Malloy focuses on final semester

President reflects on past, looks to future

By MEGHANNE DOWNES
News Writer

With just one semester left at the helm of the nation’s premier Catholic institution, Monk Malloy is not becoming nostalgic. He is looking toward the future.

“I am the kind of person who tends to always look forward at the next thing I will be doing, rather than looking back at the last thing I did,” University President Father Edward Malloy said. “Temporally, that is just the way I am.”

For 18 years he oversaw Notre Dame, watching as the rankings climbed, the “face” of Notre Dame diversified and ground was broken for new buildings. With less than a year left as president and his successor already chosen, Malloy said he did not approach his final year as president with a sense of sadness.

see MALLOY/page 6

Community leaders to honor Malloy’s history of charity with fundraiser

By KATIE PERRY
News Writer

The greater South Bend community will honor University President Father Edward Malloy with a fundraising tribute benefiting three local charities with strong ties to the outgoing president.

In a gesture of appreciation for Malloy’s 18 years of service at Notre Dame, South Bend community leaders organized “Michiana Salutes Monk,” an honorary benefit to be held March 3 at the Century Center in downtown South Bend.

According to Dennis Brown, associate director of news and information, prominent local organizers of the event include John Rosenthal, president of St. Joseph’s Bank, and Mike Leep, owner of several South Bend automobile dealerships. Politicians Steven Luke, mayor of South Bend, and former Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan also helped plan the benefit.

The event will begin with a reception, followed by dinner and a program.

Kernan, a ’68 alumnus of Notre Dame, will serve as master of ceremonies. Proceeds from the tribute will benefit the Center of the Homeless, the Robinson Community Learning Center and the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County.

claire KeLEcTy Publisher

After 18 years as University president, Father Edward Malloy will step down on June 30, handing over his post to University president-elect Father John Jenkins.

Events go ‘abroad’ for annual JPW

By JEN ROWLING
News Writer

Parents bailing from all over the country will arrive on campus today to take part in the 53rd annual Junior Parents Weekend.

The JPW committee has been working since last April to plan the traditionally extravagant event, with “Passport Abroad” as this year’s title.

“We’re giving the juniors a chance to get away from South Bend, and somewhat honoring the students who are studying abroad and can’t make it to the event,”

see JPW/page 6

JUNIOR PARENTS WEEKEND

FRIDAY
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The Grand Fort Gala
SATURDAY
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
College Workshops & Lunch Luncheon;
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
St. Pete’s Party for the Parents of Seniors

SUNDAY
7:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Le Escape to Paradise Brunch

Administrators defend tuition hike policies

University calls costs necessary, but students bristle at price raise

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

As the University peels off the old $37,100 tuition sticker price and slaps on one for $39,552, those who will dole out the money are feeling the sting.

Director of Student Financial Services Joseph Russo said there have been few negative reactions in the Financial Aid Office thus far, but he anticipates some in the future.

“My guess is that there surely will be [phone calls], not just from parents but from students and alumni who might ask why our costs are going up higher than the rate of inflation,” Russo said.

Director of University Budgeting Linda

see TUTION/page 4

Saint Mary’s intends to hold future increases to four percent

By NICOLE ZOOK
Assistant News Editor

With Notre Dame tuition for 2005-06 set to jump 7 percent, Saint Mary’s students face a lesser spike.

Tuition at the College will increase 4 percent next year, a small amount compared to Notre Dame’s $2,622 surge, said Laurie Sticklemaier, vice president for finance and administration.

Sticklemaier said Saint Mary’s tuition — not including room, board and other extraneous fees — will rise from $22,922 to $23,838 for next academic year. This represents a lesser increase from last year, when tuition rose 6 percent. Sticklemaier said the College intends to continue with this
**INSIDE COLUMN**

On the surface...

Little did I know that yes, distraction can be found even in the secluded and dusty 13th floor of the library. I was soon distracted by the very table I was at — it provided even better literature than that which was published on bathroom stalls of my former inner-city public high school. There is so much history — so many emotions etched into the wood surface. Each vandalizer leaves his or her mark, in hopes of becoming an eternal part of underground Notre Dame history, as a honest attempt at reaching out to the future generations to come to this very table or in hopes of achieving a work ethic, such as:

The ever-present political cat-fight, "Southern Showdown - Kerry Edwards '04!"

The love declaration: X <3's Y

The obviously deep music lyric "praying" should be substituted by numbers and pitiedsofar".

The fearful ones will opt for this fake, depending on the writer's ever-philosophical question such as, "Why let the dogs out?"

The bashing of inferior schools, "what it calls "art classes""

The time slot for vandalism is safer, "The time slot for vandalism is safer, better, 21st century way of writing.

"Gum" and " Citizenship". The time slot for vandalism is safer, better, 21st century way of writing.

"The time slot for vandalism is safer, better, 21st century way of writing.

The bashing of inferior schools, "what it calls "art classes"

**GRAPHICS**

Desiree Zamora

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SMOOTHIE FLAVOR AND WHY?**

- **Strawberry** - it tastes delicious.
- **Peach** - peaches are fuzzy.
- **Orange** - strawberry - it's yummy!
- **Strawberry** - I'm addicted.
- **Smoothie** - What's that?
- **Smoothie** - I think?*

**OFFBEAT**

Strip club artfully slips by anti-nudity laws

BOISE — A strip club in Boise, Idaho has found an artful way to please past a city law that prohibits nudity. On what it calls Art Club Nights, the Erotic City strip club charges customers $15 (8 pounds) for a sketch pad, pencil, and a chance to see completely naked women dancers.

"We have a lot of people drawing some very good pictures," said Erotic City owner Chris Teague, who has posted many of the drawings around the club. Teague said he got the idea when a customer asked if he could get in for free to sketch the dancers. Realizing that "art classes" were exempt from the law, Teague decided to bill Mondays and Tuesdays as art nights, and let the dancers go without their G-string protection.

In the two months since they began, Art Club Nights have drawn full crowds of 60 people but no police citations, he said.

Rabbi rules it best to swallow gum

JERUSALEM — Your chewing gum has just lost its flavor, but there is no garbage can in sight. What do you do? According to Jewish law, get ready to swallow it. A prominent Israeli rabbi has ruled that spitting gum on a sidewalk or hiding it under a desk is a violation of Halacha or Jewish law, the Yediot Ahronot newspaper reported Thursday. Gum cannot be thrown away where others are liable to be disgusted by it," said Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu, the rabbi of the holy city of Safed.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

**IN BRIEF**

The film National Treasure will be shown tonight at 8 and 10 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. The event costs $3 and is sponsored by the Student Union Board.

ND Cinema will show the 2004 film "House of Flying Daggers" tonight at 10 p.m. and again Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m. at the Browning Cinema.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band, Symphonic Band and Symphonic Winds will present a concert Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall. Tickets are available in the DeBartolo Ticket Office.

The Notre Dame Class of 2007 is sponsoring a Class Dinner and Bowling Night Saturday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Beacon Bowl.

"Sherk 2" will be shown at 7 p.m. in Carroll Auditorium in Madeleina Hall at Saint Mary's Saturday. The free event is sponsored by RHA and SAB.

The Saint Mary's Music Department will present scenes from "Witness," an original opera composed by Professor Zee Munn, Sunday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Little Theater of Moreau Hall.

Singer, songwriter and social activist Jen Chapin will be performing in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Sunday. The event is part of the SpringARTSfest: Tolerance and Reconciliation.

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

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**CORRECTIONS**

Due to an editing error, the word "peyning" was used incorrectly in a quote on page 3 of the Feb. 17 edition of The Observer. The word "peyning" should have appeared in its place. The Observer again does it.
Saint Mary's continues a year-long celebration of the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council by welcoming renowned Vatican II historian Father Joseph Komonchak to campus Thursday evening. Komonchak, a professor of theology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., presented a lecture entitled "Vatican II: History and Significance." Komonchak began his presentation by noting the difficulties of speaking about Vatican II to an audience whose parents are not old enough to remember the Council. He explained that he had firsthand information about the Council, as he studied at a seminary in Rome during the two years leading up to the Council and during the first two Council sessions. "The fact that we undertake such celebrations as this indicates the historical significance of the Council," he said. "For better or worse, Vatican II represented an epic shift in the history of the Catholic Church. Precisely because something historic has occurred, it has become controversial."

Komonchak said Pope John XXIII started the Catholic world by announcing his plans to convene an ecumenical council. John XXIII was elected at age 77 to serve as a transitional pontificate after the long reign of Pope Pius XII, but the new pope quickly became involved in a more significant transition in the Church.

"The Pope proposed the Council as an occasion for spiritual renewal in the church. This had very significant implications, as it suggested that certain Catholic ways of doing things were no longer as appropriate as they had once been," Komonchak said.

Komonchak described the development and politics of the Council throughout its four sessions. He stressed the importance of the 16 documents presented at the Council and the changes they caused in the Church.

"The Church became more open to self-examination, adopted a far more nuanced attitude towards the modern world, and made the decision to validate the distinctiveness of local churches. These were three revolutionary decisions," he said.

The anniversary celebration of Vatican II began in November and will continue throughout October of next year. The next event will be held on March 30, when Kenneth Woodward, a contributing editor at Newsweek, will speak about his experiences reporting on the Council.

"Programs offered through the College's Center for Spirituality will engage members of the College community, as well as interested individuals from all levels of academia, Church and society in a dialogue about the impact of Vatican II," said Sister Kathleen Dolphin, director of the Center for Spirituality.

Contact Karen Langley at blongke@smu.edu

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

In what is perhaps the most important aspect of the program, participants learn about famous women in the math and science community.

Junior math major Laura Ficker said she is looking forward to a day with the participants.

"I'm very excited because it's going to be a fun day and it's always great to see young people on campus," she said. "I think it is important we encourage these girls that learning is fun too."

The program also allows girls to attend after-school lab sessions alongside students.

"A large number of Saint Mary's students are involved," Connolly said. "It gives students an opportunity to offer real service to the outside community." In what is perhaps the most important aspect of the program, participants learn about famous women in the math and science community. Through active role-playing activities, "The program gives [the participants] the view that math and science are things people actually do," Ficker said. "They get to see how women, throughout history, have impacted the world in these fields."

The educational opportunity is not limited to the girls alone. The College also hosts a panel for parents and kids to offer support and guidance for their daughters' high school curriculums.

Many agree a woman's college is the perfect place for such an event.

"A lot of girls are intimidated by math and science," Ficker said. "It's important for girls to see that math and science can be something we have opportunities and success in these fields."

If past experiences are any indication of success, this year's Hypatia Day is sure to be a victory.

"The program has gone very well in years past," Connolly said. "Students and parents both enjoy the day and are grateful for the opportunities it affords." Contact Danielle Lerner at lermd51@stmarys.edu

By DANIELLE LERNER
News Writer

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's welcomes girls for Hypatia Day

Seventh graders come to celebrate math

Saint Mary's will welcome nearly 100 seventh-grade girls from across Indiana as it hosts the 15th Annual Hypatia Day on Saturday. Hypatia Day, named after the first female mathematician and scientist in history, aims to reinforce girls' enthusiasm for math and science.

