Abroad students return to life at ND

'Reverse culture shock' poses surprising issues

By JULIE BENDER

For Notre Dame students who spent a semester away from home, returning from studying abroad presents its own challenges.

This "reverse culture shock" is nothing new, and international students must deal with it.

"When going abroad, it is often difficult for students to readjust to their old culture with their new perspectives and the emotional changes that have occurred while abroad," said Julia Douthwaite, associate provost for International Studies at Notre Dame. "Anybody who goes abroad will see the US from a new perspective."

To help returning abroad students cope with readjustment, Notre Dame organized a variety of transition programs.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Campus government transition debated

Representatives analyze proposals for moving up April 1 presidential turnover date

By MARY KATE MALONE

In their first meeting of the new semester, the Council of Representatives focused their discussion on the new campus president's transition period for new student body presidents.

Siegfried senator James Lelio, a member of the Senate committee reviewing the situation, attended the meeting and led discussion about the need for possible changes to the transition system.

The current system outlined in the Student Union Constitution calls for elections with the new president of the Student Union.

The possibility of introducing a "Flex 10" meal plan was the primary concern at Monday's Campus Life Council meeting, which also heard progress reports from three task forces.

"This isn't really a call to do anything specific right now, but a call to Food Services to explore and develop new options," said James Lelio, Siegfried senator and member of the Committee on Residence Life that examined the issue.

Currently, the two meal plans offered to on-campus students are the "Flex 14," which includes 14 meals a week and 260 Flex Points, and the "Premium 21," which includes 21 meals a week and no Flex Points.

Off-campus students can build their own meal plans by purchasing block meals, and many Flex Points as they choose.

According to the October 2004 Student Government Dining Hall Issues Survey, 75 percent of students would choose a "Flex 10" option providing 10 meals a week and additional Flex Points.

"When I was a freshman, I thought the dining hall was the

Health Services, Counseling Center plan for move

Summer reorganization not expected to affect services for students

By KATIE LAIRD

Health Services and the Counseling Center will relocate in May from their current location near Lewis Hall to temporary housing while renovations occur during the summer.

The Counseling Center will move permanently to the old post office while Health Services will temporarily relocate to the old Security Building.

While equipment and information are moved, Health Services will close for one to two weeks during the summer and move back into the old building after the renovation is completed in early August, said Kleva.

"It is mandatory for us to close down for one to two weeks in order to move records, pharmacy, etc. This is the same amount of time as at Christmas break," said Kleva.

The separation of Health Services and the Counseling Center should not have a significant impact on either department's service to students.

"We are separate departments, we are just housed in the same building," said Kleva.

"The Counseling Center's temporary relocation to the old post office will make the department visible and easily accessible for students receiving treatment, Stoehr-Paschalich said. Because the new space will be much smaller than the existing building, only essential materials will be moved to the temporary center.

"A potential problem for the relocation could be that students might be seen walking away from the building.

The Counseling Center will relocate this summer to the old security building and old post office, respectively.
INSIDE COLUMN

No going back

I picked an innocent enough looking seat in my first Friday afternoon economics 101 class — not too close to the front and not surrounded by giggly girls. But just before the class began, three football players sauntered in and plunked their butts right behind me. And as I began to look around the class, I discovered that to my surprise — and slight horror — out of a 40-person section, I was surrounded by freshmen who apparently hadn’t missed the third grade. As the TA started class, I thought back on my college years, remembering that such large, everyone-takes-it-classes did actually exist.

I stared as the athletes proceeded to talk through everything the TA said, once interrupting to ask why the class didn’t have Powerpoints, and then subsequently pretending I really wasn’t graduating in a short few months. But that Friday afternoon, surrounded by hordes of cookie-cutter freshmen business majors — my nostalgia died right then and there.

As the TA started class, I thought back on my college years, first remembering that such large, everyone-takes-it-classes did actually exist. I stared as the athletes proceeded to talk through everything the TA said, once interrupting to ask why the class didn’t have Powerpoints and then subsequently declaring that it would be “really hard.” I wondered why the grad student didn’t tell them to shut up — until it dawned on me that he’d probably already tried and failed at any attempt.

I cringed at the subtle racism of the two female freshmen in front of me who were wearing white mini-dresses, with one of them— Alejandra, yelling out “All-what?” as if she was speaking gibberish.

After the girl explained that she lived in Mexico, the athlete looked perplexed — he apparently couldn’t fathom that actual people actually lived there, even if they had been here for one whole year. I thought back to my freshman year, when I discovered that to my surprise — and slight horror — out of a 40-person section, I was surrounded by freshmen who apparently hadn’t missed the third grade. As the TA started class, I thought back on my college years, remembering that such large, everyone-takes-it-classes did actually exist.

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For the Performing Arts.

Brian Sankey, associate professor of philosophy at the Catholic University of America, will give a lecture on "Latinas' Exemplar Ethics" from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on the 7th floor of the Hesburgh Library. A reception will follow.

The Center for Social Concerns will sponsor a Social Concerns Festival Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the CSC classroom.

The hockey team will play Michigan Tech at the Joyce Center at 7:35 p.m.

To submit information to be included in the production of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to ownews@nd.edu.

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**Board of Governance**

Group plans tsunami relief programs at SMC

By CHELSEA IVERSEN

On Tuesday evening, Saint Mary's Board of Governance met for the first time this semester to discuss College President Carol Mooney's inauguration and tsunami relief efforts.

Student body president Sarah Catherine White praised the success of the inauguration.

"Everyone was impressed with Saint Mary's College," she said. White also said tsunami relief efforts would be one of BOG's major projects and it would be its responsibility to unite the campus toward a significant donation.

BOG members will meet Wednesday to discuss ways to get the student body involved and motivated about relief efforts.

Saint Mary's did not participate in the tri-campus tsunami collection held this past weekend. White explained that with the inauguration events, Saint Mary's would not have had enough time to make a sizable donation. Instead, motivation and unification of the campus would lead the student body to give generously and collectively to tsunami relief aids, she said.

"We wanted to wait and do our own big thing," she said. BOG also approved a $1,000 grant for 15 students from the Communications, Theatre, and Dance department to travel to New York during Spring Break for an educational trip.

After the trip, the students will be required to give a presentation, which will be open to the general campus, describing their experiences and how their trip will benefit or has benefited Saint Mary's.

In other BOG news:

- Senior class president Jacqueline Cusiniter reported on many upcoming events for Saint Mary's seniors. A bowling night will be held Feb. 6, and Senior Spirit Week is set for Feb. 20-26.
- BOG members encouraged students to nominate their female professors, faculty or staff members to be recognized at the Women Honoring Women Ceremony on March 23. Nominations are due by Feb. 24.
- The All School Formal will take place Feb. 5, and tickets are on sale this week.

Contact Chelsea Iversen at Civersen01@stmarys.edu

**More aid could eliminate poverty**

**Associated Press**

**UNITED NATIONS** — Global poverty can be cut in half by 2015 and eliminated by 2025 if the world's richest countries including the United States, Japan and Germany more than double aid to the poorest countries, hundreds of development experts concluded in a report Monday.

At stake is life or death for tens of millions of impoverished people, it said.

The report spells out the investments needed to meet the U.N. goals adopted by world leaders at the Millennium Summit in 2000 to tackle poverty, hunger and disease and promote education and development, mainly in African and Asian countries.

"What we're proposing is a strategy of investment to help empower the lives of very poor people that lack the tools and sometimes even the basic means to stay alive, much less be productive members of a fast-paced world economy," said Professor Jeffrey Sachs, head of the U.N. anti-poverty effort and lead author of the report.

The investments range from schools, clinics, safe water and sanitation to fertilizer, roads, electricity and transport to get goods to market.

"The system is not working right now — let's be clear," he said. "There's a tremendous imbalance of focus on the issues of war and peace, and less on the dying and suffering of the poor who have no voice."

According to the report, one billion people live on a dollar a day or less, many of them going to bed hungry every night; life expectancy in the poorest countries is half that in high-income countries. And every month, for example, 150,000 African children die of malaria because they don't have bed nets to keep out mosquitoes, a tragedy Sachs called the "silent tsunami."

In 1970, the world's nations agreed to provide 0.7 percent of their gross national income for development assistance, and that figure was reaffirmed by the U.N. conference on financing development in Monterrey, Mexico, in 2002.

So far, only five countries have met or surpassed the target — Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Six others have made commitments to reach the target by 2015 — Belgium, Finland, France, Ireland, Spain and Britain.

But 11 of the 22 richest donors according to the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development are far from the target and have not set time-frames to reach it — including the United States, Japan and Germany.

If all 22 rich countries come up with the money, more than 500 million people can escape poverty and tens of millions can avoid certain death in the next decade, the report said.

If the countries kept up the 0.7 percent level of aid-giving for another decade, it said, "by 2025 extreme poverty can be substantially eliminated" for the remaining 500 million people surviving on a dollar a day.

"Our generation for the first time in human history really could see it to that extreme poverty on the planet is ended, not just by half but ended by the year 2025," Sachs said.

