College Readership pilot begins

By KATE ANTONACCI
American News Editor

Student Government launched a free, one-month trial of the College Readership program Tuesday. The New York Times, USA Today and the Chicago Tribune will be made available to students each day in 14 locations on campus, including DeBartolo Hall, LaFortune Student Center, Coleman-Morse Center, O'Shaughnessy Hall, Mendoza College of Business, the Library, both dining halls and certain residence halls.

The program will be monitored during the next month, and surveys will be taken following the completion of the program on March 4. A running total of how many papers are picked up each day will be kept, said Carroll senator Chris Harris, who was instrumental in developing the program.

"We are testing the popularity of each paper through surveys and feedback from students," he said.

FACULTY SENATE

Hatch reflects on progress made during provost tenure

By TERESA FRALISH
News Writer

University Provost Nathan Hatch, recently named president of Wake Forest University, reflected on his tenure at Notre Dame at Wednesday's Faculty Senate meeting, while student affairs committee members reported little progress on the formation of a committee to oversee creation of a new student course evaluation mechanism.

In his presentation, Hatch outlined progress on six major academic goals he set when appointed provost in 1996, including improvements in graduate study, academic programs and centers and increased funding for engineering and the sciences.

Though these developments represent-
The festival was not intended to be a sort of liberal social agenda, but also a celebration of diversity and the history of the GLB rights movement. This year's festival, sponsored by the Student Activities Office, serves as a forum for students to express themselves and their inclinations. It brings into question the inclusivity of this campus, but also the need for educational input. The festival is not only sending a message of solidarity to the campus community but also considering the possibility of its influence on GLB issues such as marriage equality. Despite the efforts of some to undermine this event or to push some sort of agenda, the organizers are determined to continue the message of acceptance and respect for the GLB community.

For those of you who have not heard about the event, it was conceived of last year by a friend of mine, Richard Friedman, and then made a reality through a collaboration of the Gay and Lesbian Alumnae of Notre Dame and several academic departments. Last year's festival turned out to be a great success, bringing in gay alumni and the directors of the movies from all across the country, as well as drawing audience members from as far away as Chicago. After such a success last year, we figured we would have an easier time this year. However, the opposition has proven to be more difficult than we had anticipated. The posters were torn down by unknown people across campus. And, even more disturbing, despite having several academic departments and the counseling center as sponsors, the Student Activities Office deemed this year's posters "not appropriate" and refused to allow posting or advertising in any area. Anyone who has seen the posters which feature a drawing of a lady's face along with the schedule of events has likely been just as pazzled as we were by this decision — especially because we were not given any reasons and were asked to leave the Student Activities Office when we tried to press the issue.

To me, this type of experience is a very troubling one not only because it brings into question the inclusiveness of this campus, but also because it hampers our ability to allow students to find out about a truly wonderful academic event. The festival was not intended to be a Gay Pride event or to push some sort of liberal social agenda, but rather designed with a large amount of input from the Student Activities Office to be a very educational experience. This year's guests and panelists include renowned experts on GLB issues such as marriage equality and the history of the GLB rights movement as well as a Tony award-winning playwright. These are not just any experts; they are people that you may have a chance to meet or hear speak every day.

Such an opportunity available to this campus, would highly encourage every student to make it to at least one of the events over the three-day festival. This will not only be a message of solidarity to the gay and lesbian members of our campus community but also condemn the actions of those who have been trying to undermine this event. And hopefully you will also be able to this campus, I would highly recommend you to learn something in the process.
The increased visibility of body image issues during "Get Real" reminds students that information, is listening to our help are readily available to all now and throughout the school year. "We have a number of students who come in and talk about their struggles," DePauw said.

Bartky said consultation and discussion is her favorite part of the program.

"Our larger culture tends to be unrealistic about women's bodies showing up everywhere at once, to the point where it's barely comprehensible.

To ensure visibility, residence hall directors were encouraged to promote "Get Real" with dorm resident advisors.

For students to get the information right in their "American Week" established in 1987 by the National Eating Disorders Association, CCD director Mary DePauw said the center's body image sector is Aristotle in promoting awareness about eating issues.

"Women's S.H.A.P.E. refers to who we are on the inside," CCD counselor Kris Penndy said. "We don't always appreciate the opportunity to talk one-on-one with students with any kind of concerns."

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"Get Real" will be built on the Namen Jlm Bentley, an associate professor of music, received the fellowship for her research project titled "Danger..." The campus community will be encouraged to focus on true health — particularly strong body and nutrition wellbeing — from 1 February to 2 March.

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Festival

continued from page 1

tive way, we haven't had any protests," Dacey said. "We don't expect any this year either. I think it's just credit to the way we've gone about it.

The festival has been well received by both students and faculty. "I've only heard positive things, and some of my professors have encouraged us to go to experience diverse things," said senior Erin Phillips. "I don't really understand the point of the festival other than that it is a themed series that received by both students and seniors, we need to take a stand on the issue of violence against women."

The proclamation was unanimously passed. The committee on Oversight then brought two constitutional amendments to the table regarding the make-up of the Executive Policy Board and the Executive Programming Board. The first amendment was the addition of the student body president as a member of the Executive Policy Board, suggested by current student body president Adam Javan. "It just makes sense for the student body president to be there at these meetings," Istvan said. "It's a natural adjustment to the constitution."

The second made several changes to the Executive Programming Board, including the removal of the Student Union Board manager and one of the two Hall President's Council co-chairs and the reduction of Board meetings to once every other week. "The director of programming from SUB is already on the Board, so right now having the manager there too is superfluous," Dave Baron, chief executive officer and chair of the Executive Programming Board, said. "Having the second in command for SUB on there fits with the fact that it is composed mainly of vice presidents from the various councils. Baron added the Board recommended the amendment unanimously. Both amendments passed without opposition.

A resolution regarding the presidential Anti-Sweatshop Task Force was introduced by the Committee on University Affairs. Currently, the student body president sits on the Task Force, along with a collection of administrators, counsel and the University president. The resolution proposes the student body president nominate a student to fill their position on the board for the duration of their term. "We recognize that the student body president already has many duties to fulfill, and that it makes more sense for someone more knowledgeable to attend the meetings," Katie Boyce, chair of the Committee on University Affairs chair, said. Again, the resolution was passed unanimously and will now be pursued through the University administration.

As the last item of business, Brendan McHugh of the Committee on Residence Life spoke about his research into a file-sharing program called Ruckus Network. An alternative to Napster, Ruckus would provide Notre Dame students with a legal alternative to pirating music for a cost of $6 per month. Ruckus offers not only music, but a group of 50 movies per month on a rotating basis and can be customized to allow lectures taped on campus to be downloaded.

"If we had had this last year when Desmond Tutu was on campus, his speech could have been video taped and put on the Web site," McHugh said. "A wider range of people would be able to see campus speakers."

The drawbacks to the program, besides its monthly cost, include the fee charged for every song downloaded from Ruckus and burned onto a CD or transferred to an iPod and the 1,000-student user minimum for the service to be installed.

In other Senate news:

• Judicial Council President Brinn Anderson told senators to remind their constituents that voting in the runoff election for student body president—between Dave Baron-Lizzi Shappell and James Alexander—can be customized to allow lectures taped on campus to be downloaded.
Iraq election without results

Recount necessary to eliminate discrepancies caused by ballot fraud and tampering

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi officials said Wednesday they must recount votes from about 300 ballot boxes because of various discrepancies, delaying final results in the long-anticipated national elections. Hundreds — perhaps thousands — of other ballot boxes were declared invalid because of alleged tampering.

Postelection violence mounting, raising fears that the Jan. 30 balloting had done little to ease the country’s grave security crisis.

An American soldier was killed in a weapons barrage and another wounded in an ambush north of the capital, the U.S. military said. Two other American soldiers died earlier this week, the command said Wednesday.

Gunmen ambushed a convoy of Kurdish party officials in Baghdad on Wednesday, killing one and wounding four. And in the southern city of Basra, gunmen killed an Iraqi journalist working for a U.S.-funded TV station and his 3-year-old son as they left their home.

Officials had promised final results from the elections by Thursday, the end of the Iraqi work week. On Wednesday, however, election commission spokesman Farid Ayyar said the deadline would not be met because of the recount.

"We don’t know when this will finish," he said. "This will lead to a little postponement in announcing the results.

No partial tallies have been released since Monday, when results in the contests for the 275-member National Assembly, 18 provincial councils and a regional parliament for the Kurdish autonomous-governing region in the north.

The most recent figures showed a coalition of Kurdish parties in second place behind a Shi’ite-dominated ticket endorsed by Iraq’s most revered Shi’ite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani. The ticket of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite, was a distant third.

Allegations of voting irregularities, especially around the tense northern city of Mosul, have complicated the count. Some local Sunni Arab and Christian politicians alleged that thousands of their supporters were denied the right to vote.

Election officials blamed the problems in the Mosul area on security, which prevented fewer than the planned 330 polling centers from opening. Gunmen seized ballot boxes, officials said.

The commission would not say how many ballots had been declared invalid and whether they had come from the Mosul area, which has a mostly Sunni Arab population. Many Sunnis are believed to have stayed home on election day, either because they feared insurgent reprisals or opposed a ballot as long as U.S. and other foreign troops were on Iraqi soil.

Commission official Adel al-Lami said the ballots were in 40 boxes and 250 bags would not be recounted because they appeared to have been stuffed inside them or, in some cases, improperly sealed. Some of the boxes were not those approved by the commission, and others were improperly sealed, he said.

Before the election, commission officials estimated each box should contain about 500 ballots. It was unclear whether the bags contained roughly the same number of ballots.

Meanwhile, a Western legal expert said investigative judges were nearly ready to hand over lengthy dossiers of affidavits, witness statements and other documents to a five-judge panel that would run the trials for former members of Saddam Hussein’s regime.

The expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said it was not clear whether Saddam’s 11 lieutenants would be likely to face the Iraqi Special Tribunal first, and it was unclear when the dictator himself would stand trial.

Bush asks for $400 million for allies

WASHINGTON — President Bush is expected to send to Congress next week a $400 million funding request for military aid programs to those countries that currently benefit from the U.S.-led coalition’s Central Iraq mission.

"Poland has been a fantastic ally for this coalition and the people of Poland love freedom," Bush said during his Oval Office meeting with Kwasniewski, a staunch ally in the Iraq war. "I know the people of your country must have been thrilled when the millions of people went to the polls in Iraq."

Poland has taken command of a multinational security force in central Iraq that currently includes about 6,000 troops — among them more than 2,400 Polish soldiers, Kwasniewski told reporters outside the White House before he departed for Poland that a reduction this month will leave Poland with 1,200 troops in Iraq, but he said the 700 other troops would remain ready in Poland to be immediately deployed to Iraq if needed.

Administration officials declined to say which other nations would benefit from the fund, partly designed to reward allies and coax them to stay in the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq. Spain, Singapore, Argentina, Ireland, Thailand, Philippines, Norway and Honduras have left the coalition.

Iraqi election without results

Recount necessary to eliminate discrepancies caused by ballot fraud and tampering

Associated Press
Faculty continued from page 1

cant progress toward inte­
grating academics and Notre
Dame's Catholic character, ac­
cording to Hatch. "I do think, better than any
university in this country,
Notre Dame has been a center
for Catholic intellectual
engagement," he said.
Hatch will depart Notre
Dame on July 1 for the Wake
Forest presidency.

In the student affairs sub-
committee, chair Jay
Brandenberger said little
progress had been made on
the senate's December resolu-
tion authorizing the formation
of a student and faculty com-
mitee to oversee creation of a
new student course review
process. "We've not gotten much
response," he said.

To date, only one faculty
member, engineering profes­
sor Al Miller, has stopped for-
ward to join the committee.
Brandenberger said he would
continue searching for two
additional faculty members,
necessarily not from the sen-
ate, to join the committee.
Until this occurs, work on the
course review proposal will
remain stalled.

First proposed by associate
provost Dennis Jacobs, the ini-
tial calls for the University to
create a new procedure,
separate from teacher course
evaluations, for students to
assess classes and professors
and provide that information
to other students.

Cunningham retires from CSC

Each fall, around about the
time the Notre Dame band
reunites to take its first lap
around campus, Sue
Cunningham began to get a
parade of her own.

Students who had spent
their summers engaged in the
Center for Social Concerns' Summer
Service Project (SSP) landed at
Cunningham's office door to
recount the trials of a summer
spent trying to make the world a
better place.

As she had for 19 years,
Cunningham, the program's
director, listened intently, com-
pared the stories to similar
trials in years gone by, offered guid-
ance on writing papers about
the students' adventures and
churned at just about everything
else.

Cunningham retired in
December, having grown SSP
from about 20 students in 1985
to almost 200 in 2004. Of 3,100
students who have worked through
the program, Cunningham
worked with 2,833 of them.

Although she didn't start the
SSP, her name is synonymous
with the program, having for­
ged its academic component. She
spoke weekly to ensure that
students receive three cred-
is for their SSP project and that
the experience has a meaningful
academic element.

And while she can't take cred-
it for starting the service pro-
grams at alumni clubs around
the country, her enthusiasm and
indefatigable promotion has played a
significant role in nur-
turing SSP as a major initiative
in at least 115 alumni clubs.
"I cannot begin to explain the

In other Faculty Senate news

John Robinson, academic affairs
committee chair, announced the creation of a
"trilaterial committee" consist­
ing of representatives from the
Faculty Senate, Provost Advisory Committee and the
Academic Council to oversee
changes to the evaluation of
teaching in tenure and promo-
tion decisions.

The impetus for such reforms came from a report
presented to the senate by
Associate Provost Dennis
Jacobs in November. The sen-
ate passed a resolution calling
for the committee in November.

Contact Teresa Fralish
tfralish@nd.edu

Special to the Observer

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MARKET RECAP

**Dow Jones**

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**FTSE 100(London)**

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**Commodities**

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**Exchange Rates**

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**IN BRIEF**

Wal-Mart will close Canadian store

NEW YORK — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said Wednesday it will close a Canadian store whose workers are on the verge of becoming the first ever to win a union contract from the world's biggest retailer.

Wal-Mart is closing the store in Jonquiere, Quebec, in response to unreasonable demands from union negotiators, that would make it impossible for the store to sustain its business. The United Food & Commercial Workers Canada last week asked Quebec labor officials to appoint a mediator, saying that negotiations had reached an impasse.

"We were hoping it wouldn't come to this," said Andre Aucoin, a spokesperson for Wal-Mart Canada. "Despite nine days of meetings over three months, we've been unable to reach an agreement with the union that in our view will allow the store to operate efficiently and profitably."

Pellicer said the store will close in May. The retailer had first discussed closing the Jonquiere store last October, saying that the store was losing money.

Superjumbo A380 just too big

SEATTLE — It's one thing to build a really, really big airplane. But, it turns out, it's quite another to make one, said aviation analyst Mike Boyd.

And demand is predicted to be high with roughly 175 million roses pro­duced for Monday's holiday, according to the Society of American Florists.

FedEx this week expects to carry 900,000 shipments of Valentine's Day gifts, including flowers, teddy bears and chocolates. UPS said it expects to move in excess of 20 million flowers alone.

"While our total volume is roughly the same as last year, our peak day — Monday — is going to be 30 percent higher than last year," said Jack Muhs, FedEx's vice president of global net­work planning.

FedEx doesn't deliver on Sundays, so that means more shipments of flowers this year will be made on Monday. Last year, the holiday fell on a Saturday.

"Most of the husbands or sweet­hearts want to get the product there on Valentine's Day," he added. "This year, with the holiday falling on a Monday, we're focusing a lot of attention on the weekend."
Bush seeks support for Social Security plan

GOP lawmakers look to president to garner public backing for proposed changes in system

WASHINGTON — Senate legislation to overhaul Social Security depends on President Bush's ability to mobilize public support, an influential Republican committee chairman said Wednesday.

"I don't think we can move until there is opinion coming in from Americans that we can't only be concerned about Grandpa, we have to be concerned about grandkids," said Sen. Charles Grassley, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

The Iowa Republican made his comments as the White House and GOP leadership sought to reassure skittish Republican lawmakers about the president's plan and Democrats continued an attack-a-day strategy.

Bush called last week for an ambitious overhaul of Social Security legislation he said was needed to maintain the system's solvency immediately.

For workers under 55, Bush favors voluntary personal accounts financed by payroll taxes, and wants to reduce the Social Security benefits they have been promised for retirement. The system would remain unchanged for older Americans.

House GOP leaders screened a brief White House-produced video for members of the rank-and-file during the day that showed Bush campaigning for his plan in five states. Aides said the intent was to demonstrate the president's commitment to the effort despite its political risks.

Bush met at the White House on Tuesday with a small number of GOP lawmakers, many of whom have expressed reservations about his plans to change the politically sensitive program.

One of those in attendance, Rep. Katherine Harris, R-Fla., quoted the president as saying he recognized the political difficulty involved in tackling this legislation. "He said it is hard... he said it's not as hard as sending young men and women off to war," she said.

Bush's proposal to use pay-roll taxes for personal accounts, and his recommendation to cut promised benefits for future retirees as a cost-saving device have emerged as particularly troublesome for Republicans, some of whom fear they may pay a price at the polls in 2006.

"There are already alternatives," Rep. Clay Shaw, R-Fla., a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, said he intends to introduce legislation Thursday that calls for personal accounts that differ significantly from Bush's proposal.

Under Shaw's plan, the government would give money to workers to invest in a personal account: up to 4 percent of pay, up to $1,000 per year.

At retirement, individuals would have a choice: collect an income based on the amount accumulated in their personal account; or receive the traditional benefit as a cost-saving device have emerged as particularly troublesome for Republicans, some of whom fear they may pay a price at the polls in 2006.

Concern spreads over drug given to troops

SAN DIEGO — As a volunteer firefighter, George Andreas Pogany had seen disfigured bodies pulled from wrecked cars. But something very different happened when the Army interrogator saw the mangled remains of an Iraqi soldier.

He became panicked, disoriented and that night reached for both his loaded pistol and rifle as he thought he saw the enemy bursting into his room. Pogany asked his superiors for help: the Army packed him home to face charges of cowardice — the first such case since Vietnam.

None of it made sense to Pogany, who thought more about the white pills the Army gave him each week to prevent malaria.

The drug's manufacturer warned of rare but severe side effects including paranoia and hallucinations. Pogany claims it hurt his defense: The pills made him snap. "They stepped all charges, a spokesman later saying that Pogany "may have a medical problem that requires care and treatment."

Pogany is among the current or former soldiers sent to Iraq who claim that Lariam, the commercial name for the anti-malarial drug mefloquine, provoked disturbing and dangerous behavior. The families of some troops blame the drug for the suicides of their loved ones. Though the evidence is largely anecdotal, their stories have raised alarm in Congress, and the Pentagon has stopped giving out a pill it probably never needed to give to troops in Iraq in the first place.

What are we doing giving drugs that cause hallucinations, confusion, psychotic behavior to people that carry weapons and hold secret clearances?" asked Pogany, 33, who is now seeking a medical discharge. "It doesn't pass the common-sense test."

The U.S. military, which developed the drug after the Vietnam War, won't say how many soldiers have complained about Lariam and won't detail how widely the drug was used in Iraq. The Pentagon maintains that Lariam is safe and effective, though officials have acknowledged its possible connection to behavior problems.