Mathematics chair, professor Mary Connolly, stressed the importance of this event.

"We know that girls who love math and science need to be encouraged to continue their studies in these areas, and that waiting to provide this encouragement until high school is a mistake," Connolly said. "By then, many have made choices which close the doors to the wide range of opportunities available to women who pursue math and science careers."

Although the Mathematics program sponsors the event, students from the chemistry, biology and nursing departments will participate as well. Attendees, parents and by their schools because of their interest, abilities and achievements in math and science, will partake in numerous activities throughout the day. For example, math sessions with Saint Mary's students aim to emphasize the creativity of geometry through interactive Origami exercises. Junior math major Laura Ficker said she is looking forward to a day with the participants.

"I'm very excited because it's going to be a fun day and it's always great to see young people on campus," she said. "I think it is important we encourage these girls that learning is fun too."

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Tuition
continued from page 1

Kroll said the decision to
taie tuition has been long in the
development.
"The planning for the budg­
et for the 2005-2006 school year was
in the spring of 2004," she said.
"It is a very thorough process that involves detailed
analysis of all of the major fac­
tors that affect the University financially."

These factors include "tuition and fees, room and
board costs, employee benefit costs and (utility and insurance
costs," Kroll said.

Russo also defended the decision to raise tuition.
"We have heard a lot of the criticism that the University is a
"labor-intensive operation," he stressed.
"That's why much of the tuition increase is a result of the
higher labor costs, employee benefit costs, but the
low tuition rate is our way of giving back to the students.
"The University is also stressing the importance of providing
up-to-date technology, new
facilities, employee benefit costs such as health care for
students," Russo said.

"At Notre Dame, there is a
"need-blind" policy - meeting the full need of
students won't have to work
summer, Russo said.
"We measure need is a perfect
balance between how much they need and what they are
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**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Car bomb kills five in Thailand**

BANGKOK, Thailand — In an escalation of the sectarian violence plaguing Muslim-dominated southern Thailand, a powerful car bomb exploded Thursday in a busy night market district, killing five people and injuring more than 40. The car bomb was believed to be a suicide attack.

A series of smaller attacks during the past year have been blamed on Islamists in the mostly Buddhist country, but Thursday’s car bomb raised questions about U.S. and Thai military efforts to quell the insurgency.

The bomb was planted in a car parked near the Marina Hotel in Sungai Kolok, a town near the Malaysian border that is popular with male tourists. No one has taken responsibility for the attack, which police believe was triggered with a mobile phone.

**China to send envoy to N. Korea**

BEIJING — China said Thursday it will send a top communist party official to North Korea to try to break a stalemate over the North’s nuclear program, but Beijing urged patience in its dealings with the volatile country.

U.S. and South Korean envoys visited Beijing this week seeking help in persuading the isolated North to rejoin six-nation nuclear talks that were suspended in June. Those talks include the United States, the two Koreas, China, Russia and Japan.

China, the North’s biggest backer and a major source of aid to the impoverished country, has been wary of openly testing its influence with Pyongyang.

China urged patience with the unpredictable North, which has rejected calls to return to the six-nation talks, accusing Washington of hostility.

**Bush names intelligence chief**

President selects veteran diplomat John Negroponte to unite U.S. spy agencies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush named John Negroponte, who has been in Iraq for less than a year, for the difficult job of implementing the most sweeping intelligence overhaul in 50 years.

Negroponte, 65, is tasked with bringing together 15 highly competitive spy agencies and learning to work with the combative Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, the brand new CIA Director Porter Goss and other intelligence leaders. He’ll oversee a covert intelligence budget estimated at $40 billion.

Negroponte, a former ambassador to the United Nations and to a number of countries, called the job his “most challenging assignment” in more than 40 years of government work.

He was widely believed not to have been the first choice, but Bush officials denied the president had had trouble filling the position.

A confirmed by the Senate, as expected, Negroponte said the president’s “reform of the intelligence community in ways designed to best meet the intelligence needs of the 21st century.”

Bush agreed that he sees Negroponte as the man to steer his intelligence clearinghouse. “If we’re going to stop the terrorists before they strike, we must ensure that our intelligence agencies work as a single, unified enterprise,” Bush said.

Negroponte will have coveted time with the president during daily intelligence briefings and will have authority over the spy community’s intelligence collection priorities. Perhaps most important, Bush made clear that Negroponte will set budgets for the national intelligence agencies.

“People who control the money, people who have access to the president generally have a lot of influence,” Bush said. “And that’s why John Negroponte is going to have a lot of influence.”

Bush also announced he had chosen an intelligence insider to serve as Negroponte’s deputy, L. Paul Bremer, the Secretary of the Cabinet.

Bush and other senior administration officials initially resisted, but reversed course after an exceptional lobbying effort by the families of Sept. 11 attack victims. Congress approved the new post in December as part of the most significant intelligence overhaul since 1947.

Yet intelligence veterans remain concerned about whether the job will wield enough power to lead government elements that handle everything from recruiting spies to eavesdropping to steering satellites.

Some say the authorities of the intelligence chief are too ambiguous as established in the legislation. The position was also excluded from the Cabinet to shield it from politics, requiring Negroponte to work directly with more senior personalities such as Rumsfeld.

**National News**

**Bill Cosby won’t face charges**

PHILADELPHIA — Bill Cosby will not face charges stemming from a woman’s allegation he molested her, a Prosecuting Attorney said Thursday.

Authorities found “insufficient credible and admissible evidence” to support the woman’s claims, Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said in a statement.

A former Temple University employee, who now lives in her native Ontario, went to Castor’s office in December to report that Cosby gave her medication that made her feel dizzy, then fondled her at his suburban Philadelphia home after a dinner with friends in January 2004. She said she later woke to find her bra undone and her clothes and cosmetics on the floor.

Cosby denied the allegations.

Congress approves class-action law

WASHINGTON — A bill that would allow people in class-action lawsuits to get a share of settlements has been signed into law.

The Senate approved the class-action law, which was passed by the House in March, with enough power to lead government elements that handle everything from recruiting spies to eavesdropping to steering satellites.

Some say the authorities of the intelligence chief are too ambiguous as established in the legislation. The position was also excluded from the Cabinet to shield it from politics, requiring Negroponte to work directly with more senior personalities such as Rumsfeld.

**Local News**

**Prosecutor will seek death penalty**

INDIANAPOLIS — Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi today said he will seek the death penalty against Kenneth Lee Allen, who was convicted last December in the slayings of their mother and grandparents.

Brizzi — who will try the case himself — described seven aggravating factors why death should be imposed against Allen, 29. Among them was the brutal treatment of the victims, some of whom were dismembered.

**Iran**

Midast nations expand alliance

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran warned that any U.S. strike on its nuclear facilities would draw a swift and crushing response and called Thursday for an expansion of the newly emerging strategic alliance with Syria to create a front against any threats, and a mysterious explosion near a nuclear facility in southwestern Iran that initially was reported as a missile strike but later was attributed to construction work on a dam.

Iran’s overtures to other Muslim countries in the Middle East reflect its concern about U.S. pressure to drop its nuclear ambitions. With Syria and other countries, including Egypt and Jordan, that have long been suspicious of Iran’s White Muslim clerical regime.

Still, the statements were another sign of the tense situation, coming a day after Syria and Iran declared they would form a united front against any threats, and a mysterious explosion near a nuclear facility in southwestern Iran that initially was reported as a missile strike but later was attributed to construction work on a dam.

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**Freeze**

continued from page 1

"As a matter of fact, we plan to try to limit our tuition increases as much as we can throughout the next several years," she said. "We're going to try to keep it to four percent or less."

The $40 tuition hike will make the total for 2005-06 $32,500. Stickelmaier said. This amount includes cost of education, a meal plan, cost of room, utilities and various items falling under the "fee" category, such as technology, student government and facility costs.

"I don't think students would be worried by the small tuition hike this year, and compared to the impact of this year's increase to other slight increases in the past."

"We did an analysis of our net tuition, which is tuition minus financial aid, and we found," she said. "We compared 1996 to 2004, and when you look at the net tuition, it only went up five percent in eight years. We also significantly increased our [allotment to financial aid]."

"We will have a night of dancing and "I'm just focusing on what I do and hoping for a very smooth transition.""

**Malloy**

continued from page 1

ness or bittersweet sentiment, he did, however, keep his sights set firmly on the future, trying to mirror University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh's philosophy of "leading by example." His friend is often to visit Ohio State.

"I [don't] like midnight part­

teams. The dining hall also gets too busy with parents," Drach said. "It is a perfect weekend to get away."

"I haven't given a lot of thought to that part of my life, but I'm not in denial or any­thing, I'm just focusing on what I do and hoping for a very smooth transition.""

Since the Board of Trustees announced in April the upcoming presidential transition, Malloy and his successor, University President-elect Father John Jenkins, have been consulting one another when making deci­sions for Notre Dame. Though Malloy said he did not approach this year differ­ently than any of the other 17 presidents he has served as president on June 30, 2005.

"Despite the controversies and chal­lenges that may be experienced, we have a very strong and highly skilled leadership team leading the University right now," he said. "I think the worst thing that could happen is if it was thought that we were going to have a gap in leadership."

"If you are going to have a void in leadership, you want to have a smooth transition.""

"I'm just focusing on what I do and hoping for a very smooth transition.""

**Father Edward Malloy** President university

continued from page 1

"I hope students are able to show their parents the home they have here at Notre Dame."

Kathryn Reynolds, JPM committee chair, said with these reasons in mind, many non-junior students plan a "weekend on campus for the weekend. Sophomore Alison McKoon and her friends will be on a trip to visit University of Dayton. Similarly, "I hope my friends and their parents will be here from Ohio State."

"I don't like midnight parti­t

teams. The dining hall also gets too busy with parents," Drach said. "It is a perfect weekend to get away."

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"Despite the controversies and chal­lenges that may be experienced, we have a very strong and highly skilled leadership team leading the University right now," he said. "I think the worst thing that could happen is if it was thought that we were going to have a gap in leadership."

"If you are going to have a void in leadership, you want to have a smooth transition.""

"I'm just focusing on what I do and hoping for a very smooth transition.""

**Contact Nathaniel Stickelmaier at stickelmaier@nd.edu**

**Malloy**

continued from page 1

"I hope students are able to show their parents the home they have here at Notre Dame."

Kathryn Reynolds, JPM committee chair, said with these reasons in mind, many non-junior students plan a "weekend on campus for the weekend. Sophomore Alison McKoon and her friends will be on a trip to visit University of Dayton. Similarly, "I hope my friends and their parents will be here from Ohio State."

