable injury" if he was not allowed in the draft.

The NFL had said that allowing Clarett to be drafted could be unfair to the team that picked him and to a player who loses out on a spot because Clarett was chosen.

Ginsburg's decision also keeps outside widthout Mike Williams of Southern California, who entered the draft after the original decision allowing in Clarett.

"The NFL may have been successful in keeping him out of Saturday's draft, but there's always the possibility of the supplemental draft," said Williams' agent, Mike Azazriled.

Clarett has not played since 2002 because he has been suspended by Ohio State, showed up out of shape at the NFL scouting combine, and had what one Scout considered a mediocre workout in Columbus earlier this month.

Neither justice ruled on the merits of Clarett's claim that the NFL's rule was arbitrary and anticompetitive, robbing young players of an opportunity to enter the multimillion-dollar marketplace.

IN BRIEF

Randolph wins NBA Most Improved Player Award

PORTLAND, Ore. — Portland Trail Blazers forward Zach Randolph was disappointed when he didn't make the All-Star team. Winning the NBA's Most Improved Player award Thursday took some of that sting away.

Randolph, who became a starter this season and averaged double figures in points and rebounds, easily beat Cleveland Cavaliers forward Carlos Boozer in voting by sports writers and broadcasters with 59 first-place votes and 379 points.

"I wanted to be on the All-Star team but it feels good to win this award," Randolph said with a big smile. "It feels good.

Randolph averaged 20.1 points, 10.5 rebounds and 2.9 assists for the revamped Blazers, who went 41-41 to finish 10th in the Western Conference, two spots out of the playoffs.

Sifford chosen for golf Hall of Fame

Charlie Sifford, who cracked the PGA Tour's Caucasian-only clause in 1961 and was the first black member to win on tour, is the first black cho­sen for the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Sifford will be inducted Nov. 15, along with 1992 U.S. Open champion Tom Kite, Japanese star Isao Aoki and Canadian amateur Marlene Stewart Siret.

Sifford was a true pioneer, along with Teddi Rhodes, Pete Brown, Lee Elder, Bill Spiller and other blacks who kept playing with hopes of get­ting a chance on the PGA Tour.

Tiger Woods paid tribute to them when he won the '97 Masters for his first major, and he spoke in October about the absence of blacks in golf's Hall of Fame.

"They never had a chance to play," Woods said.

around the dial

NHL PLAYOFFS

Montreal at Tampa Bay, 4:00 p.m., ESPN2

NBA PLAYOFFS

Indiana at Boston, 7:00 p.m., ESPN

LA Lakers at Houston, 9:30 p.m., ESPN
Belles set out to impress NCAA selection committee

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Call it tunnel vision.
The Belles head into Saturday's invitational at Tri-State University with one primary objective: to impress the NCAA selection committee and win a spot in the NCAA tournament.

"It doesn't matter who's [at Tri-State], as long as we put our best foot forward," said Stefanie Simmerman. "Everyone will need to step it up and play better."

Coach Mark Hamilton described this meet as the last opportunity the Belles have to prove themselves worthy of an NCAA tournament bid. Winning the invitational and overcoming rivals Albion and Manchester would be a notable feat, according to Hamilton.

"We've had some good rivalries in the past, but we know what to expect because we played most of them last week. Everyone knows what they have to do," Hamilton said. "This is our last chance to sway the selection committee."

Saint Mary's had an impressive performance at last week's Hope College Invitational, claiming first place with a collective score of 343. Junior Julia Adams fired a 70, as expected. She fired a 70 again this week.

"I'm expecting [Hanlon] to post her lowest score ever and [Bellino] should play very well, too. Everything seems to be clicking for them right now," Hamilton said.

Practices this past week have continued to focus on the short aspects of the Belles' game, in addition to bunker shots. The team has had a few "disasters in the sand" Hamilton said, and hopes that bunker shots will be anything but problematic during the invitational.

Simmerman anticipates good scores posted across the board, as Tri-State's course is wide open in the seventh with a large sand trap.

"Hopefully we'll be able to make things happen," Simmerman said.

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

Irish put out flames in Chicago, avenge loss

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame (35-13) got its revenge and then some Thursday night shutting out the University of Illinois-Chicago 8-0.

Carisa Jaquish had her best game of the season, going for 3-for-4 at the plate while driving in four runs in 1-3 innings while striking out eight. Carrie Wisn pitched the seventh to complete the victory for the Irish.

The Irish blew the game wide open in the seventh with Hartmann picking up an RBI double to score a run before Jaquish's grand-slam home run in the seventh inning.

The Wildcats currently lead the Big East with 18 points, while the Irish are tied for second with 16. However, those standings are misleading, because Villanova (25-16, 9-3 in the Big East) has played eight Big East games compared to Notre Dame (8-0 in the Big East) eight.

The Irish will finish their Big East weekend with a trip to New Jersey Sunday to face Rutgers (22-23, 5-7).

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

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Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu
Irish look to prepare for Big East

By MIKE GILLOON

Sports Writer

It’s crunch time.

With the Big East Championships only one week away, the Irish are hoping to
work out the kinks as they compete in this weekend’s Big Ten Preview Invitational
and Drake Relays.

The group headed for the Big Ten Preview, held at Purdue, is the larger of the
two as only a handful of teammates are going to Drake.

“At Purdue we want to get
some more people qualified for
the Big East,” Irish assistant
coach Tim Connelly said.

“T here are also some kids who
need a tune-up race but there
are also a lot who will not be
racing this weekend.”

With finals also looming on
the horizon, the team must
balance books while trying to
succeed on the track.

“Each kid has managed to
get their schoolwork done all
year,” he said. “I think this
week they are also going to find
a way to do that.”

Among those headed to Des
Moines, Iowa for the 94th
annual Drake Relays will be
Napoleon Suarez and Mark
Harber who will compete in the
400-meter hurdles. Two
weeks ago at the Missouri
Invite, they finished first and
second respectively in the
100-meter hurdles. Both runners
have already qualified for the
Big East and would like to
build on the success they have
had this year.

Napoleon Suarez and Mark
Harber are designed to be a
tune-up for the conference.
The other men’s pole vaulters
who will be going to the meet including
Saint Mary’s John Oppel, who
will not participate this weekend as he
spent the week preparing for the conference.
The other men’s pole
vaulters include Dave Vukan, Justin Oppel, who will not
participate this weekend as he
is resting a sore back before
next week’s meet.

Contact Mike Gilloon at
mgilloon@nd.edu

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In the 60-meter dash Jan. 30, The
Irish hope to gain experience at the Drake Relays this weekend.

Two Irish sprinters compete in the 60-meter dash Jan. 30. The
Irish hope to gain experience at the Drake Relays this weekend.

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles earn a
spot in tourney

Belles make MIAA
tournament with
win over Kalamazoo

By JUSTIN STETZ

Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s made a state­
ment Thursday, sweeping
Kalamazoo in a doublehead­
er and securing a spot in the
MIAA tournament. After
winning the first game 5-3,
they exploded 13-1 in the
second game.

The Belles are currently
third in the MIAA confer­
cence with a 9-5 record and
must now wait the out­
come of the Albion and Hope
doubleheader Saturday to
determine the third
and fourth seeds.

The Belles scored five
runs in the first game led by
Jean Downes double. Downes
was followed by Walsh’s HBI
and Meghan Marenkovic
scored the final run of the
first game. The second game
belles took the lead 2-1 in the top of the
third. However, it was not long
before Saint Mary’s came
roaring back in the fifth inning
with three runs by Marnie Walsh, Audrey
Gajor and Amy Parker.