"We are not asking for one new promise from any country in the world, only the follow-through on what has already been committed," he stressed.

But trying to get the United States and the other rich nations to double or triple the amount of development assistance they give is expected to be an uphill struggle — and the target of a major lobbying effort.

The resources to meet the U.N. goals are definitely within the means of the world's 22 richest nations, Sachs said.

"The required doubling of annual official development assistance to $135 billion in 2006, rising to $175 billion by 2015, is realistic and achievable," the report concluded.

The United States now spends only about 0.15 percent of its GDP on development aid, well below the 0.7 percent figure, Sachs said.

**And still we rise...**

**UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 18: TOWN HALL MEETING**

7:00-8:00 PM

**COLEMAN-MORSE CENTER**

REMEMBERING IS NOT ENOUGH
Study suggested the possibility of moving the election date from April 1 to the first week of May, which would provide more time for students who had not yet declared their plans to do so. According to Leito, the "Flexible Transition" plan would allow students to attend the elections in the most convenient way possible. However, it would also have some drawbacks. For example, it would mean that candidates would not have as much time to campaign as they would if the election were held in April. This could make it more difficult for them to attract the votes they need to win.

Another concern raised by Leito was the possibility of having a "student body president" running unopposed for the position. This would mean that the student body would have no choice but to vote for that person, even if they were not satisfied with their qualifications. However, Leito argued that this was not necessarily a bad thing. He pointed out that there had been several instances in the past where students had voted for candidates who were not necessarily the best choice, but who were still capable of doing the job.

Despite these concerns, Leito expressed confidence in the "Flexible Transition" plan and its ability to provide a fair and effective means for electing a student body president. He urged students to take part in the election process and to vote for the candidate who they believed would best represent their interests.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Abbas orders forces to end attacks
RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, under growing pressure to rein in militants, ordered his security forces Monday to prevent attacks on Israeli and American civilians.

But Palestinian security officials were short on details about possible actions against armed groups, and a spokesman for Hamas said his group will continue attacks.

The move by Abbas, approved by his Cabinet, was the Palestinian leadership's first step against militants since six Israelis were slain Thursday at the Karni crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

Soap star dies at 88 of pneumonia
NEW YORK — Ruth Warrick, the darling of the daytime soap opera “All My Children,” who has spent a career playing the classic “Citizen Kane,” has died, ABC-TV said Tuesday.

Warrick died at her New York home Saturday of complications from pneumonia, said ABC.

In “All My Children,” which debuted in 1970, Warrick played Phoebe Tyler Wallington, the grande dame of the fictitious affluent town of Pine Valley. She portrayed a wealthy housewife and over-the-top personality so believably that her fans often had trouble distinguishing between the stylish actress and her fictitious, equally sophisticated character.

Warrick, nominated for an Emmy for the role, Warrick often talked about how Phoebe Tyler had become an integral part of her life.

National News

U.S. celebrations mark MLK Day
ATLANTA — Americans inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. took part in marches and rallies around the country Monday, drawing from the civil rights leader’s message to call for an end to the Iraq war, advocate affirmative action and speak out for gay rights.

In King’s hometown, parade spectators lined the streets dancing to Stevie Wonder’s “Happy Birthday” and listening to King’s speeches blaring over the loudspeakers. Despite Monday’s chilly temperatures, thousands of marchers then walked through the Atlanta district where King grew up and preached.

Avalanche search declared over
PARK CITY, Utah — Authorities ended a large-scale search for victims of last week’s massive avalanche Monday and said there was a good chance a body found over the weekend was the lone victim.

In northern Idaho, meanwhile, two snowboarders from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., were killed in an avalanche while snowboarding south of Mulan, the Bonner County sheriff’s office said.

A third snowboarder, 22-year-old Sean Forbes, survived and walked to a nearby house to call for help, deputies said.

Iraq

Insurgents kidnap Catholic archbishop

More than 20 people are dead after a series of attacks targeting security forces

Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents kidnapped a Catholic archbishop and targeted security forces in a series of brazen assaults Monday that killed more than 20 people. A suicide bomber attacked U.S. Marines in Ramadi, where insurgents also beheaded two Shiites in the city.

Forbes, survived home alteration after the Jan. 30 national elections. Forbes dodged “everything in our power” to ensure safety of voters. As part of a crackdown on insurgents, U.S. troops arrested more than 100 suspects early this week.

In Mosul, Archbishop Basile Georges Cassouma of the Syrian Catholic Church, was seized by gunmen in the city in condemnation of the abduction as a “terrorist act.” The 66-year-old churchman was grabbed while walking in front of his church, a priest said on condition of anonymity.

Christians make up just 3 percent of Iraq’s 26 million people. The major Christian groups include Chaldean-Assyrians and Armenians with small numbers of Roman Catholics.

The deadliest attacks occurred in three cities in the Baghdad region north and west of Baghdad where Sunni Muslim insurgents are trying to derail the election.

In Baghdad, 35 miles north of Baghdad, two bombs attacked an Iraqi National Guard base in the northern provincial broadcasting center, killing eight soldiers and some police. Five suicide driver set off a car bomb at a police station in Beiji, 155 miles north of the capital, killing seven policemen and wounding 25 people.

A U.S. spokesman said Marines suffered an unidentifiable number of casualties in a suicide car bombing in Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad. Marines sent to check a suspicious vehicle came under small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire and the vehicle exploded.

"There were U.S. casualties," Ist Lt. Lyle Gilbert said, but declined to give further details, citing security. Later, the U.S. command reported two Marines were killed in action in the province that includes Ramadi but would not say whether they died in the car bombing.

Elsewhere in Ramadi, a predominately Sunni Muslim city, officials found the bodies of five civilians and one Iraqi soldier. Each had a handwritten note declaring them collaborators, officials said. Four found together had been shot while two discovered later in the day were beheaded, their blood-soaked bodies left where they died. The notes identified the two beheaded victims as Shiites.

Shiites have been targets of intimidation because they are expected to turn out in large numbers for the election for a 273-member Assembly that will appoint a new government and draft a permanent constitution.

About 60 percent of Iraq’s 26 million people are Shiites, and their candidates are expected to win most of the assembly seats. Many Sunni Arabs fear losing the power they enjoyed under Saddam Hussein, and Sunni clerics have called for a boycott of the vote. U.S. officials fear a low Sunni turnout may cast doubt on the legitimacy of the new government.

A statement Monday, Gen. George W. Casey Jr., commander of the multinational force in Iraq, said about 300,000 soldiers and police from U.S., Iraqi and other forces will be available to protect voters Jan. 30.

"Is there going to be violence on election day? There is, but it’s important that we understand what’s happening here," Casey said.

U.S. soldiers patrol in Mosul where a Catholic archbishop was kidnapped Monday. Violence has escalated recently with the approach of the Jan. 30 elections.

Bush plans ‘big agenda’ for second term

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Thursday that he plans to have a “big agenda” for his second term, and he has been discussing his goals with Republicans and Democrats in Congress who will work together to pass his legislation. Unity will be the most important theme of his inaugural address on Tuesday, he said as he taped separate interviews with CBS, ABC and NBC.

"I have a responsibility to try to unite this country to achieve big things for our country," Bush told NBC’s "Today" show Wednesday.

"I have a responsibility to try to unite this country to achieve big things for our country," Bush told ABC News. "I will say that in my inaugural address, I’m looking forward to the challenge.

He said he’ll announce his new agenda at the State of the Union address in two weeks, but it will reflect his campaign promises. Those include overhauling Social Security and the legal liability system; improving the tax code, school standards and the budget process; and making health care accessible to more Americans.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge," he said.

Before the State of the Union, Bush will hold the first elections for their new government. Although turnout is not expected to be high as voters face violence at the polls, Bush said the election itself was a success. "Having the vote is a victory for those of us who love freedom," Bush told "NBC Nightly News."

Besides Bush’s swearing-in on Thursday, the inaugural week festivities include a salute to America’s military and several lavish balls. Bush said he doesn’t think the pumm is excessive despite the war and last month’s devastating tsunami.

"You can be equally concerned about our troops in Iraq and those who suffered at the tsunami with celebrating democracy," he told CBS.

"You can be equally concerned about our troops in Iraq and those who suffered at the tsunami with celebrating democracy," he told CBS.
66-year-old mother and baby doing well

Professor becomes world's oldest woman to give birth

Associated Press

BUCHAREST — A 66-year-old professor who writes children’s books claims to have become the world’s oldest woman to give birth, and doctors said Monday she and her day-old baby daughter were in good condition in intensive care.

Doctors at the Giulesti Maternity Hospital in Bucharest said Adriana Iliescu became pregnant through in vitro fertilization using sperm and egg from anonymous donors. They said she delivered her first child, Eliza Maria, by Cesarean section on Sunday and that a twin sister was stillborn.

"The child is eating a bit of glucose," Dr. Mirela Marinescu, who runs the hospital, said the unmarried professor of literature from Bucharest had undergone nine years of fertility treatments.