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Microsoft faces new dilemma

Corporation's new antivirus products might compete directly with its allies

Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates speaks at a conference Tuesday in San Francisco. The corporation announced it will sell software to battle privacy-invading pests.

IN BRIEF

War on terror hurts U.S. tourism

Mickey Mouse has a bone to pick with Uncle Sam.

Some U.S. travel executives — including those who run Disneyland and Walt Disney World — think the government needs to do more to improve the country's image with foreign tourists who increasingly are choosing other places for their vacations.

Tourism officials ascribe the decline partly to anti-Americanism that arose after the country sent military forces to Afghanistan and Iraq and to the "hassle factor" associated with new visa application and airport security procedures.

Aggressive campaigns by other countries to lure tourists have had an impact, they say.

"It's more than just an image decline," said Jay Iluzo, president of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts, a Lake Buena Vista, Fla.-based unit of The Walt Disney Co. "I think other countries are out there competing for tourists and we have not been."".

FTC approves hotel conglomerate

LAS VEGAN — The Federal Trade Commission on Wednesday approved MGM Mirage's proposal to buy rival Mandalay Resort Group, a move that would create one of the largest gambling companies in the world and give the casino operator control of 11 resorts on the famed Las Vegas Strip.

The commission voted 5-0 to close its investigation and place no conditions on the transaction, an FTC spokesman told The Associated Press.

MGM Mirage Inc. still needs Nevada and other state gambling regulators to approve the blockbuster deal.

"We are very pleased that the FTC has made the ruling but there remains a significant step, the approval of the Gaming Control Board and Gaming Commission in Nevada," MGM Mirage spokesman Alan Feldman said. State gambling regulators are scheduled to consider the matter next week.

In June, MGM Mirage agreed to purchase Mandalay for $4.8 billion in cash, $2.5 billion in debt and $600 million convertible debentures. The company has secured financing for the merger.

The Observer

B E N E S S I S

Friday February 18, 2005

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones

10,754.26 -80.62

Up: Some: Down: Composite Volume:
1,108 149 2,258 1,574,832,996

AMEX
1,497.77 +0.95

NASDAQ
2,061.34 -26.09

NYSE
7,272.54 -10.70

S&P 500
1,200.75 -9.59

NIKEK(Tokyo)
11,582.72 0.00

FTSE (100)London
5,057.40 +4.20

COMPANY CHANGE | SCIAN | PRICE

NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQ)
-1.34 -0.51 37.47

INTEL CORP (INTC)
-2.11 -0.51 23.63

MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)
-0.54 -0.14 26.65

SUN MICROSYSTEMS INC(SUNW)
-0.48 -0.05 18.45

CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)
-1.47 -0.26 17.45

Treasuries

30 YEAR BOND
+1.31 +0.51 45.73

10 YEAR NOTE
+0.65 +0.17 41.85

5 YEAR NOTE
-0.13 -0.05 37.77

3 MONTH BILL
9.00 0.00 25.27

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (gals)
-0.64 48.22

GOLD (Troy oz)
+1.70 428.60

POKEX BULLS (cents)
+0.03 85.98

Exchange Rates

YEN
105,500

EURO
0.7651

POUN
1.5578

CANDIAN $
1.2715

Clear Channel plans liberal format

The partnership might seem surprising because of Texas-based Clear Channel's conservative reputation. Clear Channel CEO Lowry Mays and his wife gave $65,000 to the Republican National Committee in the last election cycle, and two-thirds of the company's federal donations went to Republicans, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

And last summer, a Berkeley, Calif.-based group sued Clear Channel, which also owns an outdoor advertising business, after it refused to run an anti-war billboard in Times Square during the Republican National Convention.

Those who track broadcasting trends say there's money to be made in liberal talk radio.

Webster said that even as recently a year ago, no one thought Texas-based Clear Channel, a media conglomerate that owns 1,200 stations, would ever become partners with upstart liberal talkers.

"There has been a tacit shift in the industry from all of the big brains and the head honchos saying, 'Nobody wants to listen to a bunch of whiny liberals on the radio,'" Webster said.

Associated Press

SEATTLE — If Microsoft Corp. doesn't do more to stop Internet attacks, the company risks further alienating customers unhappy with the multitude of threats already facing its ubiquitous software.

Sell its own security products, on the other hand, and Microsoft representatives would be illustrating the very backslash from some of its allies — the company would now provide an extra layer of security for its Windows operating system, Internet Explorer browser and other products.

With a powerhouse like Microsoft becoming a direct competitor, they could easily squelch out.

What a quandary.

Last week, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates confirmed plans to sell antivirus products to both consumers and big businesses by the end of the year. But the Redmond company is mum on cost and features.

Speaking at a security conference, Gates also said the company would give consumers a free tool for combating spyware, a pesky and growing threat that can monitor users' activities, hinder computer performance and create other hassles. Microsoft would also sell a more sophisticated antispyware product to businesses.

Executives in the security industry say they believe Microsoft's promise to continue sharing security information and working with other security companies even after it becomes a direct competitor.

 Analyst Gino Moskovitz, with Susquehanna Financial Group said both sides have an incentive to "continue to play nice with each other."

The security companies are dependent on Microsoft to make sure their defenses run smoothly, although Microsoft cannot risk having competing security products break down and wreak more havoc on Windows, Moskovitz said.

"A very significant number of people, if they don't have a good security experience, they're going to hold it against Microsoft — even if they're using another vendor," Moskovitz said.

Still, John Schwarz, president and chief operating officer of Symantec Corp., would rather see Microsoft concentrate on fixing security flaws.

"We believe they'd be better off in focusing on making sure that their platform, the Windows operating system, is less subject to attack," Schwarz said.

Microsoft has worked feverishly to better secure its products, including updating Windows XP with a new firewall and other security measures. But given its widespread use, the products are near-constant targets of attacks that take advantage of loopholes and flaws to hijack computers, steal personal information and cripple businesses.

McAfee Inc. President Gene Hodges calls its new competitor an example of "capitalism at its best."

But he said it will only be a fair fight if all companies have a level playing field in which everyone sells, rather than gives away, products.

Microsoft's move to sell antivirus software appears fair so far, Hodges said, though he said Microsoft's decision to give away an antispyware product could hurt smaller players who can't afford such giveaways.

"We would have rather they entered the market for spyingware and competed," Hodges said.

Security companies including McAfee already sell antispyware products, generally charging between $20 and $40, though a few give away versions or trials for free.

Microsoft has downplayed the competitive angle, saying they are simply responding to requests from customers for more protection options. Any liberal talkers, a director with the company's security and business unit, said the company is most concerned about people who have no extra protection at all.

Clear Channel Communications Inc. and Southern New England Telephone Co. announced Tuesday that they will offer "liberal" or left-leaning talk radio programming on about 40 stations in the United States.

The companies said they want to offer consumers a choice of talk radio and that they will pursue "customeratisfaction and protecting free speech." They are asking the FCC to give them permission to sell the programming.
ENGLAND

Ban prohibits Brits from hunting foxes

Associated Press

For two foxes in set shot of whisky or cars - early mist burned away and the coffee dispensed day or Boxing day shone erisp and clear.

Thursday before members of the hunt will vote to start of the Lunesdale Hunt on a page 8 Ban prohibits Brits system, had already banned at the Dalesman Country Inn, prepared to take the case to the European Court of Human Rights. A frosty, peach (Bellini) - (Tuesdays) - •

"If we happen catch a fox on Saturday, it will just be a nasty accident for that fox," said Mike Hibbard, member of the hunt.

"I am particularly pleased that hunts are now talking about an intention to hunt within the law," Michael said. "That means doing all that is traditionally associated with hunting from the stirrup cup to the coat, down to the fresh air, and that should cause problems for no one. They don't use their dogs to hunt a wild mammal."

"Go and make disciples of all the nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Mt 28:19)

POLAND

Pope to publish his fifth book

Associated Press

"We have about 130 students and 220 participants - pretty much the same as last year," event co-chair Jennifer Pillar said.

According to co-chair Lisa Cozzi, the Residence Hall Association began preparing in September, producing an itinerary based on the chosen theme, "NCM Goes Country.

"The theme will be tied into the scheduled dance and craft activities on Saturday.

"Each child can decorate a cowgirl hat," she said.

Along with a karaoke night at Dallourg's tonight, Cozzi said a new addition to the annual weekend will take place.

"Friday night around 9 p.m., each dorm will be showing its own movie for the sibs," she said.

"My three cousins are coming for their third year," she said. "They are so excited."

Contact April Thomas at thoms549@uvmmail.edu

Vocation.nd.edu

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Friday, February 18, 2005

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"Go and make disciples of all the nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Mt 28:19)
Delays cut for visa applications

Associated Press

The State and Homeland Security departments have reduced delays from months to weeks the time it takes foreign students and scholars trying to travel to the United States to clear a key visa review, according to a new government report.

The findings are welcome news for education leaders, though they have cautioned streamlining the visa process will not, on its own, reverse the trend of declining interest among foreigners in attending American colleges and universities.

Amid complaints from higher education groups and major business leaders, including Bill Gates, that visa hassles were discouraging foreign students from attending American schools, a Government Accountability Office investigation last year found an average of 67 days for applicants to clear a security check for scientists known as Visa Mantis. Some delays were considerably longer, and some applicants waited as long as 12 weeks just to get an interview to start the process.

In a follow-up report to be released Friday, the GAO finds the average wait following the interview has now fallen to 15 days, according to a source who has been briefed on the findings and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The report credits the overall improvement to better technology, coordination among agencies and policy changes — such as priority interviews for student applicants. It cautions that problems remain and some scholars still face considerable delays.

The report comes just a week after the government announced it would allow international students to keep their Visa Mantis clearance for the duration of their studies, up to four years — a change that will likely further reduce delays.

Applications from those who had been previously cleared were a major bottleneck, and a source of anxiety for applicants, who worried they might be unable to get back to school if forced to return home in an emergency.

Penny Blumenthal, vice president for educational services at the Institute of International Education, praised U.S. embassies for making an improved visa process a top priority. Still, public relations challenges remain, she said.

"Even more important than the actual wait times, which have improved, is combating the perception abroad by students that the situation is the same as it was shortly after Sept. 11," she said. "Students right now are going on what they heard from their cousin or friend or neighbor who applied three years ago.

About 600,000 foreigners study in the United States, but international graduate student applications fell 32 percent last year, according to an IEEE survey. Another survey released in November found the number of first-time foreign enrollees in American graduate schools was down 6 percent — the third straight decline after a decade of growth.

Another survey of students by soldiers, "Frontline" producers decided to leave in because it presented a true picture of how those men and women react to the fear and stress of war, said David Fanning, the show’s executive producer.

The producers also made a separate version of the documentary with the words edited out, for use by some of PBS’s 170 stations in more conservative parts of the country. "Frontline" is produced by Boston’s WGBH, which also airs the raw version.

