Prospective RAs face challenges

By JU LI E B EN DER
News Writer

Each year as the time comes to start making plans for next year’s living arrangements, juniors are faced with the question of whether to stay in or move off campus. For many, the lure of off-campus living is enticing. But while a spacious apartment or house shared with close friends, free from the watchful eye of the University, certainly has its appeal, some students feel compelled to go a different route.

Whether it’s the impression a certain freshman year resident assistant made, the desire to impact people’s lives or simply the low of a dorm community, being an RA is a unique and meaningful challenge that a small percentage of students pursue.

see RA/page 6

Application process rigorous at SMC

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Assistant News Editor

Saint Mary’s students hoping to become residence advisors are in the midst of an extensive application process that includes a written application and multiple interviews.

After attending informational meetings in December, interested students submitted applications Jan. 27. They then underwent a group setting interview in early February where the applicants were divided into small groups overseen by returning RAs and hall directors. They were presented with different creative scenarios and situations and discussion regarding the search for the University’s new provost.

Chief executive assistant and student body presidential team sage Baron announced in representatives the creation of a new bus service funded by the Sports Page Lounge, a bar in Ganger. The bus will run weekdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m, Baron said, making six stops in its 45-minute route and picking up and dropping off passengers at Castle Point, College Park and Turtle Creek apartments, Library Circle and Sports Page.

The bus is scheduled to begin operating this Thursday beginning at 10 a.m.

“This is something students need to take advantage of and appreciate,” Baron said.

All students who board the bus will have the opportunity to prove their worth by engaging in drawing an ID to prove their worth.

see COR/page 4

Alumni Association recognizes distinguished students

Senior Danny Richter receives prestigious award for service, academic achievement

By KATIE SCARLETT OHARA
News Writer

Danny Richter got a birthday party under the dome yesterday when a reception was held to honor him as this year’s Alumni Association’s Distinguished Undergraduate Student of the Year.

“This is the biggest birthday present I ever get,” said Richter’s mother, Marilu Rusk, who boarded a red-eye flight from California to attend the reception and celebrate Richter’s birthday. “I am pleased but not totally surprised.”

The award, given each year since 1982, is conferred on a senior student who has distinguished himself or herself in service to Notre Dame, service to the community, or academic standing, according to the flyers distributed by the Alumni Association at the banquet.

The scheduling of the reception on Richter’s birthday was coincidental.

“This is icing on the cake,” said Richter, an environmental geo-science major. “I could’ve left without this award and gotten so much out of my four years. But this is fantastic. It shows I am doing something that’s being appreciated, noticed (and shows) this is what Notre Dame hopes people are doing.”

Richter is a resident assistant in Keough Hall who has been involved in numerous service opportunities such as the Urban Plunge, Circle K, the Appalachian Program and work at the Kline veggie garden.

Richter’s father, Peter Jarrett said he thought it was this involvement that helped him earn the award.

“He has the sense of making the most of one’s time at Notre Dame,” Jarrett said. “Lectures, research, concerts, service... he takes advantage of these every day.”

While reading the program outlining Richter’s achievements and awards, which include candidacy for the Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships, freshman Brendan Ryan, a fellow Krouth residence hall resident and member of his RA, “I’ll have to move out of his section,” Ryan said. “I am not worthy.”

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The parents that descended upon South Bend last weekend not only created lasting memories with their junior children, but also, in the pleasure of many South Bend businesses, pumped money into the city’s economy in the process. Despite the tightness of events planned for the event, tourist spots like the College Football Hall of Fame experienced an increase in visitor traffic throughout the weekend.

Katir Boretti, director of marketing for the Hall of Fame, said Junior Parents Weekend visitors contributed to a successful weekend, though the crowds were nowhere near the numbers experienced during a football weekend.

“IPW certainly has an impact and it’s usually a good weekend. It’s a great crowd for us and we always experience an increase in February traffic,” she said.

The Hall of Fame hosted a private party Saturday night for about 450 juniors and their parents, the largest party the museum has ever hosted for IPW, according to Boretti.

Hoping to lure students and parents to stop by in between the scheduled events, the museum, the Hall of Fame increased its advertising and offered incentives.

see IPW/page 4
INSIDE COLUMN

True life: I’m a transfer student

While walking with a few friends today, I spotted my first wave of “Domer hopefuls” strutting across campus behind a vibrant tour guide. After they passed, I joked, “Haa, seven out of ten don’t have a chance. Ain’t gonna be gittin’ in here!”

Thought this being funny until my friend countered by saying, “Hey you, were one of those seven last year.” Oh, how true it is; yet, how easy it is to forget. Now, I often wonder how a strapping young Catholic lad like myself was not able to obtain entrance into an institution such as Notre Dame. Could it be because I would have perhaps the lowest ACT/NAT scores (those scores will not be disclosed) of anyone on campus? Or maybe it is because I was destined to flunk my first college exam ever (which, by the way, I eventually starting entertaining suggestions on why I was denied entrance to Notre Dame last year; a 33 percent in a section of the dictionary). I mean, your answer is as good as mine, but I still contend that I was robbed.

Although I felt I was more than qualified to go here — being both a legacy child and having a sister attend as well — I was actually starting entertaining suggestions on why I was denied entrance to Notre Dame the first place. Say what you will about stupid errors, but what kind of highly selective university is going to accept a guy who checked off “female” on his application to Michigan State University (where, coincidentally, I was accepted as Michelle Donald Landsberg). One may perceive that as an indication of a chauvinistic and intellectually proprietary big words, but I merely chided that off as a minor technicality and a petty oversight.

Obviously, I somehow got in after a solid year at the University of Michigan, but that is not where my saga ends. Just that I don’t know any girls from Keough (#321 to be exact) and I live in Keough.

While I prepared for finals — junior year of high school — I was granted admission to Philadelphia State University (where, coincidentally, I was accepted as Michelle Donald Landsberg). Apparently, I somehow got in after a solid year at the University of Michigan, but that is not where my saga ends. Just that I don’t know any girls from Keough (#321 to be exact) and I live in Keough.

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Obviously, I somehow got in after a solid year at the University of Michigan, but that is not where my saga ends. Just that I don’t know any girls from Keough (#321 to be exact) and I live in Keough.
Professors examines DaVinci Code issues

By KELLY BALE
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance met Monday night to approve a SMC Tostal co-sponsorship and to update board members on the status of the board's tsunami relief campaign.

Student Activities Board members Shay Jolly and Donna Lubbers presented a plan for co-sponsorship to BOG, which they said would aid in covering the cost of the annual SMC Tostal.

This year, SMC Tostal will be held Thursday, April 21, coinciding with the dedication of the new student center, the Noble Family Dining Hall and Alumnae Green. Jolly and Lubbers explained that with these added events, SMC Tostal will be a bigger event than in previous years. "With this kind of event, we have a lot of alumnae coming in," Lubbers said. "We're trying to do something bigger and better and more prestigious than the past."

Jolly and Lubbers asked for any amount of money that BOG would be willing to give. They said they hope to soon know the amount of money available so that events and items can be booked in advance.

Lubbers said that the SMC Tostal planning committee booked the band Soul Fire and also plans to have a comedian perform. Other SMC Tostal events include movies that will be shown in the new theatre of the student center, inflatables that will be set up outside across the campus and a fireworks display.

"We're trying to keep it really focused on the students," Lubbers said. "This will be a cool day, it's going to be all about Saint Mary's."

Donna Lubbers
Student Activities Board member

"Love Makes the World Go Round, Show Your Love" tsunami relief campaign, BOG members said they are well on their way to achieving their goal of $1 per student, or $1,341. BOG collected $493.90 this week, bringing collection totals so far to $1,042.30. "I think we're going to more than break our goal, which is exciting," Welton said.

BOG will continue its campaign until the end of February. Collection containers will remain at several locations on the Saint Mary's campus and will also appear at BOG-sponsored events. BOG will hold a final nighttime door-to-door collection on Feb. 27.

In other BOG news:

- BOG applications are available at theflaggerFront Desk and are due by noon Feb. 25.
- Student Diversity Board will hold a discussion tonight on the film "Brown Eyed Blue Eyed" at 7 p.m. in the Flaggar Parlor. It is not necessary to have seen the movie to participate in the discussion.
- The Freshman Class Board is currently selling Class of 2008 sweatshirts. Contact a freshman board member for further information.

Contact Kelly Bale at kmacle01@stmarys.edu

"This will be a cool day, it's going to be all about Saint Mary's."

Donna Lubbers
Student Activities Board member

Professor examines DaVinci Code issues

By ERICA RANGEL
News Writer

Both popular and controversial, Dan Brown's "The DaVinci Code" was the subject of Saint Mary's humanistic studies professor John Shinner's lecture Monday, entitled "The DaVinci Code: Cracked or Crackpot?"

Shinners focused on the potential inaccuracies contained within the book while also examining the 99-week New York Times best-seller's popularity.

Junior art history major Talia Mutary-Vacaro said the lecture caused her to reconsider the book. "I think the way it is portrayed is really convincing, but there's been so much hype about it being not true, one begins to question the validity of Dan Brown's claims," Mutary-Vacaro said.

Shinners said he thought Dan Brown was practicing immortal history by "turning ancient figures into who he wants them to be instead of who they really are." "Brown has no respect for history," Shinners said. "It's a great injustice to treat these figures as puppets."

Shinners pointed out that the book's fallacies start on the acknowledgement page. This page clearly states that all depictions of artwork and places are indeed factual. By showing slides of the actual paintings and locations that did not match up to what Brown wrote in the book, Shinners demonstrated that Brown did not stay true to his word.

Shinners said he thought Brown's ungracious writing style was the primary reason for the book's popularity.

"Dan Brown's clever creating situations that take our breath away. The chapters are short and often ended in cliffhangers, urging you to keep reading," Shinners said.

Other reasons for the book's popularity, according to Shinners, include the historical and exciting settings, the misuse of facts, the controversies about religion and history and the "lap into the zeitgeist," especially the mistrust of the Catholic hierarchy.