A video of Eliza Maria showed her squirming in an incubator. She was dressed in a pink and white bodysuit with a pale pink woolen hat. Doctors said she was breathing on her own.

The child was born more than six weeks short of a full 40-week pregnancy, the hospital said. She weighed just 3 pounds, 3 ounces, less than half the weight of an average newborn and was in the intensive care unit.

Doctors performed the Cesarean section after the smaller of Iliescu’s twins died in the womb, Marinescu said. That child weighed just 1 pound, 8 ounces, she said.

Marinescu said Iliescu’s pregnancy was achieved on the first try, and that she initially was carrying triplets but lost the third fetus after nine to 10 weeks.

Globes leave road to Oscars fuzzy

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A year ago, the Golden Globes brought sharp focus to what ultimately proved to be a predictable Academy Awards season.

This time, the Globes have left the road to the Oscars a fuzzy one.

Potential Oscar front-runners Hilary Swank of the boxing saga "Million Dollar Baby" and Jamie Foxx of the Ray Charles film biography "Ray" came away with lead-acting prizes at Sunday’s Globes.

But the Globes were a split decision for perpetual Oscar also-ran Martin Scorsese, whose "Aviator" won for best director, yet missed out on the directing honor, which went to Clint Eastwood for "Million Dollar Baby." Swank wins for leads Clive Owen and Natalie Portman, co-stars of the sex drama "Closer," leave the supporting-actor Oscar categories wide open. Morgan Freeman of "Million Dollar Baby" and Cate Blanchett of "The Aviator" had been viewed as more likely favorites.

Add in lead-acting Globes for two other Hollywood veterans, Leonardo DiCaprio as Hughes in "The Aviator" and Annette Bening in the theater farce "Being Julia," and the Feb. 27 Oscars could be an anything-goes scenario across the board.

The Oscars last year followed the Globes' lead to the letter. All four acting recipients preceded their Oscar triumphs with Globe wins, while "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" followed its sweep of all nine categories, including best picture and director.

Bening won the musical or comedy actress Globe for "Being Julia," playing a grieffully enfeebled 1930s stage diva. It was the first awards-worthy role Bening has had since "American Beauty" five years ago, when she was the front-runner, but lost the Golden Globe dramatic prize and the best-actress Oscar to underdog Swank for "Boys Don’t Cry."

Not wanting to jinx her Oscar chances, Bening sidestepped a question back-stage at the Globes about what she would wear to the Oscars. "I think it's just unfortunate that things are seen as winners and losers," she said.

"I think it's just unfortunate that things are seen as winners and losers, because in the end, the performances all speak for themselves and make everyone, I think, a winner," Swank said.

Hilary Swank

dress

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Hilary Swank

actress

LOS ANGELES — A year ago, the Golden Globes brought sharp focus to what ultimately proved to be a predictable Academy Awards season.

This time, the Globes have left the road to the Oscars a fuzzy one.

Potential Oscar front-runners Hilary Swank of the boxing saga "Million Dollar Baby" and Jamie Foxx of the Ray Charles film biography "Ray" came away with lead-acting prizes at Sunday’s Globes.

But the Globes were a split decision for perpetual Oscar also-ran Martin Scorsese, whose "Aviator" won for best director, yet missed out on the directing honor, which went to Clint Eastwood for "Million Dollar Baby." Swank wins for leads Clive Owen and Natalie Portman, co-stars of the sex drama "Closer," leave the supporting-actor Oscar categories wide open. Morgan Freeman of "Million Dollar Baby" and Cate Blanchett of "The Aviator" had been viewed as more likely favorites.

Add in lead-acting Globes for two other Hollywood veterans, Leonardo DiCaprio as Hughes in "The Aviator" and Annette Bening in the theater farce "Being Julia," and the Feb. 27 Oscars could be an anything-goes scenario across the board.

The Oscars last year followed the Globes’ lead to the letter. All four acting recipients preceded their Oscar triumphs with Globe wins, while "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" followed its sweep of all nine categories, including best picture and director.

Bening won the musical or comedy actress Globe for "Being Julia," playing a grieffully enfeebled 1930s stage diva. It was the first awards-worthy role Bening has had since "American Beauty" five years ago, when she was the front-runner, but lost the Golden Globe dramatic prize and the best-actress Oscar to underdog Swank for "Boys Don’t Cry."

Not wanting to jinx her Oscar chances, Bening sidestepped a question back-stage at the Globes about what she would wear to the Oscars. "I think it's just unfortunate that things are seen as winners and losers," she said.

"I think it's just unfortunate that things are seen as winners and losers, because in the end, the performances all speak for themselves and make everyone, I think, a winner," Swank said.
**Former WorldCom CEO faces trial**

Three years after his business collapsed, Bernard Ebbers will be tried for fraud.

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**In Brief**

Pests to earn air miles on Midwest

**MILWAUKEE** — Midwest Airlines is focusing on four-footed customers in hopes of wooing more of the two-foot kind.

Midwest announced a program Monday that gives pets a free round-trip ticket for every three domestic round-trip flights they take with their owners.

By contrast, Midwest’s human passengers get free round trips at 25,000 miles — a mileage requirement that frequently requires more than three domestic round trips.

“While in the past their owners have been racking up miles on free trips, all the pets have been getting is a pat on the head,” Midwest spokeswoman Mary Jo Mesko said.

The promotion follows a similar one announced last week by United Airlines, which is offering pet owners 1,200 bonus miles on up to two round-trip tickets when they fly with their pets before May 27.

**President of Comair Inc. resigns**

CINCINNATI — The president of Delta sub-sidized Comair Inc. resigned Monday, weeks after the failure of an overloaded computer system shut down the carrier’s flights nationwide on Christmas.

Handy Rademacher made a personal decision to leave, Comair spokesman Nick Miller said. “I don’t want to speculate on the reason for the decision, he said.

Miller said an internal memo from a Delta executive says Rademacher stood down to pursue other unspecified opportunities. The memo’s contents were reported Monday by The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Delta Air Lines Inc., which owns the carrier based at the Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky International Airport, appointed Fred Buttrell, head of the Delta Connection group, as president of Comair.

Comair’s approximately 1,100 flights were canceled on Christmas, stranding hundreds of passengers who couldn’t arrange other flights. The company blamed numerous passenger scheduling changes because of an ice storm.

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**Verizon and Yahoo team up for Internet deal**

Monday were not disclosed.

Verizon is the second largest U.S. phone company to partner with Yahoo. Since 2002, Yahoo and SBC Communications Inc. have been bundling their offerings. Yahoo also has agreements with British Telecom and Rogers Communications, a Canadian cable company.

New York-based Verizon also has a deal with Microsoft Corp.’s MSN to provide content to its customers. Starting this summer, Yahoo will become the preferred partner, said Bobbi Heiron, a Verizon spokeswoman.

Verizon-Yahoo broadband will offer premium services such as greater than a million subscribers.

Terms of the deal announced Monday were not disclosed.

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Free Tibet - a global cause

In recent weeks, there has been an outpouring of support for the victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia. In the aftermath of a rather bitter election, union of Republicans, Democrats and Independents reaching out to those in desperate need of our help is truly inspiring.

In addition, these events remind us of an area of the world that is oftentimes neglected in our newspapers and magazines. Understandably, national affairs tend to preoccupy citizens and the media. These countries that present neither significant economic nor political threat to the United States frequently fall by the wayside in terms of the attention they receive from the press, the citizenry and our government.

Tibet is one of these countries. I first learned about the plight of this nation when I was 13 and on a trip to New Mexico with my parents. The streets of Santa Fe were lined with artists, and as I was just beginning a phase where I was obsessed with the '60s and '70s, the free spirited atmosphere of the town, coupled with the gorgeous scenery, made it intensely appealing.

Each street contained nooks, crannies and back allies where you might find a small gem of an art gallery, handmade jewelry store or, in the case of one dusty side road, a tiny store that sold a multitude of Tibetan crafts.

Accompanying these pieces, were T-shirts, signs and bumper stickers that read “Free Tibet.”

Like many Americans, I had no idea from what Tibet needed freedom. I also, however, had Bob Dylan’s “The Times They Are A-Changin’” ringing in my ears, although I had yet to realize that some of the idealism he inspired had fizzled out around the time “Video Killed the Radio Star” hit the airwaves. I took a pamphlet, and became fascinated by the character of this unique country, began to research the Tibetan situation.

Prior to the Chinese invasion in 1950, Tibet was an independent nation, reputed for its spiritual and peaceful indigenous peoples. Despite a National Uprising in 1959, Tibetans remained under Chinese control, and the Dalai Lama, who functions as the country’s spiritual leader and head of state, was forced to flee to India.

According to www.freetibet.org, approximately 87,000 Tibetans were murdered as a result of this uprising. In the years since this tragedy, a total of 1.2 million Tibetans have died at the hands of the Chinese. Human rights abuses include not only these murders, but also a prominent use of torture, beatings, imprisonment, interference with religious practices, a militaristic control over the education of Tibetan children and numerous broken treaties that had guaranteed Tibet a relative autonomy. For the Tibetans, dissent is not meant to be an option.