The final run scored by
Saint Mary’s came from
Katie Sajewich scoring on a
Gajor single in the sixth. In
the seventh, Kalamazoo
scored one run to make the
final score 5-3.

The second game ended
after just five innings as the
Belles slaughtered the
Hornets 13-1. Libby
Wilhelmy pitched through the
first four innings for the
Belles, giving up only two
hits and no runs. Bridget
Grall replaced Wilhelmy in the
fifth and helped Saint
Mary’s secure a playoff berth.

The Belles came out
strong once again and
scored three runs in the
first inning.

Ellison and Laura Heline
each drove in a run and a
Kalamazoo error gave Saint
Mary’s a 3-0 advantage.

In the second inning, Saint
Mary’s scored three addi­
tional runs as a result of
three Kalamazoo errors.

In the bottom of the fifth,
Saint Mary’s scored seven
more runs and secured its
second victory of the dou­
bleheader. Singles by Gajor
and Amy Parker and Marenkovic
began the onslaught. This
was followed by Walsh’s RBI
single and a hit by Ellison,
bringing home three more
runs.

Sullivan added another
run on her single and
Parker drove in one more
two more runs. With the
score 11-0, The Belles scored
their final two runs off an error and a Gajor
double for the 13-1 victory.

Saint Mary’s has done its
job by securing a place in
the upcoming MIAA tourna­
ment. Now they just have to
wait to see who the oppo­
nent will be.

Contact Justin Stetz at
justetz@nd.edu

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FOOTBALL

Rockne honored at Ellis Island

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

Late Irish football coach honored at ceremony

Observer Staff Report

Late Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne was one of six Americans honored at a ceremony Wednesday at the Statue of Liberty. The Ellis Island Family Heritage Award was presented to members of Rockne's family, including John, his only living offspring.

This award celebrates Ellis Island as the door to America for the 17 million immigrants who set foot on U.S. soil there. At the age of five, Rockne came to the United States through Ellis Island with his mother and sisters.

Other recipients of this year's Ellis Island Family Heritage Award included film director Martin Scorsese, National Football League commissioner Paul Tagliabue, former U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Nobel Prize winner Harold Varmus.

Besides Rockne, those recipients are the grandchildren of Ellis Island immigrants.

Each award included the presentation of a copy of the original ship's passenger manifest documenting the recipient's, or the recipient's ancestor's, arrival at Ellis Island.

Chinese-American architect I.M. Pei became the first recipient of the new Peopling of America Award, which is given to a United States immigrant who doesn't trace his roots to Ellis Island.

Along with Rockne's family at Wednesday's ceremony, were Notre Dame representatives John Heisler, associate director of athletics, and Matthew Storin, associate vice president for news and information.

On March 31, the 73rd anniversary of Rockne's fatal plane crash, the Kansas Turnpike Authority dedicated a memorial very close to the location where Rockne died. Rockne was the Notre Dame football coach from 1918-30. He won three consensus national titles (1924, 1929 and 1930). His .881 winning percentage (105-12-5) is the highest winning percentage in college football history.

As Notre Dame prepares to resume play this weekend following consecutive losses, the Irish (10-2) are looking back in order to move forward.

"We're playing with nothing to lose, like we did at the beginning of our season up until Northwestern," captain Meredith Simon said.

One of the elements Coyne felt was missing from the Northwestern game was the team cohesion that had typified the Irish style of play, a balanced offense and a swarming team defense.

"We got where we were because we were so unified as a team and they were unselfish," Coyne said. "It wasn't like someone was hogging the ball or anyone was complaining. It was more the opposite, they would try to take on everything themselves instead of sharing the burden."

Coyne however, did see signs of the team that started 10-0 during Wednesday's practice.

Obviously you just don't immediately put a disappointing loss like that behind you," Coyne said. "But by the end of practice we were all ready to move forward and regain our form that had got us to a high level."

But the Irish will be challenged if they hope to stay at that high level. Notre Dame has a backloaded schedule in which three of their last four opponents have top 15 rankings.

After hosting No. 9 Johns Hopkins this weekend, No. 10 Vanderbilt and No. 13 Syracuse arrive in South Bend each of the next two Saturdays for season ending showdowns. Simon understands that her team can use the lessons from the losses to help their performance in those games as they move toward the NCAA tournament.

"Now that we've had our hole in the road, I think we'll be able to handle anything now," she said.

Above all, Coyne wants her team to have the confidence of knowing they are now a force to be reckoned with in the world of college lacrosse.

"I think we need to embrace our success more instead of trying to fight it and being afraid and thinking there are three lofty expectations. They didn't achieve what they achieved by a fluke," she said.

Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

Recalling the Past...Running for the Future

Clary Murphy-Thomas Run

5K Run or 2 mile walk

Sunday, April 25, 2004

$10

Race day sign-ups begin at 2:00 pm

Race begins at 3:00pm by Keough and Welsh Fam

In loving memory of Brionne Clary, Conor Murphy, and Miranda Thomas

Sponsored by Welsh Family Hall

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Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

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**BASEBALL**

**Big East teams face an important weekend of season**

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Senior Staff Writer

With the top five teams in the Big East standings all scheduled to play over the next three days, this weekend could be the most important for No. 4 Notre Dame (31-5, 11-2 in the Big East) and the rest of the Big East in jockeying for position down the stretch run of conference play.

"I think this weekend could be a turning point in the league if things happen the way that you hope they could happen," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "I think that Rutgers has as tough of a challenge as we have, going to [Boston College and St. John's]. This is what separates teams — going into tough venues.

The Irish travel to Seton Hall for a Big East doubleheader today, and then onward to Pittsburgh for a Sunday doubleheader. The Panthers currently stand in third place in the Big East with a conference record of 7-3.

Meanwhile, Rutgers, who is tied with Notre Dame at 11-2 atop the Big East, must travel on Saturday to Pittsburgh for a doubleheader with the Panthers. The Rutgers Scarlet Knights are fourth and fifth, respectively, in the Big East.

For the Irish, Seton Hall may pose more of a threat than its 10-24-1 record would indicate. The Pirates have gone 4-1-1 at home this season, including winning two of three from Rutgers.

"With Seton Hall, you have to forget about their record," Mainieri said. "I've gone to Seton Hall too many times to count on anything as being easy. Those games are going to be two tough games."

The Pirates have hit .266 as a team this season, and are led at the plate by senior catcher Chris Palda with a .322 average and 18 RBIs. Two other Pirate hitters — first baseman Tim Pahuta (.313) and infielder Anthony Seratelli (.306) — are batting over .300 this season. Pahuta also leads the team in runs scored (25), doubles (10) and home runs (five).

On the hill, Pirate pitchers have an ERA of 5.30 and an opponents batting average of .277.

Pittsburgh, meanwhile, has proven to be one of the most powerful Big East teams this year. The Panthers lead the Big East in hitting with a .322 team batting average, which is two points ahead of second-place Notre Dame. The Panthers are also fourth in the Big East in pitching, with a staff ERA of 4.16.

"Pitching is as good as Rutgers and ourselves," Mainieri said. "They are right there in the top of the heap."

I'm sure Pittsburgh is trying to win this thing."

Pittsburgh boasts four of the top 10 hitters in the Big East. Outfielder Ben Copeland leads the league with a .393 average, scoring 39 runs and driving in 20. The other Panther hitters in the top 10 are Jim Negrych (.382), P.J. Hiser (.374) and Peter Patane (.361).