In written guidance on the drug last year, the military urged commanders to send soldiers for a medical evaluation after taking the drug, "especially if they carry a weapon" — a description of nearly all U.S. troops in Iraq.

"Delay could put the service member or your unit at risk," the guide said.

Lariam is among the drugs recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for treatment and prevention of malaria, which kills about 1 million people worldwide each year. The drug's New Jersey-based manufacturer, Roche Pharmaceuticals, points out in a brochure that "more than 30 million people worldwide have used Lariam over 20 years."
Cosby lawyer denies fondling allegations

Comedian accused of alleged sexual assault

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - Bill Cosby's lawyer said Wednesday that the comedian will file a pre-trial motion after he was charged with possible sexual misconduct, pending a review of the evidence and a prosecutor suggested Wednesday such an old claim likely would not be relevant in the current case.

The 67-year-old comedian's lawyer also blasted the Philadelphia Daily News for printing the accusations by Tamara Green, who was described by the newspaper Tuesday as a model-turned-lawyer who worked for Cosby in California at the time of the alleged encounter.

The report was published as prosecutors mulled whether to file charges against Cosby in the complaint by a former Temple University employee.

A decision by Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce L. Castor Jr. could come this week.

Green, 57, told the newspaper that Cosby gave her two pills of a prescription medication after she felt ill. She said he then drove her home and tried to undress and kiss her.

Green, who allowed her name to be used, said she came forward because her experience closely matched one alleged by the former Temple employee who went to police last month to report that Cosby had given her pills and fondled her at his suburban Philadelphia mansion a year ago.

According to the State Bar of California, Green entered a program for lawyers with substance abuse or mental health problems in October. The bar had lodged disciplinary charges against her in March, alleging 12 counts of misconduct involving three clients, said spokesman Kathleen Britis said.

Among the allegations were failure to pay client funds promptly, failure to perform with competency, failure to maintain client funds in a separate account and failure to refund unearned fees.

Green did not return telephone messages left Wednesday at a Ventura, Calif., home believed to be her home.

First Assistant District Attorney Michael P. Ehrman declined Wednesday to comment on whether the investigation would include Green's complaint. But she said such decades-old allegations can only be used in a very limited number of cases.

"Generally, an accusation from over 30 years ago is not going to come before a court, especially in court or relevant to an investigation," Ehrman said.

Cosby's attorney, Walter M. Phillips Jr., said Green's allegations were "absolutely false." He said Green had called him on Tuesday.

"Mr. Cosby does not know the name Tamara Green or Tamara Lucier (her maiden name) and the incident she describes did not happen," Phillips said. "It is irresponsible for the Daily News to publish such a tale unshrouded in the secrecy of a court and prior to any investigation.

"It is a rip-off of the victims. The Daily News has no idea where the story came from.

"Daily News city editor Kurt Menser said he has no idea where the story came from. The story is based on her own conclusion on the one incident she described.

"The Daily News has no idea where the story came from. It is nothing more than a rip-off of the victims. The Daily News has no idea where the story came from. It is nothing more than a rip-off of the victims.

The Daily News did not immediately return telephone messages left Wednesday.
What's your sign?

Caroline Kelly Nelson

There is something seriously wrong with America's fortune cookies. A host claim to be sure, but one backed by solid investigative reporting. For the past week, with barely a thought for my own personal safety or the Pulitzer Prize, I have been eating nothing but Chinese food. The last three fortune cookies I received contained the following messages: "You are known for being quick in action and decisions." "You love challenge" and "You are going on well with your business." Even passing over the issue of their dubious accuracy, it is apparent that none of these are fortunes. Fortune cookies may have gotten out of the prediction business, but other forms of futurology are flourishing. According to a recent Harris poll, 31 percent of Americans believe in astrology.

I am generally inclined to trust such polls with a large measure of skepticism, and I certainly doubt that 31 percent of a sample group answering "Yes" to the question "Do you believe in astrology?" is indicative that the belief plays a major role in their lives.

But clearly, there are a lot of people who do take astrology seriously, with the best evidence for this being the commercial magnitude of the astrological enterprise.

I have no reason to doubt my friends' sincerity when they say they read the horoscopes in The Observer purely for entertainment value, but I do doubt anyone would pay $1.99 per minute to call an astrological hotline if their motives were solely ironic. There are many such hotlines.

The popularity of astrology is sometimes seen as part of the New Age movement. While this is true in a sense, astrology is the least new element of the New Age. The belief that the stars predict or even decide our fate is as old as civilization itself. To the best of our knowledge, astrology started in Babylon, and the practice quickly spread around the ancient world. When Kepler called astrology the foolish daughter of astronomy, he was right about the "foolish" part, but his genealogy was upside down.

Some say astrology and other supernaturalisms are a remnant of a pre-scientific age that will soon be discarded. The most famous expression of the view was provided by the great biblical scholar Rudolf Bultmann, who said it is impossible to use electric light and at the same time believe in the New Testament world of spirits and miracles.

The general public never got the memo. Most people find it's not only possible to use electric light and believe in spirits and miracles, it's easy.

The explanation may be provided by Clarke's third law (named after Arthur C. Clarke), which states that "Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic."

So why should we be surprised if using microwaves doesn't prevent us from believing in magic, when for most of us microwave might as well be magic. Similarly, when Stephen Hawking writes for the general public about quarks and leptons, it would make very little difference if he called them piecs and elves. And as for the New Age, most modern people find it easier to accept the spirits and miracles than the prohibition on adultery.

Another facet of the New Age is the widespread interest in the occult. A lot of parents find this sinister. Personally, I think the problem with the modern occult is that it's not sinister enough. Whether we call ourselves Wiccans, and other earth-based, ethnic, and magical practitioners) this is all a big misunderstanding.

The superstition is still there. It's everything else that is missing.

The Observer online: www.ndsmcobserver.com

Peter Wicks

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame's College of Business. Its chief function is to report the news accurately and objectively.

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Quote of the Day

“Good communication is as stimulating as black coffee and just as hard to sleep after.”

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Quote of the Day

"Good communication is as stimulating as black coffee and just as hard to sleep after."

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

novelist
And the greatest is love... }

Boston College: not a 'backup college'

Boston College: not a 'backup college'

For over 20 years, my most faithful Valentine has been my grandmother. On February 14 every year for as long as I can remember, my mom would take me to Grandma's and we would arrive at her house containing a $5 bill, a box of Whitman's Sampler's and a note saying Grandma was waiting for me. Grandma were very proud of me.

Starting from the time of my infancy when I was clumsily taking my first few stumbling steps and continuing on to these more sophisticated college days in which I clumsily stumble around in dress shoes, my Grandma never missed a Valentine's Day.

My grandmother has a built-in tendency to lavish care, cash and candy on her grandchildren. As she sings the Chicago Cubs win the playoffs, it's the natural order of things. Your grandmother is probably the only one thinking of you right now, possibly even putting a letter in the mail with a pink and red heart stamp on it, just like my Grandma is doing.

As a writer, the main reason I've never understood the bitterness and hostility that Valentine's Day brings to some, is that I'm simply not looking at Valentine's Day in the same way. Now don't get me wrong — since I entered my "failing days" post-school more year of high school, I've spent almost every Valentine's night without a special someone. In fact, I'm not sure if I can even refer to them as "dating days" since they lacked a significantly important aspect — dates.

Thus, I, too, understand that it's no fun to be reminded of romance, Cupid and all that schmaltzy stuff when you're spending the 14th alone. But the negative responses to Valentine's Day are simply too much for me.

My personal pet area of "Anti-Valentine's Day," a concept I've been a part of, is how much of such is arrived at Notre Dame. As far as I understand, this retaliatory celebration typically involves a gathering of single people who, if female, watch a Hugh Grant film, have a good cry and talk about a few boys stink. If the gathering is of single men, it's essentially the same thing only with Bruce Willis movies, a good puke and talk about Anna Kournikova.

In my mind, however, the most insidious element of the Anti-Valentine's Day celebration is that the day is purely contrived — a hallmark Holiday, part of some sort of multi-year agreement on how to make money for the bloated roses-and-card industry complex.

I'm not here to talk about the Catholic Encyclopedia speaks of recordings found in martyrs' books that list three Valentines, all of whom were martyred for their faith. The St. Valentine we think of on the 14th seems to be a fusion of several stories, and my personal favorite tale of sacrifice is this: during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, the Roman Empire needed soldiers. Claudius, fearing that the comforts of family life would dissuade his men from combat, cancelled all marriages and forbade further engagements.

St. Valentine, a Christian and priest in the Empire, defied Claudius' orders and secretly married young couples. For this, he was beheaded on the 14th of February. Thus, the legend reminds us, St. Valentine made the ultimate sacrifice in affirmation of a simple idea: that love cannot and will not be defeated — not by edict, not by fear, not by the sinister doings of evil men, not even by threat of death.

What is the lesson in all of this for our much too cheaply given sentimental time?

There is no violence of reducing Valentine's Day to a day of cardi and companies. We are neglecting to recall the story of the man that this day is set aside to honor. We are insufficient to the task of celebrating the Baptism of the Lord and the celebration of the Saint. We speak of love as something to be written on a card and bought from a stationary store. Some of us would be happy to ignore love altogether, especially on this feast day.

I have arrived at the conclusion, however, that the clearest model of the true spirit of Valentine's Day comes back to Grandma. In his essay "Of Love," Sir Francis Bacon speaks of an inclination in the hearts of men "toward love of others." If this capacity to love was instilled to just one person — say, to one significant other on Valentine's Day — then, Bacon suggested, it would manifest itself as an even greater love of all people.

The priority to love could flow out of us in a broad stroke extended to everyone equally, as a small echo of the way God loves. When your grandmother sends you that card, when your elementary school teacher makes you bring in enough New Kids on the Block Valentine's to give to one everyone, it's as if she is providing a small spark to universal love. Preserving that spirit, as St. Valentine did not, is worth the ultimate sacrifice.