But what has the United States done to prevent these horrors from occurring? Critics say the United States, as well. America has given China “Most Favorable Nation Status” despite the nation’s unflinching stem to the tide of human rights abuses on her shores and in Tibet. Despite the United States’ lip service encouragement of negotiations with the Dalai Lama and of milder policies toward Tibetan civilizes, this action amounts to a gross permission of not only the devastating oppression of the Tibetan people but that of the Chinese as well.

The Chinese government’s abuses reach from its depressive 1950 invasion to those dead or starving in pris­ons today. In 1995 they kidnapped the 6-year-old Panchen Lama, Gedhim Choekyi Nyima, who remains missing today. Another religious leader, Tenzin Deleg Rinpoche, has been sen­tenced to death, despite the lack of evidence of his involvement in a 2002 bomb explosion. Monks are being held in prison for distributing copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As extreme as these cases may sound, they are only a few of many known examples of human rights vio­lations by the Chinese. To learn more about this cause, visit freetibet.org.

As we have been shown in recent weeks, reaching out to those across the globe can have an incredible impact on their lives. Let these mis­sions of mercy not stop at the devas­tation of the tsunami but extend to those other nations and peoples who also so desperately need our help.

Katie Boyle is a senior English, political science and Spanish major. She supports the Democratic Party. She can be reached at kboyle2@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

The Observer is online at www.ndsmcobserver.com

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THE DAY
Tuesday, January 18, 2005

EDITORIAL CARTOON

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Injustice stretches further than race

Monday was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It is a day to remember this great man and the things he stood for: equality under the law, unconditional love, non-violent protest and brotherhood amongst all peoples. Beyond that I think Monday was a day that drew us into reflection, not only of inequalities and injustices of the past, but of the present and, unfortunately, the future. In the midst of our reflection we must ask ourselves, both as an individual and a collective society, if there is an issue of prejudice that must be addressed.

My reflection brings me specifically to one issue: gay rights in America, or as some might say, the partial rights of gay people in America. It is not difficult to see, with an open eye mind you, how American homosexuals face prejudice in this country. While it may be admit, the story of gay rights in America has not been plagued with the level of violence or outright refusal of basic rights that the story of civil rights was. It is still very important to bring our attention to the injustices visited upon many gay people. As King would remind us, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'

More than anything I believe this country is in need of an impassioned call to action for gay rights. I feel it is important because currently there is a sitting president who supports a constitutional ban on gay marriage. Couples that with many other public policies have been erasing "don't ask don't tell" policy of the armed forces. King would reminds us to openly serve in the military, and common public misconceptions around marriage.

On April 16, 1963, King wrote his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." In it he addresses influential Birmingham clergymen who underlined his message and method. Some of the lessons taught in this powerful text about the struggle for civil rights can and should be applied to today's struggle in America for gay rights.

First, drawing upon teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas, King wrote, "Any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust." In my opinion, "the don't ask don't tell" policy of the armed forces, according to this standard, is clearly unjust. This policy forces homosexuals to deny an aspect of their personality. As the situation stands, many gay people and lesbians are forced to repress a key aspect of themselves in order to fight for their country. This strikes me as sickly ironic that many men and women are fighting for liberty when they cannot openly liberate themselves. If that is not a degradation of personality, I do not know what is.

King also wrote, "An unjust law is a code that a numerical or power majority compels a minority group to obey but does not make binding on itself. The constitutional ban on gay marriage, if it were to pass through Congress and be signed into law by President George W. Bush, which he has indicated he would do, is clearly indifference made legal. This ban would make it legal to deny homosexuals the same rights heterosexual couples enjoy in marriage. I think it would be hard to say with a straight face how that would not be a majority forcing a minority to obey a law that is in no way binding to the majority itself. I think it is pretty obvious. As I said above, I believe America needs a strong call to direct action in the fight for gay rights. King in his letter also addressed why direct action is needed. He outlines why it is not OK to be moderate in the face of prejudice. Many whites during the Civil Rights movement believed in the equality King was preaching but did not agree with his methods, which they believed caused more trouble than it was worth. The conflict with the exteriors perpetuated. May we all long for the time when "the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-ridden communities, when the radiating stars of love and brotherhood shines over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.

Steve McDevitt
sophomore
Sage Hall
Jan 17
What is edge enhancement?

Edge enhancement is the artificial sharpening of an image to compensate for the transfer to a digital medium. A DVD will rarely look as good as film stock when projected. Accordingly, there can be various picture quality problems with DVD transfers.

What is picture softness?

Picture softness is an image that looks slightly out of focus. Again, this is more noticeable on larger displays than on smaller televisions.

Original and remixed Sound

Soundtracks should be clear and free of hiss, pops or crackles. Most studios are able to create clear soundmixes, although many do not take advantage of surround and have most of the soundtrack mixed to the center speaker.

If possible, a studio should maintain the original sound mix as intended by filmmakers. Often, however, they will remix the sound in a different format. Remixed soundtracks almost never sound the same as the original. For instance, James Cameron's "The Terminator" has an optional 5.1 track in addition to the original mono; the differences in these tracks are immediately noticeable. Most frustrating is when studios place only remixed tracks onto DVD's. Steven Spielberg's "Jaws" is available in two separate editions: DTS and Dolby 5.1. Unfortunately, neither version contains the original mono soundtrack.

Restoration

Many older films undergo digital restoration before DVD presentation. Some companies such as Lowry Digital ("Indiana Jones," "Star Wars," "Citizen Kane") and Criterion have become renowned for their restoration efforts.

Restoration is a complicated and often difficult matter. Unlike video transfers, the original negatives are usually in unreserved shape, and, in the worst case scenarios, are completely destroyed altogether. Prints can have scratches, dirt, or tears that degrade the quality of the film, and thus, the DVD. This leads to all kinds of problems. An over-enhanced transfer can range from "good" to "unwatchable," depending on the source materials.

Bringing old films back to life usually consists of (and requires) computerized digital processing of the print itself.

Color prints are often even more difficult since older films used Technicolor's three-color process. This process created prints that faded over time, so older negatives of such films are colored incorrectly. Restorers thus have to use computers to re-color those films as accurately as possible. This often leads to problems akin to remixed audio: in many cases, the color doesn't look like the same film as originally filmed. The original transfer of David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia" was color-timed incorrectly, but the newly restored Technicolor re-issue has since corrected this issue.

Additionally, bad compression or transfers can wash out color levels, especially in black tones, which can look either spotty or faded. In some cases, redissolves lead to excellent re-issues of older films. For instance, C.B. Sherr's "The Passion of Joan of Arc" was thought to be lost forever to fire. However, a nearly-complete print in good condition was discovered in a mental institution in the mid-1980s. A complete restoration followed.

Similariy, Criterion had prepared a transfer of Jean Renoir's "The Rules of the Game" when new and better source materials surfaced; the company re-restored the film from this new material. Yet there are still problems with finding good source material. While Kino's edition of Fritz Lang's "Metropolis" is the best and most complete edition available, it is widely known that there are still considerable amounts of footage missing, probably gone forever.

What's Next?

The final word comes in the form of a warning of sorts. The next wave of technology will soon upon us, and a formal war will be brewing. Similar to the war between VHS and Beta, Sony (which recently acquired MGM's catalog) is backing its own blue-laser technology, Blu-Ray, while Warner, Universal, New Line, and Paramount are all betting HD-DVD.

While both technologies have their benefits and drawbacks, only one will tell which will emerge as the superior format. In the meantime, DVD is the best way to view available technology and has revolutionized the home theater market for the better.

A Beginner's Guide to DVD, part 3

Video transfers and more

Director: Martin Scorsese
Writer: John Logan
Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Cate Blanchett, Kate Beckinsale and Ian Holm

Millionaire Howard Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio), left, and actress Jean Harlow (Gwen Stefan) arrive at the premiere of one of Hughes' films in "The Aviator."

Scorsese's "bioepic" brings eccentric millionaire to life

Scorsese remains a master of his art. He packs his scenes with vitality and chooses his shots carefully, with an uncanny knack for composition, editing and cinematography. "The Aviator" is a beautiful film, perhaps the best looking film of the year, with wide shots of air-plane fields, crowds of people and sour­ ing vistas. Thankfully, Scorsese also manages to shift between intimate and epic with relative ease, giving "The Aviator" a much better flow and emotional resonance than might be expected from such a wide­ reaching biopic.

There are, of course, moments that rival the director's best work, in particu­ lar the late-film plane crash that remains the film's biggest highlight. Still, the film is not perfect. Too much is made of Hughes' obsessive-compul­ sive disorder, and parts of his life are over-dramatized almost to the point of melodrama. These elements add a darkly sinister undertone to the film and undercut its intentions. Thus, The Aviator often uncomfortably scrutinizes the commercial ambitions with the darker sensibilities of its director.