Shinners also discussed some common questions raised by the book, such as Jesus' marital status and the possibility of Mary Magdalene's presence at the Last Supper.

In answering the question of Jesus' marital status, Shinners said that if Jesus was indeed married, "he would have been documented at one point in time, but it is not."

Regarding the Mary Magdalene debate, Shinners discussed Leonardo's androgynous styles of figures. According to Shinners, it follows that the Holy Grail is nothing more than a cup and is not Mary Magdalene.

Contact Erica Rangel at range7166@stmarys.edu

Candler School of Theology
Emory University

Dr. Brian J. Mahan
Assistant Professor of Christian Education

FORGETTING OURSELVES OF PURPOSE

VOCA TION

Conversations About The Choices We Make AMBITION

Brian Mahan, a Catholic layperson, is assistant professor of Christian education at Candler School of Theology. His publication Forgetting Ourselves on Purpose, Vocation and the Ethics of Ambition provides "moral companionship" to those who are interested in serious soul-searching. It considers the question of how it is possible to create a meaningful spiritual life while living in a culture that measures us by what we have rather than who we are.

Thursday, February 24, 2005 GIOVANINI COMMONS C (Main Level, Mendoza College of Business)
3:30pm—5:00pm
Seating is limited. Attendance by reservation only. For reservations, email jcalder2@nd.edu

For More Information

J. Emory University
continued from page 1

they are 21, and no underage students will be allowed on the bus, Baron said.

"This service is most important for seniors and off-campus stu-
dents," student body president Adam Istvan said.

Istvan's administration present-
ed a proposal to the Board of Trustees last fall seeking to estab-
lish a University-funded Safelibu-
that would transport students to
and from off-campus locations.

Istvan clarified that the Sports Page's shuttle service is not a ful-
fillment of the Safelibus proposal. Though he remains in full support
of the service, he emphasized that it is in no way connected to the
University or to Student Government.

The new service was announced in COR after Sports Page asked Istvan
to spread the word to the student body.

"They asked us to let students know about this. And if they're
willing to improve student life, then I'm willing to mention it in
our meeting," Istvan said.

Senior Jeremy Staley attended
the meeting to tell representatives
about his membership on a com-
mittee that will play a key role in
hiring the new provost for the
University.

"I will be sitting on the search
committee to choose the new provost. My job is to help with the
student side of the search," Staley
said.

The selection committee, made up of five faculty members and one
student, will research candidates and then present a recommenda-
tion to University President-elect
Father John Jenkins, who will
assume the presidency July 1.

Jenkins will then present his own
recommendation to the Board of
Trustees, which will then make the
final decision.

Staley clarified the role and
responsibilities of the provost to
representatives and asked for their
feedback regarding key qualities of
a strong provost candidate.

Senior class president Darrell
Istvan said that Staley seek out a
candidate with experience at the
international level.

"I recommend someone with
international experience and
Washington connections, while still
being Catholic. That would be a
great addition," Scott said.

Baron called for a provost who
would make diversity a top priority in
the academic environment at Notre Dame.

"A big focus for my campaign
has been the issue of diversity. And
that is something that is very
important to academics. His pow-
ers need to be looked at through
the diversity respective," Baron
said.

Istvan asked that Staley encour-
ge the search committee to seek
out minorities and women and
encourage them to apply for the
position.

"Notre Dame isn't exactly the
first place a minority or female
would apply to work. So the com-
mittee needs to put forth energy to
attract women and minorities because
they might be the best for
the job," Istvan said.

Staley plans to attend other stu-
dent government meetings to gath-
er further student input concern-
ing the matter.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at
mmalone3@nd.edu


J PW
continued from page 1

"We specifically target the
parents coming in as well as
the kids. We run ads in The
Observer and put fliers and
coupons in hotels, where the
parents are s a y i n g , " Berrettini
told.

Unlike restaur-
ants and
tourist destina-
tions that lured in customers
with these advertising tac-
tics, local hotels like the Inn
at Saint Mary's were able to
increase hotel rates by as
much as 15 percent and still
reach maximum occupancy.

Jeff Arthur, general man-
ager of the Inn at Saint
Mary's, said the hotel had
booked six months in
advance for JPW. But due to
unexpected water heater
complications, the company
was not able to reach the
sales it had been expecting.

Since hot water was not
available for certain hours
during the weekend, some
Saint Mary's Inn guests had
to find accommodations
elsewhere, Arthur said.

Guests that chose to stay
were given refunds.

"The water heater situa-
tion dramatically impacted our
business. Financially, we
did not make as much
money as we anticipated," Arthur
said.

General managers at
Panera Bread and
Ihlsullians said that they
did not notice any significant
increase in sales, though
they did not anticipate it
either.

"I added a few more work
people for the weekend, but
as far as adjusting what we make
food wise, we didn't make
any changes," Panera gener-
al manager Brian Hall
said.

"Though off-
campus restaurants reported little
change in cus-
tomer volume, the
change in cus-
tomer volume, the
dining spots located within
walking dis-
tance of JPW events experi-
ned significant sales
increases," Dave Prentkowski, direc-
tor of food services for the
University, said that busi-
ness doubled during the
weekend at locations such as
the cafe at Hammes
Bookstore. Beckers and
Subway experienced
approximately a 10 percent
increase in sales as well,
Prentkowski said.

Legends was also a popu-
lar destination with the JPW
protest.

"Anytime there is a major
event on campus we have
more people in general
proximity and it's conve-
inet for people to come [to
Legends]. It's an available
option and a great location," Prentkowski said.

As expected, many visitors
crowded the bookstore. Sally
Wiatrowski, director of retail
operations at the bookstore,
said there were long lines to order and pick
up class rings during the
weekend.

Wiatrowski said that working her
first JPW was highly enjoy-
able. It was a
really, really fun weekend," she said. "It
was nice to have customers in great
moods and good spirits and
enjoying the festivities."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at
mmalone3@nd.edu

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies offers the following Grants and Fellowship for 2005-2006

DEADLINE: MARCH 18, 2005

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3. Paul G. Tobin Graduate Fellowship of $15,000.

For more information, call 1-5253, or go to www.nd.edu/~nanovic
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

500 Palestinian prisoners released

JERUSALEM — Palestinian government Spokesman Lou Fintor said that 500 Palestinian prisoners were freed Monday by Israel as part of an agreement that was supposed to include the release of additional prisoners. The release comes less than a month after the latest in a series of constitutional, legal, and diplomatic initiatives that have been put into play since the outbreak of the latest round of violence in Lebanon.

Lebanese hold anti-Syria protests

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Tens of thousands marched Monday in the biggest anti-Syria protest in Lebanese history amid signals that Syria will soon withdraw its troops from parts of the country. President Bush reminded demands for Syrian forces to leave Lebanon immediately. "We approach this one week since the Feb. 14 death of Imad Hariri and began at the bombing-scarred site of the former prime minister's assassination, which turned many Lebanese against Syria and increased international pressure on Damascus to extract its army from Lebanon.

Bush's private recordings released

WASHINGTON — President Bush was concerned about "his mistakes as a youth" while in prison, he told reporters in a taped exchange from a prison in Texas and aired Monday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "And I mean that, it doesn't matter if it's LSD, everything — I mean, if I answer one, then there will be another one. And I just am not going to answer these questions. And it may cost me the election."

Hunter S. Thompson commits suicide

HEAVEN — Hunter S. Thompson, the iconic counterculture writer who popularized a new form of fictional journalism in books like "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," was found dead in his Montana home on Tuesday, he was 67.

Bush appeals to Allies for help

President Bush told his Cabinet members that he was concerned about "his mistakes as a youth" while in prison, he told reporters in a taped exchange from a prison in Texas and aired Monday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "And I mean that, it doesn't matter if it's LSD, everything — I mean, if I answer one, then there will be another one. And I just am not going to answer these questions. And it may cost me the election."

SOUTH KOREA

North Korea hints at return to talks

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong II told a visiting Chinese envoy that his country will return to six-party nuclear disarmament talks if the United States shows "sincerity," the communist state's official news agency said Tuesday. The U.S. and North Korea have been deadlocked for more than two years of conflicting statements, but a new round of talks would come less than two weeks after Kim visited Washington and its allies by claiming that it had nuclear weapons and would boycott the talks.

Local News

Same-sex marriage ban passes

RICHMOND — Virginia’s Supreme Court has ruled that same-sex marriage is not a constitutional right, clearing the way for the legislature to pass an amendment banning it. The ruling came in response to a lawsuit filed by a same-sex couple seeking to legally marry in the state.

U.S. President George W. Bush, right, meets with French President Jacques Chirac Monday as part of a five-day tour to boost relations with European allies.

Belgium

Bush appeals to Allies for help

President hopes five-day tour will improve relations with European countries

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — President Bush sealed Russia for backing nuclear disarmament in the United States, while telling his European allies to take difficult steps for peace, appealing for Europe's help in both troubled areas to "set the stage on its own." Bush opened his discussions with a gesture of reconciliation toward disarming nations, hosting an elegant dinner for French President Jacques Chirac, the harsh critic of the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"I'm looking for a good cowboy," Bush joked when a reporter asked if relations had improved to the point where Bush might receive an invitation to the president's Texas ranch. Chirac said U.S.-French relations have been excellent for 200 years and the war had not changed that. They dined on lobster risotto and filet of beef.

Despite the cordial meeting, Bush told Chirac the United States adamantly opposes Europe's plans to lift its 15-year arms embargo against China. Europe seemed eager for Bush's charm offensive after bitter divisions over global climate control, Iraq and other problems. Dozens of world leaders were hurrying to Brussels for twin summits Tuesday at NATO and the European Union. European officials have complained Bush did not listen to them during his first term, and they want to see if he has changed.

About 4,000 people registry in their support of a noisy protest outside the U.S. embassy as Bush met with Chirac. The demonstrators came from a coalition of 88 environmental, human rights, peace and other groups opposed to Bush's policies.

