College grants focus on local area

Students collaborate with South Bend

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Assistant News Editor

A few months ago, Elin Sanchez was just a regular student at Saint Mary's. Now, with the help of a grant from the University of Washington's Intercultural Leadership (CWII), she is putting her Spanish skills to work as the student coordinator, archivist, and producer of a local public television program "Imagen Falta.

CWII has created a new grant opportunity for Saint Mary's faculty and students like Sanchez, designed to facilitate projects between the local community and the college. The "bridging college with community grant," which is co-sponsored by the office of civic and social engagement, provides up to $2500 for faculty-student teams to collaborate with a community member or organization on educational initiatives.

Since its birth in 2000, CWII has awarded dozens of grants related to its mission of instilling intercultural engagement at Saint Mary's. The center often provides money for students traveling abroad and faculty research in intercultu... see CWII/page 6

Students anticipate Bush's visit

By KATE ANTONACCI
Assistant News Editor

Students lined up outside the Joyce Room in the LaFortune Student Center Wednesday to enter a lottery for the 200 available tickets to President Bush's visit to the Joyce Athletic Center Complex (JACC) Friday.

"I don't have an exact number, but our rough estimate is that around 1500 identification cards were swiped," said Jimmy Flaherty, Student Union Board (SUB) manager.

SUB was asked to conduct a lottery Tuesday evening and put together a distribution similar to the one used for away football games, which usually takes a few weeks to plan. Flaherty credited the hard work of SUB members for the efficiency of the last-minute event.

"People were actually really excited," said Flaherty. "People kind of know what to expect from a SUB lottery — that they are well run and organized."

SUB was the organizer of the event, but Student Government, mainly the Student Senate, was asked to assist in the ticket distribution. Student government officers said students took advantage of the opportunity to put their name in the lottery.

"Both my conservative and liberal friends are trying to get tickets, which is also positive," said Nick Coleman, Senate Diversity Committee Chair. "I could also notice that the students were disappointed that only 200 students will have the opportunity to see President Bush from this lottery."

Many students expressed excitement at the chance to see President Bush, whether or not their political beliefs are consistent with those of the current administration.

"I was interested in hearing our president speak, especially since I'm a Bush supporter. I'd be interesting to see what he has to say," said junior Johnny Mosan. "I'd be cool. Not everyone gets to hear a president speak in person."

Bush's speech about Social Security is open to the greater South Bend community, as well as to Notre Dame, but tickets are short in supply... see LOTTERY/page 4

Death penalty talk gets personal

Exonerated inmate, others discuss firsthand experiences in panel

By KARIEN LANGLEY
News Writer

While the issue of capital punishment typically generates debate, few discussions involve individuals from as many perspectives as did Wednesday night's panel entitled "National Debate on the Death Penalty." A pardoned death row inmate and the grandson of a brutally murdered woman were among those who offered their opinions on the issue.

The discussion was one of the culminating events in a weeklong series of events called "Life in the Balance: Death Penalty Perspectives," and was moderated by law student Kate Leahy, chair of the Notre Dame Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, and senior Michael Poffenberger, an anthropology and peace studies major.

"It is up to us as concerned speakers to determine how to act most responsibly within society," Poffenberger said.

The first panel member to speak was Richard Dieter, the executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Death Penalty Information Center. Dieter stressed the presence of the death penalty in American history while referring to Tuesday's Supreme Court ruling that the Constitution bars capital punishment for juveniles.

"What happened yesterday was an amazing turnaround for the Court. The Supreme Court took on this issue 15 years ago, but in 1989 there was a sense that the death penalty was permissible under our constitution," Dieter said.

"Even when the death penalty was originally banned in 1972, it was not because executing humans was deemed cruel or unusual, but because (capital punishment) laws at that time were very arbitrary.

Dieter described the subsequent shift in public opinion away from the death penalty, attributing this move to the establishment of DNA technology as an accepted means of... see PANEL/page 6

Air Force One not expected to disrupt spring break flights

By MADDIE HANNA
Assistant News Editor

While some students are vying for tickets to President Bush's speech at the Joyce Center Friday, and others are preparing to protest outside, still others are worrying about the prospect of spring break flight delays out of South Bend Regional Airport due to the arrival of Air Force One. However, the only delays will occur during the 15 minutes before Bush's arrival and the 15 minutes after his departure, airport executive director John Schallid said.

The White House issued a media release Wednesday that included arrival and departure times for Air Force One, but asked news agencies to keep the information confidential for security reasons. Local television stations WNWI and WSIT, how... see AIRPORT/page 4
INSIDE COLUMN

Spring break ... serenity?

Unlike a lot of my classmates, I’m not going on vacation for spring break. Sure, a cruise in the Caribbean or spending the day relaxing on a beach in Mexico would be nice. But what’s so great about a week in a tropical paradise full of sand and sun? Instead of all that, I’m heading back to my hometown of Omaha. That’s right. Instead of travelling to Cabo, I’m spending my spring break “someplace in middle America.” And I can’t wait. I can’t wait to hang out with a few of my old friends. But not to party all night long, I just want to relax the grip is all worn off and the Leprechaun is gone, but it still works for a game of knock-out. I can’t wait to sleep in my bunk bed, the same one I’ve slept in since I was eight years old. It creation a little bit of a mess, but it’s cozy and the sheets are a lot warmer than my dorm room. I can’t wait to drive past Rosenblatt Stadium, the home of the College World Series. I’ll look forward to the second week of June, when I can sit with my friends in the sun-soaked stands all day long and watch the top college baseball teams in America. Tickets are only five bucks, just two dollars less than the Ted Williams Center.

I can’t wait to drive past Homer’s Music, the best record store in town. The CDs aren’t as cheap as at Best Buy, but the atmosphere is incomparable. There are only two cash registers, and the people behind them look like they are actually listening to the music they sell. I can’t wait to go. And if I get bored? Well, I’ll just turn on MTV and see how much fun everyone’s having at spring break.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTION

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have noticed a mistake, please contact us at 651-4414 so we can correct our error.

IN BRIEF

There will be a poetry reading entitled “Notes from the Divided Country” today from 7 p.m. to 8 in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall.

The Higgins Labor Research Center is sponsoring a viewing of the film “On the Waterfront” today at 4 p.m. in C-100 Hesburgh Center.

As part of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Awareness Week, the film “In and Out” will be shown today at 6 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom. There will be free pizza and soda at the event.

Frank Connolly, professor of mathematics, will be featured in the workshop “How to Prepare Undergraduates for Graduate Work and Graduate Fellowship Competitions” Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune Center. The event is open to all Notre Dame faculty.

Men’s and women’s track will be competing in the Alex Wilson invitational from 7 p.m. to 9:30 in the Loftes Sports Center on Saturday. The meet continues Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The film “Bad Education” will be shown at 2 p.m. and 10 in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. For tickets, call the DeBartalo box office at 1-2800.

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

OFFBEAT

Men set off nuclear alert detector on fire engine

ESCONDIDO, Calif. — A man who recently had received radiation treatment for a medical condition set off a nuclear alert detector on a fire engine, prompting police to close down a roadway in Escondido while authorities searched for a nuclear weapon.

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District engine crew’s radiation monitor sounded Tuesday when the man and his friend walked past the crew on their way to fill a gas can. The Nuke Alert monitor sounded again as the men walked back to their vehicle.

Firefighters notified the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department after they drove by the men’s vehicle and the monitor sounded a third time.

Robber: Prison will help my crime research

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A man who parked car counting loot from the bank he’d just robbed, with his fake mustache falling off, told the judge who gave him a nine-year term that prison would be an opportunity for his further study of criminal behavior.

“I’ve talked to kids about crime across this country and on three continents,” John L. Stanley told U.S. District Judge Fernando Gallatin at his sentencing on Tuesday. “But there are some things about crime you can’t understand unless you go into the belly of the beast.”

Stanley, 61, of Dallas, already has first-hand knowledge of life behind bars, and he’s written and lectured about his criminal past.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY: IF YOU WERE ON IRISH IDOL, WHAT SONG WOULD YOU SING, AND WHY?

Brendan DuBree 
senior 
Sanford

That ‘Numa-'Numa-i-e’i’s song because that dancing fat guy is just awesome.

Andy Carter 
freshman 
Fishers

“School’s Out for the Summer because we all know why.”

Zac Liptak 
freshman 
Zumwalt

“Heck... ‘Jefferson Starship’ because it’s awesome.”

Eric Nafke 
freshman 
Dillon

“If I did sing, which I can’t, I would sing something romantic, like Whitney Houston.”

Graeme Ruiz 
senior 
Off-campus

“Since U Been Gone” because Hamilton Marx is my idol.”

Pat Ryan 
freshman 
Kearney

“Eric Clapton’s ‘Sunflower’ because it’s awesome.”

Members of Army ROTC spent part of the day Wednesday in the snow on South Quad practicing the skill of land navigation. Using only a compass and counting their steps, they were able to calculate how far they traveled.

TODAY

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY

HIGH 31 LOW 24 HIGH 21 LOW 16 HIGH 42 LOW 29 HIGH 35 LOW 25 HIGH 37 LOW 31 HIGH 44 LOW 28

Members discuss newspaper, printer pilot programs

By AMANDA MICHAELS

Pilot programs took the wheel at Wednesday night’s meeting of the Student Senate, where senators were given updates on the progress of both the College Readingship and dorm printer pilot programs.

Tracie Sexton of the USA Today addressed the Senate during podium, giving a review of the College Readingship Program’s progress and answering any questions senators might have.

The four-week long pilot program, which ends Friday, is a free trial period during which the newspaper needs of the student population are addressed, and after which members of the student government can assess the value of paying for the service for the full term.

Sexton said that over a three-week period, 26,889 newspapers circulated through Notre Dame’s student body.

“The consumption was awesome here,” Sexton said. “It’s probably one of the strongest consumption patterns we’ve seen at any school.”

She reported that 900 copies of the New York Times and USA Today and 800 copies of the Chicago Tribune are now being distributed to campus locations — more than double the 400 handed out each day when the program first started.

Affirming that everything went very well,” Sexton explained that they will continue the surveys taken this week and begin to work out the most viable processes for the program for University.

Students questioned about the cost of the service. Sexton declined to give a number, saying they have to get through the process of analyzing and discussion before they can come to a realistic budget.

Vijay Ramanam, chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs, which spearheaded the program, said his committee is looking into sources of funding, and plans to send letters to academic departments asking for contributions to help balance out the costs.

“Chris Harris, Carroll Senator and member of the Committee on A & d e m i c Affairs, then updated the group on the status of the dorm printer pilot program, which installed printers in five dorms in hopes of determining whether putting a printer in every dorm would be both feasible and necessary.

Harris said he was told 1,500 to 2,000 pages were printed off in the trial dorms each week, and that an expansion to all the dorms is being considered. The cost of doing so, however, must be factored into the University’s budget before it can be approved.

Sending the senators off on a lighter note, Sorin senator Erik Powers and his former presidential running mate Alex White presented a resolution to change the name of spring break at Notre Dame to “Alce White’s Week of Awesomeness.”

The pair expressed concern about a number of issues that might affect the University “socially, physically, emotionally and epidemically,” as Powers said.

White protested the mis­nomer of “Spring Break,” pointing out that the vacation is two weeks before the Vernal Equinox that officially ushered in the spring season, and the violence committed by the word “break” itself.

He suggested changing its title to, among other things, “A Temporary Restraining Order from Our Lady.”

They also objected to the prevalence of fake tans on the campus, proposing that the University line the sidewalk with full sheets so students could get a tan while walking to class.

Also in question was the enforcement of parietals over the summer.

“Imagine giving each student an ankle that can detect the hormone levels in the room and runs on a universal clock, so if there’s too much of the wrong hormone in a room after midnight or two, you get a little shock,” White said.