Despite these caveats, Martin Scorsese's The Aviator is still one of the best films of the year. Howard Hughes is an interesting man in this broad character-study, and for the most part, the film works. While it may not rival the best work of the director's storied career, he still infuses the film with a humanity and power that is increasingly rare in Hollywood.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdos@nd.edu

She transcodes cheap imitation into a full-bodied performance that allows the audience to accept that she is attempting to play, arguably, the most famous actress of all time. Kate Beckinsale acquits herself surprisingly well as Ava Gardner, Ian Holm adds some nice comic relief as Professor Fitz and John C. Reilly is predictably dependable as Noah Dietrich, Hughes' financial advis­ or. Scorsese remains a master of his art. He packs his scenes with vitality and chooses his shots carefully, with an uncanny knack for composition, editing and cinematography. "The Aviator" is a beautiful film, perhaps the best looking film of the year, with wide shots of air-plane fields, crowds of people and sour­ ing vistas. Thankfully, Scorsese also manages to shift between intimate and epic with relative ease, giving "The Aviator" a much better flow and emotional resonance than might be expected from such a wide­ reaching biopic.

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Contact Brian Doxtader at bdos@nd.edu
Great cast chemistry puts film among great company

By CHRIS KEPNER

"In Good Company" is a new comedy from Paul Weitz, and whose past efforts include "American Pie" and "About a Boy." Compared to his earlier comedic efforts, "In Good Company" is a more serious film from this latest work, which opens in theaters Friday.

Directed by Paul Weitz, "In Good Company" tells the story of Dan Duryea (Topher Grace), a high school basketball coach who is demoted during the regular season. His wife comes to him with news of her unexpected pregnancy and a second mortgage taken out in order to send their daughter to NYU. Dan simply cannot afford to stop working.

Throughout all of this adversity, a mutual respect develops between Carter and his top player, Quaid, who eventually blossoms into a special friendship. For Quaid and Grace, the roles they play in the film parallel their film careers. Quaid is the veteran, having appeared in over fifty films since 1975. Moviegoers have known of his talents for some time now, and they shouldn't be disappointed by his performance here.

Topher Grace is the newcomer, the young punk on the scene whose skill as an actor is only beginning to be recognized by the majority of Hollywood. "In Good Company" is his sixth film since playing Eric Foreman on the TV series "That '70s Show." His acting in this film is superb and he develops a wonderful chemistry with Quaid, playing off their father-son dynamic.

Despite a couple of stale moments with obvious dialogue, "In Good Company" is a well-written film that is genuinely funny.

Contact Chris Kepner at ckepner@nd.edu

Too much talk keeps 'Coach Carter' from win

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN

There's a new reason to hate movie trailers, other than the fact that they all look the same: video and cinema run thousands of them before the actual film begins. They make it increasingly hard to keep the Jackson seriously. For example, look at how he's featured in the trailers for "Basic" and the new "XXX" film. He's reached a point in his career that if a younger male talked smack to him, you would expect that he could pull out a shotgun, start raving about how great the Bible is, and no one in the audience would bat an eye, as he did in "Pulp Fiction."

That's the greatest problem with Jackson's recent film repertoire: going to one of his movies to hear what he is going to say, rather than what he is going to do. In this instance, "Coach Carter" is a great film for the star: despite decent amounts of basketball offense, it's stances is "less action, more talk."

The film is a biopic of coach Ken Carter, who transformed his Richmond High School basketball team, which is based in California's Bay Area. In 1999 he made national headlines by padlocking the school gym and canceling numerous practices and games because, despite a perfect 14-0 record at the time, many of the players did not meet the minimum 2.3 GPA he required in a contract signed by all the players at the start of the season. The message to his players: regardless of what you've been told by media, friends or even family, there is a future after basketball, and you need to take advantage of it. The message inevitably draws backfire from the entire Richmond community, but eventually the coach wins the respect of his players.

Much of this film consists of Jackson lecturing. He throws out statistics regarding academic achievements amongst African Americans, he becomes angry when the young, cocky athletes transformed into a work force that looks distinctly different from the film's beginning, but the collective arc of the character ensemble doesn't extend far enough to make this happen.

Part of that problem is attributed to all the negligible side plots that occur in the film, such as the team's trip to a house party in the wealthy suburbs after a big win, one player's (Robert Gonzales) connections to a local gang and another player (Rob Brown, "Finding Forrester") trying to cope with a relationship with his pregnant girlfriend (Ashanti) in film debut. It's right of the film to depict how these players live, but it's crucial to the heart of the story? Does it help move the film along?

The answer is that it doesn't, considering that "Coach Carter" is about a half hour too long (136 minutes total). If it had cut out a lot of the unnecessary talk, it could have been another strong sports film.

See "Coach Carter" if you enjoy Jackson's style of work, but dress comfortably for the long haul.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu
**NBA**

**Bulls win seventh straight game, edging Knicks 88-86**

Raptors get first road win in franchise history, relying on Donyell Marshall's big game

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — The words came out of Kirk Hinrich's mouth but they were Michael Jordan's words that no member of the Chicago Bulls would have uttered for the better part of the past decade.

"We have a streak," Hinrich said, and there was no disputing him after the Bulls ran Illinois native Michael Jordan's old team seven straight games Monday with an 88-86 victory over the reeling New York Knicks.

Ben Gordon scored on a driving layup with one-tenth of a second remaining for the game-winning point, a basket that prompted coach Scott Skiles to leap into the arms of head coach Chandler and Eddy Curry.

And after the Knicks botched both the buzzer-beater and the buzzer-sounded, the smiles adorning the Bulls were a sight to see.

"It's good stretches," Hinrich said.

"The team's been good, and I don't mind the good," Jordan said.

The Bulls' 1997-98 team won 13 in a row.

"We have a team mentality," Hinrich said after the Bulls led by double digits for almost the entire second half. "It's just hard. We have a chance to catch a team like this. We have a chance to enjoy this.

"I just fell into a groove early, and even when I missed a few, I didn't feel good — I didn't miss many," Jordan said.

Rafer Alston and Chris Bosh worked the pick-and-roll to near perfection. The Raptors raced out to an 18-point first-half lead. Alston scored 18 points and had 15 assists, while Bosh posted 19 points and had 15 assists, which has won four of five.

"I want to frame that to show what really happened," Chicago head coach Scottie Pippen said.

"I don't know the box score. I'm just watching the film," Hinrich said.

"That's the thing we're going to try to get them to understand," Jordan said.

"We have a chance to get a better perception of the defense by turning that into a point," Jordan said.

Suns 101, Wolves 73

Tony Parker and the San Antonio Spurs figured out a way to slow down the Washington Wizards' high-scoring offense.

Devin Brown scored 24 points. Parker added 23 and the Spurs stifled Washington's top scorers in a victory, snapping the Wizards' seven-game winning streak.

"They missed a lot of shots," Wizards head coach Jim Boylan said.

"We have at least 2-6, we're going to catch you and pound them," Jordan said.

"It's the biggest thing we're doing," Hinrich said.

"I don't think we've gotten away from that," Jordan said.

"That's what we want to talk about," Hinrich said.

"I think we have a chance to make some noise. We have a chance to make some noise this year," Jordan said.

"I don't know if we have a chance to make some noise. We have a chance to make some noise this year," Jordan said.

"It's time to go home," coach Mike D'Antoni said.

"We lost a tough game in Houston," Jordan said.

"We just had to bring more juice, more focus. That's what we did," Jordan said.

"Spurs coach Gregg Popovich praised his team's defense, which gives up an average of 85.3 points per game, but said Arenas and Jamison were clearly off their game. "When you apparently shoot as well as we did," Popovich said. "When you have a chance to make two shots you have to say it was just a bad night," Popovich said. "It was not just that our defense held them to that." But Arenas disagreed, crediting the Spurs' defense for stopping the Wizards out of their offensive rhythm.

"Their rotation is so great," he said. "They didn't let us do anything tonight. We couldn't get a look or an easy finish.

"The Prince has advanced to 20.3 percent in his last three games, about eight above his average, and made the game-winning shot Saturday against Philadelphia. In five of the last 13 games, the third-year player known for his defense has scored at least 18 points.

"The last three weeks, he has had a stretch as good as any young player is going to have," Popovich said.

"That was huge," Brown said.

"We have 10, 11, 12 games in a row. We have 10, 11, 12 games in a row," Hinrich said.

"I don't know if we have a chance to make some noise. We have a chance to make some noise this year," Jordan said.

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Stars succeed in Australian Open first-round matches

MELBOURNE, Australia — His hip didn't bother him much, and neither did his opening match opponent.

Andre Agassi, recovering from a hernia operation in his right hip that almost kept him out of the Australian Open, coasted past quick-handed Peter Kindlmann 6-4, 6-2, 6-0 Monday. That moved Agassi into a second-round match with another German, Rainer Schuttler — the man he bested in the 2000 Australian Open final.

"There's expectation — high expectation — for me to negotiate this stage of it and get better," Agassi said.