The Irish, however, have been just as dominant at the plate this season, with 10 Irish hitters surpassing the .300 mark. Shortstop Greg Lopez leads the Irish regulars with a .369 average.

On the mound, Mainieri plans to use a similar starting rotation as he did in Notre Dame's three-game sweep of Georgetown last weekend. Left-hander Tom Thornton will take the hill in the seven-inning opener of the doubleheader today, while righty Chris Niese will start the nine-inning nightcap.

Against Pittsburgh Sunday, right-hander Jeff Samardzija will start the seven-inning opener, and junior righty Grant Johnson will work the second game against the Panthers.

The freshman Samardzija, who is a scholarship football player for the Irish, will have to meet up with the baseball team on the road Saturday night after participating in the football team's intra-squad Blue-Gold game Saturday afternoon. Samardzija has been splitting time between spring football practices and baseball the past four weeks, but he will be able to concentrate on pitching after the Blue-Gold game Saturday, which marks the conclusion of spring practices.

With a full slate of Big East games ahead and tough games for other top teams in the conference, Mainieri says he is ready for an exciting Big East weekend.

"We've got four big games ahead of us this weekend, and I'm excited about it," he said.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederico@nd.edu
Big East
continued from page 28
showing was not enough to overcome Syracuse and the Irish lost second place over all.
At the 2002 Big East Challenge, No. 10 Notre Dame won the varsity four races but Syracuse once again dominated the regatta. The Orange women took first, leaving the Irish second again. The Notre Dame boats had an equally frustrating experience at the 2003 Big East Challenge. The No. 24 Irish won the second varsity eight and the varsity four earned a silver medal but the Irish lost to Syracuse by a mere two points in the overall competition.
Notre Dame boats have fared well this season, despite a challenging schedule consisting of races against several of the nation's best teams, including California, Washington, Tennessee, Washington State, Southern California and Michigan State.
A win this weekend could put the Irish in a good position for a much-coveted NCAA bid.
"We have lost by less than 10 points the past three years to Syracuse," Katie O'Hara said. "I think our team has grown to the point where no one will let that happen again."
Contact Christine Armstrong at carmste@nd.edu

ROWING
Seniors look for first Big East title Saturday
By CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG
Senior Staff Writer
The 10 seniors that will lead the Notre Dame boats this weekend are eager to avenge Syracuse's Big East win last year.
Over the past four years, these women have witnessed the Irish rowing program garner a series of honors. They hope to add a Big East team title to the list. Though the program consists of over 60 rowers, it is led by a close group of seniors: captain Natalie Ladine, captain Katie Welsh, Alice Bartek, Danielle Protasewich, Jacqueline Hazen, Kacy McCallery, Kathy Long, Sarah Keefer, Katie O'Hara and Megan Sanders. Although most of the rowers were celebrated high school athletes, only Long had high school rowing experience before joining the team her freshman year.
"I knew absolutely nothing about rowing," Hazen said. "In the novice program everybody begins knowing nothing and learns together. It's amazing to move from learning to row on our little lakes to competing with the top teams in the country."
When the current seniors joined the team in the fall of 2000, the program was only entering its fourth year of varsity status. Since then, they have witnessed the rowing program develop into one of the nation's most respected teams. They helped the Irish steadily climb the ranks without any unprecedented honors.
In May 2001, the No. 18 Irish finished second overall at the Big East Challenge. Notre Dame won two silver and two bronze medals as the novice eight and the second varsity eight placed second. The first varsity eight and varsity four boats took third place.
In April of 2002, the No. 9 Irish achieved their highest ranking to date in the U.S. Rowing/Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association poll, breaking into the nation's top 10 for the first time. During the 2002 season, the varsity eight boat also earned its first NCAA Championship bid. The boat, which included Ladine, finished 16th in the championships.
At the 2003 Big East Challenge, the Irish won the second varsity eight, the varsity four and earned a silver medal in the first varsity eight, but lost to Syracuse by a mere two points in the overall competition. Though the Irish did not earn a NCAA bid last year, they are determined to qualify this season.
"This is the year for us to win Big East," Sanders said. "For the past three years, the team hasched closer and closer to Syracuse and now is the time for us to finally take the elusive crown."
Coach Martin Stone acknowledges this season's success and is confident that the Irish will perform well this weekend.
"I expect them to continue to focus on making the boats they are in go as fast as possible," Stone said. "They have done a great job so far and I expect the trend to continue."
The rowers consistently credit the team's strength and dedication to the close relationships they have forged with each other and the greater Notre Dame community.
"One of my favorite memories was from Spring Break 2002 in Tennessee," Bartek said. "We were training down in Knoxville, and the Notre Dame women's basketball team had their first round of the NCAA down there. We all got tickets to their first game and cheered them on to victory. The next day, when we raced against Tennessee, Muffet McGraw and company came down to the boathouse to support us. It was one of the coolest things we see the basketball team stand- ing by the dock, singing the fight song for us as we launched. I felt part of something bigger that day, and will never forget that overwhelming feeling of pride to belong to the University of Notre Dame."
When reflecting back on the last four years, the team is quick to praise each member's individual talents and contributions.
"It is no coincidence that out of the 100 freshmen who went out for the team, the 10 of us remain," Ladine said. "We are all very different, but have one thing in common; we are each a little crazy in our own way. But, you'd have to be a little crazy to wake up when we do on a snowy morning, put on our spandex, and go for a row."
As graduation approaches, the rowers acknowledge the noteworthy achievements the team has made in their time at Notre Dame, but also express great hope for the young program's future.
"The program has great potential, and a significant amount of work ahead of it at the same time," Welsh said. "Graduation will lead to the loss of 10 seniors, four in the varsity eight. This creates much opportunity for the underclassmen and incoming recruits to step up and fill those positions."
Contact Christine Armstrong at carmste@nd.edu

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Notre Dame, IN 46556
Sweet 16 continued from page 28

point on a foul shot. State Theatre 21, Bend It Like Bryant 10

Although it was a Thursday night, State Theatre was jumping, as well as shooting sweety, over Bend It Like Bryant.

The game was close at the half, but State Theatre, led by Ben Nickle and Chris Murphy, pulled away for a hefty margin of victory at the end.

“We just need to keep shooting well and not have to go down low,” Nickle said.

“We need to keep up (this level of play) for the next two days,” Murphy added.

Jack’s Shorts 21, The Redick Wannabes 14

In a come-from-behind victory, Jack’s Shorts waited until the game’s last minutes to blow the Redick Wannabes away.

Jack’s Shorts was behind at halftime, and the teams swapped leads early in the second half until Jack’s Shorts made it 16-14.

“We changed up our offense a bit, which shut them down in the second half,” said Jack Short’s Dan Parriole.

He attributed the victory to a technical called on The Redick Wannabes at the end of the game.

“That really turned the tide,” Parriole said.

No. 2 Library Lounge 21, No. 10 Thor and the Thunderbolts 15

What at first appeared to be a close game was anything but as Library Lounge overwhelmed Thor and the Thunderbolts.

Library Lounge was ahead early in the game and never relinquished. Once the Library Lounge started making shots, they afforded Thor and the Thunderbolts little opportunity for scoring. Library Lounge cap­tain Justin Funk praised teammates Greg Dorm and Jim Kilroy, who were both adopted as capitalizing on scoring opportunities during the game.

“We came out making wide open shots at first and then later on in the game, our shots started to drop,” Funk said. “We got to halftime in a hurry after (Dorm) and (Kilroy) opened up the offense for us.”