They also proposed that students write a one-page report on their vacation experiences, and that a booth with pin-up crucifixes be set up in LaPorte so everyone be sure the rooms they stay in over break have one.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

Bomber had sketch of Grand Central Station

NEW YORK — A crude sketch of a passenger train Terminal was found at the home of a suspect in the Madrid train bombings, but was not considered cause for alarm, New York City’s police commissioner said Wednesday.

The one-page, hand-drawn document was “a very basic schematic,” Commissioner Raymond Kelly said. “It’s not an operational plan. It’s not something that was drawn to indicate an immediate threat.”

The Spanish newspaper El Mundo reported that the drawing and other data were on a computer disk seized about two weeks after the twin bombings in Madrid that killed 191 people on March 11, 2004. Spanish police turned the disk over to the FBI in CIA in December.

Kelly said the data — found on the disk of a laptop computer — was also shared with the New York Police Department’s counterterrorism division and city transit officials, who concluded the sketch depicted Grand Central.

The material also included photographs, and a drawing of a private building in the city, which Kelly refused to identify. But an analysis found no indication of a terrorism plot, and authorities quickly decided there was no need to alert the public, he said.

“We didn’t see it as a targeting piece of information,” he said.

On Wednesday at Grand Central, security appeared to be at a high level as usual, with National Guardsmen, law enforcement officers carrying machine guns, and bomb-sniffing dogs.

“I’m used to this,” said Hodges, a tourist from England who was passing through the station. “We’re used to it. It’s part of every public place. It’s part of the price of being a tourist.”

There were no signs of heightened security in the sub­ ways and at train stations. Those measures were in place long before the city received word of the sketch.

“This is not something I think people should be pan­icked about or worried about,” Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. “We took the appropriate steps and we do not think that in that particular case there was a real plan to attack Grand Central.”
**English**

**Ban on Muslim dress ruled violation of rights**

Associated Press

**AUCKLAND** — A school violated a student's human rights by banning her from wearing a traditional Muslim gown, a British court ruled Wednesday, ending more than two-year legal battle.

Assimilating Muslim students is a sensitive political issue in Europe, especially in France, where last year banned "conspicuous religious symbols" such as head scarves from state schools. Britain allows individual schools to decide what form of dress is appropriate.

Shabina Begum, now 16, was sent home from school in Luton, north of London, in September 2002 for wearing the jilbab, a long, flowing gown covering all her body except her hands and face.

She first went to the High Court, arguing that the ban breached her right to religious freedom under the European Convention on Human Rights.

The court rejected that argument in June. But on Wednesday a panel of three Court of Appeal judges ruled that Begum had been illegally excluded from the school, which "unlawfully denied her the right to manifest her religion.

The teenager was represented in her high-profile appeal by Cherrie Booth, wife of Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Muslim leaders welcomed the ruling that Denbigh High School had breached Begum's right to freedom of religion. The school said it was trying to respect the views of all its students — and balance competing views of what is "appropriate" Muslim attire.

Begum, who now attends a school that allows her to wear the jilbab, said the ruling was "a victory for all Muslims who wish to preserve their identity and values despite prejudice and bigotry.

"It is amazing that in the so-called free world I have to fight to wear this attire," she said.

**Lottery**

continued from page 1

"I think it might be the only chance I have to bear the president's speck," said junior Mark Cartorki. "If I win, I would change my plans at this point.

I heard today that the airport already knew [about Bush], so there aren't flights scheduled while he's here, but I don't know if that's true," she said.

**Egpyt**

**Australian archaeologists discover mummy**

Associated Press

SAQQARA — Archaeologists uncovered three coffins and a remarkable well-preserved mummy in a 2,500-year-old tomb near Beni Suef — after opening a secret door hidden behind a statue in a separate burial chamber, Egypt's chief archaeologist said Wednesday.

The Australian team was exploring a much older tomb — dating back nearly 2,500 years — belonging to a man believed to have been a eunuch to the 6th Dynasty pharaoh Pepi II, when they moved a pair of statues and discovered the door, said Zahi Hawass, Egypt's top antiquities official.

Inside, they found a tomb from the 26th Dynasty with three intricate coffins, each with a mummy. "Inside one coffin was mummy with the last name ever preserved," Hawass told reporters at the excavation site in Saqqara, a barren hillslopes. Hawass packed with ancient graves about 15 miles south of Cairo.

"The chest of the mummy is covered with beads. Most of the mummies of this period — about 300 B.C. — the heads of the mummies have been removed," he said, standing over one of the mummies that was swathed in turquoise blue beads and bound in strips of black linen.

The names of the mummies have not been determined, but the tomb is thought to be that of a middle-class official.

Hawass said the wooden coffins, called anthropods because they were in the shape of human beings, bore inscriptions dating to the 26th Dynasty, together with a statue of a deity called Petah Sakar. Petah was the god of artisans, Hawass said, while Sakar was the god of the cemetery.

The door was hidden behind 4,200-year-old statues of a man believed to have been Meri, the tutor of Pepi II, and Meri's wife, whose name was not revealed.

Meri also was believed to oversee four sacred boats found in the pyramids, which were buried with Egypt's kings to help them in the afterlife, Hawass said.

"I believe this discovery can enrich us about two important periods in our history, the Old Kingdom, which dates back to 2,500 years ago," Hawass said.

According to tradition, Pepi II — the last ruler of the 6th dynasty — reigned from 2184 B.C., one of the longest reigns in ancient Egyptian history.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palestinian leader Abbas visits EU
BRUSSELS, Belgium — Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas told the European Union on Wednesday that he wants Palestinian statehood "as soon as possible."

Abbas was making his first visit to EU headquarters to drum up support from the 25-nation bloc for his reforms to prepare for statehood. "We will continue to work to get this as soon as possible," he said.

Asked whether the Palestinians might get statehood, EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana said: "The sooner the better."

Abbas on Tuesday attended an international conference on the Middle East in London, where he pledged to improve the Palestinian Authority's "administrative capacities" and to make the country "a home for all people of Israel and world donors."

Greenspan warns lunching millions of dollars to back the building of government institutions.

Workers for the tribunal killed
BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen killed a judge and lawyer working for the tribunal that will try Saddam Hussein and members of his former regime, a day after the secret court referred five of the ousted dictator's aides to trial for alleged crimes against humanity, officials and a relative of the slain men said Wednesday.

News of the deaths came as two car bombs exploded in the capital, killing 10 Iraqi soldiers and wounding dozens of others. The first blast targeted an Iraqi army base in central Baghdad, killing six troops and wounding at least 25. A second car bomb an hour later at an army checkpoint in south Baghdad killed four soldiers, police said.

NATIONAL NEWS

Court considers Commandments
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is considering whether Ten Commandments displays on government property unconstitutionally entangle church and state, a cultural battle that has splintered lower court rulings over the past two decades.

Justices were hearing arguments Wednesday in two cases involving displays in Tennessee. It is the first time since 1980 the high court is tackling the emotional issue, in a courtroom boasting a wall carving of Moses holding the sacred tablets.

The Commandments monuments are common in town squares, courthouses and other government-owned land around the United States, raising the issue of whether they violate the First Amendment on any law "respecting an establishment of religion," or a secularist view of the legal heritage.

BTK suspect charged
WICHITA, Kan. — As Dennis Rader was formally charged with 10 counts of first-degree murder in the BTK serial killings, investigators used metal detectors to search for new evidence along suburban roads.

Sheriff Gary Sved said the search in Park City was sparked by new information from the task force investigating the serial killings. He declined to elaborate.

LOCAL NEWS

Tensions increase in the House
INDIANAPOLIS — Partisan tensions ran high in the Indiana House on Tuesday with representatives from both sides hurling several bills alive, including ones to mandate statewide observance of daylight-saving time and give the governor's inspector general provisional powers.

The Republican-controlled House convened shortly after 9 a.m. EST, but Democratic upset about several bills they consider a tax on power graps left the floor to meet privately.

ISRAEL

Gaza settlements could create jobs
JERUSALEM — Israel is negotiating to hand over greenhouses in Gaza settlements to Palestinians after its planned pullout of the city of Gaza, an official said Wednesday, and the military commander in a new plan to dig a deep, wide moat along the Gaza-Egypt border.

"The head of Israel's Disengagement Authority, told reporters that peppers and tomatoes packed into the narrow coastal strip. Luxury items such as flowers and strawberries would be exported, mainly to the European Union.

"Israel is negotiating now with America and with others, with the planned deadline of summer, an official said Wednesday, and the military commander in a new plan to dig a deep, wide moat along the Gaza-Egypt border.

A study published last year by the United Nations and the United States Agency for International Development said seven out of 10 Palestinians were living on insufficient food, and the United Nations put unemployment in Gaza at more than 22 percent.

A USAID official in Tel Aviv said 3,000 Palestinians were working in settlement greenhouses and turning them over to Palestinian ownership could create a further 7,000 jobs.

With each Gaza laborer supporting about eight other people, that could help an estimated 63,000 people. Bassi also said all the residents of the largest Gaza settlement, Neve Dekalim, could move to Nitzan, a failed community between Ashkelon and Ashdod near Israel's southern coastline.
Grants

continued from page 1

al studies. According to Bonnie Bazata, director of the Center for Cultural and Community Outreach, the center has a number of ongoing projects and is looking for additional funding.

Bazata said that the center usually has three to six projects running at any given time. The projects are typically focused on issues such as diversity, community service, and cultural awareness.

One of the projects that is currently underway is a community service project that involves students working in local schools and community centers. The project is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in community service and to help the students develop important skills.

Another project that is currently underway is a research project that is being conducted in collaboration with a local university. The project is focused on studying the impact of cultural diversity on the classroom environment.

Bazata said that the center is always looking for additional funding to support its projects. She said that the center is particularly interested in receiving grants that are focused on community service and cultural awareness.

Panel

continued from page 1


evidence in American courts.

"The numbers of convicts on death row are dropping," he said. "We're not sure who is innocent and who is guilty anymore.

Bill Pelke, whose grandmother was murdered, spoke on his personal experiences with the issue. In 1985, Pelke's grandmother was stabbed 33 times when a group of high school girls entered her home and pretended to be taking Bible lessons. Leahy explained. One of the girls, Paula Cooper, was 15 years old at the time of the murder. At 16, she became the youngest death row inmate in the United States.

"About three and a half months after she was sentenced, I began to reflect on my grandmother's life and death. My mind went back to the courtroom on the day that Paula Cooper had been sentenced to death," Pelke said. "As the judge sentenced her, I thought that someday soon the American public would have its fill of the death penalty.

Pelke described his reflections on his grandmother's murder and her killer. Pelke said that he walked by his grandmother's Christian faith. I thought of my grandmother's promise, "I no longer want her to die."

I learned the most important lesson of forgiveness.

Pelke went on to say, "I no longer want to live in the United States."

Pelke decried the suburban conditions of death row, in which inmates reside in tiny cells, are chained at all times and are forbidden to speak with anyone, except for the stephan. He said, "The moral power in the United States is that we put to death the sinner."

"The main focus is the death penalty as a death penalty," said Pelke. "What has always been missing is the right to a fair trial."

Bill Pelke presented the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and their efforts to end the death penalty.

Contact Karen Langley at klangley@nd.edu

Notre Dame Disability Awareness Month

March 2005

Tuesday, 3/15

Sujet Desai will be playing the violin, clarinet and piano. He graduated from the Berklee Music Academy and was born with Down syndrome.

7 p.m. Washington Hall, Free Admission

Saturday, 3/19

Come to the Best Buddies Friendship Games and interact with children and adults with special needs. The event will run from 12 noon-2 p.m. at the Logan Center Gym.

Monday, 3/21

Head Football Coach Charlie Weis, Sp.m. DeBartolo 102

Coach Weis will be speaking about disability awareness.