Instead, PBS decided to send the clean version out to all of its stations. The raw version will also be made available, but station managers will have to make a special effort to tap it in advance.

PBS is also warning its stations that if they want to put themselves at risk of an FCC fine for language, the system can’t insure them, said senior programmer executive Jacoba Atlas. To air the raw version, stations must sign a statement acknowledging the financial risk is theirs.

“It’s a financial decision," Atlas said. “It’s not a decision that rests on the merit that we think the film has."
Tuition increase discouraging

Most graduates talk about the value of a Notre Dame education, emphasizing the academically, etically and morally sound founda-
duion they received as students. But “value” recently took on a dif-
erent connotation.

It’s difficult to believe that just four years ago Notre Dame intro-
duced its lowest tuition increase in 40 years, at 4.9 percent for the 2001-02 academic year. That’s a very different story than last week.

When the University announced its third tuition increase in as many years that exceeds 6 percent.

After the 2003 economic downturn led to endowed-
ment losses and budget cuts, Notre Dame increased its tuition by 6.5 percent for 2003-04, 6.9 percent for 2004-05 and, most recently, 7 percent for 2005-06.

If the current pace of tuition hikes continues, entering freshmen for the class of 2009 could face a total four-year tuition bill of approximately $140,000 - not including room and board. With a possible room and board bill of $35,560, the “value” of a Notre Dame undergraduate education could top $175,560.

Yes, the University is an expensive place to operate. In other costs, it must be able to afford to pay top-notch administra-
tors and professors, keep pace with the newest technology, contin-
ue construction on new buildings and operate the campus power plant. But Notre Dame shouldn’t have to sustain its growth on the backs of its students.

It is surprising that only 9 percent of earnings on the University’s $3 billion endowment are used to support daily opera-
tions, leaving tuition — at 60 percent — to bear much of the dif-
ference. While financial operations are a sensitive and complicat-
ed matter, and certainly should not be treated lightly, the University could benefit from a reassessment of both the sources of its funds and how it chooses to allocate them. Depending heav-
ily on tuition to secure a financial cushion would not become a habit.

The University is justifying this increase by stating that it wishes to maintain its ability to meet 100 percent of stu-
dents’ demonstrated financial need. But with the burgeoning costs, Notre Dame could limit its appli-
cant pool because — whether their concerns are justified or not — prospective students will be dis-
couraged from applying to the school in the first place. And increased tuition costs will lead to increased demands on financial aid, which only furthers the costly cycle for both sides.

Notre Dame also raises the point that it is trying to keep pace with the rates charged by peer schools, such as Georgetown’s $40,492 and Northwestern’s $40,686 for tuition, room and board in 2004-05. But the University has always prided itself on its history of educating students from various socioeconomic lev-
els. Climbing into the academic elite doesn’t mean Notre Dame must raise its costs to fit the mold.

Notre Dame students are fortunate to receive an education that is valuable on so many fronts. It is unfortunate that by consistently increasing the burden of paying for that education, the University could force some students to choose one “value” over the other.

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V-Day mission unquestionable

Since the first performance of the Vagina Monologues at Notre Dame, which is the operating question of whether the play belongs at a Catholic university has remained the same.

There’s no denying the dilemma. Academic departments may sponsor the play and students may attend, but parts of the play unde-
surprisingly chafes the face of Catholic teaching on human sexuality.

Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame’s sister school, has refused to host the play.

But whether allowing the production of the Vagina Monologues is a violation of Catholic identity is questionable. What is unquestionably a viola-
tion of Catholic identity is to ignore the problems that lie at the heart of the V-Day movement that has grown as a result of the play. V-Day is first and foremost an organization that works to stop violence against women, and is becoming increasingly effective at raising aware-
tion of the pain experienced by women around the world.

The issue of which words should be shouted on which colleges’
positions are available to all readers. The free

V-Day mission cannot eliminate these things, it may be the first voice which many people become aware of.

Aspects of the Vagina Monologues might make some uncomfort-
able, and Eve Ensler herself is still a controversial figure. But the

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unbiased representation of the opinion of the majority of the editors in Chief, Managing Editor, Associate Managing Editor, Managing Editors and department editors. Commendations, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The

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OBSERVER POLL

Do the Vagina Monologues belong at Notre Dame?

YES 43%

NO 57%
During the past two weeks visitors to the Hesburgh Arts Center have twice been greeted by individuals displaying a letter from Bishop John D'Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Bishop D'Arcy has written these letters to students both before the Queer Film Festival and during the Vagina Monologues. The Bishop is certainly well within his bounds to write such letters, given the nature of these events and the distaste that the Bishop has for such activities. The Bishop has previously said that he disapproves of any activity that he deems to be "pastoral freedom" akin to academic freedom, as well as an "obligation to teach." What are most interesting about Bishop D'Arcy's pastoral letters, however, have been the issues he chooses to address. While Notre Dame has arguably strayed from Catholic teaching on war, workers' rights, economic justice and various other concerns it is only issues dealing with sexuality that seem of concern to the Bishop. As such, the Notre Dame administration has repeatedly said to me, through the way in which it directs their attention the Catholic Church has no reason to expand the space between people's ideas and the expense of everything of it.

That being said I am not writing here to defend the Vagina Monologues. I find them to be of questionable artistic merit and wonder whether the movement they have spawned is not perhaps stuck in a rut, performing the same play over and over again. I am not sure even Shakespeare's work could handle such numbing repetition. But I am also not interested nor do I consider myself sufficiently prepared to write a sequel that will move things forward. That is another person's task and one hope is taken up sooner rather than later.

What I do believe is that the Bishop, and other Church leaders, must be challenged to speak out on other issues of concern to our university community and the wider world. It seems only predictable that when issues of sexuality are brought to the public's attention Church leaders rush to the typewriter. Where was Bishop D'Arcy's voice regarding matters of workers' rights when students protested the University's relationship with Taco Bell? Where is his voice as Notre Dame's ROTC unit trains soldiers to fight a war the Pope has labeled a "war of violence in His name"? Although many faithful many bishops appear to have chosen a more cautious course. They appear content to proclaim only that being said I am not writing here to defend the University's relationship with Taco Bell. I am not writing here to defend the University's stance on divorce or abortion. I am not writing here to defend the University's stance on the silence of the faithful. I am not writing here to defend the University's stance on the oppression of women. To the contrary, the protests are because people are questioning why Notre Dame in the name of some pragmatic purpose, is now condoned by Notre Dame in the name of academic freedom.

I wholeheartedly agree with Courtney Tawresy on an extremely salient point addressed in her Feb. 17 letter. The University of Notre Dame indeed has a duty to educate its students. I am slightly confused, however, as to how the dissemination of erroneous information and the complete prohibition of any information all together will aid the University in the discharge of this duty.

Read the mission statement and the literature proffered to the community by SDS and the WVCA. There is no pro-choice advocacy to be found. In fact, there's no mention of abortion, period. Instead, both groups support and advocate safety and comfort and provide aid to women who have been victimized by violence. Go see the Vagina Monologues. Note action in the last few-choice-propaganda -- indeed, again, the complete absence of any information about the nature of abortion. Her assertions to that end are simply wrong.

Further, any educational institution, it is in fact the duty of the University to provide for its students a range of critical viewpoints, of arguments and hot buttons to ponder and discuss and use to reach universal truths.

No one is asking you to like the story of Eve or the story of Eve. You are asked to decide what your vagina would wear if it got dressed. The purpose of Eve Ensler's play, the mission of the Vagina Monologues, is to educate and to challenge you. To aspire to a higher level of learning is perhaps the most salient truth of the Vagina Monologues. Throughout history, those who have propagated a conservative message have been criticized and even beaten and put to death. One example, central to Catholic belief and faith and teaching, comes immediately to mind ... and the Church has an obligation to ban the perhaps unintended subjugation of the Vagina Monologues. In my mind, no greater loss would be suffered by the American Catholic Church than the banning of any one viewpoint, no matter how controversial. There is greater violence to women than keeping them shrouded in silence.

John Infanca

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Silencing of viewpoint not the way to educate

I read The Vagina Monologues and I cannot think of this as a true positive for that mission. We have some of the best minds in the country here at Notre Dame and I think that I should have my head up to the day I am graduated in the Catholic Church and I am not writing here to defend the University's stance on the oppression of women. To the contrary, the protests are because people are questioning why Notre Dame in the name of some pragmatic purpose, is now condoned by Notre Dame in the name of academic freedom.

The Observer
By MARK BEMENDERFER  

"Shadow of Rome" is one of the few games in recent years to place the player in the shoes of a gladiator. There are many different arenas of combat, increasing in size and fame as the player progresses through the game. In addition to the broad array of settings, the game play itself is quite varied as well. The actual fighting segments vary over the course of the game. It starts off by placing the player in standard melee. As the player advances, however, different modes are earned with new missions like search-and-rescue and search-and-destroy. The enemies range from human form to animals. After all, what game about gladiators would be complete without a fight involving tigers?

There's actually a story to complement the bloodshed. The game is set shortly after Caesar's assassination. Agrippa is a soldier, fighting for the glory of Rome, when he hears that Caesar was killed. He returns to Rome to find his father charged with murder and his mother killed. Through a turn of events, he finds himself acting as a gladiator in hopes of finding a way to save his father from his mother's fate. The player begins to play the role of Agrippa as the game progresses.

To add more variety to the game play, the player also controls Caesar's nephew, Octavianus, as he searches the Senate for the truth. When playing as him, the game turns to stealth to avoid foes. Octavianus lacks the muscle and experience that Agrippa possesses, forcing him to rely on other means to accomplish his goals. Sadly, it is with Octavianus's parts of the game that it begins to slow down. While they are necessary to further the story, the player plods through those parts, looking forward for the next chance to control Agrippa. The fights in the Roman arenas are by far the highlights of the game. The gamer can earn point for performing different moves, such as the Juicy Tomato. One can imagine what that move represents. Once enough points are obtained, the gamer can unlock new fighting techniques and become familiar with those.

"Shadow of Rome" provides a gamer with a good experience. There's a lot that can be done within the game, and fans of the movie "Gladiator" will feel at home. While it's not the greatest out there, it's far from the worst.

Contact Mark Bemenderer at mbemende@nd.edu

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By JOSH TALLEY  

The original "Call of Duty," for PC, was an amazing game that separated itself from the crowd of other first-person World War II shooters. It packed intense single-player action while adding good multiplayer interaction. But much was lost when it was ported to Nintendo's Gamecube.

Like the original, the game is comprised of smaller campaigns told from the perspectives of different soldiers in the Soviet, British and American armies. This allows for varied settings and offers you the chance to experience the "Great War" in different locations with different weapons. During game-play, AI-controlled comrades accompany the character's side, who will fight by his side, protect him and even die for him as he accomplishes missions. There are several kinds of missions — riding in a jeep while shooting, planting explosives and destroying depots. The roughly 10 hours of game-play offers a solid war re-creation, except for occasional frustrating errors in programming and bugs.