Funk said the Library Lounge “hit the game in hand” at half­time, when the team led 11-2. From that point on, the team turned on its jets and played a much more offensive-minded game.

No. 8 Cleirciuscuto 21, No. 9 Team Truth 16

“Team Truth” no denying the truth — that is unless it’s in reference to Team Truth.

No. 8 Cleirciuscuto overcame a dogged No. 9 Team Truth. Marcus Boldin Jumpstarted the Cleirciuscuto effort, scoring 4-for-4 at the free throw line.

At halftime, Cleirciuscuto led 11-6, but Team Truth quickly surged back to narrow the lead to 13-12. It was at this point that Boldin stepped in to contribute the crucial free throw points.

Cleirciuscuto’s Irvin Jones was also essential to the team’s suc­cess, according to captain Adam Senior.

“Every time we needed a basket, we looked to (Jones),” Senior said.

5KPMG 21, No. 16 Wet Hot American Ballers 13

Irvin Jones was at this point that Boldin stepped in to contribute the crucial free throw points.

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“Every time we needed a basket, we looked to (Jones),” Senior said.

“We’re just a bigger and stronger team,” Wet Hot American Ballers captain Seth Fumo said.

“We could still play them any­where,” Murphy said.

It was about all that was left to the rally was a more patient offense.

“We didn’t appreciate it, anybody’s guess who will be picked next,” Murphy said.

N.Dame had seven play­ers drafted in the 2003 draft, but only one was picked on the first day.

Unlike last year, when center Jeff Faine became the first Irish player selected in the first round since 1999, most draft ana­lysts aren’t expecting the Irish to have any players drafted in the first round.

Instead of running back Jonas Jones could be the first No­tre Dame player to hear his name called.

“It was just like John Starkes in the ‘94 (NFL) Final. We came up short,” Parsons said.

Jordan Toyota defeated More Cowbell 21-14 Thursday night, using quick passes and increased intensity to their advantage. More Cowbell took the lead early in the first half, but Jordan Toyota quickly regained control of the pace of the game to wear out their opponents.

Jordan Toyota’s Rhema McKnight alluded to a foul that More Cowbell committed midway through the game as the source of their comeback and ultimate win.

“Our team didn’t appreciate it, before USB/SMG rallied, Murphy said. “We’re a pretty fast team, so we used it to our advantage.”

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Men
continued from page 28

83 for a win.
Our whole season has been building up to this point and everything we've done so far has been in preparation for this," Gustafson said. "Everyone on the team understands the importance of this event. We've been very focused these past two weeks at practice.

With no tournaments for the past two weeks, the Irish have had time to rest, become mentally prepared and refine their games. "Having these two weeks off gave us a chance to practice and start playing better," Isban said. Gustafson agreed. "We're rested up and ready to go," he said.

Eric Brench played well in the qualifying rounds to earn the No. 5 spot on team. He will join Gustafson, Isban, and sophomore Tommy Baldwin and Mark Baldwin to round out the line-up. Although the four and five spots have been inconsistent this season, Baldwin and Deutsch have been improving and have demonstrated glimpses of their tremendous potential in the past few tournaments.

"Now we just need a collective effort to get all of us to play well," Isban said. The Irish will also have the home course to their advantage. For the first time this year, the Irish will be able to depend on support from friends and family during the last stretch of the season.

The team will tee off at 8 a.m. Saturday to begin the first 36 holes, before the final round concludes on Sunday.

"We're ready to play," Isban said. "We're ready to get a win at home."

Contact Anne Brusky at abrusky@nd.edu

Scott Gustafson lines up a putt. Gustafson and Tommy Baldwin will lead the Irish this weekend.

Women
continued from page 28

King, the Irish have been using the week leading into the tournament to maximize their home course advantage. "We've made our own Lady Irish yardage books, which are different than the ones sold in the golf shop," King said. "They're specific to our players, and they tell the details pertaining to how far they hit the ball, as well as the breaks of the greens."

"We've been working a lot on course management, trying to get ahead of the other team since we've played the course thousands of times," Irish golfer Karen Lotta said. However, the team will not get a sneak preview of the exact layout of the course, including cup placement, until the official practice round today.

"We don't have any control over course setup," King said. "The Big East takes care of all that."

Despite leveling of the playing field, the Big East cannot control the weather, and the cold South Bend climate should serve as another advantage for the Irish especially with a top-seeded Miami. "I think [our advantage] comes from a combination of home court advantage and the weather," King said. "Miami is just not used to playing in cold weather."

Members of the team also saw the weather as a positive. "We know the weather here," Lotta said. "Miami is a very southern school, and it's very hot down there."

The team has improved over the course of the spring, making noticeable strides on a weekly basis. Brophy attributes this to their practices, as well as to an improved mental side of the game that comes as a result. "We've worked real hard this year, and we're confident now," she said. Regardless of their morale and improvement since the beginning of the spring, Notre Dame's hopes of a first-ever NCAA tournament selection rests as much on other teams' performances as its own this weekend. Since the Big East tournament winner will not receive an automatic bid, the Irish will need an at-large selection to advance to the NCAA Regional.

"A lot of [this] will have to do with things out of our control, how other people across the country did compared to us," King said.

King mentioned Nebraska, Kansas, Texas Tech, Purdue and Michigan as teams who could open the door for the Irish with weak performances or potentially shut them out with strong ones. Knowing they need a good performance as well as a little help, the team's fate will rest in the hands of Irish golfers this weekend.

Contact Eric Retter at ecretter@nd.edu

Katie Brophy hopes to lead the Irish to a Big East Championship and possible NCAA Tournament bid.

Photo Courtesy of Dan Carey

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2004

ND ATHLETICS...BE THERE!

Friday, April 23 at 7:00 PM
#6 Women's Lacrosse vs. Johns Hopkins
- First 300 fans receive a long sleeve schedule
- T-shirt sponsored by Papa John's
- Pre-game tailgating party sponsored by Papa John's
- Free admission for everyone!

Women's Soccer vs. Mexico National Team at Alumni Field @ 7pm

Saturday, April 24th & Sunday 25th
Men's & Women's Golf Big East Championships @ Warren Golf Course
Men's Golf Gold Game
SUNDAY 1-3PM
- First 100 fans receive a Gold Game T-shirt sponsored by Aeropostale

Unlimited Minutes Limited Time!
- Unlimited Incoming Minutes
- 1000 Outgoing Anytime Minutes
- Includes Nationwide Long Distance
NOW $29.95
ONLY $39.95 PER MONTH*
- Add 3000 Night & Weekend Minutes Only 4.95/mo.
Now with a 7 PM Start Time!

*Terms subject to change. Plan pricing includes a $10.00 mail-in Customer Assistance fee for all valid lines. Reduced access fee valid for first 3 months of 21-month Service Agreement. Free locally Mexican available in local calling area only. High and weekend minutes are available in local calling area only. Upgrade to 300 Medical and Weekend Minutes, with a 7 pm start time. All 911 good on the primary display.

Photo Courtesy of Dan Carey

"A lot of [this] will have to do with things out of our control, how other people across the country did compared to us," King said.
The 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.

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Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City __________ State __________ Zip ____
**Men's and ND Women's Golf**

**Home at last**

This weekend both teams fight for the Big East title

By Anne Brusky
Sports Writer

If there was ever an incentive to play well, now is that time. After struggling to make a run to the Big East Championship, held on Notre Dame's Warren Golf Course.