Tuesday, 3/28

Students with Disabilities Discussion, 8p.m. Legends

www.nd.edu/++buddies
Chiron resumes making flu vaccine

NEW YORK — British regulators gave the go-ahead Wednesday for Chiron Corp. to resume production of flu vaccine, ending a five-month suspension that caused widespread shortages in the United States.

The company said it plans to begin production immediately in anticipation of getting clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration so it can have vaccine available for the flu season starting this fall.

In Britain, Chiron's Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) barred the Enfield, Calif.-based company from shipping to the U.S. more than 31 million doses of its Fluvalirin-mediated flu vaccine made in its Liverpool, England factory because of contamination issues.

Chiron had been expected to supply nearly half the U.S. vaccine supply for the flu season. The resulting shortage prompted U.S. health officials to put restrictions on who was eligible for flu shots. Those restrictions were later lifted.

Disabled workers see decline in pay

Associated Press

MUNCIE, Ind. — Disabled workers employed by a Muncie, Ind., company that depends on contracts with local manufacturers have seen their pay decline as the amount of work they do has slowed down, officials said.

Simon agreed not to charge the fee unless the gift card has been unused for 12 straight months. Spitzer said Simon also agreed to disclose on the gift card the $5 fee it charges to replace a card and the fee it charges to release an unused card. The prominent disclosure is required by state law.

"This settlement recognizes that consumers are entitled to receive the full protection of the law with regard to monthly fees and important disclosures about gift card terms and conditions," Spitzer said.

Disabled workers see decline in pay

Associated Press

MUNCIE, Ind. — Disabled workers employed by a Muncie, Ind., company that depends on contracts with local manufacturers have seen their pay decline as the amount of work they do has slowed down, officials said.

"This settlement recognizes that consumers are entitled to receive the full protection of the law with regard to monthly fees and important disclosures about gift card terms and conditions," Spitzer said.
In retrospect, it is clear that the Queer Film Festival and The Vagina Monologues were not what they claimed to be. My concern is with the judgment of our leaders in permitting these events again at Notre Dame. These comments, therefore, raise no issues relating to the students involved.

Liam Dacey, director of the Queer Film Festival, said “The theme ... was ... not a promotion of aid gay agenda.” The “gay agenda,” however, is to legitimate homosexual activity as a mainstream lifestyle. The presentation of films that support that objective at a Catholic university serves that “gay agenda.” Due to space limits, discussion of that will wait for another day.

With respect to The Vagina Monologues, there is no claim to awareness of the problem of violence against women. The Vagina Monologues, however, is so inconsistent with that purpose that it could almost qualify as a spoof. In two ways, the play promotes violence against women. First, the proceeds of The Vagina Monologues went to Sex Offense Services, the rape crisis center and to the St. Joseph County YWCA. Both entities provide information on abortion access to pregnant women. Second, the Vagina Monologues were not what they claimed to be. Various monologues present the totality of body parts. The decisive moment in Monologues consists of the repeated utterance of a four-letter word, in this case the repeated utterance of “vagina.”

That monologue, Be my clitoris ... My vagina, my vagina, my vagina, me. There, the person is reduced to and equated to her body part. This segmentation and objectification of the person facilitates violence against women.

The Vagina Monologues includes a monologue, “The Litta, or the Concept That Could,” a detailed recounting of the lesbian seduction of a 16-year-old by a 24-year-old. This seduction is described by the victim as “my ... salvation.” The monologue is abominable in a Catholic university in light of the sex abuse crisis in the American Church. The major goal of such cases involves seduction of a teen-aged boy by a homosexual priest, the mirror image of the lesbian seduction portrayed as a “salvation” for the victim in the monologue.

Another monologue consists of the repeated utterance of “A little finger exploitive used to describe a body part. Other monologues, I guarantee, are better left unmentioned. The redundant and content of the text would suffer by comparison with the transcript of a town meeting of “Idiot Village.” Maybe you have to be a politically correct academicians to administrate to take such material seriously.

“Ex Corde Ecclesiae,” the Apostolic Constitution on the Catholic University, lists, as one of this “essential characteristics” of the Catholic university: Fidelity to the Christian message as it comes to us through the Church.” As Bishop John D’Arcy said in his statement, “Ex Corde,” guarantees academic freedom within the parameters of “truth and the common good.” Bishop D’Arcy concluded that The Vagina Monologues violate not only the common good but also “the truth about women; the truth about sexuality; the truth about male and female; and the truth about the human body.”

Notre Dame is subservient to the NCAAC, accrediting agencies and many other entities. The one entity it will not obey is the Catholic Church, not even to the limited extent required by “Ex Corde.” The University’s concept of academic freedom is no different from that at Michigan, Stanford. In short, Notre Dame’s claim to be Catholic violates the principle of truth-in-labeling.

The effect of the Queer Film Festival as The Vagina Monologues was to hijack the reputation of Notre Dame in support of an agenda at war with the Catholic Church. Our leaders who permitted this repeated exploitation of Notre Dame ought to be more than embarrassed. They ought to be ashamed of themselves.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the Law School Faculty. His columns appear every Thursday. He can be contacted at plawecki.l@nd.edu.

The views expressed in the column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Experiencing Rome with the pope

Molly Acker

Letter to the Editor

Million dollar Nanny

U-Wire

Instant messenger

Marshall Peterson

THE OBSERVER

Thursday, March 3, 2005

If you have not seen the Oscar-winning movie "Million Dollar Baby," stop reading this article right now because I am about to blow your mind with the ending of the film. All of the rich layers of storyline, one that elicited the most profound soul searching on my part showed itself at the very end of the film when the final line comes at the very end of Maggie's film (preceded only by Maggie's (Hilary Swank) desire to remove her breathing tube, thus ending the young woman's life. In a hospital bed permanently paralyzed from the neck down after a devastating boxing injury, Maggie wishes for death instead of living a life that has inherited. As we first see her, we see that some of the priests were more concerned less than perfect. This is not to undermine the many wonderful priests we do have who are capable of changing lives, but there is a chasm in the Catholic Church is a huge issue that has left many Catholic Americans disenchanted with the institution.

Further separating many Americans from the Church are what they feel is old doctrine that must be updated. Though the Second Vatican Council opened the door for discussion on issues we are still dealing with today, there are still stances the Church takes that seem ridiculous to many. It is a constant struggle for some Catholics to choose whether to follow Church doctrine to practice the cultural norms our country has today.

Chavez is the woman in Florida who must be fed by tube in order to live. Her family is battling against her husband in the courts because he wants to remove the tube from Teri and thereby end her life. In Teri's case, she is unable to speak in order to express her desire to live in another manner. Despite the fact that the Church and our society are weighing what her intention would be by considering the wishes of those closest to her.

Of course, I'm not arguing the case for or against the right to die. This is a very complex issue, and I honestly asked myself, "Would it be better to die at that point than to continue living in such a way?"

In the end, my answer was, "yes," I would choose life, even if it meant living without many of the faculties that are natural to me.

What I learned in "Million Dollar Baby" has led me to believe even more fully that life is precious in all its forms, that it should be protected and preserved, and that the premature taking of a life is objectively wrong.

If you know your slang and diaents with a complete lack of grammar and punctuation make sure you do not let it spill over into your regular writing. If ever you start turning in assignments with your attention waning, please try to rewrite them, then it will be time to say goodbye to this style has "gig", Tiy.

This column originally appeared March 2 in The Parishoner, the daily publication at Marshall University.

The names and addresses of everyone referred to are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Massimiliano Bonacci

Molly Acker

A junior humanistic studies and communications double major at Marshall, 23, has contacted at aker75@minimorgan.edu.

For me the experience of seeing Pope John Paul II is surely something I will never forget. I was thrilled to be able to see the remarkable Vatican City for a daily audience. I have always wanted to go to Rome, to see the Pope, to see the historic Vatican. In his own papacy Pope John Paul II has personally encountered more individuals than any other pope to date. More than 17.6 million people may agree with the official positions of our current Church leader, few deny that Paul II is not a deeply religious man with a presence and charisma that has shaped and influenced many to be better Christians. You may not agree with Pope John Paul II's stances on war. You may have been angered by his warnings about the dangers of materialism, selfishness and secularism, but you have to appreciate his courage to stand up for what he believes is true. You cannot take a knee to a lie. But you cannot say this man did not reach the people.

Many people argue that he is responsible for the ultimate fall of communism in his native country of Poland. In his own papacy Pope John Paul II has personally encountered more individuals than any other pope to date. More than 17.6 million people may agree with the official positions of our current Church leader, few deny that Paul II is not a deeply religious man with a presence and charisma that has shaped and influenced many to be better Christians. You may not agree with Pope John Paul II's stances on war. You may have been angered by his warnings about the dangers of materialism, selfishness and secularism, but you have to appreciate his courage to stand up for what he believes is true. You cannot take a knee to a lie. But you cannot say this man did not reach the people.

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Kings of Leon keeps rock shaking

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Assistant Scene Editor

Many American rock fans have at least heard of Kings of Leon, but the band’s popularity in the States is miniscule compared to the success the band has experienced in Great Britain, where its first album, "Youth and Young Manhood," has almost reached double platinum. While Kings of Leon experienced a great deal of critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic, something about these homegrown rural American boys did not pick up in their homeland.

All this may be about to change. "Aha Shake Heartbreak," the second major release for Kings of Leon, is a darker follow-up to "Youth and Young Manhood," receiving critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic, something about these homegrown rural American boys did not pick up in their homeland.

The story of the Kings of Leon is not in any sense a traditional tale of rock star formation. Three of the members of the band, singer-guitarist Caleb Followill, bass guitarist Jared Followill and drummer Nathan Followill are brothers. And the fourth member is hardly excluded from the family, as the Followill brothers’ first cousin — Matthew Followill — plays guitar.

The three brothers grew up in a fundamentalist Christian family, led by their father who was a traveling evangelist. The boys spent a great deal of time on the road with their father going from city to city through-out the southern U.S. to spread the good news.

The subject matter of the majority of "Aha Shake Heartbreak" hardly reflects this upbringing. For the most part, the album covers the wild life experience of the band that the members of the band have experienced in their rise to fame in the past year and a half. Many of the songs are strong enough for the album to gain a parental caution sticker and the lyrics seem to tell the true life of future rock and roll icons. Nathan Followill explains this subject matter and their personal relation to the lyrics of "Aha Shake Heartbreak," saying, "On our first album, I’d say about 30 percent of what we were writing about was autobiographical and 70 percent was wishful thinking. We were writing about things we hadn’t seen yet. On this album, 90 percent of what we’re writing about are things we’ve experienced, nights we’ve had. There’s still that other 10 percent though ..."

The "Aha Shake Heartbreak" experience does not end at the meaning behind the lyrics — the music also shows the growth of Kings of Leon as artists. Many different types of songs are featured throughout "Aha Shake Heartbreak." The slower "My Generation" and "Slow Nights, So Long" are matched in quality to the more upbeat pace of "The Bucket" and "Taper Jean Girl." Caleb Followill’s vocals are distinctive and almost unrecognizable, and it seems that Kings of Leon on the whole has captured its own unique sound.

While "Aha Shake Heartbreak" is not as groundbreaking as "Youth and Young Manhood," it is a little easier to listen to and relate to musically. This album sets the Kings of Leon up for a spectacular third album where the originality of "Youth and Young Manhood" can be combined with the musical maturity of "Aha Shake Heartbreak." Overall, "Aha Shake Heartbreak" is a terrific rock album that proves the Kings of Leon deserve and probably will receive recognition on both sides of the Atlantic.