Previewing two issues on Tuesday's agenda, Bush told Syria to get out of Lebanon and demanded that Iran stop its suspected nuclear weapons program. Bush did not rule out using military force in Iran, saying all options remain on the table. But, addressing widespread concerns in Europe that Iran is the next U.S. target after Iraq, Bush said: "Iran is ... different from Iraq. We're in the early stages of diplomacy." Three days before seeing Vladimir Putin in Slovakia, Bush admonished the Russian leader to "renounce a commitment to democracy and the rule of law." Putin has raised alarms in the West by consolidating power, rolling back democratic reforms and curbing press and political freedoms.

Bush said the United States and all European countries "should place democratic reform at the heart of their dialogue with Russia." The president suggested that Moscow's entry in the World Trade Organization could hinge on whether it changes course.

"I've got a good relation with Vladimir, I intend to keep it that way," Bush told reporters during a photo opportunity with Chirac. "But as well, I intend to remind him that if his interests lie West, that we share values ... and those values are important." In the key address of his five-day tour, Bush signaled that the United States will become more involved in the Mideast to foster growing hope for peace.

"America and Europe have made a moral commitment. We will not stand by as another generation in the Holy Land grows up in an atmosphere of violence and hopelessness," Bush told an audience of diplo­ mats, business leaders and academics in an opulent ballroom of Brussels' Concert Noble hall.

South Korea

North Korea hints at return to talks

Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il told a visiting Chinese envoy that his country will return to six-party nuclear disarmament talks if the United States shows "sincerity," the communist state's official news agency said Tuesday. The U.S. and North Korea have been deadlocked for more than two years of conflicting statements, but a new round of talks would come less than two weeks after Kim visited Washington and its allies by claiming that it had nuclear weapons and would boycott the talks.

"We will go to the negotiating table anytime if there are mature condi­ tions for the six-party talks thanks to the concerted efforts of the parties concerned in the future," Kim said Tuesday, expressing the hope that the United States would show "trust­ worthy sincerity," according to the Korean Central News Agency.

Kim spoke of his government's new position in correspondence with the nuclear issue in a meeting with Wang Jiarui, head of the Chinese Communist Party's International Department, KCNA said.

Kim also said that North Korea "would as ever stand for the denu­ clearization of the Korean Peninsula and its position to seek a peaceful solution to the issue through dia­ logue remains unchanged," the news agency said.

KCNA did not elaborate on what conditions Kim cited during his talks with the envoy from China, which is his impoverished country's only remaining major ally.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Lou Fintor said that U.S. officials were "aware of the report" about Kim's remarks, and the U.S. position on resuming the six-party talks is well known. "The United States remains ready to resume the six-party talks at an early date without preconditions," said Fintor.
continued from page 1

year.

friend to confidante to rule enforcer, the RA plays many roles in the lives of Notre Dame stu-
dents. A student who is interested in receiving a RA from freshman year as the senior
down the hall who seemed to blend into the same figure
down. His door was always open and anyone who seemed to have
ulac memorized. However, there are many other important aspects that
A RA is a strong point of the community. In early, an RA in Lyons. "They are the visible
signs of what Notre Dame represents in each of the halls."

"Nick Green, an RA in zab, added, "I think the RA is more than a rule enforcer."

"He should be a friend and enforcer for his residents," Green said. "He is the one who is to look for the good of everyone."

Fulfilling the RA role can be a major commitment, especially for seniors in their final year at Notre Dame. An RA must attend an intensive training period in early August including courses, role playing and in-hall training. Once one is selected and on campus, an RA must commit to weekly hall staff meetings and nights of being "on call" in case of any incidents and as a liaison between students and the
tector. Because the RA is a student on campus and becomes the figure students turn to with troubles or questions.

In addition to these duties, an RA plays a significant role as a devo
tion leader, acting as a liaison between students and the
tector. The RA is the one whose job is to
serve a great resource and an
enforcer, the RA plays many roles
as a main reason for their service
"I personally wanted to apply because I really want to give
underclassmen the same experience that I had at Notre Dame," said
Katie Skirich, a Lewis junior applying for the RA position. "I feel
it was a little intimidating, but I thought that the competition and
written application aid in the selection process.

Having to do the application and go through the interviews really made me
and a conscious decision to apply for RA," Schmill said. "This is ulti-
mately a good thing, because you only get the people who are truly
dedicated to go through with it."

Whether it is their commitment to community living, their desire to
take a leadership role in their dorm, while at the same time
influence a dorm, as a main reason for their service, their desire to
fit, but RAs also receive free
Michael's Laundry service and
dilierence, an RA's most significant
issue of all types, concerning all
dorm residents.

The RA application process is tedious and highly competitive. Though
any junior can apply, applicants
must complete a written appli-
cation for the Office of Residence
Life, submit letters of recommen-
dation and go through an inter-
view process. Every dorm has a
slightly different method for selec-
tion, but ultimately it is the current
RAs who choose the candidates for the
following year.

Siegfried RA Robert Murphy explained the scope the applica-
tion process can reach in certain
dorms.'In Siegfried we do three rounds of interviews. Two are with
current RAs and one is with the head staff — the RAs (assistant rectors) and
the rector," Murphy said.

Fernandes described a similar procedure in Lewis, where appli-
cants interview with RAs, assistant rectors and the rector, each of
which can last up to two hours, she said.

The number of applicants who
apply each year also affects the
competition for the RA position. Though
most dorms have to offer. The RA should
everything, but RAs also receive free St. Michael's Laundry service and
parking.

It's not these benefits, however, that attract most students to being an
RA. Aspects of tradition and the impact of former RAs seem to be the
primary factors motivating stu-
dents to apply for the position.

"I wanted to be an RA because of the example that was set before
me by men like Ben Dillon, Dean Coleman and Pat McGarry — all
former RAs who I thought were great RAs and great friends," said
Green. "I love being an RA — I have no regrets." Petula Fernandes, a Lewis RA, also counts former RAs as her
influence.

"I had good experiences with my RAs from freshman and sopho-
more year. Both were different people, but through them I real-
ized the importance of the ministry of being an RA," she said. "Now, the
same my role myself, seeing things from a different perspective, but
I absolutely love the position."

In addition to the responsibilities and expectations required of RAs,
the application process is tedious and highly competitive. Though
any junior can apply, applicants

continued from page 1

to Notre Dame. And he is a good representative." The Alumni Association conferred this year's Distinguished Graduate Student Award on Shannon Gayk, a doctoral student in the Department of English.

"I am honored and hum-
bled by this award," Gayk said. "We told attendees of the recepti-
on, I have given much less to Notre Dame than it has given to me... I am extremely grateful."

Contact Katie Scarlett
O'Hara at kohara2@nd.edu

Distinguished Student Award recipients Shannon Gayk, left, and
Danny Richter pose with University President Father Edward Malloy.

SMC

continued from page 1

team building exercises such as developing their own
residence hall. Sophomore and first-time appli-
cant MacKennna Keenan said the interview was not as intimidating as
she expected. "The group interview went
very well," Keenan said. "It was a comfortable
environment." Shannon Culbertson
residence advisor Holy Cross Hall

"I have a lot of friends who are RAs and they always talk
about what a great experi-
ence it is and all of the friends they have made because of it," Keenan said.

While the numbers fluctuate depending on how many dorms there
are at the college, there are roughly 40 RA positions available.

"Every year, first
year Saint Mary's students can apply to be an RA starting their junior
year. Keenan said she is confident about her chances at being selected.

"I think I have a good chance," said Keenan. "They said this was the
[samelost] amount of appli-
cants that they've ever had. I don't know if that is a good thing or not but I am really
hoping I get it." Applicants request the resi-
dence hall they would like to be placed in, ranking them from first choice to last choice, current Holy Cross Hall RA Shannon Culbertson said.

Culbertson is applying to be the</s>
Economists predict slow growth

Slow housing market and increased mortgage rates are contributing factors

**In Brief**

Retail price for gas drops slightly

LAMAR, Colo. — Retail gas prices dropped slightly in the last two weeks as oil price hikes were checked by an increase in the gasoline supply, an industry analyst said Sunday. The average retail price for all three grades dropped half a cent in $1.93, between Feb. 5 and Friday, said Trilby Lundberg, who publishes the semimonthly Lundberg Survey of 7,000 gas stations across the country.

The most popular grade, self-service regular, was priced at $1.90 a gallon, while customers paid $2 for midgrade. Premium averaged $2.10 a gallon for the period.

During the two-week period, crude oil prices rose almost $2 per barrel, but gasoline suppliers were offsetting the price increase, Lundberg said.

"This small drop in price doesn't herald big price cuts to come," Lundberg said. "More likely, gasoline prices will continue to rise, unless crude oil prices fall dramatically.

She said gas prices will likely rise in the future toward a peak during the summer driving months of June, July and August.

**Regulators request more information**

INDIANAPOLIS — Federal regulators have asked for more information regarding Johnson & Johnson's planned $25.4 billion acquisition of Guidant Corp.

The companies said Friday they had expected the deal to close this year, but still wanted that the Federal Trade Commission would approve it and likely extend it for to be finalized by the end of October.

When the deal was announced in December, analysis said they expected a tough review from regulators because Guidant and Johnson & Johnson subsidiary Cordis Corp. are among the few companies that make heart devices and keep arteries open, which affects the cardiovascular system.

No details about the information sought by the regulators was released.

**Chairman Greenspan**

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan takes his seat before a Senate banking hearing Wednesday, where he offered his views on the economic outlook.

Fed policy-makers, wanting to make sure inflation doesn't get out of hand, embarked on a rate-raising campaign in June. That has resulted in six modest quarter-point increases, leaving a key interest rate at 2.5 percent.

That key rate is expected to rise to 3.5 percent by the end of this year, according to the business economists. If that were to happen, the prime lending rate, used for many short-term consumer and business loans, would rise to 6.50 percent by year's end.