"We definitely feel like we should go out there and win," Irish golfer Scott Gustafson said. "We've been playing pretty poorly this spring, but we're talented enough and we have an advantage because it's our home course.

Two-time defending champion Virginia Tech is the favorite once again this season and Georgetown looks to be a threat as well.

The Irish, however, are confident and excited to get out on the course.

"If we just play our game on this course, we will be fine," Irish golfer Scott Gustafson said. "We have every reason to believe that we will do pretty well."

The winning team gets an automatic bid to the NCAA's, and after coming in second behind Virginia Tech last year, the Irish are hungry.

See MEN/page 26

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**Rowing**

**Big East title at stake for Irish**

By Christine Armstrong
Senior Staff Writer

The No. 17 Irish will head to Massachusetts this weekend, competing first in Saturday's regatta against Boston University and Northeastern in Boston. They will then travel to Worcester to compete in Sunday's Big East Rowing Challenge.

At the fourth annual Big East competition, Notre Dame will battle Syracuse, Boston College, Connecticut, Georgetown, Miami, Rutgers, Villanova and West Virginia on Worcester's Lake Quinsigamond. The Irish are determined to dethrone the reigning champions, the Orange women of Syracuse.

"We're getting pumped up to face the competition, especially Syracuse," Alice Bartek said. "We're working on fine tuning our rowing, and improving just a little bit on every stroke. The margin of difference between teams at the top is not a lot, so even a little bit of improvement goes a long way."

"The Irish have a history of falling second to Syracuse. In the 2001 Big East Challenge, the No. 18 Irish won two silver and two bronze medals as the second and second again."

The third round, but he's going to play his best to stay away from the television until his phone rings.

"I don't think I'll be that nervous until the day comes," Duff said, who plans to spend most of the weekend at his house. "Then, I'll do something to try not to think about it."

The draft's seven rounds are divided across two days, with

See BIG EAST/page 24

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**Basketball**

**Field narrows to 8 teams**

By Kate Gaies and Ann Louhery
Sports Writers

Despite a late scoring drought, Chock Full O'Neat was chock full of what it took to win its game Thursday night against the Platinum FUBU All-Stars, pulling out a 22-20 victory. "If we didn't shoot 20 percent from the line, we would have won a lot sooner," Chock Full's Josh O'Farrell said. "We should have won by 10, but they were a good team. We're not trying to take anything away from them."

O'Farrell dominated play with his ball-handling skills. FUBU's crisp passing kept Chock Full's zone defense moving.

The game was tied at 19 as O'Farrell put Chock Full within one point of victory. The game was tied by FUBU, and the teams missed a combined total of four foul shots in the last minute.

O'Farrell scored the winning basket.

See SWEET 16/page 25

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**Baseball**

**Notre Dame at Seton Hall**

Today, 12 p.m.

The Irish hope for a Big East sweep in this doubleheader.

See BASEBALL/page 23

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**Softball**

**Notre Dame vs. Illinois-Chicago**

The Irish got revenge after losing to the Flames at home earlier this season.

See ND SOFTBALL/page 23

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**Women's Lacrosse**

**Notre Dame vs. Johns Hopkins**

Today, 7 p.m.

After losing two straight, the No. 6 Irish take on the No. 9 Blue Jays.

See WOMEN'S LACROSSE/page 23

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**Football**

**Drake Relays**

Today, 9 a.m.

With the Big East Championships lurking ahead, the Irish hope to perform well this weekend.

See FOOTBALL/page 22

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**Track and Field**

**Ellis Island ceremony Wednesday.**

See ND TRACK AND FIELD/page 21

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**Smc Softball**

**Saint Mary's 5-13**

Kalamazoo 3-1

With the sweep, the Belles earn a spot in the MIAA tournament.

See SMC SOFTBALL/page 21
A Decade of Decline

Notre Dame remains at a loss for wins — and everybody wants to know why.
Only winning can unite the Irish

Let's take a moment to review what happened after a season where the Irish lost four games by more than 25 points, lost more games than it won for the third time in five years and experienced a high-water mark by kicking a game-winning field goal to beat Navy. First, a group of alumni sent a letter to the University's Board of Trustees strongly criticizing the management of the football program. This was later followed by a response from Notre Dame's Monogram Club, which essentially said that everybody should stay quiet and keep problems in the proverbial Notre Dame family.

Then, Paul Hornung infamously said that Notre Dame needs to change its admissions standards to admit "the black athlete." The Irish need to win, forgetting that the Irish have more blacks than whites on their roster. His comments were followed by Dave Duerson, president of the Monogram Club, ignoring his own advice about keeping things in the family.

Ah, the joys of an off-season when Notre Dame is struggling. We haven't had one of these this juicy since Notre Dame hired a guy named George O'Leary. Yet amidst all the criticism, ducking of responsibility and ridiculous claims lies two common threads. People want Notre Dame to win a national championship. And Notre Dame hasn't won a national championship for a long time.

The Irish are in the midst of one of their longest national-championship droughts in school history. And for a program that defines itself by the numbers seven (Heisman Trophy winners) and 11 (national titles), that's unacceptable.

But there's more. The Irish haven't won a bowl game in a decade. They've had three losing seasons in five years. They endured an embarrassing lawsuit in the Joe Moore trial, got hit with NCAA sanctions and became a punchline by hiring O'Leary.

Which brings us back to the management of the claims lies letter written to the responsible family. of one of their longest sons when Notre Dame is the most recent criticism of Notre Dame administrators.

People want Notre Dame of a frustration that the administration is no longer and struggling. We haven't had the football program admissions standards to defines itself by the num- department and that later followed by a response. People want Notre Dame of a frustration that the administration is no longer and struggling. We haven't had the football program admissions standards to defines itself by the num. department and that later followed by a response.

Then, Paul Hornung infamously said that Notre Dame needs to change its admissions standards to admit "the black athlete." The Irish need to win, forgetting that the Irish have more blacks than whites on their roster. His comments were followed by Dave Duerson, president of the Monogram Club, ignoring his own advice about keeping things in the family. By the way, Hornung should be fired from his radio position during Notre Dame football games.

In the end, arguments about organizational hierarchy, admissions standards, schedule strength and coaching strategies boil down to exactly one thing. Can Willingham and the Irish win on Saturdays?

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The views of this column are those of the author and are not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu.

Complete the Notre Dame crossword. cut it out. turn it in to 203 lafortune by noon Friday. attend the Jason LeVasseur concert Friday at 5pm on fieldhouse mall to see if you've won.

Blue-Gold Game Schedule of Events

9:30 a.m.
Brunch
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Fan Fest
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Autograph Session
10:45 a.m.
Blessing of Guuslielmoln Athletics Center
Noon - 12:45 p.m.
Alumni Flag Football Game
1:30 p.m.
*Blue-Gold Game Kickoff

*Tickets free to students

*Must be present to win.
*Must be an ND student to win.
*Must be present to win.
The frustrations persist

There isn’t an easy answer for the football team’s decade-long struggles

By ANDREW SOUkop
Senior Staff Writer

Mike Coffey runs a Web site Notre Dame fans of all sports visit to post on the site’s message boards. He recently had to take down a post that heavily criticized Irish basketball coach Mike Brey, as Coffey said had gotten out of hand. But when the webmaster of NDNation.com confronted the poster, the editor admitted that his frustration about the football team’s struggles had led to his inflated comments.