Other title contenders also raced through the first round Monday.

Top-seeded Roger Federer won the first 12 points and hit 54 winners in a 6-0, 6-1, 6-0 win over aging Frenchman Fabrice Santoro. No. 4 Marat Safin had two long streaks — one of 16 points and one of 11 — in his 6-4, 6-2, 6-1 win over 17-year-old Serbian Novak Djokovic.

In her first match back at Melbourne Park since reaching the 2003 semifinals, Serena Williams was intent on intimidating any opponent her scheduling of her 6-1, 6-1 victory over Camille Pin.

Svetlana Kuznetsova, who emerged to win Grand Slam titles in 2004 — the first season since 1997 in which neither Williams sister won a major — also impressed.

On a day that saw the return of Marla Sharapova, who beat Serena in last year's Wimbledon final, and on a win by 6-3, 6-1, 6-1 over Svetlana Kuznetsova, seeded 15th, but American Jessica Korda 6-1, 6-1.

In Belgium later Monday, Kuznetsova was identified by Belgian regional sports minister Claude Eerdekens as having tested positive for a banned stimulant ephedrine during an exhibition tournament last month.

Former French Open champion Carlos Moya was the biggest player upset on the opening day, losing to fellow Spaniard Guillermo Garcia-Lopez 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.

But most attention was on Agassi, who hurt himself last March during an exhibition tournament and was in doubt for the Open until the day before.

The 34-year-old Agassi, trimmer and stronger than he's been in a decade, was ready to push the pain barrier, if needed. But he didn't need to extend himself on Rod Laver Arena, where he feels right at home.

Agassi lost only once in his last three trips to the Australian Open but a semifinal scalp last year to Safin — and most of his matches have been on Melbourne Park's center court.

The 1-hour, 38-minute match against Kindlmann was a good workout, and part of a progression to be at peak fitness for an expected quarterfinal showdown with Federer.

"It was great to be on court for three sets," Agassi said. "But, again, with anti-inflammatory and a little treatment, I think I can get sure myself to 100 percent.

"Agassi, who has won half of his eight Grand Slam titles in the Open era, was in top form against Federer. Asked if he could equal the 23-year-old Swiss star in the quarters, Agassi said that's further ahead than he's thinking now.

"To play Roger means I've beaten three more players, so that's something I'm quite sure," Agassi said. Anti-inflammatory to ease the pain were part of the regimen before and after that match.

"Oh, I'm going to have them every day," the American said. "I might have them every day the rest of my life.

Federer's win over Santoro and his 22nd win in a row, gave him a loss at the Athens Olympics.

He was the first man since Pete Sampras in 1997 to win three Grand Slam titles in a single year, and he's hoping to be the first since Pete Sampras to win three consecutive majors.

Samantha, the 1994 Australian Open title to his wins, the previous year at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Federer is in line for the same sequence.

Sampras added the 1994 Australian Open title to his wins, the previous year at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Federer is in line for the same sequence.

"I'm still leading, but I'm at a Tour CEO," said Agassi, "I don't think a perfect start — I'm thinking about what do I now, I find it very hard to imagine that there will be anything of any significance resulting from this," Scott told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from Melbourne, Australia.

He said he had tired without success to speak with Eerdekens and called the regional sports minister "a little bit premature, highly irresponsible and a little bit unfair.

"It's something that could possibly be a common cold remedy, and the player might be innocent. Yet he's gone ahead and publicly tainted the sport.

It's still used in weight-reducing formulas, and some athletes take it to get a short-term energy burst and to increase alertness. Use of banned stimulants can draw a suspension of up to two years, but the penalty can be reduced or waived if the athlete was using cold remedies.

On Saturday, Eerdekens said Samantha Sampras had tested positive for a banned stimulant, but did not identify the player or substance. Monday, he issued a statement saying it was Kuznetsova.

"We saw it was ephedrine and we saw it was an illegal product," he said by telephone from his home in Androuel. Because the second sample's result isn't known, Eerdekens said, "We do not want to prejudice her innocence.

The minister told the AP that the report he received did not mention that Kuznetsova asked for a medical exemption for ephedrine.

Kuznetsova, 19, is seeded 24th in the Australian Open and beat Jessica Kiriakos of the United States 6-1, 6-1 in the first round Monday.

"I've never used any drugs to improve my performance," she said after that victory — and before Eerdekens identified her. "I have not been notified of any positive test, and I think it is unfair that it's come out the way it did."

She also noted she was tested 11 times last season. Kuznetsova was seeded ninth when she won her first Grand Slam title in September, becoming the third straight Russian major champion. Her father coached five Olympic and world tennis cycling champions, including Kuznetsova's sister, and her brother won a silver medal in the 1996 Atlanta Games.

"We did the test last month's exhibition event was conducted by regional Flemish gymnastics and was not commissioned by the World Anti-Doping Agency, the WTA Tour or the International Tennis Federation.

"Eerdekens said the regional Francophone government of Belgium had no authority to impose sanctions and would leave it up to the sport's governing bodies.

There never has been a doping offense for a performance-enhancing drug in WTA Tour history. Two players were sanctioned for cocaine — one for cocaine — and two for EPO in 2002.

"There are a few countries in the world, not many, where the government kind of holds themselves out and says, 'Regardless of your sport's anti-doping program, we have the right to test whenever and wherever we want.' This case highlights the problems with that," Scott told the AP.

"It just shows you the kind of damage a politician can do whenever they use anti-doping for grandstanding or political use in the home country."
Julio Franco re-signs with Braves at age 46

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Julio Franco re-signed Tuesday with the Atlanta Braves at age 46. Franco, a 46-year-old first baseman from the Dominican Republic, signed a $1 million, one-year deal last month with the Atlanta Braves for next season — his 21st in the major leagues since 57-year-old Minnie Minoso in 1957. Franco wants to play until he's at least 50. “With God’s help, I’m going to play in the major leagues until I’m 50 years old,” he told Associated Press in a telephone interview Sunday. “It’s a goal that I’ve set for myself. I have the physical and mental strength.” Franco, who is hitting .344 in the Dominican winter league, also said he wants to end his career with at least 3,000 hits and then become a manager.

Last season, Franco became the oldest position player in the majors since 57-year-old Minnie Minoso in 1980 — and that was just a pinch-hitting publicity stunt. Franco also became the oldest to hit a grand slam. Franco returned from reconstructive elbow surgery last June and went 7-for-4 with a 3.68 ERA in 120 innings. His career record is 37-38. Last year, Burnett was paid $2.5 million. His new contract allows him to make $51,000 in performance bonuses: $50,000 each for 190, 200 and 210 innings pitched. Mota, expected to be the Marlins’ closer, agreed to a $2.6 million deal that allows him to earn $275,000 in performance bonuses. He received $1,475,000 last year, when he went 9-8 with a 3.07 ERA for Los Angeles and Florida. Spoonybarger received $350,000, a raise from $305,000 last year, and can earn $75,000 in performance bonuses. He’s hoping to come back this year from reconstructive elbow surgery that forced him to miss all of last season. The only Florida player still in arbitration is right-hander Josh Beckett. Barring an agreement, Beckett and the Marlins will exchange proposals Tuesday, and a hearing will be held in February.

Marlins’ pitcher Burnett returns with one-year contract

Associated Press

MIAMI — Florida Marlins right-hander A.J. Burnett agreed Monday to a $3.62 million, one-year contract rather than go to arbitration. Relievers Guillermo Mota and Tim Spoonybarger also avoided arbitration by accepting one-year deals.

The Marlins, meanwhile, are still courting free-agent slugger Carlos Delgado. He and agent David Sloane met Saturday with owner Jeffrey Loria, and Sloane said he plans to talk with team executives again Tuesday in New York. Burnett returned from reconstructive elbow surgery last November and is still working his way back to form.

Coffee and Conversation

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal coffee at the Co-Mo.

Tuesday, January 18th
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured. *Coffee and refreshments will be served*
NBA

Bryant to miss at least two more weeks

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Lakers star Kobe Bryant will be sidelined at least two more weeks with a severely sprained right ankle.

Team spokesman John Black said before the Lakers faced the Utah Jazz on Monday night that the NBA's second-leading scorer was examined earlier in the day by team physician Dr. Steve Lombardo and foot specialist Phillip Kwong.

A CT scan confirmed there was no fracture.

"Kobe will be re-evaluated in approximately one week," Black said. "He has made improvement. He still can't put weight on his right foot."

Black said there was no target date for Bryant's return.

"We're just saying a minimum of two weeks," Black said. "Well have a better idea next week."

If Bryant returns in two weeks, he'll miss a minimum of four more games and eight overall.

Bryant, hurt in the first quarter of Thursday night's victory over Cleveland, was placed on the injured list Saturday — before the Lakers beat Golden State.

"We were hoping for far better, but that's the way it is in this game," Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich said regarding Bryant's status.

"You can always hope. I'm not a medical guy."

Tomjanovich said he spoke with Bryant early Monday.