Contact Becca Saunders at rsaunder@nd.edu

Stars ablaze on stellar third record

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

Stars, a Montreal-based electro-pop band, by nature possess a multitude of extraordinary properties. In the fine tradition of Pixies, Liars, Panth­ers, Oases and Owls, defy the definite article. The quartet, comprised of vocalist/keyboardist Torquil Campbell, vocalist/guitarist Amy Millan and multi-instrumentalists Evan Cowan and Chris Seligman, seems to shine exponentially brighter with each successive release. "Set Yourself on Fire" proves to be the combo’s most accomplished release to date, brimming with the warmest of melodies and near peerless production.

Stars entrance. Beginning with the mesmerizing opener, "Your Ex-Lover Dead," Stars exerts a hold over the listener’s heart, with swelling strings underscoring Amy Millan’s frost­tined, angelic vocals. Millan’s proclamation, "I’m not sorry there’s nothing to save," subtly becomes "I’m not sorry; there’s nothing to save" just as the strings and drums rise to climax. "Ageless Beauty," much like "Elevator Love Letter," from Stars’ previous effort, immediately casts its spell over the listener and holds the room in a trance for all of its four glorious minutes.

Stars illuminate. The lyrical leap made by Campbell and company since their 2001 debut "Nightsongs" is easily their most stunning advancement. Here, Campbell and Millan deftly illustrate the proverbial its and outs of love, life and current affairs with impeccable flair and sensitivity. On the down-tempo duet "The Big Fight," the two trade vocals in a bedside dialogue, then align in lovely harmony. The charming "The First Five Times" is a witty account of just that — the "first time," euphemistically speaking, and the four thereafter, until "Finally we rested."

Venture too close and Stars is apt to burn, as on the chilling "I Lie About Death," a scathing invective against the sitting president. This jaw-drop­ping number showcases Stars at its most fiercely political, at one point rebuking the man in question as the "shadow of fear." Perhaps more charming is "Celebration Guns," which trades on the cruel irony inherent in the titular phrase. Here, Millan asks, "How will you know your enemy? By their color or your fear?" to the tune of pressing strings and percussion made to sound like cannon fire. Of war’s casualties, she probes, "are the beating drums / celebration guns / the thunder and the laughter / the last thing they remember?"

Amusingly, Stars too embody many of the same qualities commonly associat­ed with stars of the sort born in Hollywood. The personalities of Campbell and Millan impress themselves indelibly upon the listener. The songs here exude an unmistakable charisma, and manage to be instantly catchy while begg­ing repeat listeners — indeed, only then do these pop confec­tions reveal their true sophistication.

Stars’ star is one that continues to rise. The quartet just garnered a Juno nomination for "Set Yourself on Fire" (the Junos being eons more astute than its stateside counterpart, the Grammys), and "The OC" and "Cosmo Girl" invariably loom on the horizon for some pop parvenus. For now, Stars has light-years of warmth to share with the lovelorn who gaze perennially skyward.

Contact Matthew Solarski at mvsolarsk@nd.edu
More Than Just Numbers
Four years later, seniors represent new identity

When you first think about it, the question seems so obvious - it shouldn’t need an answer. On the other hand, the question is so obvious that most people would opt not to answer at all. Which is why the question, full of history and drama and significance beyond even words, needs to be asked.

What will Notre Dame basketball be without Chris Thomas?

Every team graduates seniors and every program moves on, this year’s Notre Dame team seems different. Comparing the state of the program four years ago to its status today, one answer to the question becomes clear. It will not be the same.

It is heavy criticism from fans and under the spotlight of national media, Thomas has accomplished more than his teammates. All others will continue - the revival of Notre Dame basketball.

He has had his bad days, bad weeks and bad streaks. He has thrown the ball away trying to make the extra pass, the high-light reel assist. But give Thomas a break. All he is trying to do is win.

Talk to his teammates, his coaches, his managers. They all say the same thing, and it sounds like this - Chris Thomas is more about this team than anyone else.

That may be true, but it is that only because the other Irish senior cares just as much.

Brey’s Irish senior Jordan Cornette rejects a shot against DePaul Dec. 11. Cornette, Chris Thomas and Greg Bost will be honored Saturday afternoon on Senior Day.

Brey’s more experienced basketball team - battling down the Panthers. Troutman was back on the bench.

Irish senior Jordan Cornette rejects a shot against DePaul Dec. 11. Cornette, Chris Thomas and Greg Bost will be honored Saturday afternoon on Senior Day.

The Irish backcourt logjam is making more time for sophomore Greg Brey will be that statement would not logically attach itself to Notre Dame basketball. But now, Thomas more than anyone deserves a memorable postseason to put an ideal finishing touch on a statistically and historically amazing career.

What will Notre Dame basketball be without Chris Thomas?

The Irish hope they don’t find out until April.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

COACHING

NOTRE DAME

After the disappointing UCLA loss, Brey had his toughest coaching job of the season to get the confidence back. He succeeded in getting his team focused for Rutgers.

PITTSBURGH

With his team facing a place on the NCAA tournament bubble, Brey got the Panthers to play their best basketball of the season in the 22-point destruction of Boston College at the Conte Forum Monday night.

Brey has more experience, but both of these teams have struggled to get on a consistent roll. Both are playing well in college basketball's most important month. Adjustments from the first game will be key.

ANALYSIS

Pat Leonard

Associate Sports Editor

Coaching

Style of Play

NOTRE DAME

The UCLA loss forced the Irish to redefine their role on the offensive end of the court. In the past, Brey would try to outscore teams, but against the Panthers, they just can’t adapt that philosophy.

Pittsburgh continues to be a typical Big East team - playing outside, but the Panthers are having a lot of time with Taft in the first game.

At the Peterson Events Center, the Panthers took advantage of the Irish's three-game losing streak. The Panthers allowed just 50 against the Eagles.

The Panthers have nine players getting double-digit minutes every night, but no one stands out. Dixon isn’t afraid to pull one of his starters like he did with Taft in the first meeting.

Pittsburgh's in the NCAA tournament. The only thing left is playing for seeding. A win at Notre Dame would help that cause and move the Panthers farther away from playing a 1 or 2 seed before the second weekend.

If the Irish win this game, they have a lock on the NCAA tournament. Beating the Panthers gets the Irish to 10 wins in conference, which is impressive in the Big East.

Perimeter Players

The Panthers have been making some big-game shots, especially against the Irish and in the comeback win at Syracuse Feb. 14. Dixon is in a slump, but he's a big threat on the court and looks more confident every night. Carter's move to the backcourt logjam at Irish is seeing a lot of time and looks more confident every night. Carter's move to the backcourt logjam helped the bench.

Analysis

Intangibles

The Irish backcourt struggled against UCLA, but its depth provides the edge against the Panthers. Falls is in a slump, but there's simply no way they can play well on Saturday.

Neither of these areas stand out over the other. But it could be the team that gets an unheralded player from one of the reserves that gets an advantage.
Mike Brey pointed out his office window. "It wasn't at the St. Francis blanketing the Notre Dame campus last October."

He was pointing at Notre Dame Stadium. Why? To describe Chris Thomas.

"I think he's really been the poster boy for the program," Brey said. "Quite frankly, he's been the highest profile athlete at Notre Dame as well. More of the guys over there, because he's been the guy, and I think he's handled that with real grace."

Forget about Thomas' name being all over the Notre Dame record book.

Forget about the accolades and awards decimating his biography.

Forget about the expectations coming from being Mr. Indiana's standout player for the first time for the first three years of his career.

What Brey indicated by simply raising his left arm concerning Thomas was the decision made by the Pike high school junior in April 2000.

Thomas accomplished what he came here to do. Making his own path

In basketball-crazed Indiana, the news of Thomas spread quickly throughout the state. Purdue coach Gene Keady and Indiana coach Bob Knight recruited Thomas—saying he was a native of Indiana, and Thomas didn't even call them.

Notre Dame was a program for next season. Thomas has never opened his recruiting back up to other schools.

I think before he met me, when I was on the phone with him, he was about 90 percent back to staying," Brey said. "That says a lot about him as a kid — talk about a 6-7, 220-pound guy."

Setting the bar high

Thompson didn't walk onto campus as a celebrity. When he would play at Ruff or outside his dorm, people would provide some advice — or cry for the team. It didn't hurt Thomas until his first collegiate game. Twenty-four points, 11 assists and 11 steals later, and Thomas wasn't a freshman unknown any longer.

"It was something I just shrugged off until the very first game when I had the triple-double or the exhibition game," Brey said. "It was enough to get him for real."

"He wants it to be the team did this and not CT did this," Jordan Cornette Irish senior

"Quite frankly, he's been the highest profile athlete at Notre Dame.

Mike Brey Irish coach

Notre Dame's 55-45 win at Indiana on Dec. 8, the first in Bloomington since 1973, was especially sweet for Indiapolitans native Chris Thomas.

By MATT LOZAR

Chris Thomas plays his last home game Saturday against Pittsburgh in the second round of the NCAA tournament. One year later, the Irish finished off their second-round opponent, advancing to the school's first Sweet 16 since 1987.

Coming off a season where he garnered Associated Press honorable mention All-American honors, Thomas declared himself eligible for the NBA Draft on May 6, 2003. Brey was particularly disappointed.

After participating in individual workouts with a number of teams, Thomas never got a guarantee he would be a first-round pick, which meant a guaranteed three-year contract.

Thomas then returned to school on June 16.

"I've always said, I think it was a great decision to evaluate it and if it was guaranteed a No. 1 pick, he would have gone and I would have told him you have to go, even if he didn't want to go," Brey said. "I think it was a great decision because it showed him what he had to work on.

Becoming a leader

That 14 days taught Thomas a lot.

It taught Thomas the decision-makers in the NBA the knee was such a risky point guard, but leaders.

"It was very important to my progress as a player more than anything else. You see their work ethic and see whether the general manager was going to look at him. Thomas said. "But they don't look for the dunks or the crossovers, but how you lead people, how you handle a game, pick up full court on defense."

Attempting to better understand his role as a point guard, Thomas relinquished his role for his junior year.

That motivation stayed with Thomas during the off-season before his sophomore year.

But for four years, Thomas hasn't put himself first.

"I just look at the wins and losses over the last four years," Thomas said. "In my eyes, my main basketball goal was to bet this turn around.

"I think that was my main goal, and I feel like I've accomplished it pretty well."

Thomas has one more home game and the Big East tournament to prepare for an NCAA tournament run — the tournament he came to Notre Dames for.

"It's been almost a whole year since we've been back.

Even though you're in postseason tourney play, it's a totally different atmosphere," Thomas said. "Your program's not buzzing about it, and when we went sophomore year, it was the biggest thing to come around for a long time.

The biggest thing to come around, that is, Chris Thomas.

Contact Matt Lozar at mleasure@nd.edu
Brey mixes and matches with deep bench

Carter, Cornett, Isreal working their way into team's rotation

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

At the beginning of the season, Mike Brey boasted he had nine or 10 players ready to see the court and make significant contributions.

Twenty-six games into the 2004-05 campaign, the Irish coach is using the depth he talked so highly of early in the season.

Juggling six players through three combinations of starting lineups, Brey also has found strengths in reserve players Russell Carter, Rick Cornett and Omari Israel.

"Everyone knows during the course of the game that anyone could be playing from Chris Thomas to our last walk-on," Carter said. "Not just me, but everybody — coach Brey tells everyone to be ready.

Cornett, a 6-foot-8, 256-pound junior, has played the most prominent role off the bench this season, often substituting for center Torin Francis down low.

At first permanently relegated to the bench behind a healthy Francis and Arizona transfer Dennis Latimore, Cornett played his way into a 9.5 minutes per game average — he scored four points in six minutes and anchored a 2-3 zone in the hostile Assembly Hall early in the season.

On the other hand, sophomores Carter and Israel have shown in later emergencies they may be able to contribute just as much in a back-up role as Cornett.

"I just play," Carter said. "I know I can play. And I just go out there and show what I can do." While Carter can do so.

