Student Center opens to public

SMC building contains more than a dozen offices, bookstore, convenience store and cafe

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's students returning from spring break this weekend had at least one good thing to look forward to — a new Student Center.

The Student Center, which opened Sunday evening after months of anticipation, is the new home for more than a dozen offices at the college including the Shaheen Bookstore, First Source Bank, campus ministry and student government.

Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney stopped by and poked her head into some of the conference rooms and offices.

Disability awareness month kicks off

Coordinators hope events will increase understanding

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

A musician with Down Syndrome and Irish head football coach Charlie Weis might not seem to have much in common, but in the coming weeks the two will highlight Notre Dame's Disability Awareness Month.

Disability Awareness Month is an extended version of the Disability Awareness Weeks that have been held on campus since 1997. Marissa Bunkle of the Logan Center coordinated most of the efforts along with Kathleen Rohleb, co-president of Best Buddies and the College Buddy Director.

The first scheduled event is a performance by Sejjeet Desai, a 23-year-old man who was born with Down Syndrome. He will play the piano, clarinet and violin in a concert held at 7 p.m. tonight in Washington Hall.

A graduate of the Berkshire Music Academy, Desai has also earned a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and won gold and silver medals swimming in the Special Olympics World Games.

"He has really pushed himself to work so hard. His older brother, who does not have special needs, has served as a real inspiration to him," Bunkle said. "Tomorrow [at the concert] there will be a lot of children who have Down Syndrome, and he is one of their idols."

The concert by Desai is touted by the organizers as one of the highlights of Disabilities Awareness Month.

COR

Senator proposes purchasing seniors’ book-buying site

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The Council of Representatives discussed Monday the need to create a more affordable way for Notre Dame students to buy and sell class textbooks.

Fisher senator Sujal Pandya spoke to representatives about three possible solutions in help alleviate the financial burden textbook prices place on students. Pandya said collaborating with an online book company or creating a new Web site could solve the problem.

But Pandya believed his third solution — a proposal that would require student government to purchase an already-established, student-operated book exchange Web site — was the most feasible.

"I believe the third solution is the one we need to pursue," Pandya said.

According to Pandya, the NHBlay website is currently run by two seniors living off-campus, and the owners are not sure yet if they will continue running the site after graduation. Representatives questioned Pandya about the feasibility of the project and the amount of effort required to maintain the Web site.

"I want to know the type of investment is needed on our part — like time and people, do we have the manpower? What if the system crashes?" Student Union Head Treasurer Jimmy Holverty asked.

Pandya assured representatives that the effort required to

see DOME/page 4

see MONTH/page 4

Golden dome to shine even brighter

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

One spot on Notre Dame's campus often shines above all the rest — the historic golden dome, which, starting March 7, began the process of being regilded for the tenth time in school history.

A scaffolding system, which takes about three weeks to complete, is currently being installed. The regilding process consists of applying 3,500 square feet of 23.5-karat gold leaf. This process will begin after the scaffolding is finished and once weather conditions are optimal, said Dennis Brown, associate director of news and information.

The regilding process is done by hand and the material, which includes eight ounces of gold, can only be applied on dry days without wind, Brown said.

According to a University press release, Conrad Schmitt Studios of St. Louis, Mo., is handling the regilding, which will cost $300,000.

"Money for the regilding is coming from the general fund, though a benefactor is being sought for the project," Brown said.

Though the golden dome is part of Notre Dame history, some students think the price is a bit

see CENTER/page 6
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Psyched for St. Pat's**

I love St. Patrick's Day. I might even go as far as to say it's my favorite holiday after Christmas. There's just something about the shiny shamrocks and traditions that makes St. Patrick's Day something I look forward to each year.

Unlike other holidays, St. Patrick's Day offers people the opportunity to celebrate the characteristics that epitomize the Irish spirit—a sense of pride, camaraderie, and fun of life.

March 1 is the official start to St. Patrick's Day in our home. That's the day my mom unwraps the leprechaun window stickers and the shamrock cookie cutters.

Decorating for St. Patrick's Day with my family has sort of become an official event in our house. My mom and I pull out the cookie sheets and bread pans to make shamrock sugar cookies and my grandma's famous Irish soda bread.

My dad carefully selects decorating music—usually the Dubliners and teams up with my brothers and sister to hang shamrock Garland and an Irish flag outside our door. Everyone has found their own way to add something to the celebration.

And when all the work is done, our house shines.

When I was in high school, I loved pulling up to the driveway and seeing the cute leprechaun and shamrock cutouts in our window. I remembered how my we stood on the top window and how, when we were finished, we stood back and admired our work.