The prime rate, which moves in lockstep with the Fed's key rate, is now 5.50.

**Taxpayers may benefit from break**

WASHINGTON — Sharpen your pencils. There's a new tax break on the books, but it could take some work to discover whether it can help you.

The new deduction, available in 2004 and 2005, lets taxpayers deduct state sales taxes in lieu of state income taxes if it helps lower their tax bills.

No report also need for marketing and lower income families, and simpler tax return forms available to more people.

Tax advisers say there aren't many changes to contemplate as there have been in recent years but caution that tax laws seem to be in constant flux.

"I wouldn't get too locked into the way things are right now," said Maryann Winters, a partner at Siriach and Cuomo LLP in Syracuse, N.Y.

The new sales tax deduction is most valuable for people in states with no or very low income taxes, but it could be useful to taxpayers in other states.

Anyone who made major purchases last year, and some retired taxpayers who pay little income tax, might be better off taking a sales tax deduction.

Taxpayers should look long and hard at their options because it's "very confusing, not for everybody in every state, and changes state to state vary dramatically," Winters said.

To figure your deduction, you can use a table provided by the IRS or add up the sales taxes paid in 2004. The law, passed late last year, didn't give taxpayers much time to prepare. Taxpayers who don't keep their sales receipts last year can start accumulating those piles for 2005.

Bob Scharlin, editor of HIA's Practical Tax Strategies, a journal for tax professionals, said taxpayers might review their spending and think about any big-ticket items they might have purchased, such as the future room they purchased an engagement ring or the parents who paid for the wedding.
Democrats: Don’t let my retirement savings get flushed

I’ve had the random thought lately, regularly accompanied by my Attention Deficit Disorder, that there are a great many things...<snip>

Tom Rippon
Confessions of a Campus Conservative

Having had almost constant part-time jobs since I was 16, I want to keep tabs on exactly how the government is handling that little chunk of my paychecks it has been taking out in the FICA columns of the taxes. Without bullying through an unpromising plan, Republicans should offer a progressive private account plan that guarantees current rates of return to address the concerns of Democrats. As well as the Peter Ferrara piece, I also recommend the Cato Institute’s project on Social Security reform.

Getting back to the toilet example of innovation, as Republicans we do not seek to reinvent Social Security because it was probably the best idea Democrats have come up with. Consider it more like those new low usage toilets that give you more flush for your water. In the same good spirit President Franklin D. Roosevelt had for the greatest generation of our grandparents, we just want to make sure our generation gets more bang for our hard-earned buck, and that the baby boom population spike doesn’t flush our hard-earned future incomes down the drain.

Tom Rippon is a senior political science major. He is the co-president of the Notre Dame College Republicans. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Vagina Monologues do not focus on violence

In The Observer editorial of Feb. 18, the "overriding demand" of Vagina Monologues is associated with that of the V-day movement, naming it "stealing women." It also suggests that, therefore, Notre Dame might properly host the play even though "parts" of it "undoubtedly ... Catholic teaching on human sexuality.

The characterization of the play is, I suggest, surprisingly humble to any disinterested reader or viewer. By my count, out of 24 units in the play, four, consisting of six pages, deal with violence against women. The other 19 units are encrusted with lesbian sex, lesbian seduction of adolescents, sadomasochism, feminization and masturbation, stitched together by passages salted with obscenities and vulgurities of all grades and types.

What else, really, should be expected of an author who boasts in her introduction that in her performances she has managed to have "thirty-two public organs in a night?" One hopes she doesn't look for the same effect with her presentations at Notre Dame. Keep University sponsorship on some other ground, if you will, but not on the ground that this play is anything in the main other than a paeon to lesbian sexual libertinism.

William Dempsey
alumnus
Feb. 21

U-Wire

Indecency laws and fines unnecessarily intimidate television

Thursday, our staidwary Congress passed the Broadcaster Indecency Enforcement Act of 2005, which ratchets up fines for single incidents of indecency to an impossibly $500,000. The act also voids the FCC's obligation to warn performers for a first offense before a fine can be levied. The vote for the act was 389-38, by the way, reflecting the new conventional wisdom that "values" is the hot accessory "You Don't Want To Be Caught Without" or part of a political version of the little black dress.

In the past, I have written in opposition to the recent force push for public decency. And, I must admit, I have been guilty of caricaturing the other side, as though they don't have a legitimate complaint. This has been very unfair of me. In fact, now that I've really considered the issue, I see the wisdom of their position.

Any fool up on his constitutional history knows that when the framers wrote the First Amendment, they didn't mean it to protect people who talk about doo-doo or doin' it. They had in mind a 18th-century sensibilities been able to conceive of a society so depraved that doo-doo and doin' it were subjects of public discussion, they would have made this exception explicit. Doo-doo and doin' it are oky, and, while we must have wary patience for serious dissent, no decent civilization can countenance licenncs. The Romans let Plautus stage all those rudiil plays about naughty courtesans, and look what happened to them.

And, really, my own reasons for opposing the advocates of public decency have been more personal than political. I love indecency and I hate to hear his honor abused. Moreover, I am unaccountably fond of the jazzy rhythms of American profani­city and can't guarantee that if I were in front of a prime-time television camera saying, for instance, "I would be able to refrain from spontaneously riffing on them. If the threat of $500,000 of debt will keep me in line, so be it.

Having successfully intimidated broadcast TV and radio, the advocates of public decency are now gearing up to take on cable TV. Rully for them! If children hear naughty words, they might try to find out what they mean. And, good lord, if the children see any sex on the talking-pictures box, their par­ents might actually be obligated to explain what it is.

The First Amendment may be the indispensable bulwark of our democracy, but surely we can tweak it a little if that will help delay the awkward birds-and-the-bees talk. I mean ... it's so awkward!

This column originally appeared in the Feb. 18 edition of The Daily Texan, the daily publication at the University of Texas at Austin. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

U.S. media easily duped

Friedman on Tuesday, CNN has made corrections and replaced the photographs on its stories. Ben Jenero, director of communications for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty said that the photos in questions were misidentified, but no correction has run in the IPR/RL Web site — the photos were merely pulled on stories not dealing with the nuclear facility in Natanz, and the file was renamed.

It's an easy mistake to make, specifically after the passage of the "Houdini W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005." Section 914 of the act makes satellite photography the govern­ment takes or buys immune from Freedom of Information Act requests.

Considering this administration's willingness to mis­represent the facts to the tugboat media and ambi­tions to use propaganda, until satellite photography is fully open to the public, I will enjoy the same skepticism one would reserve for a report in Chinese news agency Xinhua or communist-run Pravda.

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An advertisement for U.S. media easily duped

The only adjective that seems to describe the state of the press these days is the compound modifier "wacky-tragic." The U.S. run Web site for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty published a photograph that is — as far as we can tell — a satellite picture of a nuclear facility in Natanz, Iran. The non-government run Web site for CNN also ran the same picture, and last year, we also ran the picture to accompany a column on the Opinion Page.

The Associated Press provided us to, but according to the Institute for Science and International Security, the photo was originally taken by Digital Globe, a satellite photography company.

The problem is that, on the CNN Web site, the pic­ture was identified in some stories as a North Korean nuclear site, and used — with different cap­tions — on both stories about Iran's nuclear ambitions and North Korea's nuclear program. On the Radio Free Europe Web site, the picture was used for stories about Iran, North Korea, and stories about intel­ligence failures in Iraq prior to the war. Indeed, the file­name of the photo was actually "Iraq-Nuclear.jpg.

Since the story was first reported by blogger Brad
Scorsese’s boxing classic receives special treatment

By BRIAN DOXTADER

Some Critics

“Raging Bull,” director Martin Scorsese’s best film, recently got the deluxe DVD treatment from MGM in a two-disc special edition, replacing the long-out-of-print original disc.

A quarter of a century later, “Raging Bull” remains a towering achievement of 20th-century cinema. A brutally unflinching portrait of Jake La Motta (Robert De Niro), the one-time middleweight boxing champion of the world, Scorsese’s film originally polarized critics and audiences upon its 1980 release. With what some critics called a violent, misogynistic and unsympathetic animal of a protagonist, the film was uncomfortably received. Yet its stature has grown over the years to the point that American Film Institute named it the 24th best film of the 1980s, and the American Film Institute named it the 24th best film of all time.

Like other great “sports” movies, “Raging Bull” is not actually about boxing, but uses boxing to examine the tortured psyche of a character consumed by jealousy, frustration, hatred, fear and inadequacy. By the time the picture ends, the audience has been given a look into the soul of a tormented man who has fallen into nothing, but is left with the smallest glimpse of self-recognition.

From a technical standpoint, everything about “Raging Bull” is perfect. Scorsese, in his lifelong collabora-
tors, has refined it to its zenith here, turning in the best work of their careers. The acting is all top-notch, but the film is undoubt-
edly anchored by De Niro’s stunning Oscar-winning performance. The actor trained with La Motta for a year to get into shape, then gained 60 pounds to play the boxer as a full middle-aged man — starting the actors’ trend of drastic physical transformation in order to bet-
ter “live in” a character.

In most other films, such a performance would overshadow all the other actors, but not here. Joe Pesci holds his own in a star-making performance as Jake’s brother Joey and Catherine Moriarity garnered acclaim and an Academy Award nomination as Jake’s wife, Vicki.

Scorsese is at the top of his game, directing a relentless passion and purpose. Thelma Schoonmaker, Scorsese’s long-time editor, won an Oscar for her incredible work here, and writer Paul Schrader penned a script that crackles with life and fervor.

The DVD is well-pre-

presented. The print itself is in fine shape, which solid black levels and little grain and digital artifacting. The sound is solid, but unspectacular. The 5.1 digital audio mix is less immer-
sive than could be hoped, especially dur-
ing the fight scenes. One might’ve hoped that MGM would’ve opened up the soundstage a bit more, but since the film was originally mixed in surround sound, what is found here is certainly adequate.