The sophomore is shooting almost 49 percent from the field and 10-for-18 (55.6 percent) from the 3-point line. He averages 7.3 minutes per game and has played in 21 of the team's 26 contests. Carter played 10 hard minutes in a 72-65 loss to UCLA Sunday, spilling a struggling Colin Falls and scoring six points on 2-of-3 shooting (both baskets were 3-pointers).

Carter (6-foot-4, 223 pounds) said he has gained 25 pounds of muscle since he arrived at the Joyce Center his freshman year. Physical work in the weight room has increased Carter's strength and value on the floor, though — as any player would — he may have enjoyed the playing time sooner.

"Everybody is coming from their high schools where they were the man, and sometimes it's a slow process," Jordan Cornette said.

Carter "was the man" at Paulsboro High School, finishing as the second all-time leading scorer in school history with 2,287 points after averaging 30 points, 11.2 rebounds and 3.4 assists per game as a senior.

This season, while demonstrating his scoring ability, the sophomore has also committed to hogging minutes, even more than they did the game before.

"Now he's getting the opportunity to show his stuff," Cornette said. "As the season goes on, guys that play a lot of minutes get a little bit tired," Israel said. "Big East goes more physical, so the guys bodies help us a lot."

Israel shoots just 30 percent from the field and averages 1.8 rebounds per game, but his performance against UCLA showed the sophomore is close to becoming a major factor.

"Omari waited his turn," Cornette said. "Now he's getting the opportunity to show his stuff."

Carter and Israel have all taken a maturity approach to their roles, preparing for each game as if they will see the floor even more than they did before.

"On any given night, I can get 10 minutes or no minutes," Carter said. "It's mental toughness.

Contact Pat Leonard at plleonard@nd.edu

The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the

Denny Moore Award
For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu

Nominations are due by Friday, March 4, 2005.
Third Atticus compilation worth a look

By MIKE TENDANT  Acme Music Critic

Atticus is back again with its third (revelation) of the "Draagin the Lake" compilation. The album contains some newer and somewhat harder-to-find tracks from well-established and popular bands, such as Blink 182 and Taking Back Sunday. And just like its predecessors, Atticus submits a number of unfamiliar sounds for the listener's approval.

While the previous Atticus discs are easier to classify under the punk or emo categories, this third compilation contains much more of a mishmash of genres and styles. While this is great for the musically cultured listener, it is a tough listen for a single-genre-minded folk.

On the whole, the tracks from the more popular acts are good — but not great. Many Taking Back Sunday and MxPx fans might find their bands' cuts slightly disappointing. While Taking Back Sunday's "Number Five with a Bullet" gets extra credit for its "High Fidelity" reference, the track is not up to the band's usual standards. The song is a good emotionally driven rock song, no doubt, but it is not up to the group's standards set by its breakout album "Tell All Your Friends.

The Motion City Soundtrack cut "100 Paper Cranes" also falls along the same lines. While not as well known as Taking Back or Blink, the band does have a loyal following. And the majority of them know it has better songs. Again, the song is not bad by any means. It offers a jumpy style of post-punk complete with a well-orchestrated moog. The drums rock the listener along, and by the end you very well could be jumping up and down. But they have even better songs that are not on display here.

However, Blink's cut "Not Now" proves the exception to the rule, as the veteran punk trio puts forth a quality tune. Musically, the song demonstrates the fluctuation of the band's style. This is also demonstrated in the lyrics, as Mark Hoppus and Tom DeLonge sing as though they are laying on their deathbeds coming to grips with their up-and-coming end.

Laceros takes a big swing at originality, as it is essentially a punk-country band that somehow manages to cross Rancid with Johnny Cash. "Bike Riders" casually and almost perfectly blends these styles as lead singer Ben Nichols narrates a sad story of a biker romance from bar-room beginnings to sad bedroom endings.

Also stepping up to the plate is the band Gratitude whose song, "This is the Part," could be very well the best of the bunch. This San Francisco group starts the album off on the right foot with a nice big hook and a sound similar to Jimmy Eat World. Do not be surprised if you find yourself nodding your head and singing along before the end of the song.

Other bands also try a little originality, but its members end up falling on their faces. VOA's "Bratcore" is nothing more than a cheap attempt at dance-punk that ends up sounding a lot like a weird European night club where only the extremely weird venture out to the dance floor.

Overall, the album has a depressing feel to it. Taking Back Sunday sings about being stuck in a bad state, while Blink singers lament on their deathbeds. Death Cab for Cutie then sees nothing hopeful about New Year's. This is mostly a product of the theme of 2003, but it does flow through the majority of the bands on display, but it proves to be a downer anyway.

While some of the song selections might be subpar, the diamonds in the rough make "Draagin the Lake Vol. 3" worth the listen.

Contact Mike Tendant at mtendant@aol.com

50 Cent feuds with protege

Associated Press

Another day, another feud for 50 Cent. This time, he's feuding with his own protege, the best-selling rapper The Game.

Actually, make that former protege. In an interview on hip-hop radio station Hot 97 from New York City on Monday, 50 announced that he was kicking The Game out of his G-Unit clique because of disloyalty — for refusing to take 50's side in his latest battles with high-profile rappers. Then a shooting occurred outside the radio station, wounding one man, police said.

At the time, 50 Cent was inside speaking on the radio — the interview ended abruptly as security people escorted the rapper and producer into a building, a source for the radio station said.

"No one from Hot 97 witnessed this incident," said Alex Dudley, the Hot 97 (WQHT-FM) New York spokesman.

Investigators, still trying to sort out the chaotic scene, suspected 50's comments were heard on the radio by associates of The Game, including the shooting victim. The associates allegedly went to the radio station, where they were met outside by members of 50 Cent's entourage and the violence erupted, police said.

It was unclear whether The Game was directly involved, police said.

No one has been made an unidentified, 24-year-old Los Angeles man was in stable condition with a gun-shot wound to the upper thigh.

Police were also investigating a report of a second shooting incident about two hours later outside a building where the company that manages 50 Cent — named Violator — has offices. Witnesses said two men fired shots through the building's front door, then fled.

No one was injured.

Representatives for 50 had no comment when contacted by The Associated Press on Tuesday.

All this comes as 50 prepares to release the album "The Massacre," scheduled for release March 8, but was moved up to Thursday because it is so hotly anticipated. The first single from the album, "Candy Shop," is already No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Elliott Wilson, the editor in chief of the hip-hop magazine XXL, says the publicity will give a boost to what is already expected to be a blockbuster album.

"He helps him obviously in terms of exposure. You can't ask for better promotion. Now he's literally making history by breifing with his own artist," Wilson said. "This is more the boss of the clique dismissing his own artist."

50 Cent built much of his stature on feuds — his battle with Ja Rule helped Miami heat up and Ja Rule's career. In addition, there's a G-Unit fashion line and other enterprises.

It is unclear whether The Game was directly involved, police said.

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Francis scores 29 points in victory over Kings

Nets stop 76ers; Wizards knock off Rockets; Celtics beat Lakers; Warriors win

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Steve Francis and the Orlando Magic had a difficult time holding off the Houston Rockets.

Francis had 29 points and 10 rebounds in the Magic's 108-100 victory over Houston in a three-game losing streak with a victory over the Kings.

"We're going to get back to playing well after losing our previous three," Orlando coach Frank Vogel said. "Our miss ion is to make this the stan dard for how we play every night."

Francis had eight points in the fourth quarter, including a 3-pointer with 3.3 seconds to play, but Arizona's Francis said it was "a good day to shoot".

Stojakovic and Webber scored 23 points, including a 3-pointer in the first half.

The Kings, playing their eighth road game in a nine-game span, had a final chance with 3.3 seconds to play, but Jason Kidd's 3-pointer at the buzzer was just long.

"It was a good day to shoot," Stojakovic said. "I was worried about my injury, but it felt good. It is going to take a couple of days to get back to normal."

Sacramento won just for the second straight night without center Brad Miller, sidelined by a calf injury. That, combined with trade of Chris Webber to Philadelphia last week, has the Kings to start backups Brian Shaw, Songaila and Brian Skinner.

Nets 99, 76ers 93

Vince Carter's transition to a new team is going much smoother than Chris Webber's.

Carter scored 32 of his 32 points in the second half and Clifford Robinson added 18, leading the New Jersey Nets to a victory over the Philadelphia 76ers.

Allen Iverson had 37 points and Webber scored 10 in his worst performance in three games for the Sixers. Philadelphia has lost three of four since acquiring Webber from Sacramento last month.

"I don't know what to say," Webber said. "Anything you say is an excuse. You just have to do it. Everybody knows what type of player I am. Obviously, I have to make adjustments. It's frustrating."

The Nets have won three straight after winning 1/2 games of Philadelphia, which trails first-place Boston by 1 1/2 games in the Atlantic Division.

"There's got to be a grace period for the guy to fit in," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said of Webber.

Carter has fit in well with the Nets since coming to New Jersey in a trade with Toronto to extend the Lakers' losing streak to four games.

Asked about the settlement following the game, Bryant said, "Guys, anybody with basketball questions, gentle men?" Pressed a few minutes later for comment, he repeated his no-comment and Lakers spokesman Allison Bogli said, "Basketball questions only."

After a few more questions about the team's troubles, Bryant was asked when he might be able to comment on his own. "I know you came all the way down from New York," he told a TV reporter, "but y'all came all this way for nothing."

Paul Pierce had 29 points and nine rebounds, Ricky Davis scored 29 points and Antoine Walker had 18 points and 11 rebounds in his first game in Boston since being reacquired at the trading deadline.

The rejuvenated Celtics won their three straight since they started their sixth road victory of the season, a win over the Timberwolves.

The Wizards trailed by as many as 11 points in the third quarter, but opened the fourth with a 16-2 run to snap a three-game losing streak and hand the Timberwolves a crushing home loss.

Kevin Garnett had 28 points and 13 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who remain one game behind the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot in the West after advancing with every big shot down the stretch to stave off the desper ate Timberwolves.

Mike Dunleavy's 3-pointer gave Golden State a 90-79 lead with 3:12 to go, but the Timberwolves responded with a 7-0 run to pull within 90-88 with 1:12 to go.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Newse Dyer office, 924 South Ulling Hall. Deadline for non-tax classified is 2 p.m. All classifieds may be reprinted. The charge is $3 per word per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for clarity without incurring extra fees.

NBA

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Nets stop 76ers; Wizards knock off Rockets; Celtics beat Lakers; Warriors win

Rockets center Yao Ming, right, works against Wizards forward Brendan Haywood during Washington's 101-98 victory over Houston.

Cuttino Mobley and Mike Bibby hit consecutive 3-pointers with 2:36 left. Man, that was a hell of a quarter for Bibby and the Sacramento Kings.

Bibby hit consecutive 3-pointers with 2:36 left, and Webber said, "I've been around in this league, I know that you have to take care of yourself. You have to make sure that you're ready to go, and that's really what I did."

Celtics 104, Lakers 103

Kobe Bryant's problems have moved back to the basketball court.

Just 30 minutes after settling a lawsuit filed by the woman who accused him of rape, Bryant scored 17 first-quarter points against Boston. But he was scoreless in the fourth — missing a 3-pointer just before the buzzer — as the Celtics beat Los Angeles to extend the Lakers' losing streak to four games.

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NFL

Ravens sign former Titans wide receiver Mason

Moss trade to Oakland becomes official; Redskins come to terms with Samuels

Associated Press

The Washington Redskins did it again, jumping Wednesday to sign the first free agent of the season. But the Baltimore Ravens landed the biggest prize of the first day of free agency, signing wide receiver Derrick Mason, whose 96 catches for Tennessee last season led all NFL wide receivers.