Those decorations also helped brighten up our yard on a gloomy, snowy day and reminded me that spring and St. Patrick's Day were on the way.

Looking down the block this year during spring break, I couldn't help but smile as I glanced out the car window to see my neighbors decorating their homes for St. Patrick's Day and heard my friends' plans for the holiday.

What is Irish or not, nearly everyone has found his or her own way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Some choose to wear a green tie or other things, enjoy the fun-loving Irish bars that frequent the restaurants. Taking a break from their fast-paced lives, people have the chance to catch up with friends and share stories.

Regardless, the holiday has become more of a reason to anticipate and celebrate in the midst of dreary winter days. So whatever reason and in whatever way you choose to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, I hope it's have a great time— I know I will.

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

Contact Ann Loughery at aloughery@nd.edu

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**QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE BACK ON CAMPUS?**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allison Willems</th>
<th>Andy MacKrell</th>
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<th>Ted Lawless</th>
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"Awesome, because it's disability awareness month."

"It's nice to be back with my cuddle buddies."

"It's great to be back. I get to spoon with this guy."

"It feels great! I was away from the dining hall for way too long."

"Great, I found this balloon."

"I'll spend the last week in the Bahamas and I miss it."

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**IN BRIEF**

Bryan Boyer will be giving the lecture "Orthopedic Trauma" in the Mini-Medical School Lecture series from 7 p.m. to 9 tonight in 102 DeBartolo Hall. To register or for more information, call Judy at 574-631-5574. The lecture is presented by the South Bend Center for Medical Education.

Sujeet Desai, an accomplished musician who was born with Down Syndrome, will play the clarinet, piano, and violin from 7 p.m. to 8:15 tonight in Washington Hall. Admission is free. The event is part of Disability Awareness Month.

Beil Dao, an exiled Chinese poet and human rights activist, will give a poetry reading from 4:30 p.m. to 6 Wednesday in the Eck Visitors' Center. A reception will follow. The event is sponsored by the Creative Writing Program.

The Notre Dame Schola Musicorum will perform a concert entitled "Abend-Musique XXIV" from 8 p.m. to 9:45 Wednesday in Rooney Organ and Choral Hall, located in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. The concert is free but tickets are required. Please call the DeBartolo box office at 574-631-2900.

Bishop Gregorio Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, will give a Romanes keynote lecture entitled "Archbishop Romero: A Bishop for the New Millennium" from 8 p.m. to 9:15 Wednesday in the McKenna Hall auditorium.

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

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**LOCAL WEATHER**

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<th>TODAY</th>
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Proposed election changes debated

By MADDAE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The Campus Life Council discussed the difficulty in synchronizing hall election dates and the possibility of creating a new task force to combat violence against women at Monday's meeting.

A resolution regarding election deadline compliance was presented, which requested greater assistance from the Office of Student Affairs and residence hall rectors in ensuring a smooth transition between student government administrations.

The resolution also stressed the necessity of increased communication between the Judicial Council and each hall staff regarding the election dates.

After Council members reviewed the resolution, voting was postponed due to concerns surrounding next year's still-undetermined election dates.

"I would rather have a date by which they[the elections] need to be done, and the later, the better," said Dillon rector Father Paul Doyle. Doyle expressed concern that the proposed March 1 election date would prevent these rising seniors who apply for, but do not receive, resident assistant positions from participating in hall elections.

"I don't see any compelling reason to do it before spring break at the same time in every dorm," Doyle said. "I'm not asking you to push the date after spring break - I just want a chance to engage the upper class."

Judicial Council president Brin Anderson and student body president-elect Dave Baron said the March 1 date had been proposed because it would allow for a longer transition period.

"March 1 was selected so senators can go to meetings and other transition meetings," Baron said, noting these other elections will be set up in the near future with the Office of Student Activities.

Cavanaugh rector Sister Pat Dearbaugh agreed with Doyle, saying she did not see the need of synchronizing the election dates.

"March 1 is too early to do all this, when we have RA decisions to make, and to expect people to take over that early," Dearbaugh said.

Cavanaugh rector Jordan Bongiovanni said increasing senior involvement in hall government, a concern of several Council members who mentioned the growing trend toward younger hall presidents, should be separated from the election date issue.

"I think we're trying to solve two different problems here," Bongiovanni said. "I think it's student government's job as a whole, to encourage older leadership, if they see fit."

Howard rector Kathy Brannock said another complication with the early election dates was the study abroad notification date.