One of the biggest errors is the lack of checkpoints or mid-level saving points. Some levels are incredibly hard and long, which makes the gamer play them over and over again to beat them. Another problem a gamer may find is that while the weapons look historically accurate, they are often inaccurate and force a player to waste precious ammo in...
Some video games push technology further and further, but then there are the other games — games like "Sprung" — which do the opposite. Essentially a dating game, the player gets to choose from various conversation paths in efforts of wooing the girl of his choice. The game is broken up into multiple chapters where the player can choose different paths. They all lead to the same conclusion, which then limits the interest in a replay.

Control is limited to choosing the dialogue and the occasional use of an item. This can lead to a tedious experience, as the game alternates from babying the player to be insultingly obscure and difficult. The monotony of choosing what to say is broken up by simple "Simon says" style of game play, elements that have been around since the early days of video games.

Designed for the Nintendo DS handheld gaming system, this game makes decent use of the dual screens. The top half shows the target of the conversation, while the bottom shows your personal avatar. The characters react to the player’s choices in suitable cartoon fashion. This has been done before — just not with two screens.

The game does have some redeeming factors. The humor in the game can at times be quite zany and good. It has elements of typical Japanese humor meshed with simple dating antics. This can lead to some humorous situations. At one point in the game the character woos a self-described hippie. Halfway through the conversation with her, she becomes one with her animal spirit and her head is replaced by a cow’s. The character notices this, and is logically thrown off by the sudden metamorphosis.

While this dating game was somewhat popular in Japan, it may not find the same success here. It does have some moments of genuine humor, though, which allows some slight redemption.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu

In this date-simulating video game, which found more popularity in Japan than in the United States, players are offered a selection of responses to give to potential romantic targets and their choice of response determines whether they get a date or not.

**‘WarioWare’ reinvented**

By MARK BEMENDERFER

Scene Writer

Finally, a game for those with attention spans, which can only be measured in nano-seconds. "WarioWare: Touched!" is a crazy, addictive game, constantly creating wacky scenarios for the player to use the touch screen. Whether splitting logs in half, or helping a statue to put out a fire, the variety of mini-games in this game lives up to its predecessor.

For the uninitiated, the first version of "WarioWare" came out on the original Gameboy Advance. It drew a cult following of fans through its quirky humor and countless mini-games. The player, during one moment, would be helping a disco dancer and his cat, and the next, they would be doing something entirely different. The sheer variety and spontaneity found in the game always kept players on their toes.

Each round of the game begins with a clue in the form of a one-word phrase to direct the player to the nature of the mini-game. This word could be "divide," "count," "cut" or one of many others. The player then looks at the challenge that they are presented with, and must accomplish the objective within the five-second time limit. Sometimes the time limits are a little longer — sometimes shorter — but a sense of urgency is always placed upon the player.

So much attention has been placed on the game’s predecessor rather than the game itself because the sequel decided to use the same formula down to the letter. While the story mode has obviously been updated, the essential game play has not. A large number of opportunities to unlock bonuses have been added, giving the game more replay value than before.

Keeping the formula intact doesn’t hamper the game play at all, and the full employment of the touch screen can be quite addictive. There are certainly worse ways to waste time.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu

In this new game for Nintendo DS, Wario returns to guide the player through a series of challenging mini-games. "WarioWare:Touched!" also reinvents the old-fashioned Nintendo feel with a quirky sense of humor and fast-paced action.
Virginia Tech's Dowell hits late 3-pointer for thrilling 67-65 victory over Duke

Associated Press

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Zabian Dowell made a 3-pointer with 14.6 seconds to play and Virginia Tech stunned No. 7 Duke 67-65 in Thursday night’s overtime, knocking the top-ranked Hokies history.

The Hokies (13-10, 6-6 Atlantic Coast Conference) ended a three-game losing streak against the most unlikely opponent, and a team that had beaten them 100-65 only 18 days earlier at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

The finish was frantic, with Duke’s J.J. Redick hitting a 3-pointer with 22.9 seconds left to give the Blue Devils (18-4, 8-4) a 65-64 lead and Dowell coming around from under the Hokies basket.

But after Dowell missed a wide-open 3, Coleman Collins brought the Hokies back in, and he added a 3-pointer from the right corner after a scramble for a loose ball.

After a turnover by the Blue Devils, Dowell drove into the lane, was fouled by Redick and hit both shots, making it 58-54 at 7.9 seconds.

A 3-pointer by Redick started a 12-6 run to put their troops at 65-64 lead and Dowdell continued with 22.9 seconds left to play.

Then Ellis Myles grabbed the ball back in, trailing 48-45.

Earlier, the Hokies got two baskets from Dixon and a four-point play by Dowell to take a 20-12 lead, but Duke rallied behind four points each from Williams and Ewing to pull even at 32-32.

It was one of eight ties in the half.

Louisville 64, Marquette 61

When the Louisville Cardinals found themselves down by 11 points to Marquette with 5:38 left, they didn’t think of turning their goal for offense to bail them out of another slump.

"We had to win this game with defense, not offense," Cardinals coach Rick Pitino said after Francisco Garcia’s 3-pointer with 2.6 seconds left capped a 14-0 run that gave Louisville a 64-61 win Thursday night.

The Cardinals clamped down on the Golden Eagles, who turned the ball over once and missed three free throws, three 3-pointers, a jumper and two layups on their final nine possessions.

"We just kept digging in on defense," said Garcia, who scored 16 of his 18 points in the second half, helping the 12th-ranked Cardinals avoid their second loss in three games.

Travis Diener’s 3-pointer at the buzzer brought the game to 61-58.

"I couldn’t ask for a better shot, I just missed it, missed it bad. It was the story of my night," said Diener, who also clanked two layups off the rim in the final minutes. Finishing 2-14 from the floor in the second half, he was 0-7 from the floor in the first when he fouled the most col­

lege performance.

"They played good defense and we missed some layups ... I should be able to make layups,"

Travis Diener

Marquette guard

"We played good defense and we missed some layups ... I should be able to make layups."

The Golden Eagles tried to cut the clock down in the final 5 minutes, and they ended up with hurried shots instead of good looks. "It’s feast or famine sometimes when you do that," Pitino said.

After Louisville (22-4, 10-2 Big East) tied it at 61, Garcia turned over the ball to Todd Townsend with 47 seconds left.

Joe Chapman missed a buried 3-pointer just before the shot clock went off.

Then Ellis Myles grabbed the rebound for Louisville with 13 seconds left.

The Cardinals didn’t call time-out, setting up a screen that left Garcia open for a 3-pointer.

"I was looking to create, but if they gave me the light, I was going to shoot," he said.

After two timeouts, Diener got the ball just past midcourt and had an off-balance shot at over­

time, but it banged off the rim.

Steve Novak’s 14 points led Marquette (17-8, 7-7), which was in prime position to secure a confidence-building upset against a team that handed the Golden Eagles their worst loss ever — 99-52 last month when Diener was sidelined by a foot injury.

"We’re looking for a 3-pointer, just Larry O’Bannon, who scored 15, was fouled by Chapman with 1:37 left.

As he sank his first foul shot, Ryan Amoroso shoved Otis George to the floor, drawing a foul himself.

After O’Bannon sank his sec­

ond shot, George stepped up and sank two of his own, tying it at 61.

"That call at the end of the game on the push-off was costly, (but) it was the right call," said Marquette coach Tom Crean, who looked at the tape right when he got into the lock­

er room.

"Let’s face it, the momentum swing at the end with the free throw is what made this a game,"

but it was his team’s close call that left Crean with at least some solace.

"The best thing about tonight is our team realized that the game down in Louisville was a complete aberration," he said.

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Wells takes shots at Yanks

Associated Press
TAMPA, Fla. — After switching sides and joining the Boston Red Sox, David Wells quickly had some choice words for the New York Yankees.

"I've done anything to them," he said.

Not yet, but his job is to lead the Sox, David Wells quickly the Yankees. "Maybe I did wear my welcome there," Wells said.

At the Yankees' camp, Randy Johnson playfully got into it, too. The Big Unit said he didn't think that merely by signing with the Yankees he'd join Asahld as a target of the Red Sox and their fans. "I haven't done anything to them," he said.

Not yet, but his job is to lead the Yankees to their first title since 2000 and deny the Red Sox a second straight World Series championship. "So they'll be mad at me if I pitch well against them? Bring it on then," he said, laughing.

"So I guess I'm a target, but I'm going to go out there and do the best I can," Johnson said. "I'm not going to be firing quotes and stuff like that to make myself more of a target, that's for sure. I'll leave that to other people that can do that better than I probably could."

As Johnson pitched his first bullpen session at Legends Field, former Arizona teammate Curt Schilling and Wells arrived at Boston's training camp in Fort Myers. Wells, who helped New York win two AL pennants and one World Series, wasn't pleased with some of Rodriguez's remarks.

"I remember reading the press conference or something when he went there," Wells said. "He said: 'When we.' He said a 'we' in his comment about like he's won like three or four rings with them and he hadn't, and that kind of disturbed me."

"He shouldn't put himself in that category," added Wells. "You've got to earn it. It's like he's been there the whole time. But you can't take away what A-Rod has done for the game. He's a great player, and he will continue to be a great player."

As for Torre and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre, Wells remembered difficult times.

"I've never had a good relationship with Joe," he said. "We've had a few run-ins and Mel Stottlemyre as well, and Mel's probably the best pitching coach I probably ever had. But just when you have run-ins like that, it just leaves a sour taste, and who needs it?"

Wells called New York general manager Cashman after last season: "I told him if there was any interest I'd love to come back to New York and play, and Brian told me that, 'We'd love to have you but the Ross [George Steinbrenner] is looking in another direction. We're going to go with youth this year.' Then they turn around and sign Randy."

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING
Women move a day closer to a ninth title

By MIKE TENNANT
Sports Writer

The Irish started off on the right foot in their pursuit of a ninth straight Big East title, setting a couple new school records in the process.

After the first day of action in East Meadow, N.Y., Notre Dame and Pittsburgh sat tied atop the leaderboard with 72 points apiece. Rutgers — runner-up the last three years — is a close third with 68 points.

After Thursday's morning preliminaries, the Irish were sitting pretty with a meet-best nine swimmers advancing to the championship finals. Notre Dame also boasted the top qualifier in three of the four events held Thursday.

The Irish broke out to a fast start Wednesday, winning the very first event, the 800-yard freestyle relay.

The team of freshman Caroline Johnson and sophomores Ellen Johnson, Katie Carroll and Rebecca Grove finished with a time of 7:16.95, breaking the school record by more than three seconds.

The previous record had been set at last year's Big East Championship by a team that included Ellen Johnson and Carroll.

Rutgers finished second, but was more than three seconds behind the Irish squad.