Bob Masters is a senior English major and co-president of the Humor Artists Club. He can be contacted at amaster@nd.edu.

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

Letter to the Editor

Congratulations to the Irish for an impressive victory over Boston College in men's hoops on Tuesday night. This letter is in regards to "A Stunt from storms the court," written by Bill Coffey in Tuesday's edition of The Observer.

Coffey's by-the-spectacle article regarding Boston College images Notre Dame in much the same fashion that it underlines his own presumptuous judgments concerning Boston College. Coffey's article exemplifies why much of the non-Dominator world considers Notre Dame to be arrogant and irreal.

Coffey improves circular reasoning in almost every anti-Eagle diatribe. First of all, Notre Dame has been brained to the point of being a straw man. Coffey has been incoherent in his arguments. For example, Coffey claims that Notre Dame is not a "real football power" because it has long existed between the Eagles. This is a fallacy. Even though the Eagles have been in the Big East conference since its founding, Coffey is artificially choosing well-developed rivalries and deep conference play about all else. One of the opportunities that Notre Dame may have to join the ACC, the ACC, the ACC. Accidents take place. Coffey disdains Boston College so much, why write laterally towards Boston College's exit from the conference?

By what measure is Boston College basketball overrated?

The Eagles were the first team in Big East history to ever start a season in a 20-0 run. In beating the Eagles, the Irish turned themselves into legitimate tournament contenders and accomplished something that many other college teams had failed to do against Boston College — get a win. Fourth, Coffey fails to claim enough pride. It's a suggestion that Boston College wishes to be like Notre Dame. Coffey's metaphor persists that when one team beats another football in consecutive games, the victorious team is "doubtfully" like the team they defeated. Using this reasoning, we could effectively conclude that Notre Dame wishes to be like Navy but not like national champions USC. Coffey also ignores the rivalry that Irish is in battle to beat the most storied football program in the history of college football. As such, Boston College is not entitled tovais for its victory over the Irish. Nor should the players on those Irish teams feel disappointed by the losses. Upsets happen all the time in college sports.

By arguing incorrectly that Boston College is actually the top team in Notre Dame's conference, Coffey has put the defacto argument that Boston College is a rival of Notre Dame. (Case in point: Contrary to Coffey's advice, the game at Tuesday's game reacted to the Notre Dame victory on the scoreboard. Would they have done the same had the Irish defeated an unranked or otherwise inferior team?) Further, there is a difference between rival and archrival. For example, Michigan has several rivals, but Ohio State is the archival. You can be the former without being the latter. Any Boston College fan will insist that Boston College's biggest athletic rival is Boston University, an archival that is played out on not, on grass.

But Boston College also maintains healthy rivalries outside of the Notre Dame spec-
Relient K lacks maturity to achieve greatness

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Assistant Scene Editor

Relient K is one of the better known Christian bands in the current music scene. While its newest album, "MMHMM," has not yet reached the recognition of its last album, "Two Lefts Don't Make a Right, But Three Do," which debuted at No. 38 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart, it seems that it may be on its way to the same success. While "MMHMM" is a solid punk rock album from Relient K, it is not its best album and perhaps overreaches for artistic merit at points in the album. Relient K released its first album in 1999 and since then has released two other solid albums making "MMHMM" its fourth studio released album. While the fan base of Relient K continues to grow, especially in the Christian market, the development of the band as musicians seems to have grown as well. "MMHMM" is composed of a pure punk rock with some twists throughout the album. Generally the album is mostly upbeat, but it is punctuated with a few memorable slower songs. These slow songs, however, definitely make up a very large percentage of the album. This is not a problem since the faster songs on "MMHMM" are, for the most part, great. Relient K incorporates a good deal of different styles into its traditional punk rock form, and it is a mix that works well. Songs that begin sounding like a standard punk rock song will end in a moving piano solo that in a bizarre way really works well within the music of the song. This particular example is drawn from one of the slower songs on the album, "Let It All Out," which is also one of the best songs on the album both musically and lyrically. Most of the remaining great songs on the album are fast punk-rock songs with a lot of energy behind them. One of the most original ideas lyrically on the album is in, "My Girls Ex-Boyfriend," in which the lead singer Matt Thiessen talks about the ex-boyfriend that walked away from his current girlfriend, thus leaving her available for him. Thiessen hits the point at the end of the song when he sings, "When she and I settle down you can bet / That he is going to have to settle for less / It's someone I / Would hate to be / I got the girl, and he's left with just the memory."

There are some interesting ideas lyrically portrayed in many of the songs on "MMHMM." "More Than Lovers," one of the best melodies on the album and "This Week the Trend" both cover the problem of finding what each person is meant to do with their life. Many of the songs have strong Christian themes, but the Christian level of Relient K is not overbearing on "MMHMM." It does not take over the album, but the presence is strong through Christian messages on the album. The music is by far the most noticeable aspect. There are many terrible songs like, "Who I Am Hates Who I've Been," "The One I'm Waiting For" and "I So Hate Consequences" which compose the meat of "MMHMM." Overall, what "MMHMM" really shows is Relient K being a band that continues to improve musically and lyrically. "MMHMM" is a solid album, but some maturing needs to be done to really make Relient K a band that can produce a truly terrific album.

Contact Becca Saunders at rsauders@nd.edu

M83 creates glistening midnight anthems

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

The night wounds. Those hours soaked in moonlight are a time of danger, of hearts broken and stolen and of countless impurities. The night too sees its share of the better parts of the human experience, as a storied catalyst for love and exhilaration — in short, it is the ideal stage for the emotional highs and lows the daytime cannot possibly hope to contain. Graciously, music can.

Electronic artist Anthony Gonzalez begins his opus with "Moonchild," which opens with a child reciting a poem and soon blossoms into a heavenly alternating-key serenade and erupt once again to punctuate the epic melodrama. M83 raises the emotional ante even more a few tracks later with an unlisted number denoted simply by an asterisk that contains all the fiery intensity of a sunburst. One cannot help but marvel the cosmic energy in these songs comes from one little man and his keyboards. Listening to the waves of electronics and crescendos, one has the sensation of soaring high above the night-lit metropolis depicted on the album's exquisite cover. Interspersed with the characteristically dynamic songs are slow-burning interludes and more ethereal material, including the piano-centered ballad "Safe," perhaps the record's most conventional song, which ends by dissolving into the pop-fizzle of distant fireworks (a marvelous aural spectacle for the listener with headphones). M83 made a splash with the critically-acclaimed "Dead Cities, Red Seas & Lost Ghosts," released domestically in 2004, which drew considerable accolades and even more "My Bloody Valentine" comparisons. While maintaining the cinematic grandeur of that landmark, M83 has also diversified his sound with "Before the Dawn" and emerged with a fuller record that carries the listener through richer cadences.

However, Not all of M83's sonic experiments prove fruitful. The highly-touted "Car Chase Terror," for instance, is marred by a rather inane spoken-word dialogue that carries throughout the song. Interesting during perhaps the initial listen, this almost just dish-exchange between a mortified mother and child (seemingly voiced by the same person) fleeing the scene. Also cringe-worthy is "Can't Stop," in which Gonzalez apparently enlists Alvin and the Chipmunks to chant the line "I can't stop / I can't stop now," ad nauseam. These two duds aside, the rest of "Before the Dawn" shines more than enough to make for an infinitely enriching listening experience. Indeed, the dawn can wait.

Contact Matthew Solarski at msolarsk@nd.edu

Before the Dawn Heals Us

MUTE

By courtesy of www.mute.com

Aside from a few missteps, M83's "Before the Dawn" provides an enriching listening experience.
ALBUM REVIEWS

Bright Eyes sparkles on 'Digital Ash'

By KERRY O'CONNOR

In February 2004, Bright Eyes' front man Conor Oberst finished recording a 10-song album entitled "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning," a collection of folk indie-pop he had written about his change in lifestyle since Oberst had moved to New York from the Midwest. However, before this album would see the light of day, Oberst decided he was not finished in the studio. He returned to Omaha, Neb. to record a second record — this one an experimental electronic album. He emerged three months later with a quirky masterpiece "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" released simultaneously two weeks ago with "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning." The album begins, like all other Bright Eyes albums, with an opening sequence. This one is atmospheric, subtle and abstract, as if indicating the album is a departure from Bright Eyes' traditional sound. It is interesting to hear once in awhile, but for most listeners the album begins on track two.

For being an electronic album, the songs themselves feel organic, natural and familiar — it is not the type of music that comes to mind when the word "electronic" is used. The simple instrumentation puts Oberst's melodies at the forefront. The lyrics are irreverently personal and immediately relatable. He references simple, specific memories from his past like "hooded sweatshirt walks" or "spreading out the blankets on the beach," making each event feel monumental. His tone is nostalgic, perhaps even sorrowful, accepting that time has passed and life changes during that time.

Aside from these personal lyrics, two other themes dominate the remainder of the album — death and logic. The bongo-tinted "Arc of Time" explores the circle of life and death and our inability to escape from it. Many of the other songs point out human hypocrisy and subtly touch on politics.

In terms of the texture of the album, "Digital Ash" is extremely well produced. The songs feel lush, warm and full of energy. Many of the songs, like the beautiful "Gold Mine Guited," sound as if they are gliding by on a cloud of smoke. Bright Eyes past albums have been full of songs recordable (intentionally) at terrible audio quality and the brevity soundscapes of this album are proof that Oberst has matured.