The extras are substantial and inform-

ative. The first disc has no fewer than three commentaries — one from Schrader and Scorsese, one featuring the cast and crew and a final one focusing the “storytellers,” including Schrader and La Motta himself. All three are excellent, with lots of insights and anecdotes.

The second disc houses most of the special features. The heart of the material is four featurettes, which altogether run nearly an hour and a half in length. They are extremely insightful, supplying anecdotes and behind the scenes memori-

es from the cast and the filmmakers.

“Raging Bull” is one of the finest motion pictures ever made, a roaring testa-
tament to the skills of its director, star, screenwriter and editor and a crowning achievement of modern cinema. This lat-
est, excellent DVD from MGM gets the highest possible recommendation.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
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Sequel swings past predecessor

By MOLLY GRIFFIN

Sequels are rarely stellar, particularly those following up a major summer blockbuster. But somehow “Spider-Man 2” manages not only to be as good as the original, but actually manages to surpass it. The heart of the materi-

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Spider-Man sequel swings past predecessor

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Helligly dull plot dooms ‘Constantine’

By RYAN ROGERS

Continuing the trend of adapting comic books into movies, “Constantine” fails to stand out from the other films of its genre.

John Constantine (Keanu Reeves) was born with the curse of seeing angels and demons. Unable to cope with these visions, he attempts suicide and is only dead for two minutes. Muriel, Constantine has a better perspective on the way the world works. He knows about the existence of heaven and the battle of good versus evil. Now he spends his days performing exorcisms in hopes that they will redeem him in the eyes of God and help to earn his way into heaven. But because Constantine’s suicide was a mortal sin, he is destined for hell — and as a 13-year-old smoker, he has recently been diagnosed with lung cancer.

As if this weren’t enough to handle in one film, Constantine then discovers the devil’s son is planning to come to Earth and attack with him. This, of course, requires strange rituals involving the demon. (This is played by Rachel Weisz.)

This film is based on exploring a very distinct set of rules, none of which are clear to the viewer. This fatal flaw leaves the audience with more questions on the way out of the theater than they came in. Sure, the effects are fun, but it is hard to enjoy them while constantly asking, “What the heck is going on?”

The script for “Constantine” needed a lot more work. Aside from simply not containing what is needed to advance the story, it tries to tackle too many topics. The backdrop is a complex plot that a wholly separate film detailing the origin of John Constantine would have been more appropriate. Instead, you get a half-baked plot added on that the audience never fully understands or really cares about.

It is difficult to tell if the script is responsible for the bad acting or not. Reeves overshadows his one-liners with expected gusto. Weisz is nothing special, just another skeptical partner that is all too willing to take on Constantine’s leaps of faith. Shia LaBeouf plays Constantine’s protégé and serves his purpose as cheap comic relief. Gavin Rossdale inexplicably plays a darkly humorous demon that has it out for Constantine.

The best performance comes from Djimon Hounsou as Midnite, the owner of a nightclub in which both angels and demons are welcome. Midnite is the only character that seems to have more than one character trait and more than one brain cell.

There are some redeeming qualities about “Constantine.” Stylistically, it is flashy and fun to watch, which is to be expected from Francis Lawrence, a popular music video director turned film director. There is also an effort to stay true to the film’s comic book roots, with a lot of picturesque slow motion shots and extreme angles that look like pages straight out of comics.

One of the film’s biggest distractions is its overly religious and often sacrilegious nature. A lot of Catholic icons are juxtaposed with vulgarities like the middle finger, which may offend some viewers.

When all is said and done, “Constantine” kills itself. The film has some basic appeal but fails to execute on nearly all of its fronts.

Contact Ryan Rogers at rogers2@nd.edu

‘Boogeyman’ succeeds on the usual thrills

By MARK BENEMENDERER

While many horror films come out yearly that touch upon the theme of the boogeyman, no movie has yet tackled the theme directly. So it’s about time that a movie delved into the mythology behind one of childhood’s oldest fears.

“Boogeyman,” directed by Stephen Kay, opened at number one at the box office for the Feb. 4-6 weekend. It builds on what is becoming a very profitable niche in the entertainment industry — the PG-13 horror movie.

It borrows elements of the movies that came before it and extends them to create a good, competent narrative that also doesn’t deviate much from its predecessors, so it falls to exceed the usual expectations for the horror genre.

Tim Jensen (Barry Watson), whose father was killed and taken by the boogeyman, is forced to face his traumatic childhood fears when he returns home.

“Boogeyman” would have benefited greatly from his direct involvement, as Kay simply lacked the experience coming into the film to make it stand out. The result is that the horror film clichés — loud noises, anti-climaxes and a computer-generated ending — are included in “Boogeyman.”

The boogeyman has been the theme of many movies, but always indirectly. “The Nightmare on Elm Street” film series touched upon the theme, but the villainous Freddy Krueger wasn’t quite the boogeyman from classic childhood lore. While there are some striking similarities between the two, there are enough differences to distinguish “Boogeyman.”

And barring its obvious shortcomings, the film ends up being enjoyable. It’s a treat for thrill-seekers to watch, even more so if they were frightened by the boogeyman concept as children.

Contact Mark Benemender at mbemende@nd.edu
Gordon enjoys life as a star on and off the racetrack

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jeff Gordon celebrated his third Daytona 500 victory aboard his 106-foot yacht, the 24 Karat.

The four-time NASCAR champion is rich beyond imagination, has Hollywood good looks, and is an A-list celebrity who is just as comfortable hosting “Saturday Night Live” or sitting in on “Live with Regis and Kelly” as driving his No. 24 Chevrolet.

Yet, for all his riches and fame, Gordon is still interested in the basics.

“You know, I learned quite a while ago that it’s not racing that I love, it’s winning,” Gordon said.

And he’s done plenty of that. His victory Sunday, that came in spectacular fashion, as Gordon passed Richard Petty (7), Dale Earnhardt (3), and Dale Jarrett (88) as the only drivers with three or more victories at Daytona.

He has 70 career wins and is within six of Dale Earnhardt. Only six drivers in the more than half-century of NASCAR racing have won more than Gordon.

“Seventy?” he said, relishing the wound. “I wanted to get to 70. That seemed like a good number.”

To do it, Gordon had to out-drive defending champion Dale Earnhardt Jr. That’s the first time a champion Tony Stewart, who led a race-high 107 laps, and Kurt Busch.

He also had to survive a final 20 laps that were chaotic. There were two crashes involving 17 cars and a third caution flag, causing Earnhardt, the champion, to lose the race for a three- to three-lap margin.

Those are the moments that you live for, the moments we get paid the big bucks for,” Gordon said. “I’m really thankful he didn’t try to do something outside of his role. I think he had the momentum to do it.”

Gordon enjoys life as a star on and off the racetrack

North America’s first low sports seat leaves a black eye

Even Gretzky and Lemieux failed to save the imperiled league schedule

Associated Press

NEW YORK — With Wayne Gretzky and Mario Lemieux inside the NHL labor mess, a terrible, sad season could turn into a Great debacle instead of a Super save.

The sport’s biggest stars came up short at the bargaining table Saturday and the season was wrecked twice for all.

It was first wiped out Wednesday, killed off when commissioner Gary Bettman said the differences over a salary cap between the league and the players’ association wouldn’t allow for hockey until at least the fall.

But neither side was really ready to let the season go.

Enter the Great Gretzky of Phoenix, and Pittsburgh’s Super Mario.

Three days after hockey Armageddon, there was suddenly new life and new hope that the season could be saved. Gretzky and Lemieux — superstars turned executives of their respective teams — joined the talks.

There was no way these guys would fail, right? They did. And they never really had a chance.

When Gretzky and Lemieux got to the table Saturday, it became clear quickly that rumors of a done deal were false — as both sides said emphatically Friday — and an agreement was not on the radar screen.

If there was a shot at a deal with a $45 million salary cap, we’ll never know. The discussion over a number never came up — much to the dismay of Nos. 99 and 66.

This time, the news hit doubly hard. How was it possible that the worst possible scenario took a steeper turn downward in the same week?

The NHL was already dealing with the black eye of being the first major North American sports league to lose an entire season to a labor dispute. It took only three more days to damage the reputation of two Hall of Famers.

No one in the hockey world was happy that the season was lost, but many were prepared for what was previously unthinkable. It became clear during the past year how far apart the sides were.

But the roller coaster of the the past three days, before the final meeting was both cruel and unusual for the die-hard fan and for Gretzky and Lemieux.

The hard part was already overcome Monday when the NHL dropped its demand for a link between league revenues and player costs, and the union said it would then accept a salary cap.

Angry letters containing “final offers” were traded Tuesday night. The NHL was dog in at $45 million and the players wouldn’t budge off their counterproposals of a $49 million soft cap.

NHLPA executive director Bob Goodenow told Bettman he wouldn’t hear from the players’ side again — and Goodenow kept in his word during the final 12 hours before the season.

But Bettman left the door open more than once during his end-of-the-season news conference. He said he wouldn’t mind the embarrassment of a second announcement hours later that a deal was reached, that is if the union accepted his take-it-or-leave-it offer from Tuesday.

He didn’t even rule out an announcement of a salary cap of $45 million, even though he said teams would be stretched to the limit at $42.5 and that there was no time to negotiate.

Yet, there was.

The NHL called players’ association president Trevor Linden to get him back to the table. Linden turned to Gretzky and Lemieux to become hockey’s version of30 and Goodenow — the closers of the deal.

The cap was always the issue, even after it was accepted by the players. The debate of hard cap vs. soft cap was never resolved, nor was how the limit would fluctuate over the course of the six-year deal.

NHL players’ association vice president Vincent Damphousse answers questions during a news conference Saturday in New York.