“They want to believe that good things are around the corner. They want to believe that going into a big game they have a chance to win,” Coffey said. “There’s an evident case, the mountains are getting psychologically beaten down because it seems like they have any hope. They have nothing that they can look at and nothing to hold on to.”

Notre No. 2 Notre Dame beat No. 1 Florida State in 1993, the Irish football program has been in a steady state of decline. The Irish haven’t won a bowl game since 1990 and have suffered through three losing seasons in five years for the first time in school history.

Worse, there have been offsetting program goals that prompted additional criticism. Notre Dame lost an age discrimination suit to Joel Moore in 1997, got hit with NCAA sanctions for the first time in program history by barring the university from the annual back-to-back coaching of return games and football or any other sport.

To that end, the Irish are scheduled to complete the Guglielmino Family Athletics Center in 2005, a massive building that will house a new weight room, locker rooms, meeting-rooms and offices for the football team.

And director of admissions Dan Heisler has gutted an idea the Irish won’t rely purely on hard numbers when deciding if any recruit is academically eligible for Notre Dame. The main criterion the University examines for admission, he said, is to make sure a prospect can graduate from Notre Dame.

But that really isn’t true, but I am frustrated that we seem to be having less success in recruiting top players compared to the past,” Saracino said, while acknowledging that not every top prospect is eligible to come to Notre Dame. “It could be that our current coaches just don’t understand Notre Dame and its requirements, so well enough to convince these young men that Notre Dame is the place for them.”

“The problem,” recruiting analyst Tom Lenehan said, “is that Notre Dame isn’t cashing in on the breaks it creates for recruits.”

But Heisler disputes the notion that Notre Dame’s 2004 recruiting class—ranked low by many recruiting experts—is an indication of the football staple. Heisler said, “It remains to be seen what this last year will turn out to be,” said Heisler, who then added the 2003 freshman class was the six freshmen that earned significant playing time.

Criticism persists but not bad enough to convince some alumni who believe Notre Dame isn’t doing everything it can to ensure its football program is successful.

“We don’t want this to be the program you do all these support things doesn’t guarantee you’ll beat Michigan or anything else,” Heisler said.

But many alumni both want and expect the Irish to compete for a national championship annually.

“This is an area where people seem to view in extremes,” Coffey said. “I think we always have the goal of the national championship. I think it’s good to set standards high. Whether they are set too high is a function of the capabilities of the team.”

Heisler echoes that comment by saying Lou Holtz often joked that you don’t want to be successful too early. When Holtz won his only national title in his third year, fans expected the Irish to win them on a regular basis.

“It was tough,” Heisler said. “We understand the mindset of people. It’s what have you done so far? How are we doing? Does that say anything about football, it’s always qualified.”

In the end, Heisler said the fact that everyone wants to give an opinion about the state of the football team in an indication of a shared passion for Notre Dame football.

Even if that opinion, like many Coffey sees on his Web site, is a frustrated one. “You have to find the middle ground from an emotional standpoint,” Heisler said. “If you win your first game in a given season, people want to make their reservations for a national championship. If you lose your first game, people want to jump off a building.”

“Somewhere in the middle is reality,” Heisler said.

Contact Andrew Soukop at soukop@nd.edu

Struggling Irish

National Championship Droughts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seasons</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1989-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1991-1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
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Consecutive Bowl Game Losses since 1970

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Losses</th>
<th>Seasons</th>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1995-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1984-1989</td>
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<td>3 times</td>
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Irish coach Tyone Willingham leads the Irish onto the field before their 45-14 loss against USC. Drubbings like the ones Notre Dame suffered last year contributed to persistent fan frustration.

 undercover Graphic
Notre Dame hasn't seriously contended for a national champion given for the lack of success — I

EMPHASIS ON THE NACDA CUP TAKES AWAY FROM THE FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Before Kevin White agreed to serve as Notre Dame's athletic director, he asked University President Father Edward Malloy for his primary job responsibilities. Malloy said White that he wanted him to bring the football program back to national prominence while raising the profile of Notre Dame's non-revenue sports.

"This is a case where we're trying to say that we want to have it all," associate athletic director John Heisler said. "We don't want to say we're going to try to be competitive in this sport or that sport."

But others worry that this effort on Olympic sports to raise Notre Dame's athletic profile may take away from the attention given to the football program.

"We've done some good things there," said alumnus Tim Kelley, who helped write a letter to the Board of Trustees criticizing the athletic program in January. "But think the state of affairs is going to be the same (White) has to skew his efforts toward the football program."

Other alumni, however, disagree.

"That administration has the proper understanding of how important football is," said NDNation.com webmaster Mike Coffey. "Maybe, they're not quite sure how to attain the success."

"But I think it is possible to maintain the excellence in football and the other sports."

Heisler points out that White maintains an almost daily contact with Irish coach Tyrone Willingham to see what can be done. And unlike most athletic directors, White watches football practice almost every day — going so far as to drive independently from a Friday night game of a Notre Dame delegation to a Chicago dinner so he could watch more practice.

Since White was hired, Notre Dame has typically finished between 11th and 13th in the annual NCAA Director's Cup standings. And next year, he said, all sports programs will have the full NCAA compliment of scholarships available.

Those who think that those other sports have been emphasized over the football program, Heisler said, are mistaken.

"I think everybody understands emotionally and culturally what football has meant," Heisler said. "They're certainly no lack of commitment and priority."

-- Andrew Soukup

WEEK IN, WEEK OUT, THE SCHEDULE IS ONE OF THE NATION'S Toughest

When the final NCAA statistics revealed that Notre Dame had the toughest schedule in the nation, few were surprised.

Irish opponents finished with a 86-43 record, good for a .667 winning percentage. And this fall, the schedule looks to be of similar strength, as the Irish face the likes of Michigan, defending national champion USC and Tennessee.

"I think it's been as much as anything a long-term philosophy around here on (scheduling)," associate athletic director for media relations John Heisler said. "And that's part of what you're selling from a recruiting standpoint — that you're going to come and play in big games. One of the little catchphrases we're using on our programs is that every game is a big game, and that's something you're trying to get your players to understand."

But administrators have indicated a willingness to make Notre Dame's schedule slightly easier.

"Even though they'll have to do so. Already, the Irish have written agreements (not binding contracts) to play five teams in 2014, Heisler said. The Irish are also exploring the option of playing seven games at home.

This fall, the Irish opener is against Miami, Michigan, who was 10-3 last season. However, Notre Dame is trying to move a game earlier in the season so it wouldn't have to open against a team that has already played one game.

"We tried to figure out if we could switch the thing and throw a game in earlier," Heisler said. "We're still making some phone calls this week; it may end up going that way."

In the fall, Notre Dame will play eight teams that went to a bowl last season. Of these eight games, five will be played at Notre Dame Stadium and televised by NBC Sports.

This contract with NBC was renewed Dec. 18 to extend the deal through 2010. It helps the Irish remain independent, as they do not need the income that would come from being a member of a conference. This means Notre Dame can schedule games of its liking far into the future.

"We expect to play a lot of the same teams down the road," Heisler said.

For Notre Dame, this means its schedule will continue to rank among the top in the country.

-- Heather Van Hovegen

ACADEMIC STANDARDS PREVENT THE IRISH FROM RECRUIT TOP PLAYERS

Are Notre Dame's strict admissions standards deter-ring players from coming to South Bend?

Critics like Paul Hornung think so, and SAT scores of football players have risen 6.3 percent since 1993 while the scores of regular students have risen just four points in the same time period.

Still, some disagree that academics has anything to do with this year's struggling recruiting class or the recent plight of the team.