The Notre Dame school record was also good enough for an NCAA "B" cut, so they will be considered for a bid to the NCAA Championships. This was the first "B" cut for an Irish relay team this season.

The Irish kept up the intensity Thursday with a total of 12 swimmers competing in the evening session.

Fifth-year senior Meghan Perry-Duffy was the top qualifier off the 1-meter board, and will look to continue her dominance of the Big East. Her score of 297.75 was 72 points ahead of the next closest diver. Perry-Duffy was named Big East Championships Most Outstanding Swimmer the past two years, taking home three conference titles in that stretch.

Also earning a spot in the one-meter board finals was freshman Tara Illyer, who qualified fourth with a score of 221.20.

Notching top marks in the prelims were sophomore Katie Carroll in the 200-yard individual medley and sophomore Ellen Johnson in the 500-yard freestyle.

The 200 IM proved to be the Irish's best event yet, posting four of the top seven times in the morning prelims. Notre Dame also sent two other swimmers to the consolation championship in the event, leading the Irish with six swimmers able to score points for the team.

Johnson posted an NCAA "B" cut in the 500 freestyle, the third "B" cut she has hit this season.

In the final event of the day, the 50-yard freestyle, Caroline Johnnson and Groe both qualified for the finals, finishing second and sixth, respectively. Freshman Katie Guido posted the eleventh best score, giving her a spot in the consolation championship round.

Contact Mike Tennant at mtennan@nd.edu

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Chargers put the franchise tag on QB Brees

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — For a guy who wasn’t expected to do much last season, Drew Brees sure got a raise.

The San Diego Chargers used their franchise tag Thursday on Brees and will offer him a one-year contract at just more than $8 million.

The tag amount is up from $1.56 million in base pay last season, when he led the Chargers out of the NFL’s basement to the AFC West title at 12-4.

The Chargers could have opted to put the tag on Brees, the NFL’s Comeback Player of the Year, to keep him from leaving as an unrestricted free agent.

“Fanchising him is a no-brainer because if we didn’t, we couldn’t get any compensation and he wouldn’t be here, he’d be going to the airport,” general manager A.J. Smith said. “We want him to be our quarterback. I mean, a little bit over $8 million for one year, for a quarterback, I think, tells you clearly what we think of his abilities and his talent. We want him to be our quarterback.”

Brees rebounded from a nightmarish 2004 season to lead the Chargers to their first playoff berth in nine seasons. He also was voted to the Pro Bowl.

Brees has said he wants a long-term deal from the Chargers, but Smith said the team currently is not interested in offering one.

Brees, on vacation in San Diego with his wife, said in a statement issued by the team that he was happy to remain in San Diego.

“We’ve built a solid foundation and I feel we can really make a run. I’m excited about being a part of that,” Brees said.

His salary for 2005 is the average of the top five salaried quarterbacks from last season. The Chargers could trade Brees, but a team interested in him would want to negotiate a long-term contract before finalizing a deal.

Brees was tagged as a non-exclusive franchise player, meaning he can still negotiate with other teams. Should Brees receive an offer from another team, the Chargers can either match it or receive two first-round choices from that club as compensation for losing Brees.

Smith said he made it clear to Brees’ agent, Tom Condon, that the Chargers will insist on two No. 1 picks.

“If any offer comes, sometimes it’s flexible where you can work with an agent and have a less thing,” Smith said. “We’re not looking to move Drew Brees anywhere. We’re expecting him to be our quarterback.”

Condon plans to check other teams’ interest in Brees. But he said that if Brees were to leave San Diego this year, it likely would be via a trade rather than an offer sheet and its steep price of two No. 1s.

“From our standpoint, $8 million and change, that’s more money than he made in his first four years,” Condon said. “It’s hard to be unhappy if you’re Drew. All in all, it’s probably what we expected.”

At this time last year, Brees was coming off a 4-12 season in which he threw 15 interceptions and just 11 touchdowns, was benched for five straight games and yanked from two others.

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ND leading after first day

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Just two days into Big East competition, the Irish are already well on their way to a championship.

After Thursday's competition, the Irish have rocketed to first place with 302 points and a 54-point advantage over second-place Pittsburgh. This is the first month Notre Dame has ever finished a day in the Big East Championship in the lead.

"We're swimming at the top of our game and loving it," coach Tim Welsh said. "This is all celebrations of the great work we've done all season.

Tim Kelgeman led the Irish effort Thursday night, winning the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:49.62 - just 14 seconds behind his own school record. He was the first Notre Dame swimmer to ever win the event at a Big East meet.

Kelgeman truly earned his first-place finish, said senior Matt Bertke. After surging to first place, the sophomore suffered an asthma attack midway through the race. Despite the setback, Kelgeman managed to retain his position and finished in first place.

"Kelgeman has just been unbelievable," Bertke said. "He's been an inspiration for the whole team.

Later in the meet, Kelgeman anchored the 200-yard freestyle relay and spurred the Irish to a second-place finish - Notre Dame's highest-ever in the event - with 1:26.64. Pittsburgh claimed first place, winning by 29 seconds.

Sophomore Ted Brown and freshman Jay Vanden Berg added to the team's stellar performances, tying for third place in the 500-meter free with 4:26.82. Brown cut 86 seconds off of his record from the week before.

In the 200-yard individual medley, junior Jamie Lankau finished less than a second behind Kelgeman with a 1:50.87 for fourth place. Freshman Andrew McKay finished in fifth place with a 1:59.80 and senior David Masen came in sixth with 1:52.31.

Finally, in the 50-yard freestyle, senior Frank Krakowiak led the Irish efforts in fourth place with 20.56, the fourth-fastest time in Notre Dame history. Sophomore Louis Cardavici was done behind in sixth place with 20.65.

Thursday's races were characterized by the team's high level of intensity the entire meet, Bertke said.

"We've already had a lot of great performances and we've been strong in a lot of events," Bertke said. "The start of a lot of great things." Notre Dame had a strong start in the competition, breaking records in the 900-yard freestyle relay and the 200-yard medley relay for a second-place standing in the competition. In the 200 medley relay, the final event of the night, junior Doug Bauman and sophomore Tim Randolph, Kelgeman and Krakowiak finished in second place with a time of 1:30.12. Last year the same relay team finished fourth with a time of 1:30.12. The four also earned all-Big East honors for their performances.

In the 800-yard free relay, the quartet of Bertke, Brown, sophomore Brian Freeman and Cardavici broke the school record by nearly two seconds with a time of 6:40.79, good for a fourth-place finish.

Freshman Sam Stoner led the divers, qualifying eighth in the one-meter springboard with a score of 269.35.

But despite the success the Irish have enjoyed, Welsh said, the Irish remain mindful of the talent the other teams possess. There are still two full days to go, Welsh said. "There's still a lot of game to play.

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Irish look to build on past Big East success

Irish hope to extend nine-year streak of top finishes at event end

By JOHN EVERT
Sports Writer

The Irish are looking to extend their history of excellence at the Big East Indoor Championships in Syracuse, N.Y. this weekend.

This is Notre Dame's fifth season in Big East competition, and at each of the previous nine indoor championships the Irish have placed in the top three.

Notre Dame won the meet two years ago and was narrowly defeated in the first five years.

Notre Dame's strongest competition is expected to come from the Big Ten.

The Irish feature many athletes with the best in-conference times in their respective events, so expectations for this meet run high.

Selim Nuruddeen's 60-meter hurdle time of 7.81 seconds has not been challenged this season. Nuruddeen may also run in this weekend's 60-meter dash and the 200-meters.

Notre Dame's indoor performers perhaps the top three runners in the 60-meter dash, with Dwight Fick leading the way with his inge- nerous time of 6.81 seconds and followed closely by Terrail Lumbert and Narrunden.

Kurt Boninger, who ran just the third sub-four-minute mile in Notre Dame history at the national meet and could be the pre­ sumptive favorite in that race and a contender in the 3000­ meter, could both.

Notre Dame will also be looking to garner points in the field events.

Chris Storar has the third best high jump mark in the con­ ference this year, with a height of 6-04.5.

Justin Oppel and Dave Viken could both finish within the top five in the pole vault, and Chris Roberts could do the same in the weight throw.

The meet will be held both indoors and on Saturday at the Carrier Dome.

Contact John Everett at jevoret@nd.edu

Wildcats slated to Eck Tennis Pavilion

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Sports Writer

For the past month, the Irish have enjoyed the comforts of playing in the friendly confines of the Eck Tennis Pavilion. But with a grueling road trip looming, the team intends to make the most of tonight's home stand.

No. 23 Notre Dame (8-2) plays its final home match for almost a month (tonight), facing No. 40 Northwestern (5-3).

After playing eight of their last nine matches in familiar quarters, the Irish will close out the current stretch of the home schedule against the Wildcats.

"We're really excited about the opportunity to play a really good Northwestern team," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Northwestern played a great match against Mississippi, who's ranked No. 6 in the country. They just beat North Carolina, who's No. 18. So we know we've got our hands full and we need to play really well."

The Irish have excelled on their home front this season, winning all but seven of their nine home matches so far. Their most impressive wins have come against top-40 ranked foes - a 5-2 decision over then-No. 18 Pittsburgh and a 4-3 win over then-No. 40 Florida Atlantic.

"I'm sure that every team is just a little more comfortable on their home courts," Bayliss said. "It'll be an advantage to be at home, but Northwestern has a terrific indoor facility. Their courts are about the same speed as ours so there really won't be a big adjustment.

Northwestern will bring another top-40 challenge for the Irish.

The Wildcats have gained a lot of experience competing against high-caliber teams. They also beat North Carolina and played four of their last five matches against top-25 teams.

"It has to make you better," Bayliss said. "I think you improve when you play better competition. So I know [Northwestern's] a lot better than they were at the start of the year. If you look at their scores, they've jumped, and the team's playing at a very high level."

The two teams have met frequently throughout the years. The Wildcats hold a 37-35 all-time record over the Irish. But Notre Dame won the most recent meeting between the two teams, escaping with a 5-2 decision last year in a close match at Northwestern.

Northwestern's match was a barn­ burner," Bayliss said. "We ended up winning a couple matches in the tiebreakers that were key matches.

The Irish had a great opportunity to win the match overall, but they ended up losing the match overall.

Notre Dame is coming off two solid performances last weekend, beating both Northwestern and University of Indianapolis in 7-0 decisions.

The Irish only dropped one set on their way to the two victories. The 6-1 doubles reverse sweep set Notre Dame six spots in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's national rankings, from No. 29 to No. 23.

The Irish will continue this winning streak tonight at 8 p.m. in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottum@nd.edu

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MIAA Women's Basketball

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NFL

Associated Press

BOSTON — New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi has a broken blood vessel in his head and might have had a minor stroke, according to newspaper reports.

Bruschi was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital on Wednesday with unexplained headaches.