"He said it was still thrumming," the coach said, adding Bryant seemed to be in good spirits.

When asked what the Lakers do differently without Bryant, Tomjanovich replied: "We just run different plays. There's still plays where he's the focal point. Obviously, we're not running a lot of them."

Lamar Odom and Caron Butler have picked up the slack since Bryant was injured.

"It could have been more serious," Butler said. "His spirits are high — it's getting better. We're just praying for him, hope he gets better soon."

Bryant, averaging 27.5 points per game, was injured when he landed on Cleveland forward Ira Newble's right foot while going for a rebound under the Cavaliers' basket.

NHL

NHL and NHLPA will meet

Agreement not likely as lockout continues

Associated Press

NEW YORK — For the first time in more than a month, a group of officials from the NHL and the players' association will meet Wednesday in what could be a last-ditch effort to save the hockey season.

"We think it is appropriate and both sides need to engage in these discussions at this time," Ted Saskin, the union's senior director, said Monday.

"We are not meeting to pros­­tect the lockout. We have committed to reaching a fair deal that does not include a salary cap."

Monday marked the 124th day of the lockout. So far, the NHL has resisted announcing a drop-dead date in which a collective bargaining agreement must be made to save this sea­son. But with 650 regular-sea­son games plus this year's All-Star game, already canceled, it appears that time is short to make a deal.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman and players' association executive director Bob Goodenow, who have butted heads throughout the process, are expected to sit out this ses­sion. The NHLPA has formed a smaller group was batched by players' association president Larry Lindgren, Huskin and outside counsel John McCarthy will represent the players.

Calgary Flames part owner Harley Healthcare, the chair­man of the NHL's board of gov­ernors, and Thunder Bay, NHL's chief legal officer, and outside counsel Bob Battersby, will represent the owners.

The NHL is not expected to make a new proposal at the meeting. Others. The sides have not met since the NHL made its most recent proposal — made five days earlier. A counter­­yer from the league also was rejected by the players during that session in Toronto.

The players' association got talks restarted in December, after three months of silence, with a proposal centered on an immediate 24-percent salary rollback on all existing contracts. Owners rejected that plan and countered with a salary-cap structured offer.

The NHLPA is adamant that it will never accept a salary cap. The union's offer featured a luxury-tax and revenue­­sharing system. Bettman has said that he has no interest in a luxury tax.

During the 103-day lockout that disrupted the 1994-95 season, an agreement was reached on Jan. 11, 1995, saving the season for a 48-game season that began nine days later.

If the season is wiped out, it would mark the first time in 26 years that the Stanley Cup wasn't awarded. A flu epidemic canceled the 1919 final series between Montreal and Seattle. No North American sports league has lost an entire season due to a labor dispute.

Information Session for the University of Notre Dame's International Study Programs

Study Abroad This Summer! Earn ND credit in:

Dublin, Ireland
Toledo, Spain
Plus, new this summer:

Berlin, Germany
Rome, Italy
Puebla, Mexico (ND EG courses offered!)

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Wednesday, January 19, 2005

5:30 pm

129 DeBartolo Hall

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 1, 2005

Frontcourt dominance helps UConn

Associated Press

FAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Jim Calhoun had a right to brag about his young front­court.

"People like to say that we have tall guys on our front line," the Connecticut coach said, referring to his seniors Josh Boone and Charlie Villanueva and freshman Rudy Gay. "I like to say we have talented, tall guys on our front line and tonight it showed."

Boone, Villanueva and Gay combined for 54 points on 21-for-32 shooting, grabbed 27 rebounds and blocked 10 shots as the 13th­ranked Huskies beat Seton Hall 77-68 on Monday night.

"Not getting outside shots makes it a little tougher but you just have to step up," Boone said. "The outside shots will come. It's just a little slump right now."

"There's going to be games when they get 50, 60 points. It's just someone else stepping up and tonight it was the inside guys," says Connecticut's chief legal officer; and outside counsel Bob Battersby, will represent the owners.

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Wake Forest at Florida State, 7 p.m.,

Purdue at Michigan State, 7 p.m.,

Pittsburgh guard Yuri Demetris faces burglary and simple assault charges after allegedly entering a former girlfriend's apartment twice through a bedroom window and hitting her with a closed fist, university police said Monday.

Demetris, suspended indefinitely by coach Jamie Dixon after being arrested Sunday, will have a preliminary hearing Thursday. Dixon said that Demetris would not practice while serving the suspension, but did not mention the player's arrest.

According to the police report, Demetris twice entered the apartment of a 21-year-old woman early Sunday without her permission, each time through a bedroom window. On the second trip, he is alleged to have struck the woman with a closed fist.

In the report, the woman identified Demetris as a former boyfriend.

Demetris does not have a listed number and it was not immediately clear whether he had an attorney.

Robbins was hospitalized in critical but stable condition, according to an assistant, Drew Pittman. Hospital officials declined comment.

Robbins, 31, was shot several times in the torso during a "violent struggle" with a Miami Beach detective Saturday night, Hernandez said.

Niners' new Nolan is coaching legacy

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Mike Nolan's lineage on and off the field made him an ideal choice to rebuild the San Francisco 49ers.

The Baltimore defensive coordinator accepted his first head coaching job Monday and began to negotiate a contract to take over the team that had the NFL's worst record last season.

Nolan, a longtime coordinator for four teams, is the son of former 49ers coach Dick Nolan, who led the franchise to its first playoff victory during eight seasons in charge of a once-proud franchise that finished this season 2-14 — tying the worst record in franchise history.

As his resume attests, the 45-year-old Nolan has plenty of experience and plenty of patience, and he'll need both in San Francisco.

Nolan will replace Dennis Erickson, fired earlier in the month after going 9-23 in two seasons out of the playoffs. After working 49ers owner John York in an interview Thursday, Nolan flew to York's home in Ohio on Monday to work out a deal.

"(York) had a good strong list of candidates, and they felt that Mike was the perfect candidate to lead us into the future," 49ers spokesman Kirk Reynolds said.

Nolan, who will be the 15th head coach in 49ers history, didn't return a call to his cell phone seeking comment. York also didn't return calls.

General manager Terry Donahue was fired along with Erickson, and Nolan will have a hand in picking Donahue's successor. York has said he plans to hire a coach with broad powers, supplemented by a general manager who concentrates on salary cap issues.

IN BRIEF

Suspended Pitt guard charged with two accounts

PITTSBURGH — Suspended Pittsburgh guard Yuri Demetris faces burglary and simple assault charges after allegedly entering a former girlfriend's apartment twice through a bedroom window and hitting her with a closed fist, university police said Monday.

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Tech continued from page 20

been in nearly every game we've played this year, and they've also played all their opponents close.

"I think this is going to be a game between two teams who want to prove there's still a lot of hockey to be played this year." Tonight's meeting between the Huskies and the Irish will be the first time the two teams have played since the 1993-94 season, when Notre Dame lost 8-4 on Dec. 30 at the Great Lakes Invitational in Detroit.

Prior to the 1980-81 season, Notre Dame and Michigan Tech were both members of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. The Huskies and Irish both moved to the CHA after the 1981-82 season, but Michigan Tech decided to return to the WCHA following the 1982-83 season.

Notre Dame and Michigan Tech have met five times in the last decade, with each team winning three of the games. The Irish won the 2007-08 and 2010-11 games, and the Irish lost the 2009-10 and 2011-12 games.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Spartans exact revenge against smaller Irish

Nurudeen won the second set, and the Irish were able to close out their season with 10 straight sets.

Irish right wing Tim Wallace glides into the Ohio State defensive zone on a Notre Dame shot this weekend. The Irish lost both games of the weekend series to the Buckeyes, 4-1 and 3-1.

Women continued from page 20

By JOHN EVERETT

Sears Winer

In their first meet, the Irish showed signs of promise for the season ahead as they ran at against Michigan State and Central Michigan in a non-scoring affair.

"It was pretty good for the first one back," senior Chip Roberts said. "We had a few personal bests. We've been training pretty hard for the Big East Indoor Championships, and overall this is starting out better than last year.

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association.

The Irish will travel to Michigan State, Ohio State, and Michigan Tech in the first three games of the season, with Michigan State being the first game.

The Irish are looking forward to the season and hope to compete against other teams this year.

The Observer

Spruce the Observer

Notre Dame's men's club volleyball team traveled to St. Joseph's High School in Michigan to battle rival Michigan State.

Playing in front of a packed high school gymnasium, the Irish had a solid effort but failed to defeat the taller Spartan squad. Notre Dame were the visiting team and their effort was not enough.

The first game was even until State went on a 6-0 run to pull away from the Irish, eventually defeating them 25-21.

But Notre Dame still had plenty of fight left in them, and they won the second match 25-25 after rallying to push the game over 25.

The series for the year is tied 1-1, which will make for an exciting rubber match when these two teams meet again.

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The Observer

Spruce the Observer

Notre Dame's men's club volleyball team traveled to St. Joseph's High School in Michigan to battle rival Michigan State.