"Everything Hornung said about academics (affecting admissions) is wrong," recruiting analyst Tom Lemming said. "It was apropos... when they tried to run (Lou) Holtz out in the 90s. But the problem now is Notre Dame isn't cashing in on the breaks it creates for recruits."

Skeptics believed Holtz had made concessions to get players into Notre Dame to help win a national championship and win big games like the 1993 defeat of Florida State — the bench mark for the team's success in the previous decade.

But Lemming insists, if anything, Notre Dame has lowered its standards rather than raising them recently.

"They've lowered standards," he said. "They just haven't been able to get the kids anyway. Great players have gone to other schools. Notre Dame has been able to go after great players, but they're not getting them."

This year, coaches pursued players with high qualifications on the field and in the classroom. The most notable signing was 100 running back prospect Darius Walker, who said coaches were concerned with his academic performance and that the academic emphasis at Notre Dame was a major attraction.

Rising sophomore defensive end Victor Abiamiri's admissions were a major reason for his commitment, as well.

"Academics were an amazing part of my decision to come here," Abiamiri said. "I know once I graduate from here the opportunities are endless. (And) I think Notre Dame has the best balance of both in the country. You won't find a university with Division I football and academics as highly regarded as Notre Dame."

-- Pat Leonard

Director's Cup Rankings

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Rank</th>
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<td>11</td>
<td>11-1</td>
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<td>1994-95</td>
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<td>9-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-00</td>
<td>21</td>
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*Kevin White hired in 2000

SAT Scores at Notre Dame

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average SAT</th>
<th>Average AD</th>
<th>Average ND</th>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>1370</td>
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*For the Class of 2005, number represents the percent of students who met the class score requirements as part of the admission process.
Parish since 1993. Below are some of the most common reasons it has made the criticisms:

The Irish aren’t signing the talent they need to win titles.

A winning record is an accurate measure of a college football team’s talent and the goal of any competitive program, but teams can’t attain that goal unless recruiting the right players that fit their offensive and defensive systems.

Especially for top national prospects, like tight end Kiwi Ryan Baker of Indianapolis, Ind., the contact between high school stars and college coaches can be an intense process. This year Baker signed a letter of intent to the school that chased him furiously. Purdue, even though he initially committed to Notre Dame.

"This isn’t something that you just devote a little bit of time to in the summer and get going in the fall," said John Heisler, associate athletic director for media relations. "This has become a 365-day endeavor. That’s how competitive it is.

The competition nationwide has taken its toll on the Irish this offseason. Tyrone Willingham risked in a consensus top-10 recruiting class after going 10-3 in his first season. The coach secured just three top 100 prospects this year.

Irish Insider’s Mike Frank believes Notre Dame has become a hard sell, and after losing key players this season, it becomes an even harder sale. And the director of recruiting at Saratino even suggested problems recruiting players may go beyond academics.

"It’s my feeling that coaches are worried more about winning football games than they are about hitting the recruiting trail," Frank said. "They think if they win games that will do more than a phone call.

Frank also believes that the job transition in the fall between previous director of personnel development Rich Hogan and present director Jimmy Gonzales slowed this year’s recruiting process.

Recruiting analyst Tom Lemming believes Notre Dame coaches do not offer scholarships to top prospects early enough to compete with other schools.

"They’re not winning on the field, so they need to be more aggressive and offer superstar earlier, no-brainers that we call the four percent," Frank said.

Frank said the Irish are already offering scholarships to current juniors. But the team’s performance on the field next season could again be the indicator of a good or bad recruiting class next year.

"You’re going to need a competitive program (no recruit top players)," Frank said. "I think going 5-7 (in 2003) hurt them more than anything."

— Pat Leonard

Scholarship limits increase parity in college football.

In 1992, the NCAA established that colleges could only have 85 football players on scholarship. Since then, the game of college football has seen parity and balance between teams.

"The scholarship limits have just enabled a lot more teams to have a chance to compete at that highest level," Notre Dame associate athletic director John Heisler said.

At one time, the scholarship limit was 120. Then it was cut down to 110, then 95, until 1992, when it cut was cut to 85, where it sits today.

By having a limit on the number of scholarship players, a player coach would otherwise be a scholarship third-string player at a football powerhouse now goes to a school where he can get a scholarship and play.

"You do see a little bit of an arms race out there, and even from a facility standpoint you need to make sure you fit into that," John Heisler associate athletic director

An example of an Irish opponent that was never known as a football powerhouse is North Carolina State. However, the Wolfpack defeated the Irish 28-6 in the 2002 Gator Bowl. North Carolina went from being known as a basketball school to winning a school-record 11 games in 2002. Like Notre Dame, that university is now investing in newer facilities to attract recruits.

Meanwhile, Notre Dame has found that they are behind in the "race" to build new facilities. The university is in the process of constructing the Guglielmino Family Athletics Center. A cost $21.25 million, 95,840 square-foot facility that will house football locker rooms, offices and meeting rooms and is schedule to be complet-

"The university is in the process of constructing new facilities such as the one at Notre Dame is another reason for the parity in college football.

"I don’t know whether it’s any more than a phone call (in NCAA regulations)," Heisler said. "But you do see a little bit of an arms race out there, and even from a facility standpoint you have to make sure you fit into that. You’re seeing people who are going to make that commitment to position their program to be whatever they have to be successful.

— Heather Van Hoogarden

Players need time to adjust to a new coaching scheme.

Personnel changes, like Notre Dame’s addition of secondary coach and Western Wilkins to the staff this spring, can have an immediate effect at a specific position. The impact of a head coach change, however, brings a whole new team to the Irish program.

"The recruiting class this winter barely made the top 30 nationally. And the teams beating the Irish out — USC, Michigan, Tennessee are all on the schedule next sea-

There’s nothing wrong with playing the best and the most competitive teams, but next season Tyrone Willingham will have his work cut out for him.

This spring, injuries have kept the team from practicing as much as it would have liked.

Next season will be as important as any in determining the direction the Irish could be headed in, if any at all.

— Pat Leonard

Watching the Irish take down No. 6 Michigan in 2002 was thrilling. Watching them lose by a combined score of 82-14 to USC and Florida State in 2003 was frustrating.

The Irish had a mediocre season at best this past fall as players still try to grasp the offensive, and a mid-season quarterback switch and one of the most difficult schedules in the country put the Irish hacks against the wall. Still, these factors do not even begin to describe or explain what has happened to the Notre Dame football program.

The recruiting class this winter barely made the top 30 nationally. And the teams beating the Irish out — USC, Michigan, Tennessee — are all on the schedule next sea-

There’s nothing wrong with playing the best and the most competitive teams, but next season Tyrone Willingham will have his work cut out for him.

This spring, injuries have kept the team from practicing as much as it would have liked.

Next season will be as important as any in determining the direction the Irish could be headed in, if any at all.

— Pat Leonard

Since then, the game of college football has seen parity and balance between teams.

"The scholarship limits have just enabled a lot more teams to have a chance to compete at that highest level," Notre Dame associate athletic director John Heisler said.

At one time, the scholarship limit was 120. Then it was cut down to 110, then 95, until 1992, when it cut was cut to 85, where it sits today.

By having a limit on the number of scholarship players, a player coach would otherwise be a scholarship third-string player at a football powerhouse now goes to a school where he can get a scholarship and play.