"He's having blurred vision, numbness on the right side of his body," his wife, Heidi Bruschi, was heard telling a dispatcher on a 911 call.

The possibility that he had suffered a stroke was reported in Thursday editions of the Boston Herald, which cited unidentified sources. The story also said Bruschi suffered lost vision.

The Boston Globe, citing an unidentified team source, reported on its website Thursday that Bruschi had a broken blood vessel in his head and suffered from partial paralysis that has since gone away. A broken blood vessel can cause a stroke if it deprives the brain of oxygen.

Patriots spokesman Stacey James said Thursday that any information on Bruschi's condition would come from the player or his family. Bruschi spent Wednesday night at the hospital and more tests were scheduled for Thursday morning, James said.

"He is in good condition and will be held for further evaluations," the team said in a statement. "The Bruschi family appreciates everyone's concern, but requests that you respect their privacy at this time."

A spokesman for Massachusetts General Hospital would neither confirm nor deny that Bruschi had been admitted and referred all questions to the Patriots. Patriots owner Robert Kraft, who was attending the men's college basketball game between Boston College and Rutgers on Wednesday night, declined comment.

A nine-year NFL veteran, Bruschi is the centerpiece of the Patriots defense that helped the team win three of the past four Super Bowls, including a 24-21 win over the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 6.

On Sunday, Bruschi played in his first Pro Bowl. Bruschi, 31, was selected as the AFC's Defensive Player of the Week three times, including the first-round playoff victory over the Indianapolis Colts. A second team Associated Press All-Pro selection, he ranked second on the team with 128 tackles and tied for second with three interceptions.

IN BRIEF

Moore sues Bertuzzi for 'unprovoked hit'

DENVER — Former Colorado Avalanche player Steve Moore filed a lawsuit against the Vancouver Canucks forward Todd Bertuzzi, who pleaded guilty to assault after slugging Moore in the head from behind during a game last season.

Moore's attorney, Lee Foreman, said in a statement that the lawsuit filed Tuesday in Denver District Court accuses Todd Bertuzzi of civil conspir­acy, assault, battery and negligence.

Bertuzzi pleaded guilty to criminal assault and was given a conditional discharge in December, more than nine months after the attack during a game in Vancouver. He faced up to 18 months in prison. He also was sus­pended indefinitely from the NHL.

Moore has not completely recovered from the broken neck and concussion he suffered. The Avalanche did not re­sign Moore, who is an unrestricted free agent.

Auburn signs Tuberville to seven year extension

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville has signed a new seven-year contract that will pay him $2 million this year and increase by $300,000 each successive year.

Tuberville and the school agreed in principle to the deal in December, about a week before the Tigers com­pleted a 13-0 season with a 16-13 vic­tory over Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl.

The contract announced Thursday by the school will pay Tuberville a base salary of $210,000, with the remainder coming from endorsements and radio and television deals. Tuberville's previous package was worth $1.5 million.

Auburn's buyout and Tuberville's penalty for leaving is $7 million for the first two years of the contract, $6 mil­lion for 2007-08, $5 million for 2009, $4 million for 2010 and $3 million for 2011.

Former soccer great Omar Sivori dies

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Former soccer great Enrique Omar Sivori, who helped Argentina's River Plate and Juventus of Italy to numerous titles, died Thursday. He was 69.

Sivori passed away in San Nicolas, a community north of this capital in Buenos Aires province, where he was born in 1935. He went on to shine in numerous local championships with River Plate, the famed Buenos Aires club, and later in Italian league play in the 1950s.

Sivori made his debut at River Plate at age 17. In 1957 he was picked up by Juventus, where he helped the Italian squad capture league titles in 1958, 1960 and 1961. He also helped Juventus to two Italian Cup champi­onships, in 1959 and 1960.

The Argentine television network TodoNoticias reported he had pancreatic cancer, but the family reported no further details.

College Baseball

Baseball America Top 25

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Men's Track and Field

Trackwire Top 25

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Collections
SMC BASKETBALL

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

This weekend should be a challenge for the No. 21 Irish (4-2) as they prepare to face two top-10 opponents — Duke and North Carolina.

The team will play against No. 6 Duke (5-1), who is fresh off a 7-0 victory over Old Dominion last Wednesday, today at 3 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"We are more talented than Old Dominion so I talked with [my team] about not giving [them] any kind of confidence," Duke coach Jamie Ashworth said. "But we have to back it up and get at least three great singles matches." Playing at No. 1 for the team is No. 69 ranked Catrina Thompson, who defeated No. 27 ranked Courtney Bergman from Harvard last weekend.

"She has been playing really well, even the matches she's lost this spring she's played well. She's come up with some big wins and it is coming through into her singles," Louderback said. "She is playing with a lot more patience and willing to hit more balls until she has a chance to finish off the points."

At No. 2 will be No. 85 Buck, followed by Christian Thompson at No. 3. Playing at No. 4 and 5 are Lauren Connelly and Staton. At No. 6 will be junior Liz Dohner.

The Irish will take on No. 9 North Carolina this Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 10 a.m. Neither team looks to be a pushover.

Both are deserving of their top-10 rankings," Louderback said. "But we are looking at [these matches] as a way of getting a great win."

Contact Dan Tapetillo at dtapet@nd.edu

University of Notre Dame Department of Music Presents

Friday, February 18, 2005
7:30 p.m.

Fleur de Lys

Disembodied Voices: Music of Women in Seventeenth-Century Italian Convents and Academies

Danielle Svonavec, soprano
Mary Anne Ballard, viola da gamba
Darlene Catello, harpsichord
Reyes Organ and Choral Hall

Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts
Admission $10; faculty/staff $8; seniors $6; students $3
Call 574-631-2800 for tickets

Saturday, February 19, 2005
2:30 p.m.

The Notre Dame Bands & Jazz Band

Ken Dye and Larry Dwyer, Directors
Judd & Mary Lou Leighton Concert Hall

Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts
Free and open to the public; tickets required
Call 574-631-2800 for tickets

Sunday, February 20, 2005
2:00 p.m.

Ethan Haimo

"How to Listen to Scriabin's Sixth Sonata"

A Notre Dame Faculty Lecture/Recital

Annabenrg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art
Free and open to the public; no tickets required
ND Women's Track

Irish expect to benefit from division change

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Recent conference realignment in college athletics has drawn the most attention in football and basketball, but don't tell that to the Notre Dame's track team.

With last year's decisive conference champion Miami gone to the ACC, last year's runner-up, the Irish, feel everything is in place for them to capture a Big East title, something they have not done since 1999.

No one doubts that the Irish's quest will not go unchallenged, however, as a strong field is expected this weekend in Syracuse, N.Y. for the conference meet. Villanova enters the meet ranked 14th in the nation by Trackwire.com and Pittsburgh, last year's third-place team, carries a No. 15 ranking.

"Pittsburgh is a solid team," assistant coach Scott Winsor said. "They are strong in all events, but especially in the 400 down on.

The Irish enter the meet unranked despite being as high as 11th earlier this season. Their downfall can be attributed to the inability of key distance runners Molly Huddle, Lauren King and Kerry Meagher, all recovering from cross country injuries. Huddle, a seven-time All-American who has recovered from her foot injury and is scheduled to run the 5,000, her first race of the year, at the Big East meet. The junior is the defending conference champion and meet record-holder in this event.

Notre Dame will look for the distance runners to anchor the team, but will need a strong performance from all areas of the team to be victorious this weekend. Maryann Kriha, who has notched several victories this year and finished eighth in the ACC last year's runner-up, will lead the Irish in the sprint events. Tiffany Gunn will pace Notre Dame's middle-distance group, following a fourth-place performance last season in the 500. In the field events, the Irish expect Stacey Cowan to be a standout performer in the high jump. Cowan had her best jump of the season last year — 5-11 1/2 — at this meet and finished second.

Megan Horn is the best hope for the Irish in the throwing events, as she has already set a personal best this season and finished eighth at the conference meet last season.

These individuals are expected to lead the team, but Winsor made it clear that this weekend will have to be a team effort.

"We didn't bring anyone this weekend who we didn't think could help us. We expect every team member to score points this weekend. We need this because the meet may be decided by one or two points," Winsor said.

With all the pieces in place, all that's left to do is race.

"This has been a goal of ours since the beginning of the season," Winsor said. "The opportunity is there and that's all you can ask for.

Contact Ryan Kiefer at rkiefer@nd.edu

ND Softball

Team ready to go out west

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

There won't be rest for the Irish this weekend as they travel to Florida to participate in the Campbell-Cartier Tournament.

Notre Dame (3-2) will face three ranked teams at the event, in addition to the home-town Aztecs, as the Irish attempt to win their second-straight early season tournament.

Notre Dame won the Gainesville Regional Utilities Classic in Florida last weekend.

The Irish open against Utah at noon, then face No. 21/23 Fresno State at 4 p.m. Notre Dame returns to action Saturday, taking on No. 3/4 UCLA at 4 p.m. before facing San Diego State two hours later. The Irish then close out tournament play with a matchup against No. 22/24 Long Beach State.

Notre Dame has already played four games against ranked opponents this season, splitting with both No. 19 Florida and No. 21 South Florida at the GRU Classic.

"We do our schedule that way on purpose," Irish head coach Deanna Gumpf said. "I really don't think our girls would have it any other way. We want to play the best, because then we know we can beat the best."

The Irish started that weekend with a tournament with consecutive losses to Florida and South Florida, but then rattled off three consecutive victories — including rematch wins over Florida and South Florida — on their way to tournament championship. During those three wins, Irish players held their opponents to just 10 hits in 21 innings.

Notre Dame will return to California two more times this year, traveling to Palm Springs for a tournament Feb. 25-27 and to Los Angeles Mar. 6-7 for a doubleheader with Loyola Marymount and a single game against California-Santa Barbara.

The Irish will remain on the road until March 23, the team's first game at home against Western Michigan. Barring cancellations, the Irish are scheduled to have already played 27 games at that point.

"I'd like for this team to get to the point where it doesn't matter where we play," Gumpf said. "They've already fought hardest when the team needed them to step up and make big pitches. I think if they continue to fight like that all season, they're going to be real successful."

Notre Dame handed Florida its first loss of the season. The Gators came into the championship game of the GBI tournament with an 11-0 record.

Notre Dame's game against UCLA is a chance for the Irish to square off against one of the top softball powers in the country. The Bruins have won the NCAA championship in softball nine times, and hold a 2-0 lifetime record against the Irish.

"We're really excited to play a team like UCLA," Gumpf said. "We're playing well right now and really think they're a team we can compete with and beat."

The game against Utah is an interesting matchup, as Irish assistant coach Charmelle Green returns to her alma mater. Notre Dame has a 2-0 record against the Utes, including a 4-3 victory last season at the Palm Springs Classic.