"Digital Ash" has its share of masterpieces. "Take It Easy (Love Nothing)," co-produced by Jimmy Tamborello (The Postal Service), is the most irresistible song released this year. Oberst tells an inside-out love story, and the beat carrying the song mimics the storyline, giving as much emotion as Oberst's voice. Immediately following this is a simple thoughtful song called "Hit The Switch," full of intense personal lyrics that ironically seem the most relatable. Oberst's quivering voice and grace still give chilling messages in this song — messages about getting older, times changing and about the necessity to accept what life gives. Debuting again on the nature of life and death — Oberst comes to a sudden conclusion. "Night rolls around and it just starts making sense / / / there is no right way or wrong way / you just have to live / So I do what I do and at least I exist." His voice will send shivers down your spine.

To listeners familiar with Bright Eyes' previous albums, the experimental "Digital Ash" seems like a more literal continuum as compared to his other new album, as Bright Eyes' albums have been progressive consistently in music style. Where "I'm Wide Awake It's Morning" is a mature album aiming for greatness and critical acclaim, "Digital Ash" is warm, heartfelt and personal. The album rotates some of the extremes typical of Oberst's songs — strange noises, some dark, depressing songs and a word or two sung out of time.

However, there are more hits than misses on this record, and it is these inconsistencies — these ups and downs — that have become a trademark of Oberst's writing style. This is what makes the album so

Contact Kerry O'Connor at koconn11@nd.edu

The Wiggles scorches on live album

By MICHELE JEFFERS and MATTHEW SOLARSKI

Scene Musi Ciento

Ludwig Wittgenstein once remarked all great things come in fours. There are four dolphins, four seasons, four "chivalry in battle" movies, four Horses of The Apocalypse and now from the very bottom of the crass, we mere mortals are graced with the musical genius of four very special Wiggles.

With a life span more than 13 years, The Wiggles continues to impress audiences around the world with its valved ability to touch the human spirit through vibrant song and dance. The group's cheery countenances and smart mock tartan neckerchiefs; the little story-telling-guitar-stuthing in the artistic vision. Like its predecessors, and fellow Australians, INXS, The Wiggles' Murray Cook, Jeff Fatt, Anthony Field and Greg Page prove to be an unappreciated combination on-stage. Recorded during a concert in Sydney, "Live Hot Potatoes!" reveals clear evidence these musical icons could create nothing short of a musical revolution.

In the tradition of Italian opera, The Wiggles kick off its epic with a heart-stopping overture, setting the energetic pace of the show without revealing too much of the mystery that is to follow. The foursome wastes no time getting the party started, launching immediately into the chart-topping crowdpleaser "Toot Toot, Chimpy, Chimpy, Big Red Tractor." Catastrophe seems to plague the show when the microphone falls off one of the band members mid-performance. Jeff, the band's purple-shirted keyboardist and iconic nuerologist, routinely ticks off at the most inopportune moments — graciously the crowd is even willing to awaken him on cue.

Rumors have long pingponged Jeff as The Wiggles' unofficial bad boy. One wonders to what extent art imitates Jeff's personal life as The Wiggles even sells nutritious Wiggles snacks on its Web site. The song "Fruit Salad" proves to be anything but filter. It proves the band's commitment in helping fans achieve healthy lifestyle so that their minds and bodies can keep on wiggling.

Simply put, "Live Hot Potatoes!" is a phenomenal album. The breadth of its talent is matched only by the lead singer's innocuous stance on the album cover. The Wiggles are a beacon of inspiration, a light source for those canoes lost in the murky sea of Post-Modernism. Its music transmutes time, space and identity, invoking the id, ego and superego to all come together in peace and harmony. This album is one hot pot that you will want to pass up. But perhaps it is best to let the words of the band speak for itself. "No matter where you are around the world, The Wiggles music will find a place in your home."

Contact Michele Jeffers at mjeffers@nd.edu and Matthew Solarolski at msolarlsk@nd.edu

DREW BIRD - And the Mysterious Production of Eggs 4) TRAIL OF DEAD - Worlds Apart 5) FEATURES - Exhibit A
Men's NCAA Basketball

No. 7 Duke knocks off No. 2 UNC at Cameron

Redick, Nelson lead Blue Devils to 71-70 triumph in rivalry

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. - School was the pace and made North Carolina play a halftime game. Under those circumstances, nobody plays better defense than the Blue Devils.

J.J. Redick scored 18 points, freshman DeMarcus Nelson added 16 and No. 7 Duke forced 23 turnovers to hold off the second-ranked Tar Heels 71-70 Wednesday night.

North Carolina squandered a chance to win in the final seconds, never getting a shot off after inbounding with 18 seconds left. David Noel dribbled the ball out of bounds just as the buzzer, the Cary Grove native scored 26 points to lead the Blue Devils to 71-70 over the Tar Heels.

Daniel Ewing finished with 15 points and helped the Blue Devils (18-2, 8-2) move into a first-place tie with North Carolina in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Wake Forest trails both by one-half game.

Duke finished 21-42 from the free throw line and made 103-pointers. All but one of the Blue Devils' baskets in the second half were 3s — only a layup by Nelson with about 10 minutes left came from inside the arc.

Senior point guard Raymon Felton had eight turnovers and May added five, and the Tar Heels' 13 steals in the first half was their second-most in 18 games in the program's 33-year history.

The Blue Devils' baskets in the second half were 3s — only a layup by Nelson with about 10 minutes left came from inside the arc.

Felton scored 13 points and freshmman Martin Williams had 12 for North Carolina.

But Nelson was the better first-year player in this one. He came up big when it counted, swishing three 3-pointers in a span of about 90 seconds in the second half to help Duke take a 49-42 lead.

Williams helped the Tar Heels rally, powering over Shavlik Randolph for a layup that turned into a three-point play to tie it at 53 midway through the second half.

Ewing connected on consecutive 3s, Nelson added four free throws and Redick had another 3-pointer to give the Blue Devils' win streak over North Carolina didn't give up.

A solo 3-point streak to offset two more free throwers for Nelson, and May knocked down the line and got five in the Tar Heels within three. Randolph stuffed a layup in the lane with about 9 seconds left on Duke's final points — again coming on free throws — and it was all over with less than 2 minutes left.

But the Tar Heels, who couldn't overcome 10 3-pointers. All but one of the Blue Devils' baskets in the second half were 3s — only a layup by Nelson with about 10 minutes left came from inside the arc.

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**Rockets defeat Bulls, Miami prevails in OT against New York**

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Lamar Odom had 16 points, matched a career-high with 19 rebounds and set up a go-ahead 3-pointer by Caron Butler with 1:54 to go in overtime to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to a 104-103 victory over the New Jersey Nets on Wednesday night.

The Lakers rallied from a 10-point deficit with 4:44 to play in regulation and survived a late overtime shot by Vince Carter and Jason Kidd's second straight triple-double. Los Angeles snapped a three-game losing streak and ended the Nets' season-high five-game winning streak at home.

Jameer Nelson had 20 points, Butler 19, Luke Walton 17 and Chucky Atkins 14, including a long 3-pointer that tied the game at 92 with 12.1 seconds to play in regulation. The win was Los Angeles' third in nine games.

The Lakers are 6-7 away and 10-2 at home.

Carter, who had consecutive 40-point games, finished with 37 points on 9-for-23 shooting. Ten-day contract wonder Billy Thomas had a career-high 14 points, while Jabari Smith and Jason Collins added 11 points apiece.

Carter gave the Nets a 101-99 lead with 2:03 to play when he hit a jumper in the lane.

Rockets 105, Bulls 92

Tracy McGrady scored 24 points and Yao Ming added 21 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Houston Rockets to a victory over the Chicago Bulls.

Houston has won a season-high five straight and four straight over the Bulls.

Chicago got within 96-77 after a basket by Ron Gordon with 7:45 remaining, but that's the closest the Bulls would get.

The Rockets went on an 11-0 run in the next two minutes to stretch the lead to 97-77, their biggest of the game.

Chicago, which entered the game averaging 44 percent from the field, shot just 37 percent. It's the first time in nine games that Houston has held an opponent to under 40 percent shooting.

Chicago got 16 points from Kirk Hinrich and Tyson Chandler added 12 points and had 20 rebounds. A night after scoring 30 points and grabbing 11 rebounds in a win over Dallas, Luol Deng managed just seven points and three boards.

McGrady was just 7-of-17 from the field, but was 9-of-12 from the line and had nine assists.

Heat 116, Knicks 110, OT

Dwyane Wade dribbled the ball between his legs three times before dashing around Stephon Marbury and making a layup, easily the prettiest play of overtime in the Miami Heat's victory over the New York Knicks.

Wade scored 20 points with six assists and six rebounds, Darnell Jackson scored a season-high 24 and Shaquille O'Neal had 16 points and 13 rebounds as Miami won its fourth straight.

Marbury led a fourth-quarter comeback and scored 36 points for the Knicks, who lost for the first time in nine games. He averaged just seven points and three assists in his last three games.

But New York never led in the first half. The Heat dominated the second half and took the lead for good on a basket by Ben Gordon with 7:45 remaining, but that's the only lead of the game.

Boards were the difference. Arenas validated his move to start in the first half with 7-of-10 shooting, leading the Pacers to a 54-36 lead.

"He's an All-Star everyday," Stephen Jackson said. "Wizards 95, Spurs 87

Antawn Jamison had a season-high 35 points and 11 rebounds, Gilbert Arenas scored 24, and the Washington Wizards took advantage of Tim Duncan's absence in a victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

Without Duncan, the Wizards' All-Stars outnumbered the Spurs' All-Stars two-to-one, and they were the difference. Arenas scored a 16-2 run in the second quarter when it seemed the Spurs were going to blow the game open, and Jamison scored 14 points on 5-of-6 shooting in the fourth quarter to keep San Antonio from making a final run.

Celtics 94, Clippers 89

Paul Pierce and the Boston Celtics needed more than three quarters to figure out how to beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

Pierce had 25 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, and the Celtics used a late run to rally past the Clippers.

"We just came out with a better sense of urgency in the fourth quarter," Pierce said. "We were tentative in the first half, but we fought back in the second half.