And the Cleveland Browns traded defensive tackle Gerard Warren, the third overall pick in the 2001 draft, to Denver. It was an overall net loss for Cleveland — the Browns will get just a fourth-round draft choice for the underachieving Warren.

The 31-year-old Mason, one of six Titans cut last month in a salary cap purge, will join a team whose leading receiver had just 35 catches a year ago. "We were high on his list, and he was high on our list," Ravens general managerzzie Newsome said. "He was really the only receiver we have had any active discussions with thus far. What this does is, we bring in a veteran receiver who has the type of attitude and type of personality that we look for in a football player."

St. Louis, meanwhile, signed 32-year-old linebacker Dexter Coakley, one day after he was released by Dallas.

Washington's catch was a former Raven, center Casey Rabach, who joined a team that has spent millions in the early days of free agency the last two seasons. But more significant for the Redskins, who went wildly after high-priced free agents on the first day the last two years, was keeping one of their own — left tackle Chris Samuels, whose contract was reduced to provide more salary cap room.

Those were the major free agents to sign on Day 1 of free agency. Oakland also made an expected splash by officially completing the deal for Randy Moss, a trade made last week with Minnesota. The Raiders gave up linebacker Napoleon Harris and two draft picks, one of them the seventh overall in April's lottery.

Moss may not be the only significant addition to the Raiders' offense. They appeared close to signing running back Emmit Smith and receiver Kevin Jordan, who spent four years as Curtis Martin's backup with the New York Jets. He averaged 4.9 yards per carry in part-time duty but has never been a full-time back.

Jordan should help, but Moss teamed with the re-signed Jerry Porter is the seemingly perfect combination for the strong arm of quarterback Kerry Collins. The big question is whether the offensive line can protect the immobile and turnover-prone QB. Collins was delighted.

"If [Moss] is not the best, he's certainly one of the best," he said of Moss. "You can make a strong argument. Everybody has their own opinions. But ask any quarterback around the league who receiver they'd want, and I think most would say Randy Moss."

As for Rabach, who played at Wisconsin, he will probably replace another former Raider with the initials "Gh." — Cory Raymer in the middle of the line.

With Jon Jansen back from injury at right tackle and Samuels on the left side, the Washington offense should be stronger than last year's unit, which scored just 240 points, second fewest in the NFL.

In other developments:

* Philadelphia re-signed running back Correll Buckhalter, who missed all of last season with a knee injury.

* Washington's Joe Andruzzi, a starter on all three of New England's Super Bowl winners, was in Cleveland talking to the Browns, coached by former Patriots' defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel.

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HORSE RACING

Smarty Jones' jockey detained by customs

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Kentucky Derby winning jockey Stewart Elliott was on his way back from an overseas trip when his past caught up with him again. Elliott, a Canadian citizen who won the Derby and Preakness aboard Smarty Jones last year, was taken into custody Tuesday and detained by customs agents in connection with a guilty plea to felony assault four years ago, the Department of Homeland Security said Wednesday. The 48-year-old Toronto native was returning from a trip to Hong Kong late last year when federal agents interviewed him at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, but let him go on his way, said Homeland Security spokesman Manny Van Pelt.

He was asked to return to a Customs and Border Protection office in New York, where officials said he was arrested and transferred to Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Philadelphia.

Elliott was held at the York County Prison in central Pennsylvania. He was released shortly after 5 p.m. Wednesday, said Kelly Wisiana, a spokeswoman for Elliott. The jockey was expected not to be able to return to New York, according to a federal judge Thursday.

"This was an unfortunate situation. The arrest was many years ago. I served my probation and paid the fine," Elliott said in statement released by Wisiana. "I thought this was all behind me."

Elliott's criminal history became a public during Smarty Jones' bid for the Triple Crown, which fell short when he lost to Birdstone by a length at the Belmont Stakes in June. Federal officials said they weren't aware of it until recently.

"It takes time for court records to get entered," Van Pelt said Wednesday. "There are tens of thousands of convictions that occur in the United States every year."

Under federal immigration law, aliens with felony convictions are subject to removal from the United States. Van Pelt declined to comment on Elliott's immigration status specifically, but said that he "is not here illegally."

A lawyer for Elliott said his client voluntarily appeared before the immigration court Tuesday.
Chiefs fired, Prichard to take over Portland

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — For all his popularity among the players and the fans, Portland Trail Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks ultimately didn’t have the wins.

Cheeks was fired Wednesday morning, after the Blazers had lost seven of their last nine and tumbled to 22-33.

“Our players liked Mo a great deal, but sometimes a fresh voice might ignite them to go in a different direction,” Blazers general manager John Nash said.

With Portland’s chances of making the playoff’s dwindling, the Blazers appointed Kevin Pritchard, the team’s director of player personnel, as interim head coach.

While not entirely giving up on the playoffs, Pritchard’s appointment indicated the Blazers were going to focus on evaluating their younger players.

“I’m not going to mislead anybody. It’s a long uphill battle to get to the playoffs from where we’re at — 11 games under .500,” Blazers President Steve Patterson said.

The Blazers are in 12th place in the Western Conference, six games back of the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot. They went 41-41 last season, missing the playoffs for the first time in 22 years.

With the loss to the Pistons, Cheeks leaves the Blazers with a 162-139 record. He was in the final year of a four-year contract worth an estimated $12 million.

Cheeks, who played in the NBA for 15 seasons, was hired by Portland in 2001 to replace Mike Dunleavy, who was also fired.

The Blazers hardly made Cheeks’ tenure easy — on and off the court.

There were several players cited for marijuana possession, and forward Qyntel Woods was investigated in a dog fighting scandal.

Former Blazer forward Rasheed Wallace also drew unwanted attention to the team two seasons ago when he threatened a game official on the loading dock of the Rose Garden.

Cheeks never shied away from questions about his team’s misbehavior, bringing him the respect of fans and reporters who covered the team.

He endeared himself to many in April 2003 when he came to the rescue of a 13-year-old girl, Natalie Gilbert, who forgot the words to the national anthem before a playoff game against the Dallas Mavericks. Cheeks went to her side and helped her with the words.

IN BRIEF

Colts release tight end Marcus Pollard

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts released veteran tight end Marcus Pollard on Wednesday, saving the team an immediate $2.65 million against the NFL salary cap.

Colts President Bill Polian said the team hoped eventually to get Pollard back under a new contract and would welcome him next season if he does not sign with another team in the meantime.

Pollard, the only team member to have played in both of the Colts’ AFC Championship Game appearances in 1996 and 2004, said he had been expecting the move. Pollard and coach Tony Dungy told him in person Wednesday morning, but paperwork for Pollard’s release had not yet been completed in the afternoon.

“I’ve always dreaded this day because I didn’t know how it would happen and how I would deal with it emotionally,” he said. “But as far as how Bill and Tony handled it, I got cut, but I don’t feel like I got cut, if that makes sense.”

Serena Williams rallies to reach Dubai quarters

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Australian Open champion Serena Williams overcame a rough first set and tricky wind Wednesday to beat Russia’s Elena Bovina 1-6, 6-1, 6-4 and reach the Dubai Women’s Open quarterfinals.

Williams was making her first tour appearance since a stomach illness forced her to withdraw before the Paris Indoor quarterfinals last month.

“I don’t know what I was doing there tonight,” she said. “I think I was trying to kill myself out there. It was really windy and I hadn’t played in the wind. All my shots were going out of here.”

Top-ranked Lindsay Davenport had an easier time, defeating qualifier Jie Zheng of China 6-2, 7-5. Davenport will next meet Conchita Martinez, who ousted seventh-seeded Nathalie Dechy of France 6-1, 6-2.

Former Atlanta pitcher Rick Mahler dies at 31

VIERA, Fla. — Rick Mahler, who won nearly 100 games during a 13-year career spent mostly with the Atlanta Braves, died Wednesday. He was 51.

Mahler died of a heart attack at home in Jupiter, Fla., while preparing for his second season as a minor league pitching coach for the New York Mets, the team said. He was set to rejoin the Mets’ Class-A team in Port St. Lucie.

New York pitcher Tom Glavine telephoned the Braves to inform them of his former teammate’s death shortly before Atlanta played Georgia Tech in its first exhibition game of the spring.

Mahler pitched in the majors from 1979-91, going 96-111 with a 3.99 ERA. His best season came in 1985, when he went 17-15 with a 3.48 ERA for the Braves. The next year, he led the majors with 18 losses.
Irish prepare to face ‘Cats

**By MATT PUGLISI**

Sporst Writer

Revenge is a dish best served cold. No. 20 Notre Dame’s opportunity to avenge last year’s season-ending NCAA tournament first-round 10-8 loss to Northwestern (3-0) comes relatively quickly. The Irish have only played one regular-season game since the heartbreaking defeat. Notre Dame (1-0) will take the revenge in whatever form it can get it — cold, or in between. The Irish will have that chance this afternoon when the red-hot Wildcats visit the Loftus Center at 4:30 p.m.

Coach Tracy Coyne expects the showground to produce the high-level-of-emotion typically reserved for season-end, elimination contests and not the second game of the year. "As early as it is in the season, I think there’s going to be a playoff type atmosphere to the game,” Coyne said. "We have respect for them and what they’ve done over the past couple months. We're just looking forward to playing them.”

The Irish enter today’s game on the heels of a season opening 16-10 stomping of University of Wisconsin (Ohio) last Sunday. Pared by attack Crystal Foote’s career-high eight points (four goals, three assists) and a pair of four-goal performances from sophomore midfielder Meghan Murphy and freshman midfielder Caitlin McKinney, the Irish scored early and often in the victory.

After jumping out to a quick 4-0 lead, Notre Dame allowed Columbia to get back into the contest before a pair of goal-scoring bursts finished off host Ohio.

While Foote’s career-best performance was instrumental in the win, Coyne pointed to the play of Murphy and McKinney as particularly important, yet not surprising.

"From what we were seeing in practice, if I expected the high level of output," Coyne said. "I was very pleased that Meghan and Caitlin both had four goals each — I think that was a good way for the season to start off." After rallying from a 5-2 halftime deficit to top then-No. 6 North Carolina Feb. 20, Northwestern trounced both Oregon and Denver 21-2 and 20-9, respectively, in its two most recent games this past weekend.

Following the home face-off with the Wildcats, the Irish hit the road for a three-game spring break trip down the East Coast, where they will look to lock up a trio of victories against Vanderbilt and James Madison.

Notes:
- Two Notre Dame players took home conference awards this week for their play in last weekend’s 16-10 victory over Ohio University. Foote was named Big East Offensive Player of the Week for her career-best eight-point game (five goals, three assists) while midfielder Jess Mikula was pegged as the Big East Defensive Player of the Week. Mikula recorded two ground ball fumbles and five draws control while causing a trio of turnovers when she stopped the Bobcats.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

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**MEN’S GOLF**

Kubinski already off to good start with team

**By KEN FOWLER**

Sporst Writer

Already, Jim Kubinski has made his mark — one tournament, one win.

The new Irish men’s golf head coach joined the team at the end of January, and 30 days into his tenure as head coach, he has set the highest of standards for the rest of the season and the rest of his career.

That’s fine with him, though. The important thing for Kubinski is to set a program that will be able to compete.

Finishing well in early tournaments is "important when you’re trying to establish credibility and build a program,” he said.

"We’ve started down the right road. Honestly, I was hoping for a good finish, but to have a chance to win shows a lot about us." Kubinski led the Irish to their first men’s tournament victory since last April.

After accepting an offer from Duke as an assistant coach since 2003, he accepted an offer to join his longtime favorite university on Jan. 28 to replace John Jasinski as head coach.

"At Duke, I had to be a more of a closet fan of the Irish,” he said. "But for me, [Notre Dame] was the perfect setting to build a program.

In the month since Kubinski joined the Irish, his main task has been to instill confidence in his golfers.