NHL

Associated Press

North America’s first low sports seat leaves a black eye

Even Gretzky and Lemieux failed to save the imperiled league schedule

This terrific one bedroom condo in Woodbridge Condominiums is a second floor unit with a light and airy feel. The kitchen is equipped with stove, refrigerator and dishwasher. The living room has large windows for lots of light. The bathroom is fully equipped with bathtub/shower Combo. The apartment has central air/heat, washer and dryer in the unit. Windows are double paned. The windows have been replaced this year. The unit was recently painted. The unit is eminently livable for someone that would like a nice, quiet place to live. It was wanted that checkered flag really bad. I looked in my mirror and did everything I could.”

"I saw what he made in the mirror on the last two laps with Busch trying to close the gap by staying behind me, but Busch would bounce and coming up about two lengths short.

"I saw some video of the finish and saw how much momentum Busch had. It was a good save," Gordon said. "I'm really thankful he didn't try to do something outside of his role. I think he had the momentum to do it."
Love letters

a play by A.R. Gurney

Starring Susan Hart and Digger Phelps

Tickets available at the LaFortune Box Office, 631-8128

Washington Hall, University of Notre Dame
February 24, 2006 • 7:30 p.m.
Call 631-8128 for more information.

Collegiate Jazz Festival
February 25-26, 2005

Jazz will endure just as long as people hear it through their feet instead of their brains,
- John Philip Sousa
Titans release Mason

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Receiver Derrick Mason and cornerback Sam Holcombe were among six players released Monday by the Tennessee Titans in an effort to cut up to $27 million to get under the NFL salary cap.

In addition to Mason and Holcombe, the Titans released starting defensive lineman Kevin Carter and right tackle Fred Miller. They also cut fullback Robert Holcombe and kicker Joe Nedney.

Titans owner Bud Adams said everyone on the team knew this day was coming.

"At this point, I believe this is the best option for our franchise and know it will make us stronger for the future," Adams said in a statement. "To our fans, this is not an ending. I believe in this team and I look forward to being a fan forever."

General manager Floyd Reese said the Titans want to "mimic Baltimore's approach to the salary cap — slash large salaries in one lump and, hopefully, limit any damage to our team." He added, "We're done manipulating. Now we're going to fix this."

Mason led all NFL receivers last season with a career-high 96 catches for 1,168 yards and seven touchdowns. The eight-year veteran was the first player in franchise history to have four consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons.

Mason said he was anxious to test free agency.

"I've got a good four, five more years in me. I want to go to a team that's going to compete for a championship next year," Mason told radio station WFTN-PM.

Holcombe's roster spot has been in jeopardy since the Titans drafted Troy Fleming last April. Fleming had better numbers rushing and catching.

"This is a salary cap decision we have to make and to the common person, it doesn't make any sense at all," Titans head coach Jeff Fisher said.

"There's a chance we could get some of these guys back," coach Jeff Fisher told WFTN-PM. "This is a salary cap decision we have to make and to the common person, it doesn't make any sense at all. I think it illustrates how sophisticated the process is." Reese said the cuts will clear $8 million from the team's salary cap.

"Since I've been here, no matter what happens off the field or what he's dealing with, once he gets on the field, he's always focused and able to be the best player in the game," Giants pitcher Kirk Rueter said.

"That just shows you how he concentrates and how much he concentrates once he's on the field."

Bonds to report for spring ball

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Few spring training arrivals compare to the day Barry Bonds shows up at Scottsdale Stadium. It's when the San Francisco Giants superstar holds his annual State Farm address — and more often than not, it's the most he says to reporters all season.

When he arrives Tuesday, it's sure to be quite an event. More than 100 media members are likely to attend, and they'll be looking for answers from the slugger that aren't sealed.

Bonds will be peppered with questions about the steroid controversy that constantly surrounds him.

Will it affect the legacy he leaves? Will his records be tainted? Does he care at all what fans think of him? He might not answer any of them, or could choose to be candid.

This will be the first time the 40-year-old Bonds has spoken publicly since his grand jury testimony was leaked to the San Francisco Chronicle and reported in December. Bonds testified in December 2003 that he used a clear substance and a cream given to him by a trainer who wanted to test steroid-distribution ring, but said he didn't know they were steroids.

"Evidence I have heard so far is he is in early in the camp he's not going to do much of the spring. Bonds will be rehabilitating the knee under the direction of team trainer Stan Conte.

"I don't see any anticipation here except that one of the best players to ever play the game is coming in. We're used to that (fanfare) hero a lot. It would be kind of strange if we didn't have it now."

The seven-time NL MVP enters his 20th major league season with 703 home runs, trailing only Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714) on the career list. Bonds drew 232 walks last season, 34 more than the record he set in 2002 and more than 100 more than anyone in baseball. His 120 intentional walks shattered the mark of 68 that he set in 2002.

With Abou's son, Moises, batting behind Bonds this season, the skipper believes Bonds might not walk quite as often.
NBA

Trade deadline looms for teams as All-Star break ends

Timberwolves may deal key players in an effort to restructure team

Associated Press

DENVER — In the hours before the All-Star game, Kevin Garnett pondered how the Minnesota Timberwolves might regain the lofty status they recently lost.

If it takes a trade of Wally Szczerbiak, Sam Cassell or Latrell Sprewell before Thursday’s 3 p.m. EST deadline, I’ll probably come as a surprise to the league’s reigning MVP,” Garnett said Sunday. “As far as the loop, I don’t know where it’s at.”

The All-Star break ended Monday, and the league’s 24 best players headed this way and that from a city that pulled off the league’s showcase weekend without a hitch and now will focus its attention on the troubles of the struggling Nuggets.

Denver made the playoffs last season after an eight-year absence, but the Nuggets’ current record (24-29) has left them with the 10th-best record. Only eight teams qualify for the postseason.

By comparison, though, the Timberwolves’ situation is worse.

After reaching the Western Conference finals last season with the NBA’s second-best record (58-24), Minnesota enters the unofficial second half of the season as a 2005 team with serious chemistry issues that many believe can only be resolved with a roster shake-up.

“Chemistry is something that’s hard. I love all the guys on our team, they’re all good guys, guys that really care about one another, guys that really want to win, real, real, real work ethic,” Garnett said. “And as a unit, we know we can come together and turn this thing around, so whether they’re going to make moves or not, it’s not going to be dependent on what Kevin Garnett thinks.”

Along with the Timberwolves, the Sacramento Kings, Toronto Raptors, Indiana Pacers, Memphis Grizzlies, Portland Trail Blazers, Boston Celtics, New York Knicks and Los Angeles Lakers are the favorites to make something happen before the league’s trading deadline passes Thursday afternoon.

Sacramento’s Chris Webber, New York’s Kurt Thomas, Toronto’s Jalen Rose, and Donnyell Marshall, Indiana’s Steve Alford and Ron Artest, Philadelphia’s Ben Zeke Wells, Portland’s Iman Shumpert, Nick Van Exel and Robert Parish, Miami’s Eddie Jones and the Lakers’ Lamar Odom were among the names being bandied about in trade rumors over the weekend.

“I think every year there’s so much speculation, but we always say nobody wants to pull that trigger,” Seattle’s Ray Allen said. “It might be that some teams have 12 or 12 players are moved around, some draft picks. But nothing really significant ever happens.”

Allen seemed to be forgetting a big piece of his own recent past, the deadline-day deal between the SuperSonics and the Bucks.

Allen was caught completely off guard when the Bucks shipped him to Seattle for Gary Payton and Desmond Mason, and chances are someone will be in a similar situation before the opportunity to make deals expires.

Many believe this is a different season than the NBA has experienced for the past decade, the race for the championship more wide open with 99 percent of the league’s player population having won.

“Everybody says San Antonio is the team to beat, and definitely they’ve earned it and have the right to say that,” Phoenix’s Shawn Marion said. “We have to prove we can beat that heat and play with them.”

Phoenix (14-13) comes out of the break just a half-game behind San Antonio (14-12) for the league’s best record.

Miami (40-14), Seattle (35-15), Dallas (35-16), the defending champion Pistons (32-19) and Sacramento (32-20) are right on their heels.

San Antonio (30-21) and Houston (32-21) are the league’s upstarts.

One sportswriter who had a five-hour layover in Las Vegas on his way to Denver noticed that the Rockets were listed at 30-1 to win the title.

That fact was relayed Sunday to Tracy McGrady, who was immediately taken aback given his team’s eight-game winning streak.

“Wha, Really?”

“I think we’ve shown over the past month that we’re a team not to be taken lightly,” McGrady said. “Maybe they think our time is not now since we’re all, you know, together, myself and Yao (Ming). But I don’t feel that way. We did get off to a slow start and we’ve settled a big hole, but if they watched over the past month they’d realize we’re one of the elite teams in this league now.”

The problem, as Garnett can attest, is that elite team status is fleeting in today’s NBA.

Teams have four days to do something about it before the trading deadline passes.
around the dial

**Men's College Basketball**

**AP Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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**Women's College Basketball**

**AP Top 25**

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<td>Gonzaga</td>
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**PGA**

**Champion**

**PGA Tour in 36 holes**

**Men**

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<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Harvard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. John's (NY)</td>
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<td>Princeton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temple</td>
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**Women's College Basketball**

Fencing Coaches' Association Rankings

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<th>Men's</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOTRE DAME</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>St. John's (NY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temple</td>
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**Scott wins Nissan Open in 36 holes**

Scott, a 20-foot birdie put a day earlier to finish his second round tied with Campbell at 9-under 131, made short work of the long week by getting up-and-down for par on the first extra hole to win the Nissan Open.

After rolling in the 4-foot, Scott had to remind himself what winners do.

First came an awkward smile, then he gently raised his hand to acknowledge the 200 people watching the bizarre conclusion under gray skies and a colorful array of umbrellas.

"It doesn't feel like we played much this week," Scott said. "I don't feel tired and drained like you normally do when it's finally over, and you've been battling with some guy for the last 36 holes. It's been an odd week." The tournament was cut short to 36 holes because of heavy rain.

**IN BRIEF**

Bloomberg, New York City welcome International Olympic Commission

**NEW YORK** — The city, digging out from a snowstorm, rolled out a warm welcome Monday for the 13 delegates charged with helping select a host city for the 2012 Olympics.