After falling behind 79-65 early in the fourth quarter, the Celtics scored 16 straight points to take their first lead of the game on Rafer Alston's 3-pointer with 1:19 remaining.

"We are starting to become a pretty gritty basketball team," coach Doc Rivers said.

Grizzlies 98, 76ers 95

Eddie Griffin had 10 points, seven rebounds and a career-high 23 points and Strumile Swift added 17 to lead the Memphis Grizzlies to a 98-95 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday night.

Timberwolves 92, Nuggets 90

Eddie Griffin had 10 points, seven rebounds and a career-high 23 points and Strumile Swift added 17 to lead the Memphis Grizzlies to a 98-95 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday night.

Kevin Garnett led Minnesota with 24 points, 11 rebounds and six assists, but it was Griffin who injected a stagnant team with some much-needed energy to deliver the victory.

The Nuggets led 82-77 with just under six minutes to play after Andre Miller hit a jumper.

Bucks 110, Raptors 107

Rufier Alston was back in action for the Toronto Raptors and looking for an apology.

Michael Jordan had 25 points, leading the Milwaukee Bucks to a victory over the Raptors and their troubled point guard.

Alston said he wanted an apology after being benched for much of Tuesday's loss to Cleveland and that's not sure he wants to stay with the Raptors.

Alston and coach Sam Mitchell argued after Alston was pulled from the game in the first quarter against the Cleveland Cavaliers. Alston didn't come out of the dressing room for the second half and was seen crying as he was escorted to the team bus by security during the fourth quarter.
No. 10 Connecticut destroyed Big East foe Boston College, 80-55

Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Sophia Young hit a jumper from just inside the 3-point line in the final seconds to give No. 7 Baylor a 73-72 victory over Oklahoma on Wednesday night. The Bears took possession after a driving layup by Oklahoma’s Dominah Jackson with 11.5 seconds left. Chelsea Whitaker drove to the left baseline and kicked it out to Young, whose jumper bounced in. Oklahoma couldn’t get a shot off after a timeout and long inbound pass into traffic.

Young had 21 points to lead the Bears (18-3, 8-2 Big 12). Emily Niemann added 15 points, Nieces Blackmon 11 and Chameka Scott 10.

Jackson scored 26 of her 30 points in the second half, nearly leading Oklahoma back for a badly needed victory. Leah Rush had 12 points and reserve Antoinette Wadsworth finished two points, and Niemann faked Young hit a jumper from just with 11.5 seconds left.

None of the BC starters finished in double figures. Reserve guard Kimmery Dorsey had three of BC’s six 3-pointers and led the Eagles with 11 points.

The Huskies put this game away early with stifling defense and a speedy transition game. UConn dominated inside, outscoring the Eagles 40-16 in the paint and had 22 points off 16 BC turnovers.

No. 11 Rutgers 67, Seton Hall 40

Matee Ajavon scored 13 points in a homecoming of sorts, leading No. 11 Rutgers to a victory over intrastate rival Seton Hall.

In the second half, as Rutgers put on a full-court press, Ajavon put on a show. Playing within a few blocks of her neighboring hometown of Newark, the freshman scored seven straight points in an 11-4 run surge the first five minutes, giving Rutgers a 42-27 lead.

It was the second straight victory for the Scarlet Knights (17-5, 8-2 Big East) after losing last week at Connecticut. Hiba Korpivaara paced Seton Hall (13-9, 5-6) with 12 points. Cappie Pondexter added 12 points for Rutgers.

Seton Hall got off to a strong start, taking a 7-2 lead in the first three minutes on a driving jumper by Monique Blakemore. Ajavon then got in gear, scoring on two consecutive penetrating shots to cut the lead to 7-6 with 15:46 left.

No. 17 Texas 83, Nebraska 53

Tiffany Jackson scored 19 points and No. 17 Texas stayed alive in the chase for the Big 12 title with a rout of Nebraska. Jamie Carey added 18 points on the Longhorns (14-7, 7-3), who led by 19 at halftime and cruised to their fifth win in the last six games.

Kiera Hardy and Danielle Page scored 13 points apiece to lead Nebraska (14-8, 6-4). No team has won the Big 12 with more than three losses in league history. Texas lost a total of three conference games the last two seasons.
can five students change the tax strategy of an entire nation? they already have.*
The Tennessee Titans announced the hiring of Norm Chow, right, as the team's offensive coordinator Wednesday. Chow leaves USC for the NFL after helping the Trojans win consecutive national titles.

Chow leaves USC to join Titans

**Associated Press**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Titans coach Jeff Fisher might have given quarterback Steve McNair another reason to return for the 2005 season.

Fisher hired Norm Chow away from Southern California, where he helped the Trojans win two straight national championships, to become Tennessee's offensive coordinator.

Fisher said Wednesday he has no doubts the 58-year-old Chow can handle NFL defenses despite spending 32 years coaching in the college ranks.

One of Chow's top priorities is "to keep a quarterback on his feet and keep him from getting knocked down," Fisher said at a news conference. "Obviously, we share similar opinions. So that's one thing that's going to be a paramount priority of ours is to keep the pocket clean and keep Steve from getting hit."

McNair has bone grafts on his sternum Dec. 28 after missing six starts and parts of two others last season. He has said he will wait to decide whether he should retire from the NFL after 10 seasons.

Fisher said he believes McNair will return. The quarterback met with Chow on Friday, and McNair's recovery is nearly complete.

"I believe that this decision put a little more bounce in his step than he had," Fisher said of McNair. "He's doing very well right now, and I know he's excited about this."

Chow said the timing for this move was right. His hiring came a week after the Trojans signed a recruiting class ranked among the best in the nation.

"Everybody understands it's an opportunity for me and my family to get to the highest level of football, and they understand the excitement that we have," Chow said during a conference call.

Chow replaces Mike Heidinger, who was hired as the New York Jets' offensive coordinator last month.

This is Chow's first job in pro football after 27 seasons at BYU, a season at North Carolina State and the last four at USC. Chow had some NFL opportunities in the past, but never pursued them.

Asked about reports of friction with USC coach Pete Carroll, Chow said there was nothing to that talk.

**IN BRIEF**

McNabb denies reports of illness during Super Bowl

**KAPOLLE, Hawaii** — Donovan McNabb has no apologies for his Super Bowl performance. He won't allow his teammates to make excuses, either.

The Philadelphia Eagles quarterback set everyone straight after his first practice for the Pro Bowl on Wednesday. McNabb said he wasn't ill during the fourth quarter of their loss to New England, as center Hank Fraley claimed earlier this week, and receiver Freddie Mitchell certainly didn't call any plays for him.

"The Eagles' offensive struggles were caused only by the Patriots and the tension of a Super Bowl, not a phantom sickness."

"No, I wasn't sick and no, I didn't throw up," McNabb said. "If people want to use that as an excuse for why we lost, that's not the way it was, but I'll put it on my shoulders. I'll take the blame. ... When you're trying to make every play possible, you have to dig deep. We were just trying to give it all we had.

San Francisco to host 2007 MLB All-Star game

SAN FRANCISCO — Baseball's All-Star game will return to San Francisco in 2007 for the first time in more than two decades, giving the Giants a giant draw for season-ticket holders the year after Barry Bonds' contract expires.

Commissioner Bud Selig made the announcement Wednesday at Willie Mays Plaza outside the Giants' waterfront stadium. Mays, who played in a record-tying 24 All-Star games, said he was glad the city would get the All-Star game back.

"I wish I had a chance to play here," he said. "I think I would have hit a little bit more home runs than Barry."

Bonds, who passed his godfather on the career home run list last season and has 703 overall, is under contract through 2006. Tickets for the All-Star game could be an incentive to help the team keep its season-ticket holder base of about 28,000 fans for 2007.

Women's British Open will allow transsexual golfers

LONDON — Transsexual golfers will be allowed to play in this year's women's British Open in a policy change made by the Ladies Golf Union.

The move, announced Wednesday, comes 11 months after Danish-born Mianne Bagger became the first male-born golfer to play in a professional women's tournament.

The LGU, which governs amateur golf in Britain and also runs the women's British Open, followed a similar move made last year by the Ladies European Tour, the governing body of professional women's golf in Europe.

Bagger, who had a sex-change operation in 1995, is playing this season on the Ladies European Tour and expected to enter the women's British Open. The tournament is open to amateurs and professionals.

**Men's Swimming & Diving**

CSCAA Top 25

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<th>Team</th>
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<td>Auburn</td>
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**Men's College Basketball**

Big East Conference

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Bettman sets weekend deadline to save season

Associated Press

NEW YORK — With just a little bit of luck, NHL commissioner Gary Bettman all but issued a drop-dead date for saving what’s left of the season this weekend.

The lockout reached its 147th day Wednesday. If a deal is not reached, Bettman said, there would be a 28-game regular season and the playoff structure would be preserved.

"It is clear to me that if we’re not working on a written document by this weekend, I don’t see how we can play any semblance of a season," Bettman said.

Hours earlier, the players' association rejected what was described as a compromise proposal during a secret meeting in Toronto. NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly said.

The sides agreed to keep negotiating through Thursday, with a salary cap still the main issue. A union spokesman did not immediately return phone calls.

"Obviously we will listen to everything the union has to say, but we’ve given all we can give and gone as far as we can go," Bettman said.

"This has just been a very difficult, frustrating process and we’re sorry. But we have to go through it," he said.

The lockout has wiped out 813 of the 1,230 regular-season games, as well as this weekend’s scheduled All-Star game.

The NHL offered Wednesday to return to the players’ association proposal from Dec. 9 that featured a luxury-tax system and an immediate 24 percent rollback on all existing contracts.

If it was determined after an unspecified period of time that the deal wasn’t working, the agreement would be converted to the league’s Feb. 2 proposal that contained a salary cap that would force teams to spend at least $32 million on player costs but no more than $42 million — including benefits.