"I would hate to have a student elected president get accepted to London and then withdraw as president," Brannock said.

Baron acknowledged the problem and offered the possibility of talking to International Studies to see if they could push forward notification dates next year.

With the pending task force's objective of sending a resolution to Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman completed, Bongiovanni asked if a new task force should be created to handle it.

In response, Baron proposed adding attention to the problem of violence against women, saying, "This may be something to take up in another task force, or social concerns. This is something we need to look into."

Baron said he felt male involvement in preventing rape needed to increase and brought up Men Against Rape, an organization he thinks could benefit the effort.

"Some of the efforts aren't tailored towards men," Baron said. "That's something next year Lizi (Shuppell) and I are going to be working on."

Student body vice president Karla Bell said that while the Gender Resource Center was designed for men and women, the male programs are not as effective.

"A huge problem is that they can't get enough male involvement to make a difference, even for programs geared towards men," Bell said.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanan@nd.edu

The O'Grady Asia Lecture Series 2005
Presents
John Kamm, Executive Director
Dui Hua Foundation

"Civil Rights, Human Rights: The Struggle for Justice in the United States and China"

Tuesday, March 15 at 5:00 p.m.
Jordan Auditorium
Mendoza College of Business
University of Notre Dame

A workshop and discussion with John Kamm (Dui Hua Founder and Executive Director) & Irene Chan Kamm, (Manager of Administration and Development)

"Dui Hua: The Strategy and Technique of Human Rights Work in China"

Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.
Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium
Notre Dame Avenue
University of Notre Dame

Reception to follow
Hesburgh Center, Great Hall

http://www.duihua.org
The public is invited to attend both events.
631-8973

SAGA asks board for formal recognition

By KELLY BALE
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance discussed recognizing the Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) during their first official meeting in the new student center Monday.

Megan Schaeffer, president and founder of SAGA at Saint Mary's, spoke in front of BOG to ask for recognition of the alliance as an official club at the College.

"There are a lot of Catholic schools that support gay and straight alliances, and I really feel that Saint Mary's needs to be one of them," Schaeffer said.

Schaeffer said that she first recognized a need for an organization such as SAGA on campus after students came to her looking for someone to talk to.

Schaeffer described SAGA as a group of 25 to 30 straight, lesbian and bisexual students who meet weekly to discuss various issues in education and awareness, support and social activities.

"I really want to stress that this is something that is affecting all of us," Schaeffer said. "I think the support group will be the one that has the biggest impact on this campus and affects the most people."

Contact Kelly Bale at kbaiek@stmarys.edu
Fisher senator Sujal Pandya, right, makes a proposal to purchase the student-run NDBay at Monday's COR meeting.

NDBay continued from page 1

run the Web site would be minimal.
"The current owners told me they spend one to two hours per week facilitating the site. It will require minimum support. We already have the capacity to run it," Pandya said.

After other members questioned the cost of the Web site and the need for continuous advertising, chief executive assistant and student body president-elect Dave Baron acknowledged that purchasing NDBay might not be the most efficient measure to take. Instead, Baron said student clubs could take on the task.
"We've looked into the issue a great deal. But the cost to buy it seems too much. The Entrepreneurial Club has expressed interest in creating a new Web site. That, to me, seems like a better option," Baron said. Student body president Adam Brown then closed the meeting to the press to discuss the actual price of purchasing the site.

Contact Mary Kate Maloney at mmalone3@nd.edu

Dome continued from page 1

excessive. "I think it's a wonderful idea, but I think there are better places the school could use the money," said sophomore Sarah Micelli.

The last regilding took place in 1988, and, contrary to what some may believe, the dome is not required to be regilded after a certain number of years. "It's not automatic," Brown said. "An evaluation was made by the University architect and others in his office, just as they do with other buildings on campus." Because regilding is a very delicate process and will take place over the next few months and into the summer, the dome will not be its golden self for graduation, which may be distressing to some. "I'm sure some students will be disappointed, but because the regilding process is dependent upon calm weather conditions, the scaffolding needs to go up now so that the work can begin as soon as weather permits," Brown said. However, with the amount of attention the dome receives, the University believes it is important to keep it in good shape. "It is a very expensive process, but the dome is not a piece of art," Brown said. "It is a functional piece of architecture."

The number-one tourist attraction in Indiana provides exposure that is cheap at any price," said sophomore Preston Carter. Brown said that Notre Dame also plans to make additional repairs to the outside of the Main Building and to paint parts of the dome be painted gold and, after the scaffolding is taking place.