"You do see a little bit of an arms race out there, and even from a facility standpoint you need to make sure you fit into that," John Heisler associate athletic director

An example of an Irish opponent that was never known as a football powerhouse is North Carolina State. However, the Wolfpack defeated the Irish 28-6 in the 2002 Gator Bowl. North Carolina went from being known as a basketball school to winning a school-record 11 games in 2002. Like Notre Dame, that university is now investing in newer facilities to attract recruits.

Meanwhile, Notre Dame has found that they are behind in the "race" to build new facilities. The university is in the process of constructing the Guglielmino Family Athletics Center. A cost $21.25 million, 95,840 square-foot facility that will house football locker rooms, offices and meeting rooms and is schedule to be complet-

"The university is in the process of constructing new facilities such as the one at Notre Dame is another reason for the parity in college football.

"I don’t know whether it’s any more than a phone call (in NCAA regulations)," Heisler said. "But you do see a little bit of an arms race out there, and even from a facility standpoint you have to make sure you fit into that. You’re seeing people who are going to make that commitment to position their program to be whatever they have to be successful.

— Heather Van Hoogarden

Players need time to adjust to a new coaching scheme.

Personnel changes, like Notre Dame’s addition of secondary coach and Western Wilkins to the staff this spring, can have an immediate effect at a specific position. The impact of a head coach change, however, brings a whole new team to the Irish program.

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PLAYERS TO WATCH

VICTOR ABIAMIRI  
DEFENSIVE END

Abiamiri was named honorable mention freshman All-American by Rivals.com as a true freshman last year, when he played in 12 games, starting four of them. Abiamiri recorded 22 tackles, including 16 solos. He was the first freshman to start on the defensive line since Anthony Weaver. Look for Abiamiri to be a force on the defensive side of the ball. He has improved his technique, and already has the talent. Abiamiri is a player that loves football, and loves to work hard, according to defensive coordinator Kent Baer. After one year in the program, Abiamiri knows the system and will become an impact player as early as this fall.

TOM ZBIKOWSKI  
SAFETY

Zbikowski was a star in high school who had a hard time adjusting to the college game, despite winning the Gatorade Player of the Year in Illinois. After being named a first-team USA Today All-American, Zbikowski redshirted last year as a freshman. A former boxer who sat out the entire 2003 season, the Irish hope Zbikowski can hit on the field next season as hard as he does in the ring.

Look for Zbikowski to be a strong presence in the secondary this season, as coaches have been impressed with his play during the spring.

JEFF SAMARDZIJA  
WIDE RECEIVER

Samardzija is a two-sport star who excels on the field as a pitcher for the Irish baseball team as well. He has had a successful spring in football practices as well. As a true freshman last season, he made seven catches for 53 yards, but this year he should have an increased role.

Already this spring, the 6-foot-3 Samardzija has made some acrobatic touchdown catches in practice. He will add depth to the experienced receiving corps that includes Maurice Stovall and Rhema McKnight. With his size and athleticism, Samardzija could be an impact player for the Irish in the fall.

JOHN SULLIVAN  
CENTER

Sullivan could be one of the best Irish players that no one has heard of. As a freshman last season, he redshirted after a stellar high school career. Sullivan had hoped to see time on the field, but the year of experience could pay dividends this fall.

There’s no doubt Sullivan has the talent to play at the Division I level. In high school, he was a second-team USA Today All-American and was named Gatorade Player of the Year in Connecticut. ESPN ranked him as the 61st best player in the nation coming out of high school. Sullivan will add depth to the Irish line this fall.

TRAVIS THOMAS  
RUNNING BACK

This spring, Thomas has shown why he was such a highly-touted back coming out of high school. Coordinator Bill Diedrick often alternates between two running backs, and look for Thomas to join starter Ryan Grant in the backfield. As a freshman, Thomas redshirted, allowing him to get used to the offense and adjust to the Division I game.

In spring practice, Thomas has already broken a few runs for touchdowns, and he looks to make an impact this fall for the Irish.

With a more experienced offensive line ahead of him and explosive running ability, Thomas could be a force for Notre Dame.
THE STARTERS

RUNNING BACK
RYAN GRANT
SENIOR
Grant ran for over 1,000 yards two seasons ago, but played second fiddle to Julius Jones last year. Now, Grant appears to be the team's top returning back. And he's also one of the team's hardest workers.

WIDE RECEIVER
RHEMA MCKNIGHT
JUNIOR
The top receiver, McKnight, had a breakout 2003 season where he caught 43 passes, including three for touchdowns. Despite the Irish offensive woes, he established himself as Notre Dame's go-to receiver.

QUARTERBACK
BRADY QUINN
SOPHOMORE
After a respectable freshman campaign in which Quin started the final nine games of the season, the Irish quarterback has another year of experience learning the complicated Irish offense.

TIGHT END
VICTOR ABIAMIRI
SOPHOMORE
An explosive player who has made strong strides in practice. And don't forget about Godsey, if the NCAA approves his appeal for a medical red-shirt, or Collins, a defender for all of this season who switched to tight end — a position he's also one of the team's hardest workers.

GUARD
RYAN GRANT
SENIOR
This is the most uncertain out of any on the offensive line, and the Irish have many options here. If Morton stays at center, Barrion, Ryan or Giles could move over to guard. If Morton moves to guard, that means Sullivan or Giles could step in at center. This is a question that won't be answered until the Irish are in the middle of their fall camp.

WIDE RECEIVER
MAURICE STOVALL
JUNIOR
The player who appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated as a freshman was nowhere to be found as a sophomore. Stovall will be the first to say he struggled, but even he didn't play five games without a reception.

DEFENSIVE END
VICTOR ABIAMIRI
SOPHOMORE
An explosive player who earned honorable mention All-American honors for freshmen. He started the final four games of the 2003 season.

DEFENSIVE TACKLE
JUSTIN TUCK
SENIOR
Although Tuck sat out the spring recovering from knee surgery, he'll definitely be a major force for the Irish defense in the fall.

INSIDE LINEBACKER
BRANDON HOYTE
SENIOR
How good is Hoyte? Before Goolsby went down with an injury, coaches figured he'd compete with him and graduate Courtney Watson for playing time. This will be Hoyte's third year playing a prominent defensive role.

INSIDE LINEBACKER
MIKE GOOLSBY
SENIOR

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER
DEREK CURRY
SENIOR
Curry started all 12 games for the Irish in 2003 — the second straight year he was a significant starter. Few can question Curry's experience, and he's recorded more than 100 tackles in his career.

CORNERBACK
DWIGHT ELICK
SENIOR
The only definite starter at corner, Ellick is one of the team's speediest members. But he is still searching for his first interception.

STRONG SAFETY
QUENTIN BURRELL
SENIOR
In trying to replace Garron Bible and Glenn Earl at safety, the Irish don't have a significant amount of experience. After sitting out his entire freshman year, Tom Zbikowski has impressed Irish coaches to the point where he is considered one of the top candidates to compete for starting time. But don't forget about Freddie Parrish, who played free safety for just three games.

FREE SAFETY
MARCUS WOODS
SOPHOMORE
Wood's future is extremely bright. How good is he? Before Goolsby went down with an injury, coaches figured he'd compete with him and graduate Courtney Watson for playing time. This will be Hoyte's third year playing a prominent defensive role.

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The Observer ● IRISH INSIDER

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WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO BE...

When THE SHIRT is unveiled?
When THE SHIRT only costs $11*?
When an April Friday feels like a Football Friday?

April 23. 5:00pm. Bookstore.

*one $11 shirt per student with valid student ID. Expires 4/24/04.