"You’ve got to believe in yourself — and have that confidence that we’re going to go out into (tournaments) knowing we’re going to beat these guys," he said.

He saw that confidence on the 16th tee of the English Tour Golf and Country Club’s Course Tuesday as his players prepared for their playoff with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for the tournament title.

"When we found out we were going to have a five-man playoff at the end of January, we definitely felt like we were going to be competitive," Kubinski said. "If you had asked me about the Irish golf program two years ago, I wouldn’t have thought they’d be going to lose this thing.

That attitude, though, was not isolated to the tee of the local course. Kubinski stressed that the Irish were calm, patient and made a routine double-bogey putt.

"In the morning, they played okay," he said. "We just weren’t making any putts. Then they came out in the afternoon and shot the low round of the day.

"When things are rough out there, it just takes a lot of confidence. That’s what I was impressed most about.”

In his first tournament, Kubinski saw the Irish shoot a team score of 5-over 295 and finished second at the tournament after the morning to finish third after the afternoon.

"After falling just short of the title, the Irish were down nearly a half-dozen, saw Wilmington’s best golfer make double-bogey and the Irish were right back in the mix," Kubinski said.

From then on, Jasinski said, "everyone was very relaxed. There was no panic.

The Irish came back, tied the Seahawks, and then won the playoff convincingly, 2-under to 1-over. It’s just remarkable.

"For me, this was the perfect setting to build a program,” Kubinski said.

He followed that sentence with a comment that proves the new coach truly believes that he can build a program is fully accomplishing the school with its long-standing traditions.

"Notre Dame is what college sports is all about," he said.

With wins like this week’s and words like those, coach Jim Kubinski’s men’s golf program at Notre Dame’s men’s golf coach just started another season as smoothly as his players’ swings.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the Denny Moore Award.

For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: [http://osa.nd.edu](http://osa.nd.edu)

Nominations are due by Friday, March 4, 2005.
Irish travel west for tourney

By Rama Gottumukkala
Sports Writer

The forecast for the next few days is sunny and 70 degrees — in California. It's high time to become respite for the men's tennis team, which heads out to La Jolla, Calif., to take part in the Pacific Coast Doubles Championships March 4-6.

For the seventh time in the last eight years, Notre Dame will compete in this annual doubles competition, one of the oldest and most prestigious tennis tournaments in the nation. The names of winners at the event feature a who's who of tennis greats, including John McEnroe and Stan Smith.

While the competition features a few professionals and a few junior players, the field consists primarily of college players. Because there are no non-collegiate players in the event, the results do not count in the college rankings and should provide valuable practice opportunities for the Irish.

"It's something that we look forward to very much," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It gives us an opportunity to make the transition to outdoors. This tournament allows us to do this where the results don't hurt us and yet the level of competition is as high as it can be."

Among the slated teams entered in the event are Stanford, UCLA, USC and Pepperdine — all top 20 teams. The onus also will enter some of their nationally-ranked doubles teams in the tournament, proving plenty of competition for Notre Dame's own tennis duos.

"It's hard not to improve because we're surrounded by some of the top doubles teams in the country," Bayliss said. "You're forced to meet that level of competition so all our guys benefit from being here." The Irish will enter four doubles teams into the competition this year. The first three duos have seen plenty of doubles play already this season. Playing at the No. 1 slot will be senior captain Brett D'Amico and sophomore Ryan Keckley.

D'Amico No. 1 team has had some real bright spots this year, but also some poor matches," Bayliss said. "But they've played extremely well and it looks like they're beginning to get, just in time for this stretch run here at the last half of the season." Junior Eric Langenkamp and freshman Sheeva Paribhur comprise the No. 2 team and sophomore Stephen Bae and Barry King will play as the No. 3 team.

Game 3, D'Amico and the Irish compete in the Pacific Coast Doubles Championship this weekend.

Brent D'Amico serves against Marquette in a match Feb. 12. D'Amico and the Irish compete in the Pacific Coast Doubles Championship this weekend.

Contact Rama Gottumukkula at gottumukkula@nd.edu

Irish volleyball falls in first round of Hoosier-Illini Classic

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame made an auspicious start with a 2-0 blanking of Bard College. All five Irish players contributed to the win with three games. James Zhang at No. 1 defeated Brian Li, 9-0, 9-2. At No. 2, Mike Gelinas defeated Rafael Tavares, 9-0, 9-1. At No. 3, Phil Moss handled Troy Phillips, 9-3, 9-2, 9-4. Mike McConnell defeated Anwuli Ihereria at No. 4, 9-0, 9-0, 9-1, and Jose Pelomo whitewashed Manuel Vazquez, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0.

In semifinals, coach Geoff McGuen's Irish again blanked their opponent, Brick Memorial, 2-0. At No. 1, Zibton defeated Eric Zipp, 9-2, 9-0, 9-0. At No. 2, Kenyon defeated Zibton, 9-0, 9-1, 9-2; Moss was a 9-5, 9-3 victor over Steve McConnell. McConnell handled Steve Perry, 9-2, 9-5, 9-3; and Pelomo notched a close match over TJ Euley, 10-9, 10-8, 9-2, to set up the showdown with Washington in the finals.

Washington had also swept two teams earlier in the day, Kenyon, as the two squads played to a 3-3 tie in the Division. The final, played at Har vard's Muir Gym, was comfortable for the Huskies. Gelinas proved the better squash, Zhang at No. 1 to Sawhil Ghandi, 9-6, 9-5, 9-6; Gelinas claimed the only point for the Irish at No. 2, 10-8, 9-1, 6-9, 9-5; Moss fell at No. 3 to Norman Wilson, 9-0, 9-3, 9-0; Moss was ousted from the 4 match to Ryan Antonio, 9-1, 9-0, 9-1, 9-0; and Mosso was unable to sustain his early momentum, falling at No. 5 to Rizwak Kajriwal, 0-9, 9-6, 10-9, 9-7. USC won the losers bracket to finish third in the division.

Men's Volleyball

The Irish men's club volleyball team participated in the largest regular season tournament in the Midwest over the weekend, attending the Four Corners and Hoosier-Illini Classic at Indiana University. Forty total teams were included in this tournament, including 12 of the top 25 teams in the country.

The Irish won the first match of the weekend against the Wildcats of Kentucky, 25-21, 25-21, 25-19, outplaying them on all fronts. In their second match of the day Notre Dame faced Virginia Tech and played an exciting up-and-down contest. The Hokies stole the first game from the Irish by rallying to win the final four points of the game, ending 25-23. This inspired the Irish to fight back, and they dominated Virginia Tech in the second game, winning 25-13, but Tech trumped Notre Dame in the final game, 15-8, to win the match. A flat Notre Dame squad flipped the script in the final match of pool play against No. 10 Purdue, and they paid the price, losing 25-16, 25-18.

The Irish took on Miami of Ohio in the challenge round, having success in a very competitive match to make it to the Gold Bracket in Sunday's tournament round. The victory (25-21, 27-25) was aided by strong play from Ryan Goes, who stepped out of his normal role of middle blocker to play outside hitter.

The Irish played one of their best matches all season against host Indiana (No. 16) in the first match of the tournament round. In an 8 a.m. match against the hometown heroes, Notre Dame came to life in the first game, jumping out to an early lead and never looking back, taking Game 1, 25-17.

With freshman setter Nolan Kane running the offense, the Irish proved to be the best in the country, pushing the score tight through Game 2, and the Irish did what they could with solid blocking and great defense from Kevin Overmann and John Tibble, but fell 25-22.

Tibble was making incredibly strong plays all weekend, and hitters Mike Giampa, Joe O'Connell, Dan Parziali, Dan Zibton, and again Goes were putting the balls away hard. Revitalized by their fan support, the Hoosiers regrouped in Game 3, and the Irish did what they could with solid blocking and great defense from Kevin Overmann and John Tibble, but fell 25-22.

"With freshman setter Nolan Kane running the offense, the Irish were the best in the country," Bayliss said. "It's our guys who can do different things well — some serve well, some return well and some volley well — but we're looking for the whole package." Notre Dame has been busy with dual match play in the last few weeks. The next few days should provide a relaxed, yet competitive atmosphere for the Irish as they prepare for the season's stretch run. The team will conclude the weekend with a dual match against St. Joseph's at noon on March 6.
Victory
continued from page 20
up at all.
On Wednesday, the Irish shot 53.3 percent from the field and held Rutgers to 29.5 percent from the floor.
"We knew that we were going to have an edge about us because of how we prac­ticed this whole week," point guard Chris Thomas said.
When Notre Dame players showed up for practice Monday afternoon, they were not allowed in the locker room. But Thomas said the motivational tactics of coach Mike Brey were not negative.
"We haven't been on punish­ment," he said. "His theme was that we have to get back to playing like how people respect us. We really don't get any respect."

Thomas scored 10 points and dished a respectable 12 assists while committing only one turnover, while Colin Falls scored a team-high 18 points and Chris Quinn added 14.
Quinn limped off the court towards the middle of the sec­ond half and did not return. Coach Mike Brey said Quinn's status for Saturday as of now is questionable.

Thomas, meanwhile, did not force much on offense and ignited scoring in the second half.
"I'm pretty much being a denyee on offense the whole game and just waiting to pick my spots," Thomas said.
With under 11 minutes remaining, the Irish were up 49-41, but the Scarlet Knights rallied for three straight buckets to cut the lead to two. When Rick Cornett dunked but then Rut­gers' Jaquan Douby (19 points) canned two free throws out of a timeout, Thom­as answered with two pull-up jumpers to hold the Notre Dame lead.
"I think I forced a couple threes early just trying to get going and coach told me to let the game come to me, and I had some open looks there in the second half," Thomas said.
A Thomas bucket with 5:11 left put the Irish up 55-49. After a few Rutgers misses and some Irish free throws, Notre Dame gained its largest lead of 12 (66-54) before earning the 10-point victory.
Those teams at the bottom of the league standings have a lot of wins," Brey said. "But I don't think of them as teams at the bottom of our league.
Brey said he underesti­mated Rutgers because he knows how the Irish battled against other "bottom" teams in three one-point conference wins.
Notre Dame led 30-29 at the half, despite shooting 52.4 percent to Rutgers' 27.6 per­cent from the field.
The Scarlet Knights scored the first basket of the game on a Marcus Webb 3-pointer. Dusky scored 13 points in the first half, including two free throws to make the score 26-25 just before the 3:54 television timeout.
The Scarlet Knights' center Jimmie Inglis canned two free throws to give the Irish a 28-27 lead in the fourth head change of the half.
Thomas scored his first points of the game on two foul shots with 57.5 seconds remaining in the second half. Inglis' two free throws put Notre Dame into halftime with the lead.
Contact Pat Leonard at pleneaud@nd.edu

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Defense
continued from page 20

ing 53 percent compared to Rutgers' 30 percent, and a 68-58 victory seems disappoint­ ing, especially for a team marching to the NCAA tourna­ ment.

But Mike Brey knows better.
"I fully expected a battle," he said.

going by Big East standards, maybe this one was a blowout. Brey pointed out in Notre Dame's three one-point wins against the Big Ten's cellular dwellers — Seton Hall, St. John's and Villanova — the Irish survived by a com­bined three points.

So Wednesday night's 10-point victory could be classified as a pre-Season Break cruise for this Irish team.
The Irish won this game with what's been emphasized dur­ing the two-day practice leading up to Wednesday's game — defense.
Jordan Cornette jumping out in the passing lane, forcing passes closer to half­ court than the 3-point line. Chris Quinn swhitting passes out of bounds. Dennis La­more and Torin Francis stepping on pick-and-rolls to disrupt the Rutgers offense.

All of that led to Rutgers shooting 29.5 percent from the field overall, an emphasis for the Irish in every game they play, but especially so Wednesday night.