Disabilities Awareness Month is sponsored by the Logan Center and the Best Buddies Club of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, as well as the Center for Social Concerns, the Special Friends Club, SuperSibs, the Office for Students with Disabilities, the Senior Class Council and the Edna K. Miller Foundation.
"We definitely want every­one to come to all of the events," Roblez said. "The carnival is going to be fun, and it would be a great time for students who have not had contact with people with dis­abilities to come here and play games with them in a laid back atmosphere. It's a great opportunity for people who are interested to come and see what it's like to inter­act with people who have dis­abilities."

Contact Karen Langley at klangle3@nd.edu

Law & . . .
An Interdisciplinary Colloquium Series
March 16, 2005
4:00 p.m.
Law School Courtroom

Tocqueville as Critical Race Theorist

Presenter
Alvin Tillery
Department of Political Science

Commentator
Jay Tidmarsh
The Law School
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Inmates surrender after jailbreak
MANILA, Philippines — Muslim-estranged inmates of one of the country's most exclusive institutions surrendered Monday after the Philippines' worst terrorist attack agreed to surrender Monday after a botched jailbreak left a death toll of seven, including three women, and the sole break out when the inmates demanded food, authorities said.

The deaths, including two female inmates, were confirmed by Malacanang Palace, the official residence of the president.

Early Tuesday, authorities threatened to storm the prison unless the inmates quickly surrendered.

"We have directed the government commander to take the necessary steps that we are giving them 15 minutes to surrender their firearms or we will take the option of arresting them," said Benjamin C. Abalos Jr., a spokesman for the Department of Justice.

The inmates were said to be demanding food, water, and medical attention.

Local News

Mistrial ruled after court shootings
ATLANTA — Prosecutors on Monday dropped a weapons charge against a man accused of opening fire in an Atlanta courthouse, and a mistrial was declared in the suspect's rape case as officials continued some of the highest-profile shootings of a judge and three others.

The man, who was in court to hear a third-degree murder charge against himself, was arrested last September when he opened fire on the judge and three others.

Clinton back at home after surgery
NEW YORK — Former President Clinton left the hospital Monday, four days after undergoing surgery to remove a bladder stone and fluid around his bladder.

"I'm glad to be home and look forward to getting back to work within the next month or so," Clinton said in a statement issued by his spokesman, James Carville.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton accompanied her husband from the hospital to the house of an official who was once his campaign manager.

Lebanese opposition demonstrators wave flags during a celebration March 1.

Protests against Syrian troops Monday were the largest the country has seen since the assassination of the former Lebanese prime minister one month ago.

Lebanese opposition demonstrators wave flags during a celebration March 1.

Protests against Syrian troops Monday were the largest the country has seen since the assassination of the former Lebanese prime minister one month ago.

Assocated Press

LEBANON

Thousands march against Syrian troops

Protest is largest since the assassination of former prime minister one month ago

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators chanted freedom, sovereignty, independence, and waved a sea of Lebanese flags in Beirut on Monday, the biggest anti-Syrian protests in years. The demonstration's goal was to denounce the Syrian-backed government.

"We are coming to liberate our country. We are coming to demand the truth," said Fataa Trad, a woman who traveled from the remote region of Binnin in northern Lebanon to take part.

The assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri exactly one month ago sparked the series of protests against Syria, the dominant power in Lebanon.

The throngs fell silent at 12:55 p.m., exactly when Hariri was killed four weeks ago by a bomb in Beirut. The exact cause was known to be "an assassination." The bombing killed four people, including Hariri's son, and badly wounded two others.

Later, thousands of red and white balloons were released above the teeming crowd, many of whom were swarved in the same colors that have come to symbolize the country's anti-Syrian movement in what the U.S. State Department has dubbed "the Beirut Cynet Revolution." Brass bands playing patriotic and national folk songs and Lebanese national anthem were also played by people seated on the steps of the crowd.

Monday's protest easily surpassed a pro-government rally of hundreds of thousands of people last week by the Shiite Muslim militant group Hezbollah. That show of strength forced the opposition to try to regain its momentum.

While there were no official estimates of the size of the crowd, police officers privately estimated it at about 1 million people. The officers refused to speak publicly because it was an opposition rally. An Associated Press estimate by reporters on the scene put the number at much higher than the approximately 500,000 who attended the March 8 pro-Syrian rally.

Syria's military withdrawal continued Monday, with intelligence agents closing two offices in the northern towns of Anayaun and Deir Ammar, on the coastal road between the port of Tripoli and the Syrian border. Intelligence agents also dismantled two checkpoints in the Akkar area. About 50 intelligence agents in all departed for unknown destinations, although it was believed to be northern Syria.