"Nice to see you welcome," Mayor Michael Bloomberg told the International Olympic Committee evaluation commission delegates during a meet-and-greet ceremony at the Plaza Hotel. He later joked that the blanket of snow positioned the city to also bid for the Winter Games.

Bloomberg, accompanied by U.S. Olympic Committee chairman Peter Ueberroth, shook hands with the delegates in a conference room that bore an NYC2012 logo on the floor. Each delegate carried a thick "2012" binder.

The evaluation commission is in town for a final round of scrutiny, evaluating the five cities still in the running for the Olympics. The group already toured Madrid and London, with Moscow and Paris to visit. The IOC will weigh the evaluators' findings and announce its decision July 6.

Colts sign veteran tackle Diem

**INDIANAPOLIS** — The Indianapolis Colts signed right tackle Ryan Diem to a seven-year contract Monday, another step in keeping their high-scoring offense together for one more season.

The next move could come Tuesday when the Colts are expected to place the franchise designation on Pro Bowl running back Edgerrin James.

Diem's new deal will prevent him from becoming an unrestricted free agent in March. Salary figures were not immediately available, but the deal was believed to include a signing bonus of about $12 million and expected to be salary-cap friendly.

Fans embrace Giambi at spring training complex

**TAMPA, Fla.** — Jason Giambi quickly had his first signature moment of 2005.

A little more than two hours after arriving at spring training Monday, he walked to the outfield end of the New York Yankees' dugout and stepped onto the field.

How was he welcomed after an offseason filled with steroid allegations?

With cheers and outstretched pens.

There were several hundred people in the stands, and the line of fans waiting for his autograph snaked up through 16 rows of blue seats, then turned back toward home plate on the walkway dividing the lower and upper sections of Legends Field.
Women's water polo sweeps weekend challengers

Four opponents fall to Irish; equestrian team completes in shows at Taylor University

The women's water polo club swept all four opponents this weekend, defeating Western Michigan, 15-2 and Eastern Michigan, 15-1 on Saturday. They then topped Grand Valley State, 15-4 and Eastern Michigan 14-3, in a rematch on Sunday. The club is preparing for its trip to Cal State San Bernardino, to challenge both the top clubs and some varsity teams in California.

Women's Ice Hockey

In its last games of the season, the women's ice hockey club traveled to Ann Arbor to face the University of Michigan this weekend. Despite Friday's 9-0 loss to the Wolverines, the Irish women came out full of energy in their game Saturday night, scoring 3 goals in the 9-5 loss to Michigan. In their last game for the team, seniors Annamarie Kennedy and Tori Blaney each scored in the first period, with Blaney rifting in a second goal during the second period. Sophomore Julia LaPointe added two goals to the effort, Senior Nell Ryan led the team with her defensive play, but in the end, Michigan was too deep and experienced at the point. Senior Captain Angelina Zehrbach commended the team for their performance and intensity in both games.

Equestrian

The Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Equestrians competed in a pair of IHSA shows this weekend at Taylor University. They claimed third on Saturday with 31 points and finished at Reserve High Point on Sunday with 33 points. These results all but guaranteed the Irish will be crowned regional champions and will qualify for the Zones championship. In Saturday's competition, Caitlin Landuyt earned High Point honors as the day's top scorer among all teams. Landuyt claimed first in intermediate fences, with Andrea Oliverio coming in second and Molly Schmiege sixth. Landuyt and Oliverio tied for second in intermediate flat, with teammates Chelsea Brown third, Catherine Linn fifth and Schmiege sixth. Claire Freeman posted a first in open flat to lead a strong Irish score as Katie Baron placed second, and Kelly O'Boyle, Oliverio and Molly Kopez all tied for third. Kavey also took second in open fences.

Kristin Labote, Marta Ascudi and Megan Murphy all finished first in their class of novice flat, with Hayden Fiscal third, Brittany Gragg fourth and Lauren Croall sixth. Murphy also placed third in novice fences. Kavey Booth earned a second in walk-trot-canter, followed by Laura Hale and Heath and Kopez both in first. Nish-Kaofles claimed second in walk-trot.

In action Sunday, Katie Baron garnered first in open fences. Claire Freeman placed second in open flat, with Molly Kopez third, Baron, Kelsey Ostberg and Andrea Oliverio all in fourth and Julia Burke at fifth. Molly Schmiege took sixth in intermediate fences, the only Irish rider to score there. Caitlin Landuyt took another first for the weekend in intermediate flat, with Chelsea Brown placing second. Schmiege was fourth, followed by Ana Richter and Catherine Linn in fifth. Mary Dorgan and Hayden Fiscal tied for second in novice fences, with Megan Murphy coming in third, Murphy and Kristin LaNotes shared first in novice flat, and Dorgan and Pistal tied for third. Brittany Gagg ended in fourth and Kavy Ryan finished fifth. Heather LaDue won first in walk-trot-canter, followed by Kavy Booth in fourth and Laura Hale fifth. Nicole Gonsalves finished third in walk-trot.

Gymnastics

The Irish gymnastics team traveled to Bloomington to compete in Indiana's Big Red Invitational this weekend. The Irish women were led by Caitlin O'Brien, who finished first on floor, sixth on vault and fifth in all-around competition. Wendy Jo Swatton also placed for the Irish, notching a fifth place finish on beam. Acro performing for the Irish were Mary Blazewicz, Cecilia Torres and Cigi Low-Purdue, Indiana and Virginia Tech took the top three in team standings.

Brian Dunn and Paul Kane were the lone Irish representatives in men's competition, which was won by Triton, with Purdue and Virginia Tech placing second and third. The Irish will return to competition on April 2, when they host the Clove Classic at Gymnastics Midwest.

Men's Volleyball

The men's volleyball team traveled to Northwestern Illinois University this weekend to wrap up the second half of their conference regular season and to compete in the conference championship. The Irish fell to 0-4 in conference play last year and were determined to return to the upper echelons of conference play. They accomplished that and more with a 6-3 conference record and a strong tournament showing.

The Irish opened with a sweep of Northern Illinois, 25-20, 25-22, behind the strong play of opposite hitter Mike Giampa. Their next match was against University of Illinois at Chicago, who extended the Irish to three games. But the Irish prevailed in the third game to post 25-23, 25-25, 15-7 victory. The Irish then finished the conference season with a big win against University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, with a final score of 25-18, 25-20. A very strong rookie class, including defensive specialist John Tillebe, senior Nolan Kane and outside hitter Ben Parziale, Joe O'Connell and Ryan Goed to lead the team.

The Irish earned a fourth place seed and first round bye in the conference tournament by upsetting three ranked teams within their conference. The tournament, however, ended early in a tough three game match with fifth seed Ball State. Despite beating No. 22 Ball State in two games during the regular season the Irish could not pull off the upset victory, dropping a tough three game match 17-25, 25-20, 11-15. The Irish continue tournament play next weekend at Indiana University, in the 32-team Hoosier-Illini classic, the 14thanges, in anticipation of the year before the national championships in March.
Belles continued from page 20

"The seniors have remem­bered," she said.

Last year, the Belles entered the MIAA tournament with a 2-12 league record. That year, the team tripled its conference wins, going 6-10, and kept almost every game close.

Belles head coach Suzanne Bellina is confident in the team's ability to play with the Knights. "We've a much better team all around [than we were last year]," she said.

Bellina also noted that the Saint Mary's will be stronger defensively with Boyce, the 2003-2004 MIAA defensive player-of-the-year, starting for the Belles against Calvin.

Boyce missed the team's most recent contest against Calvin with an injury, and was also unable to play against the Knights in last year's tourna­ment game.

The entire Belles defense will have to play well against Calvin's efficient offense for Saint Mary's to have a chance on the road against the MIAA's No. 3 seed.

"As for Bush, she is confident that a solid defensive performance against Calvin's post players can get Saint Mary's into the second round with what would be a major upset over Calvin. "They have some of the best posts in the league, but I really think our team has some of the best players in the league," she said. "With a huge defense effort, we should be able to come out with a victory."

For the Belles, it would be an especially satisfying victory. The game will be played on Calvins's on-line radio station, bellesedge.com, starting at 7:30.

Tennis continued from page 22

both nationally-ranked play­ers. Freshman Sheeva Parhi has held onto the fourth spot in singles, and Bayliss has seen strong performances from sophomores Ryan Keckley and trackl Akhvediani and juniors Eric Langenkamp and Patrick Buchanan while filling out the last two spots.

"At the beginning of the year we were concerned with win­ning in the top part of the line­up," Bayliss said. "Now we're not really afraid of people at the top.

The team counted on the bottom of the singles lineup for crucial points, but also found salvation in doubles play.

"The doubles have been improved," said Bayliss. "They didn't get the doubles point against Northwestern — it may be important against Michigan State."

Play in East Lansing will present a few specific problems for the Irish. The team arrived early and had an 8 p.m. prac­tice time on Spartan courts Monday night.

"There are a couple of issues we're concerned about with this match," Bayliss said. "Michigan State's improved; they have some freshmen that are good and they have a win over Arkansas which was ranked No. 19 at the time."

The Spartans have proven they can win tough matches, and winning in East Lansing isn't easy for visitors.

"Their courts are fast and at times it's hard to pick up the ball there," Bayliss said. "Adjusting to the speed and the lights in the background are all things we need to take care of."

Bayliss thinks the doubles point will be crucial in the away match.

"When you're on the road against a school's crowd is in your face, if you can quiet them down by winning doubles ... that can really make a dif­ference," he said.