That was a main goal, field goal defense," Cornette said. "I mean, we tried to take them out by trying to get a lead, all the way to the alley-oop passes out of bounds, Dennis Lamore and Torin Francis stepping on pick-and-rolls to disrupt the Rutgers defense.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Lazor at mlazor@nd.edu

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Academic
continued from page 20
points are earned. Heisler said that corporations have the advantage of the APR is the relevancy of the numbers.

"I think we're all used to dealing with the graduation rates that have not been completely up to date because of the length of time they permit for the graduation to take place. This is a more valid grading process," he said. "In some cases, you're talking about people who enrolled 25 years ago, where as this is a completely up-to-date measure for the most recent academic year."
Heisler said that in order for the APR to take full effect, there is going to be a learning process for all NCAA schools. "I think it is a learning experience for everyone to have an appreciation for what the numbers mean, and in the case of anybody who falls short of the 3.00 mark, how does that happen?" Heisler said. "It's going to take a while for everyone to appreciate exactly what it is that causes you to not receive the full complement of points."

The lowest numbers at Notre Dame came in football, where the Irish scored a 934. But Heisler said this number can be deceiving because of the unique way Notre Dame handles fifth-year seniors in the program. At Notre Dame, fifth year seniors are often not eligible in the second semester of their fifth year per the NCAA standards because they are not taking the minimum number of credits.

"There's a little bit difference in philosophy in terms of the computation that was probably affected to some extent by some fifth year people," Heisler said. "That may be the kind of thing that you go back to the drawing board and explain a little about how each sport works."

Despite the fact that the APR will be used to compare all schools in the NCAA, Heisler said the number doesn't necessarily tell the whole story of student-athletes at their respective schools. Different schools have different standards for student-athletes, as the NCAA allows them to, and this did distort the APR to an extent. For example, at Notre Dame, student-athletes have to maintain a 2.0 grade-point average, a standard enforced by the University, not the NCAA.

"In some cases, our numbers are a reflection of our own eligibility standards, which are not necessarily the same as other people's," Heisler said. "In some cases, you're not always comparing apples to apples, because what the NCAA requires is a one-time per year certification of an athlete in terms of their eligibility. So once that certification takes place, the NCAA doesn't worry that poor person has done academically until the time comes to certify everybody again."

Heisler also expressed concern that at Notre Dame, the numbers might not always accurately reflect a school's progress in academics. "In some cases, our numbers may reflect that our student-athletes are being held to higher standards," he said.

As far as the overarching effect of APR, Heisler said it will reinforce to schools that they need to bring in student-athletes that can make it in the classroom as well as in the athletic realm.

"I think it's probably going to make coaches in particular think twice about anybody that they recruit and their ability to be successful academically, because your program could be penalized if you are recruiting and giving scholarships to people that aren't going to make it," Heisler said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Panzica
continued from page 20

After missing the Bouts his sophomore year due to a case of mono, Panzica slugged his way to the finals of the 135 lb. weight class his junior season. Once there, he lost to teammate Nathan Lohmeyer.

"Last year, it was a big achievement for me to be in the finals," the Cleveland native said. "I think I was more in awe of being there." With the finals defeat in mind, Panzica has trained over three hours per day, six days per week since boxing season started in January.

"I usually try to get practice 45 minutes to one hour early just to work on some individual things," Panzica said.

Spending all that time in the boxing room, Panzica has formed a close bond with many of the 127 club members, but especially with the four other captains.

"I definitely admire and respect the other captains for the amount of work they put into boxing," Panzica said. "It's a great group of guys and we just keep each other going." Panzica is a finance major and will be working in the real estate business next year. Though the corporate world can be competitive, it will be tough to match the adrenaline rush he receives from boxing.

"It's a feeling I've never had before in any other sporting event," Panzica says of the Bouts. "Because all eyes are on you."

All proceeds from the Bengal Bouts go to Holy Cross missions, a fact which Panzica is proud of.

"What makes the Bengal Bouts so great is that it is a completely selfless event," Panzica said. "There's a hundred-plus kids doing this purely for the fact of raising money for people on the other side of the world. I think it's unbelievable how unselfish that is."

Contact Mike Gilloon at agilloon@nd.edu

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THE OBSERVER

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The Observer

Happy Birthday: Everything is changing all the time. Places are changing, the weather is changing, but the changes are good. Let go of all that's unnecessary from the past and start the way for bigger and better times. Take on new projects, learn new skills and make a promise to yourself that you will no longer harbor feelings about what's over and done. With your numerals are 1, 16, 19, 32, 33, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't get angry — get moving. You have to ask yourself what you want and go for it. Setting up with someone who tries to subscribe to you is a past time of mine. Rose above any conflict.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): It's not about what you get back but truly about what you give. You could feel a negative influence by taking action and doing nothing.

GEMINI (May 23-June 20): Nothing should stand in your way of what's come to your goal or duties in this way. You may not be as new thinking strongly, so decide what you eat, decide what you do. Someone is likely to let you down. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can have it all today just by standing on and pushing for what you believe. Partnerships may be tense at first, but as the day progresses you should be able to smooth things over. An energetic approach to everything you do will bring results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You need to be on what to do in terms of work, money and moving ahead. Don't think too big or try to step out on an opportunity that has a greater potential for longevity. Don't be as big a basher.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got too much as you take the initiative and make those all-important phone calls. Your creative talents are high, so take advantage of the ideas that pop into your head. Short trips will lead to longer trips later on. All your heart’s desires are about to come true.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Love, romance and partnerships are looking good. Your unique approach to everything you do will bring you a lot of emotion. You will be in tune with people you deal with, knowing exactly how to manipulate the situation to get what you want.

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, artistic and innovative. You are involved in anything that is peculiar or unusual. You are sensitive, loving and kind.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at smuwaweb.com and eugenialast.com.

The Observer • TODAY

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Appar (22)
2. N.M. competitor (10)
3. "Say, team!" (2)
4. Promulgate (20)
5. Help the crew (11)
6. Paprika- powdered serving (8)
7. One doing checks and balances? (5,9)
8. Election day: (10)
9. Viewer, maybe (8,9)
10. Some groups on horseback (11)
11. Parking place (7)
12. Parking light (5)
13. Abbr. (4)
14. Check and cars, for short (6)
15. Abbr. (8)
16. "Not trust" (9)
17. TV cartoon dog (6)
18. Stain (6)
19. Bicycle maker since 1895 (12)
20. Some sports cars, for short (8)
21. "Out of Africa" novelist Dessen (5)
22. niche at Notre Dame (7)
23. Baltic Sea viewer, maybe (11)
24. Rudiments (20)
25. Cleaning clothes (14)

AARON ARKAM DAWN

DOWN
1. Gallery event (7)
2. Terse variety (7)
3. Like L., alphabetically (5)
4. Where to order (8)
5. Like (6)
6. Some dips (11)
7. Newspaper publisher who founded the United Press (14)
8. Briny expanse (8)
9. Meal paste (8)
10. Beets, it, out of the city (9)
11. Not needing a prescription: Abbr. (5)
12. Terminally ill (8)
13. Twisted (11)
14. Exhilarating laugh (10)
15. Some are wild (11)
16. "You're going too fast for me!" (20)
17. "Nog" in the track (20)
18. Meteor paths (20)
19. "Do _ Ditty Dally" (1944 film) (20)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CHARLES SCHULZ

PEANUTS

I REMEMBER NOW WHEN WE LOST OUR LAST GAME. I THREW MY GLOVE ON THE GROUND!

DILBERT

THEN I KICKED IT ACROSS THE PILE D!

SCOTT ADAMS

AND THERE IT IS RIGHT WHERE I LEFT IT!

\[\begin{align*}
\text{TOIDI} & \quad \text{NFSI} \\
\text{ARQUEV} & \quad \text{PERUS} \\
\text{A} & \quad \text{A}_{\text{JUMBLE}} \quad \text{JUMBLE} \\
\end{align*}\]

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

No. of one-letter words in puzzle: 4

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jan: Ben Brow, 43; Laraine Newman, 52; Lou Ferringo, 73; Jerry Lewis, 85.

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Notre Dame passes NCAA's first academic test

New academic progress rate information shows Irish above minimum requirements for Division I teams

By HEATHER VAN HOEYARDEN
Sports Editor

More than half of Division I sports teams had at least one subpar academic progress rate (APR), according to NCAA statistics released Monday, but Notre Dame was not one of them. The newly formulated academic standard shows that the Irish are above the minimum rate in every Division I sport they participate in, and have perfect scores in 13 of 22 sports, according to the data, which is based on the 2003-04 school year. Only Duke had more teams with perfect scores in Division I-A, with 15 of 24 teams registering 1,000 on the 1,000 point scale.

With the new rules by the NCAA, teams would face scholarship losses if a sport underperformed per the standard. For example, teams that don’t meet the NCAA minimum would lose a scholarship if a player leaves because he or she is academically ineligible. However, these penalties won’t be enforced until next fall.

Points are awarded based on a player-by-player basis, taking into account whether the player remains at the school, and remains academically eligible so that he or she graduates. The maximum points a team can earn is 1,000, and the NCAA minimum is 925 — the number the NCAA says is equivalent to a 50 percent graduation rate.

“I think this is a little bit of a learning experience, an educational process for probably everybody involved,” Notre Dame senior associate athletic director John Heisler said. “The fact that this is a different way of going about measuring academics and graduation rates, and it’s a more current set of criteria that what’s been available in the past.”

With the new standard, a team earns two points per player, per year. If a player transfers or leaves early for a professional draft, he or she earns one point. But if that same athlete leaves because he or she is academically ineligible, then zero

see ACADMIC/page 18

Goodknight

Notre Dame downs Rutgers Wednesday at the Joyce Center

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame is one win away from earning a bye in the Big East Tournament. Needing wins in its final two conference games to secure the No. 2 seed, the Irish took care of half the battle by beating Rutgers 19-17, 2-13 Big East, 66-56, at the Joyce Center Wednesday night. Notre Dame (17-9, 6-6) had lost its previous two contests to UCLA and Connecticut, games in which the Irish defense played subpar or did not show above the minimum rate in every Division I sport they participate in, and have perfect scores in 13 of 22 sports, according to the data, which is based on the 2003-04 school year. Only Duke had more teams with perfect scores in Division I-A, with 15 of 24 teams registering 1,000 on the 1,000 point scale.

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see ACADMIC/page 18

Men's Basketball

Notre Dame downs Rutgers Wednesday at the Joyce Center

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Above, Colin Falls, left, controls the ball. At right, Omari Isreal goes up for a put-back dunk.

PHOTOS BY FRANCESCA SETA

BENGAL BOUTS

Senior captain ready for hard work to pay off

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Mike Panzica has been scared only once in a boxing ring. He was a freshman at the time and climbed inside the ropes to face the top-seeded senior in his weight class. Ten seconds, two punches and one dazed look after the second-round fight started, Panzica knew he had a long way to go if he wanted to be a Bengal Bouts champion.

Four years later, Panzica is close to reaching his goal. He's a senior and one of the top seeds in the 155 lb. weight class and has hopes of capturing his first Bengal Bout title when the finals take place on March 19. “A championship would definitely be a great end to these four years of boxing,” Panzica said. “It would pretty much make everything worth all the effort.”

The first step on the final leg of his journey begins tonight as he faces Bryan Grissinger in a Bengal Bouts quarterfinal fight beginning at 6 p.m., in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Panzica joined the boxing club his freshman year and first heard about the Bengal Bouts from a sister who attended Notre Dame before him.

“My older sister would tell me how cool it was to watch the fights,” Panzica, a team captain, said. “Initially I was just looking for a regular workout. But after doing it every day, I got to meet a lot of great guys and a lot of good friends.”

see PANZICA/page 18

NCAA Athletics