Also included in that six-year offer — which could be reopened by the union after four years — was a profit-sharing plan that would allow the players’ association to evenly split revenues over a negotiated level with the league.

"The union’s response was that this was not a framework that they were interested in going forward with," Bettman said.

It was believed that there would be no contact between the sides since last Friday when talks broke off after three straight days of meetings.

The bulk of the negotiations since mid-December were conducted mostly by Daly and players’ association senior director Tod Sievers.

Bettman and players’ association executive director Bob Goodrow were invited by the union back to the table last week for two days of talks after the union rejected the league’s previous offer.

The NHL has been intent on making a deal that provides a link between league revenues and player costs. The players’ association has steadfastly refused to accept a salary cap as a solution to the stalemate.

Pebble Beach a lot different

National Pro-Am to have a new look for this season

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Tim Herron walked back to the sixth tee Wednesday morning at Pebble Beach and took in a spectacular view of the 513-yard hole, which stretches out toward the Pacific Ocean, rising along the ragged cliffs on the right side of the fairway.

Something didn’t look right.

"Wow," Herron said. "Look at those cliffs."

Then it dawned on him. He never could see the cliffs so clearly because of a large cypress tree. But that tree is no longer there, wiped out by holy storms. It should make the par 5 play easier, because any tree shot that strayed too far to the right was blocked by the tree. Players either had to go over or around it.

"You can see the whole cliff now, and it’s pretty cool," Herron said. "But it changes everything, especially on the second shot. That tree played with your head."

The Pebble Beach National Pro-Am will have a slightly different look when it goes under way Thursday.

Rain that delayed California six weeks ago also washed out a small section of the 18th fairway about 280 yards from the tee, making the landing area a little tighter. Plus, the two cypress trees replaced in the middle of the fairway were planted about 20 yards farther out than they were.

"I hit a drive where I used to, and it was 15 yards from the water — not 25," Jim Furyk said.

But there are some things about Pebble Beach that rarely change.

One of them is the weather, and that’s the good news. A tournament that developed a reputation for "Crooky weather" — cold, rain, wind, rain, fog, rain — looks as if it will be basking in sunshine for the fifth straight year.

And the field is eclectic as ever.

Because the three courses have room for 180 pro-am teams, the pros range from defending champion Vijay Singh and Phil Mickelson to players like Steve Stricker, Garrett Willis and Tom Scherrer, whose only status on the PGA Tour is having won a tournament once upon a time. amateurs range from Hollywood stars (Bill Murray, Kevin Costner to comedians (George Lopez) to athletes (Patriots coach Bill Belichick, Emmitt Smith, Jerry Rice) to CEOs from Fortune 500 companies.

Another Pebble tradition over the last two decades is the type of name on the crystal trophy. Only three of the last 21 winners of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am have not won a major.

No other regular PGA Tour event has such a major list of winners over the last two decades. The next best is The Players Championship — the fifth major — with 16 of the last 21 champions having also won majors.

No major winners at Pebble is no fluke.

"It’s going to be a slow process of putting yourself in position and never really shooting yourself out of the tournament," said Mark O’Meara,
Mud Toy
Live at
Kim's Chevron
1613 Miami St.
Saturday Feb. 12th
8 to 11
Must be 21+

Voice Choice
Vote at https://apps.nd.edu/elections
Thursday, 2/10/05 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
or 1st Floor LaFortune 3:30-8 p.m.

Run-off Election
between Baron/Shappell
& Leito/Bongiovanni

NBA

Olajuwon's charities gave money to terrorist groups

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — A mosque established and funded by basketball star Hakeem Olajuwon gave more than $80,000 to charities the government later determined to be fronts for the terrorist groups al-Qaida and Hamas, according to financial records obtained by The Associated Press.

Olajuwon told the AP he had not known of any links to terrorism when the donations were made, prior to the government's crackdown on the groups, and would not have given the money if he had known.

"There is no way you can go back in time," Olajuwon said in a telephone interview from Jordan, where he is studying Arabic. "How do you have the list of organizations that are banned by the government?"

A Treasury Department spokeswoman, Molly Miller, declined to discuss Olajuwon's contributions but said, "In many cases donors are being unwittingly misled by the charities."

Federal law enforcement officials said they were not investigating the contributions, which Olajuwon made while he was a player born in Nigeria who played 17 seasons for the Houston Rockets of the National Basketball Association before retiring in 2002.

Olajuwon, 42, who became a U.S. citizen in 1993, was known as "The Dream" and won the NBA's Most Valuable Player award in 1994, when he led the Rockets to the first of back-to-back championships.

The Olajuwon-founded Islamic Da'Wah Center in Houston gave more than $60,000 in 2000 and $20,000 in 2002 to the Islamic African Relief Agency, the center's records show.

The government shut down the relief agency in October, saying it gave money and other support to Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida.

The government said the Sudanese group was later determined to be fronts for the terrorist groups al-Qaida and Hamas. The Islamic Da'Wah Center gave more than $2,000 to the Texas-based Islamic Land Foundation in 2000, according to its tax returns.

At the time, Olajuwon was vice president of the mosque — which was named after him — and provided more than three-quarters of its money. Olajuwon headed the separate foundation that now controls the Islamic Da'Wah Center.

All the donations came before the government designated the Islamic Da'Wah Center and the Islamic African Relief Agency as terrorist fronts. Vipul Wora, an accountant for Olajuwon's charities, said U.S. authorities have never asked about the contributions.

Olajuwon, who is married with four daughters, became a Muslim during his professional career and was known for playing in key games while observing dawn-to-dusk fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

Tax returns for Olajuwon's Islamic Da'Wah Center show it gave the Islamic African Relief Agency $61,250 in 2000 and $20,000 in 2002.

Those donations accounted for 2.2 percent of the $2.8 million the Islamic African Relief Agency received during 2000 and 1.4 percent of the $1.4 million it raised in 2002, records show.

Olajuwon said the donations came after fund-raisers from the Islamic African Relief Agency visited Houston. He said the group told him donations would help the needy in Africa.

"They came and approached us and everything was legitimate, I had no knowledge of their activity," Olajuwon said.

The Treasury Department alleged in October that several top officials of the group's branches overseas are al-Qaida members or associates and the group gave bin Laden hundreds of thousands of dollars in 1999.

The federal government says the Sudan-based Islamic African Relief Agency's U.S. branch is IARA-USA, based in Columbus, Miss. That group has challenged the terrorist designation in court, saying it is separate from the Sudanese group.

Shereef Akeel, a lawyer for IARA-USA, acknowledged the U.S. group and the Sudanese group "may be in a partnership together," but said his client has never had a link to the Sudanese group.

"Just because someone traveled in the same circles, just because one employee was at the same conference as someone who supported terrorism, doesn't mean the organization sponsors or condones acts of terrorism," Akeel said.

The Associated Press

College Football

Committee suggests video replays for '05

NCAA group says replay should be expanded next season

Associated Press
INDIANAPOLIS — An NCAA committee on Wednesday recommended that permission to use a video replay system tested last season in the Big Ten be expanded to all schools and conferences for further study during the 2005 football season.

The recommendation by the Football Rules Committee will be considered by an oversight panel Feb. 24 and, if approved, will be put in place for the regular season this fall.

"The response to video replay nationally and in the Big Ten was overwhelmingly positive," said Chuck Bayles, chairman of rules committee.

"We have the ability to correct a potentially game-changing error, and we have the technology to do so, we feel this improves the fairness of the game and directly improves the student-athlete experience," Bayles said.

Many conferences have asked permission to try the replay system for the 2005 season.

The Big Ten in December said replay was used in 28 of 57 conference games last season. Of the 43 calls questioned, 21 were overturned. Games where replay was used averaged three minutes longer than games without replay.

Under Wednesday's recommendation, any conference that wants to use video replay must confirm its plans with the rules committee by June 1.

"The preparation, training and educational effort is tremendous and we have the technology to properly administer a system of review requires a commitment from a conference to make it run successfully," Bayles said.
Adrian
continued from page 24

was a different story.
A 3-pointer by Bulldogs Senior Guard Yanna Haire answered on the
other end, and it looked like the
Bulldogs would be locked in a
competitive game.

Then the Bulldogs scored the
next 11 points. The Bulldogs went
10 possessions
and almost
struck all game, making only
three shots in 18 attempts.
Meanwhile, Adrian was
giving a 3-point shooting clinic.
Jesse Burrows, Amanda
Rainsburger, Fallon Steele, Rita
Carter and Panther all connected from
long range as the Bulldogs
shot 9-18 for the game from
behind the arc.

Bulldogs head coach Suzanne
Bellina said Tuesday night that
stopping Rainsburger would be a
major part of Saint Mary's
defensive plan.

"We have to focus on Rains-
burger, their great player
inside," Bellina said in a
pre-practice interv-

Bulldogs coach
Kathy Morris
crossed up the
Bulldogs, however,
and left
Rainsburger on
the bench to start
the game. When
the 5-foot-9 senior
finally entered the
game, the Bulldogs seemed
to have forgotten their game plan.
Rainsburger rampaged through
Saint Mary's for 12 points in 28
minutes.
Rainsburger was not the only
super-sub for the Bulldogs
Wednesday night. Adrian had
five players in double figures,
incuding non-starters Psauce,
who had 15 points to go
with her 17 rebounds, and
Steele, who hit four-three-pointers
on route to her 12 points.

Sophomore forward Justin
Mullen came off the bench and
scored nine points, well above
her season average of 2.9 and
tied for the team lead.