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The first game was even until State went on a 6-0 run to pull away from the Irish, eventually defeating them 25-21.

But Notre Dame still had plenty of fight left in them, and they won the second match 25-25 after rallying to push the game over 25.

The series for the year is tied 1-1, which will make for an exciting rubber match when these two teams meet again.

Sears Winer

Sears Winer

In their first meet, the Irish showed signs of promise for the season ahead as they ran at against Michigan State and Central Michigan in a non-scoring affair.

"It was pretty good for the first one back," senior Chip Roberts said. "We had a few personal bests. We've been training pretty hard for the Big East Indoor Championships, and overall this is starting out better than last year.

The Western Collegiate Hockey Association.

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The series for the year is tied 1-1, which will make for an exciting rubber match when these two teams meet again.
Avery and Brian Wiese have been big contributors through their time. But their careers aren’t the only things Clark takes pride in.

“They all bring so many little different things, that’s something — that Notre Dame helps them really grow up,” he said. “The school teaches them, gives them an education, but I think it gives them a lot more than an education. They grow up as people.”

Bobby Clarke
Irish head coach

In my case ... my goalkeeping coach, Brian Wiese, has been a huge part of my development as a keeper,” he said.

The development of the Irish soccer program was an important goal for Stewart during his four years with the Irish, which also marked Clark’s first four years as head coach at Notre Dame. “This program has come and done a complete 180 thanks to all the guys, the Notre Dame family,” he said. “They took it to the next level — every year we want to take it to the next level as a team.”

Clark knows that the members of his first Notre Dame recruiting class have done special things with the Irish program. “All three had outstanding careers at Notre Dame,” he said. “They’ve been big contributors through their time.”

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Kevin Goldthwaite crosses the ball during a 4-0 win over Loyola-Chicago Oct. 3. Goldthwaite was drafted 17th by the San Jose Earthquakes on Friday.

“arly, especially with Notre Dame’s rigorous academic requirements and the time commitment needed to be a varsity athlete, was an impressive accomplishment for the players. “All three of them graduated in three and a half years,” Clark said. “One of the great things that they were able to get drafted but also graduate early, and that means they can join their respective teams and not have to worry about any more studies.”

Goldthwaite said Notre Dame offered the academic support necessary for the athletes to be able to graduate early. “I definitely had a lot of support, everything we needed,” he said. “If we were ever in trouble academically, we were always helped out with tutors and all.”

Although players at this elite level are accustomed to hard work on the field, the academic challenges were rigorous.

“It was tough because we weren’t allowed to drop a class,” Goldthwaite said. “Our goal was always to be able to get out a semester early.”

The three will train on campus to prepare for their first preseason as professionals. “This is a great place, I think they really just don’t want to leave Notre Dame,” Clark said. “They’re coming up to prepare themselves for going into camp.”

They are also role models for another generation of players who could look to play at the professional level. However, for now the three former Irish standouts are enjoying the fulfillment of a lifelong dream and the promise of an exciting future. “It’s absolutely amazing,” Sawyer said. “This was obviously a goal of mine ever since I started playing soccer — it’s sort of one of your dreams and you just want to make the best of it.”

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Chris Sawyer settles the ball during a 4-0 win over Loyola-Chicago Oct. 3. Sawyer was drafted 24th by the Kansas City Wizards in the MLS draft Friday.

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Caldwell Observer
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PEANUTS
IT'S THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING AND I'M ALONE IN THE DESERT AND I DON'T FEEL WELL.

CHARLES SCHULZ

SCOTT ADAMS

JUMBLE
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JOBS
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HOROSCOPE
CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Yvonne/赞美 (16); Kid Rock (34); Jim Carrey, 45; Susanna Hoffs, 46.

Happy Birthday: You have plenty going for you this year, but excess may be the one thing that sets you back. Putting too much money into something, eating and drinking too much or taking on too much will all end up being a burden. If you can control this type of behavior, you will see some nice rewards by the time you reach the end of the year.

Your key to success this year will be moderation. If you are an active person, you must slow down. If you are a sedentary person, you must increase your exercise.

Your numbers are 5, 12, 14, 19, 27. Today's Answer: This can form four ordinary words.

Jumbled: PIECE MINUS NOUGAT BANISH

Yesterday's Answer: This can form four ordinary words.

Answer: hame

Jumbled: NOGAT BaNISH

Answer: (Answers tomorrow)

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Men's Soccer

MLS teams draft three Irish players

Goldthwaite, Sawyer and Stewart go in first two rounds

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

It's not unusual for children to imagine themselves growing up to be professional athletes. But to succeed at that most competitive level, it takes talent, dedication and hard work. Only the best will be paid to perform at the sports they love.

On Friday, Jack Stewart, Kevin Goldthwaite and Chris Sawyer proved they belonged at that level. The three captains from the 2004 Irish soccer squad were selected in the first two rounds of America's MLS draft. Their dream of professional soccer has become a reality.

"It's still surreal," said Stewart, who was picked 10th overall by the Chicago Fire. "It's like your dream is finally coming true. I wanted to be in Chicago ... I'm just stoked out of my mind to be there right now and living my dream."

Goldthwaite, who was selected 17th overall by the San Jose Earthquakes, echoed similar sentiments.

"Growing up we always watched soccer, you're always playing sports dreaming one day that you could actually be in their shoes," he said. "Now that it's the reality it obviously feels great."

"It's like your dream is finally coming true. I wanted to be in Chicago ... I'm just stoked out of my mind to be there right now and living my dream."

"He was my roommate sophomore year, so we're very good friends," Sawyer said. "It's great to be going into a team where you can get a feel for the game is like as a professional soccer player."

"I think they will do well," he said. "They're all first class young men and I look forward to following their careers with great interest."

Goldthwaite said playing at Notre Dame has tremendously helped the three to the attention.

Hockey

Irish welcome struggling Huskies

Lowly Michigan Tech opens three-game, non-conference stretch

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associated Press Editor

With the kind of boost the Irish need heading into the final half of the Coastal Collegiate Series, Notre Dame has a chance to go into the NCAA playoffs as the top rated team in the country.

The Irish 15-13-5 kick off a three-game non-conference stretch of games tonight, traveling to Green Bay, Wis., to face Michigan Tech (2-17-1). Notre Dame will finish that stretch with a two-game series against Wisconsin this weekend.

The Irish go into tonight's game desperate for a win. Notre Dame has not won a game since its last non-conference match, a 2-1 victory over Minnesota on Jan. 2.

Since that win, Notre Dame has played four CCHA games, collecting a 0-3-1 record. Irish coach Dave Poulin said tonight's game should be a good chance for Notre Dame to step back from the pressures of conference play.

"I think the timing is good for this game, not just because it's a non-conference game but also because of where it falls during the week," Poulin said. "Sometimes you can get into a bit of a rut when you have the same routine, so this should help break that up a bit, and it always helps to play a team you're not used to seeing to break up that routine a bit."

The Huskies come into tonight's game having split their last series to defending national champion Denver on the weekend of Jan. 7-8.

"Their record is misleading just as much as our record is misleading," Poulin said. "We're

S M C M S W I M M I N G

Belles fall to Hillsdale, defeat Alma at meet

By JUSTIN STETZ
Sports Writer

The Saint Mary's swimming team was able to walk away with a win against conference rival Alma College this weekend after falling to Hillsdale. The Charges of Hillsdale controlled the meet as they defeated both Alma and the Belles by scores of 64-39 and 70-30, respectively.

Hillsdale dominated by winning eight of the scheduled thirteen events and streaking to five straight wins to open the meet. Neither Saint Mary's nor Alma could overcome the early deficits, and the Charges improved to 5-2 on the season.

In the 1000-yard freestyle, Lisa Balog captured fourth place, while Kelly Nelis was able to do the same in the 200-yard freestyle event. The Belles made up valuable ground in the 50-yard freestyle as Nicole Korte finished in second with a time of 26.65, while teammate Kelly Tipton wasn't far behind, recording a third-place finish with a score of 27.14.

ND Women's Track

Team rests, but athletes place high

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Irish athletes captured three first-place finishes at the season opening Central Michigan indoor meet this weekend, despite holding some of their star athletes from the meet.

Sophomore Maryann Eriglia won the 60-meter dash with a personal best time of 7.51. Sophomore Okechi Obogbuikwe took the 400-meter run in 56.87, and Stacey Cowan won the high jump, clearing 5-feet, 2-inches.

The focus for this meet was on Notre Dame's sprinters, jumpers and throwers. Asked if expectations were met in these areas this weekend, jumps/throws coach Scott W彩man's response was simple.

"No," he said. "But that is partly due to the fact that we traveled through this meet. I knew our athletes would not be able to perform at the level they are capable of.

"We asked the athletes to give us their best effort and to go out and give whatever they had." Other highlights from the meet included a career-best weight throw by Meghan Heg at 49-11 3/4, earning her fourth place to go along with her second place performance in shot put.

Tiffany Gunn also had a solid meet, finishing fourth in the 400-