This weekend's trip to San Diego is the first visit Notre Dame has made to the California city. It will be a return home for the seven California natives on the Irish roster this season — Bouch, Liz Hartmann, Carissa Jaquish, Mallorie Leon, Morgan Rutbraut, Stenglein and Carrie Wüsten.

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"I'd like for this team to get to the point where it doesn't matter where we play," Gumpf said. "It's nice to be at home, but I think we'd rather get to where we can win just as easy on the road. In the long run, we're playing better now than we were, and that's what's going to help us tremendously.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

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Free Checking!
Rutgers
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"I'm so much more relaxed," McGraw said with a smile. "I don't think we've taken the time to appreciate what we've done." But despite the game not being a must-win, it is still important for the Irish, who take a 10-0 game win streak into the matchup. With a win, Notre Dame could help its case for a top seed in the upcoming NCAA tournament, as well as be on its way for a regular season Big East title.

No. 10 Rutgers (11-5, 10-2 Big East), meanwhile, comes off a scare against Syracuse (11-13, 3-10 Big East). The Scarlet Knights had to score the final 10 points to come away with a 64-54 win in New York Feb. 16.

"We had a tough game there," McGraw said. "Syracuse is a pretty good team."

And the Irish will have their hands full come Saturday. The last time they faced the Scarlet Knights on Jan. 23, Notre Dame needed a 23-0 second half run to come back from a 13-point halftime deficit.

"Taking care of the ball is the No. 1 key to the game," McGraw said. "We've got to take care of the ball, because they're so good in transition. So if we can limit our turnovers, which is what we did in the second half of that game, then we have a chance to win — that, and rebound. Those are the two big things we've got to do.

Leading the Irish will be All-American forward Jacqueline Batteast (17.9 points, 6.6 rebounds per game) and point guard Megan Duffy (11.6 points, 5.5 assists per game). Batteast scored 27 points the last time the Irish faced the Scarlet Knights at the Joyce Center. Saturday's game will be played in Piscataway, N.J., at the Louis Brown Athletic Center, also known as the BAL.

"It's a hostile environment," McGraw said. "It's tough."

The Irish will have to play better than they did Tuesday night against No. 25 Boston College, when they scored just 15 points in the first half. McGraw said Thursday she didn't know what the cause of the slow start was, or why the team shot just 34.5 percent against Boston College.

"I don't feel like we've been showing the ball well lately," McGraw said. Rutgers, meanwhile is led by star point guard Cappie Pondexter and freshman Mahee Ajayan, who comes off the bench. Chelsea Newton adds senior leadership for the Scarlet Knights, which is what you need against Notre Dame.

Write
Sports

ICERS
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In the U.S. College Hockey Online/CSVT poll, and the Wolverines are one point ahead of Ohio State for first place in the CCHA standings. Notre Dame currently is 12th with just 11 total points compared to Michigan's 40. Notre Dame last played the Wolverines in a home-and-home series on Dec. 3-4, dropping the first game by a score of 6-1 and the second 8-0. Those 14 goals are still the most the Irish have given up in a two-game series this season.

The Irish are coming off a disappointing weekend, in which they dropped a pair of games in Ferris State at home. The Bulldogs had come into the series one point ahead of Notre Dame for 11th in the conference, but now have a comfortable lead on the Irish.

Ferris State defeated Notre Dame 4-3 on Friday in a heart-breaking loss for the Irish as Ferris State's Matt Verdon scored a shorthanded goal with less than a minute left in the game to give the Bulldogs the victory. Saturday, Notre Dame again allowed four goals to the Bulldogs — all in the second period — as Ferris State won 4-2.

The Irish have now failed to win in 13 straight games, with their last victory coming at home against Reinsseller Jan. 2. Notre Dame's last conference victory was a Dee. 10 3-2 overtime victory against Michigan State.

Michigan comes into this weekend's games on a high note, having taken two games on the road against Nebraska-Omaha. The Wolverines defeated the Mavericks 6-4 Friday and survived a 4-3 nailbiter Saturday.

Michigan's strong season has been its offense, which is currently ranked first in the CCHA with a 4.09 goals per game average — Notre Dame is 12th with just 1.39 goals per game. But the Wolverines' defense hasn't been too shabby, either, with goals Al Montoya headlining a defense that has only allowed 2.62 goals per game, fourth in the conference.

Montoya, the CCHA's leading draft pick last season, has actually been in a bit of a slump during the regular season, carrying a 2.60 GAA and a dismal .893 save percentage. But his defense has made life easy for him, only allowing their opponents to shoot 25.9 shots per game against the junior netminder.

You look at this team and they have the ability to outscore opponents," Poulin said. "They just won't do it. But as a coach, if I'm looking at a goalie there's only one statistic I'm concerned with: that's wins.

"Montoya might not have the numbers this year, but he's putting up the Ws."

Sophomore forward T.J. Hensick, last year's CCHA rookie of the year, paces the team's offense with 41 points (19 goals, 22 assists). Hensick is the second-leading scorer in the CCHA, two other Michigan forwards are in the conference's top ten — Jeff Tambellini (36 points) and Milan Gajic (30 points).

The team's real strength offensively is in its balance — 13 different players have scored 17 points or more this season. "Their depth and quality of depth is just remarkable," Poulin said. "They've got 10 seniors and 10 guys who were drafted, and that combination of skill and depth is what you see in championship-caliber teams."

Notre Dame faces Michigan at 8:05 p.m. at Fort Wayne's Allen County Memorial Stadium Friday. The rematch is Saturday at Yost Field House in Ann Arbor at 7:35 pm.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu
Irish

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Irish baseball and owns 781 career victories. “We went out to the parking lot and hit some pop ups to the infielders and outfielders. I’m not sure there are any man-sized teams in the country that have had to do that,” Mainieri said. He sees advantages in practicing indoors and in matching up against opponents who already have game experience this season.

Every body thinks it’s a big disadvantage by not going outside, but I don’t look at it that way because if you look at Florida Tech or A&M, they’ve had a lot of bad things happen to them already. So maybe their confidence is a little bit down.

“We haven’t had anything bad happen to us, so our confidence should be sky-high.”

After a school-record-setting 51 wins last season, the Irish return six of nine starters from the 2004 squad. Filling the void of four-year starter second baseman Steve Sollmann, All-American third baseman Matt Maccari and heavy-hitting catcher Jason Sanchez presents challenges, but Mainieri believes his newcomers are ready.

Those two everyday guys, [Brett] Lilley and [Ross] Brazovsky, they’ve got big shoes to fill in replacing Sollmann and Maccari, but both those kids are going to be up to the task simply because they’re just such hard-nosed kids. They’re really fearless, and I’m really expecting a lot out of both of them,” Mainieri said.

Behind the plate will be sophomore Sean Gannot.

Veteran junior Greg Lopez (shortstop), Cody Rizzo (right field), Craig Cooper (center field), Steve Andres (left field) and Matt Bransfield (DH) and senior first baseman Matt Edwards provide experience, depth and leadership for the Irish.

“I think when you look at the leadership of our team, you have to look clearly at the junior class. Those are the guys that have to carry the big portion of the load for us,” Mainieri said.

Despite losing standout pitchers Grant Johansen and Chris Niesel to the draft, the Irish rotation remains as potent as deep as ever.

Jeff Samardzija will throw the first pitch for the Irish on Friday. The 6-foot-5, hard-throwing Samardzija com­pleted the second-best ERA in the Big East last year at 2.95. Last year’s Big East wins leader junior Tom Thornton, a lefty, gets the nod on Saturday, while another lefty, freshman Wade Korpis, makes his first career start for the Irish in the late game. To round out the weekend lineup, sophomore Jess Stewart takes the hill.

Of course, the Irish are missing the talents of all-star奈el king of the Irish players.

“Everybody thinks that we’re going to come out sharper our first days outside,” Mainieri said. “And our team will be very enthusiastic and excited to play.”

Baseball great Roger Clemens, left, and former Notre Dame pitcher Brad Lidge speak at the baseball banquet Feb. 20.

Contact Matt Lizar at mlizar@nd.edu
MEN'S BASKETBALL

No sure thing

One-win Providence wants to derail Irish hopes for road win

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Mike Brey has an offer for Providence coach Tim Welsh. He'll cut Saturday's game down to a minute with the score tied.

If Providence was contending for a NCAA tournament berth — as the coaches predicted in the preseason with the Friars' sixth-place projection — Brey's statement after Wednesday night's win over Georgetown might make more sense.

If the Friars weren't in last place in the Big East with a 1-10 conference record, the Irish would be lucky to get such a deal going into conference road game after losing their last four away from the Joyce Center.

But the Irish are throwing all of those truths out the window.

They feel the real truth is Providence is much, much better than its record this season has shown.

"The fact that we're 7-5 and they are 1-10 means nothing," Brey said. "They scare the heck out of me."

The Friars haven't mailed in their season yet, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

Notre Dame point guard Chris Thomas keeps the ball away from Georgetown guard Ray Reed during the 70-64 Irish win Wednesday night. The Irish will play tonight at Providence.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Scarlet Knights not a worry

By HEATHER VAN HOOGARDEN
Sports Writer

The last time these two teams met, the circumstances were completely different.

Notre Dame was fighting for its Big East life in the toughest stretch of its season, and Rutgers was coming off of a week of upsets. Notre Dame needed a win, and the Irish got one, 63-47 with a huge second half comeback.

Saturday, however, is much different for the No. 5 Irish (23-3, 11-2 Big East), as they are in first place in the Big East with just three games to play, including Saturday's contest.

"We're in the drivers' seat," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But at the same time, there's no pressure. It's not like it's a must-win game."

Irish teammates Crystal Erwin, left, and Susie Powers prepare for a rebound during a 92-78 win over Illinois State Nov. 12.

BASEBALL

Irish baseball to kick off season in Florida

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

The weekend forecast for Orlando, the site of the opening four games of the 2005 season for Notre Dame, shows sunny skies and highs in the low 70s. That's a far cry from the chilly, wintry weather in South Bend.

Notre Dame begins their 2005 campaign today at 1 p.m., taking on the Florida A&M Rattlers (0-10). A Saturday doubleheader follows, beginning with the Central Florida Golden Knights (5-1) at 1 p.m. and finishing with Florida A&M at 5 p.m. A 1 p.m. Sunday game against Central Florida completes a full weekend of competition.

"It's quite possible that Florida A&M's record is misleading since they've played an extremely tough schedule," coach Paul Mainieri said.

"Central Florida is an extremely tough team. They won 47 games last year, and we're playing them in their ballpark, so we know we've got a couple of games that are going to be as challenging as any we play all year."

While the Irish have been cooped up inside for the first couple weeks of practice, their weekend opponents have already played a combined 16 games, and the few outdoor practices the Irish held were on asphalt.

"The field conditions would not allow us to get out on the field," said Malmier, who is in his 11th season at the helm of Irish team. "It's quite possible that Florida A&M's record is misleading since they've played an extremely tough schedule," coach Paul Mainieri said.