ADRIAN 71,
SAINT MARY'S 56
at the MEBLELL CENTER
SAINT MARY'S (9-13, 4-9)
Boyce, 2-0-0-1 - Lippke 4-7-0-6
Kraemer 3-7-2-2-8, Mullen 2-8-5-8
Boyce, 5-10-7-9. Rain 2-0-2-2
Crachbaun 3-11-18 3-4 5, Morgan 2-3-0-0
Haut 1-1-0-2
ADRIAN (9-8, 4-9)
Burrows 1-10-10, 2-2-2-2, Helleise 4-8-4
12. Ross 10-3-2-2, McCall 1-0-0-4
McLaurin 1-1-0-2, Rain 4-4-4-12.
Rainsburger 4-2-4-12 Carter 1-0-0-3

1st Total 2nd Total
Adrian 32 25 56
Saint Mary's 26 45 71

"We have to focus
on Rainsburger,
their great player
inside."
Suzanne Bellina
Bulldogs coach
before Wednesday's
Game

O A R

O A R

Thursday, March 31
7 pm
Elliott Hall Of Music
New York City Transit

MTA Engineering Challenge:
Past, Present, and Future
Friday, February 11, 2005
12:58 to 1:45 p.m.
DeBartolo Auditorium, Room 111

Michael Jordan shakes hands after a press conference for his high school basketball tournament, "The Jordan Classic."
Irish
continued from page 24

defense in the second half, limiting the Friars to just 21 points on 6-for-24 shooting (25 percent). Notre Dame also outscored Providence 42-10 in the paint.

Notre Dame got a spark from freshman Tulyah Gaines, who came off the bench to score nine points on 3-for-4 shooting. She added two rebounds, two assists and two steals in 18 minutes of play.

"I thought Tulyah came in and gave us some good minutes off the bench," McGraw said.

Meanwhile, forward Courtney LaVere set the stage for the first time since her December knee surgery and had 10 points on 5-for-9 shooting to go along with four rebounds and three steals in 23 minutes of play. Teresa Borton added 10 points and four rebounds as well for the Irish.

Batefield finished with a double-double with 23 points and 10 rebounds. She was 10-for-13 from the free throw line.

For the game, the Irish shot 56 percent from the field, but the statistical production of a few of his position players — in addition to past experience — encouraged the Stampeder staff.

"I'm extremely pleased to have Bill join our staff, as he has a remarkable resume holding some great positions," Calgary offensive coordinator Steve Buratto said in Wednesday's press release. "I've tracked his coaching since his days with the Eskimos, and we are very fortunate to have him join the program.

Diedrick will coach the two offensive positions that performed best in an inconsistent final season with Notre Dame. In 2003, Irish quarterback Brady Quinn threw for 2,586 yards and 17 touchdowns. Freshman running back Darius Walker played in 11 games, rushing for 346 yards. In 2002, Diedrick was one of the coaches responsible for developing Quinn as a freshman. Quinn set freshman school records for passing yards, touchdowns, completions and attempts that season.

Diedrick has coached at four Division-I schools: Notre Dame, Stanford (1998-2001), Washington (1994-97) and Washington State (1987-90) — in his 34-year career. He has been defensive coordinator at Division-II schools Montana State (1984-85) and Idaho (1986-88), as well as a high school head coach and a graduate assistant at Hawaii.

Diedrick has coached NFL quarterbacks Drew Bledsoe and John Friesz and top college football quarterbacks Damon and Brock Huard and Marques Tuiasosopo.

He graduated from Eastern Washington in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in physical therapy and physical education. He earned a master's degree in education from Hawaii in 1971.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Irish freshman Charel Allen talks to assistant coach Coquese Washington, left, as assistant coach Jonathon Tsipis looks on.

Holland
continued from page 24

for the Belles this season in the individual medley and will likely be an essential factor in a strong start for Saint Mary's, who fell to two conference opponents — Albion and Calvin Colleges — in its last meet. Following the individual medley, sophomore Nicole Korte, who has had a successful first season swimming with the Belles, can be counted on for a strong performance in the 50-yard freestyle. Korte has been fairly consistent for the team in achieving high finishes in the sprint events throughout the season.

Competition will continue into Friday and Saturday, with a total of 20 women's events taking place during the meet.

Friday will begin with the 200-yard medley relay and move into such events as the 100-yard butterfly and 100-yard breaststroke. The last race on Friday will be the 800-yard freestyle relay. The last day of the meet will open up with the event's longest race, the 1,650-yard freestyle.

Most recently, freshman Lisa Halog has been swimming the long-distance events for the Belles, with a time of 20 minutes, 5.83 in the 1,650-yard freestyle when the team competed in the Maroon Invitational in November.

The 200-yard breaststroke will also take place on Saturday, and the competition will conclude with the 400-yard freestyle relay. Preliminaries begin daily at 10 a.m. and finals begin at 6 p.m.

As of now, undefeated Calvin College sits at the top of the MIAA standings. Hope, Kalamazoo, Olivet and Albion are all ahead of the Belles. Saint Mary's is at sixth place in the conference, with Alma College coming in at seventh.

The conference season has provided a combination of ups and downs for the Belles, but overall the program has made significant strides since last season. Saint Mary's posted its first conference victory in over a year on Jan. 15 when it defeated Alma College by a score of 51-49.

Although the competition against Kalamazoo College appeared to be a significant defeat on paper, the Belles captured five first-place finishes against one of the strongest programs in the conference.

Although the meet will not likely change Saint Mary's position in the conference standings, the Belles are in position to achieve high individual and team finishes in several of the events.

Contact Anna Fricano at africano@stmarys.edu

Wednesday, February 10, 2005

Congregation of Holy Cross

"Let the children come to Me. Do not hinder them. The kingdom of God belongs to those such as these." (Mt 19:14)

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THE OBSERVER

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Happy Birthday! This could very well be your year. Everything is looking positive and prosperous. Focus on what you need to do and get it done, and the rest will be easy. Your timing couldn't be better, so make the jump that you've been contemplating but not acting on. It's now or never. Do your best and you will get ahead. Your numbers are 1, 3, 7, 13, 27, 37, 49, 51.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get ready to ride the story. You won't know which way is up, but you will be at peace. Don't set your goals out of reach, but don't get too close to them either. Business will be both easy and tough.****

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Stay in the background and you'll stay out of trouble. Speaking too much can lead to a loss of influence. Stay talking about what you are going to do and take action. It's what you accomplish that will count.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You are the one who gets everyone going today. Your genuine enthusiasm coupled with your smart ideas and inventive solutions will lead to popularity and a chance meeting with someone special.****

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Harsh conditions will test your mettle. If you are determined to do what you are doing, it will be fine. Don't give up too early.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Sharp strength will lead to success. Work-related events will allow you to make a strange move into the spotlight where you can impress everyone with your ability to take care of matters professionally.****

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't get angry about the little things when you have so much going for you. This can be a wonderful day filled with romance, adventure and advancement. If you can dream it, you can make it so.****

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Change may be required, but you don't have to be dramatic about it. Keep your plans to yourself, and you'll avoid opposition. You need to formulate what will serve you best before taking action.****

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make a big splash if you present your ideas. Travel the information highway and you will discover everything you need to know. Self-improvement, romance and luck are all highlighted today.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Making money or changing the way you do so should be in your plan. You can set up interviews, start your own business or apply for a better position. If all about getting ahead and reaping what you sow.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take on as much as you like. Your imagination is at an all-time high, and it's best to put it in good order rather than let it run wild. Take advantage of the opportunities around you.****

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Like it or not, you must deal with personal problems. Once you get your responsibilities out of the way, you will not only feel better, but there is a chance that something good will come your way.****

Happy Birthday! You have stars in your eyes and a capacity to do great things. You see all the possibilities and are determined to take a trip of lifit in order to fulfill your dreams. You are an explorer.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Winning ugly

Irish trail last-place Providence by six at half, storm back to give Friars 10 straight losses

By HEATHER VAN HORN/GARDEN
Sports Editor

Providence wasn't supposed to compete with No. 6 Notre Dame. The Friars scored just six points in the first half against No. 10 Connecticut Feb. 5, and won just one game all year.

But the Irish took them lightly Wednesday night, and as a result found themselves losing at halftime before pulling away for a 75-57 win at Alumni Hall.

"We played the worst defensive half of the year in the first half," Irish coach Muffett McGraw said. "Give credit to their offense."

McGraw, who just two days ago was praising the play of late of her team, was not pleased with the Irish effort Wednesday night. Notre Dame gave up 36 points in the first half with the Friars shooting 50 percent from the field. Shauna Snyder led the way for Providence with 16 of her 18 points in the first half, helping Friars to a 36-30 halftime lead.

Snyder was playing out of her mind," McGraw said. "She shot the ball real well, and she got a lot of looks out of it.

Providence (1-20, 0-10 Big East) lost its 10th game in a row after the Irish (21-3, 9-2) pulled away in the second half with a 21-3 run. During the run, Irish forward Jacqueline Batteast scored seven points to give the Irish a 67-49 lead with 5:50 to play, sealing the Irish victory.

Snyder finished 6-for-17 from the field, including 4-for-8 from beyond the arc. The Friars hit six 3-pointers as a team, most of them wide-open looks.

"We just didn't have any leadership tonight and it started with our leaders," McGraw said. "The underclassmen just followed suit."

The Irish played better in the second half, however.

SMC BASKETBALL

Bad half gives Adrian win

Belles lead at break on the road, fall apart in second half

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

It was an all too familiar scenario for the Saint Mary's Belles.

Just like earlier games this season against Allion and Alma, the Belles took a lead into the locker room against the Adrian Bulldogs, but a major second half scoring drought led to a disappoint­ ing 71-56 loss for Saint Mary's Wednesday night at the Meridian Center in Adrian, Mich.

After a back and forth first 10 minutes, the Belles (9-13, 4-9 MIAA) pulled out to 30-20 lead just before halftime. Two Adrian threes cut the lead, but Saint Mary's was still up 32-26 at the break.

The second half, however...