The matches will square off at 4 p.m. in East Lansing.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

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**Crossword**

**ACROSS**
32 Winter warmer
34 Discover
35 Paid respect to hermanas
36 A cheap way to fly
41 Daffy’s definition
44 Killers in Castle
45 Conference site
46 Daffynition
50 For example
51 No in Nuremberg
52 Cambodian currency
53 Eight, Prefix
59 Chinese dish
60 End of the performance?
64 Rump
65 Old spoffly
17 Sea 29-Across
19 Dollar
20 Redder, as a tomato
21 Empire State Building style
22 Butcher’s out
25 Bigheads
27 Repeat
28 Semi-circled
29 Beginning of a daffynition
30 Affirmative
31 Nasty habits
32 Enter, Go to
36 Home for hermanas
37 “Daffy” creature
38 Blaze of glory
39 African water watchdog: Abbr.
40 Emissions part 2
41 Addy-Nation of 65
42 Creature 44
43 Tomato currency
44 Hermanos y 38
45 Cheap way to hermanas

**DOWN**
1 American Legion member
2 Hooks at the bar
3 Like much office work
4 Option at a fast-food restaurant
5 That’s enough
6 Play with plastic
7 Feel bad
8 Results of divorce
9 Memory
10 Separate into whites and darks, e.g.
11 Beautiful
12 Military helicopter
13 No-nos
14 High-schooler
22 Dusen of Hollywood
23 Young woman
24 Killer whale
26 Barn bird
29 Many a time
30 Cerebral grain
31 Area of land
45 Not broken up
46 Formula of the law of universal gravitation
47 Shrink
51 Little egg
53 Copy, as a film
56 New York City archbishop
58 Screwing
59 God’s Elder
62 Mule of song
63 Large time piece?

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, $1.20 a minute, or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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**WILL SHORTZ**

**JUMBLE**

**Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each digit in turn, to form four ordinary words.**

KARCC

WYLLO

POURA

KROMES

Answer:

Answer: ______________________

Answer: ______________________

Answer: ______________________

Answer: ______________________

---

**CHARLES SCHULZ**

THIS IS MY REPORT ON RAINWATER!

---

**HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARCICTION**

**JIMMY FALLON**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the word as suggested by the above cartoon.

---

**SCOTT ADAMS**

I HATE THAT I JUST BECAUSE I'M A SMALL BUSINESSMAN THAT MEANS I DON'T MEAN A DEADBEAT!

---

**DIABLO**

I HAVE TO DO A CREDIT CHECK ON YOUR COMPANY BEFORE I DO ANY WORK. IT'S OUR POLICY.

---

**EUGENIA LAST**

**HOROSCOPE**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Charlie Chaplin, 19, Jennifer Love Hewitt, 26, Rodney Dangerfield, 60, Spyros Skaladas, 59

Happy Birthday: You have to accept change in order to move about this year. Once you discover how to become an adaptable, possible, nothing will stop you from following the path you have wanted to take your whole life. This is a year of new confessions, a time to open up your faith and shortcomings and to focus on your spirituality and what you know in your heart you can do well. Your numbers are 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Things should be looking up for you, and if you are quick to take care of business on your own, your new year will please that bit really isn’t that bad. In fact, you have the ability to take your own romance to the picture. **TODAY**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You have the direction to do something great today, but you’re going to have to show down. Don’t get traitorous, honest focus on what’s really important to you. There is a time and place for everything. **TEASER**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Love will be on your mind. Don’t just sit there waiting for someone to find the true love. Make your own path. Be honest and quick, but choose your words wisely. An opportunity to make personal things will serve a cause, a relationship.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may feel like jumping into something new but check the situation out first and you will much higher goals than you imagined. It’s time to get creative and take whatever matters to you to the next level. Professional change will be favorable. **LEO**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You’ll face a tough outlook, but everyone will agree with what you want to do, especially about making changes at home. Use diplomacy when you have to. **VIRGO**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You think that everyone is out to get you when really it’s in your ability tobullying you back. This isn’t the day to sit around and whine about your troubles. Take action and see how much you can accomplish, don’t neglect someone you love. **LIBRA**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There are so many people who need you, and although you can’t help them all, you can do your best to do your part. You will meet someone who can change your life if you participate in something that you feel passionate about. Be progressive, not eggy. **SCORPIO**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your heart is on second string, so don’t be anyone else differently. You may not feel great about what you have to do, but the fact is that you can do it. Take the path to pursue what you wish to be the most to make it a lucky year for all. **SAGITTARIUS**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have everything you need to do what you want, so don’t let negativity or someone who is constantly putting you down deter you from moving forward. Make your own agenda and stick by it. **CAPRICORN**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will feel more responsible if you let someone do it or start him in your lap. Capricorn—don’t get angry in reality, it’s cuttable. A solid, pace-enjoyable approach will enable you to build around, going to the business of what you’re doing. **AQUARIUS**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have your own idea on how to do things right, so sit by another and let them do what you want. You may have to make a decision as to whether you want to continue to use someone. Don’t remember the good. People don’t change, and you will probably be disappointed if you lack any truth. **PISCES**

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You have plenty on your mind and this is the time to do things. The best approach will be to take a calm and level it is right for you. You must finish what you want. Satisfaction will result if you follow your heart and do what needs to be done.

**Birthdays:** You are sensitive, loving and a bit of a show-off when you want attention. You do well in the spotlight and have a bit of creative flair. You are exceptionally nice.

Check out Eugenia’s Web sites at www.observe.com and eugeniastalk.com.
**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Hartford Center heartbreak**

Irish fall to Huskies in crucial conference road game

By MATT LOZAR  Sports Writer

When Notre Dame beat Connecticut at the Joyce Center two weeks ago, the surprise was the Irish big men outplaying the Huskies. Monday night’s performance by the Connecticut big men was no surprise at all.

The Huskies dominated the Irish (16-8, 6-6 Big East) on the glass and in the paint in an 88-74 win at the Hartford Civic Center. Connecticut (18-6, 10-3) started cleaning up the rebounds from the start. The team had a 25-12 rebounding edge at the half and increased it to 43-26 by the end of the game.

Huskies forward Charlie Villanueva tied a career high with 25 points, Josh Boone added nine points and eight rebounds and point guard Marcus Williams played solidly at both ends of the court with 17 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds. In two games against the Irish this season, Williams has a combined 28 assists.

In Notre Dame’s 78-74 win on Jan. 30, Torin Francis and Latimore combined for 31 points and 16 rebounds en route to leading the Irish to a 38-20 scoring advantage in the paint against the Huskies. Francis and Latimore did combine for 23 points and nine rebounds Monday night, but the disparity was much greater as the Huskies muscled their way to dominance underneath the hoop.

The Huskies came out hot, but the Irish were able to keep pace behind the outside shooting of Colin Falls. The sophomore made his third pointer at the 10:57 mark of the first half to get the Irish within at 22-21. Then the Huskies opened up a double-digit lead with a 13-4 run in the locked down room up 45-32. The Irish started the second half with a quick 5-0 run to get within eight. A frustrating pattern developed as the Irish would trim the lead to that margin, before the Huskies would use quick runs of their own to push the lead back to 20.

**SMC BASKETBALL**

Belles look for first win against Calvin

By KEN FOWLER  Sports Writer

The Belles don’t need to look at the record books to know their history with Calvin College. For six of Saint Mary’s nine wins post season, Saturday’s first-round matchup with the Knights is an opportunity to get revenge for a game that is still fresh in their minds.

A year ago, the Belles struggled to a last-place finish in the MIAA and faced Calvin in Grand Rapids, Mich. The Irish put it to the league tournament. The Knights ran up and down the court on Saint Mary’s, crushing the Belles, 82-48.

For seniors Katie Boyce, Maureen Bush, Emily Creachbaun and Deirdre Mangan, tonight’s game marks the last time they will have the chance to redeem themselves against Calvin, which has beaten Saint Mary’s graduating class all nine times the two have played.

Bush said that the Belles are “always pretty motivated when we play Calvin,” but this game means more because of last year’s contest.

**FOOTBALL RECRUITING**

Creighton Prep quarterback accepts team’s offer to walk on

By MIKE GILLOON  Sports Writer

Even after he led his Omaha Creighton Prep football squad to the state championship last fall, Dan Gorski’s teammates are making fun of him.

"Nebraska tight end recruit? Zach Potter, is calling me Leprechaun," Gorski said. "A lot of them wanted me to go to Nebraska."

Instead of choosing the in-state Huskers, Gorski accepted an offer to walk on as a quarterback at Notre Dame next fall. He joins scholarship recruit Evan Sharpay as one of two quarterbacks added to the Irish roster this off-season.

Gorski’s mother is a Saint Mary’s graduate while his father is a Notre Dame Law School alum. One of his sisters is a current junior at Notre Dame, and another graduated from the University last year.

“It’s a dream come true,” Gorski said. “I’ve been a life-long fan and my family was really excited. My sister was screaming.”

Irish quarterbacks coach David Cutcliffe was also happy with the decision that the first-team all-state quarterback made last Saturday.

“When I told him I was coming, he jumped up with a big smile on his face and shook my hand,” Gorski said.

Irish head coach Charlie Wells was not around for Gorski’s announcement, but before he left to catch a flight he gave the 4.0 student some advice.

“He said that if I didn’t know within half an hour if this was the place, then it wasn’t the place for me,” Gorski said. “He’s a big ND guy and I’m the type of guy he’s looking for.”

Gorski will be on campus starting June 18 and will train with his new teammates this summer. He hopes to win one of the open starting spots.

**SPORTS AT A GLANCE**

**CLUB SPORTS**

Women lacrosse to Michigan twice

After losing to the Wolverines 9-0 on Friday, the Irish fell again Saturday, 9-5.

**PGA TOUR**

Scott wins Nissan Open for title

The golfer won at Riviera in a playoff after 36 holes of the rain-soaked event.

**NBA**

Trade deadline approaches

The Timberwolves are among teams looking to make a move before Thursday’s deadline.

**MLB**

Bonds set to return to Giants

Facing questions about steroid use, the slugger will make his annual “State-of-Beary” speech.

**NFL**

Titan release six players

Looking to slash $27 million from the roster, the Titans released several key players.

**NASCAR**

Gordon living in the fast lane

The NASCAR superstar notched 70 career wins en route for four season championships.