Most intelligence offices, the widely respected arm through which Syria has managed many aspects of Lebanese life, remained in northern and central Lebanon after Syrian troops moved east, closer to the Syrian border. Last week, intelligence officers left the central town of Aley and Rhamdoun and headed to Syrian-controlled areas of eastern Lebanon. The redeployment is the first stage of what Damascus says will be a full withdrawal, although it has not given a timetable.

The opposition is demanding a full Syrian withdrawal, the resignations of Lebanese security chiefs and an international investigation into Hariri's Feb. 14 assassination.

Many were also partic­ularly offended by pro-Syrian President Emile Lahoud's reinstatement last week of Prime Minister Omar Karami, who was forced to resign on Feb. 28 by a giant opposition protest.

"They are challenging us, and we are here to show them that we will not accept," said banker Farid Samaha.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GROUP SEEN OVER MEDICAL RECORDS

INDIANAPOLIS — Planned Parenthood of Indiana is suing Attorney General Steve Carter to stop the Indiana Office of Attorney General from taking the medical records of 73 low-income Medicaid patients who have sought reproductive services.

The lawsuit, filed Monday, seeks a temporary restraining order against the attorney general and others, including the Indiana Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, which runs the statewide network of medical examiners.

The Attorney General's office, in a letter presented to Planned Parenthood, said it is seeking the records for a drawn-out legal battle between the two sides.

The state agency's legal counsel, Judge Richard Kramer overturned California's ban on gay marriage Monday and said that withholding marriage licenses from same-sex couples trespasses on their civil rights.

If it is upheld on appeal, the ruling will open the way for the nation's second-most populous state to follow Massachusetts in allowing same-sex couples to wed.

Kramer ruled in favor of gay marriage
"It’s absolutely beautiful. I think it will attract more students to Saint Mary’s," said junior Michelle Fitzgerald. "It gives them a more of a college feel."

Director of campus ministry Judy Fean welcomed visitors Monday afternoon to the campus ministry office with a flair detailing office hours. The campus ministry will continue to operate largely out of the Student Center, the bookstore and the new convenience store, said sophomore Audra Robbins.

"It’s absolutely beautiful. I think it will attract more students to Saint Mary’s," said Dezenzo. "We just think it is cool to have it."

The bookstore is twice as big as the old one and Dezenzo said students should expect to come in for the first time.

"The building was absolutely beautiful. I think it will attract more students to Saint Mary’s," said Dezenzo. "It gives them a more of a college feel."

Assistant bookstore manager Bob Dezenzo said the delay was necessary to ensure the bookstore would be ready for business and that he was "ecstatic" about the changes in locations.

"Today is a happy day," said Dezenzo. "We can’t wait for the students to come in for the first time."

The new bookstore is twice as big as the old one and Dezenzo said students should expect double the merchandise. Tables were already filled Monday with students perusing Saint Mary’s items such as T-shirts, hats and champagne glasses.

"We really want students to give their input. This is their store," Dezenzo said. "We are just the keepers of the gate."

Touring the Student Center, the bookstore and the new convenience store, said sophomore Audra Robbins.

"It’s absolutely beautiful. I think it will attract more students to Saint Mary’s," said Dezenzo. "We just think it is cool to have it."
Eisner to step down early at Disney

Company president and chief operating officer will assume CEO role October 1

**Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES—Michael Eisner, Disney's embattled chairman and chief executive, said he will step down Oct. 1, a year earlier than expected, saying that identifying sources that at this point might leak information could create a "chilling effect" that could erode the media's ability to report in the public's interest.

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Route of barrier will enclose disputed land

Claimed area includes Palestine's intended capital, large Jewish settlement in West Bank

**Revised barrier approved**

A revised plan for the Israeli barrier around Jerusalem will encompass some lands claimed by the Palestinians.

**ISRAEL**

Jerusalem encircled by a barrier in the West Bank, Israeli officials confirmed Monday. The route would also place a holy site in the Palestinian town of Bethlehem on the Israeli side of the barrier, while leaving a Palestinian refugee camp in Jerusalem encircled by a separate fence, the officials said.

Late Monday, Israeli and Palestinian Cabinet ministers agreed again on a handover of the West Bank town of Jericho to Palestinian security control. Earlier agreements fell through over details about roadblocks. Israeli officials said the handover set for Wednesday, to be followed two or three days later.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon convened a meeting of senior Cabinet ministers late Sunday to discuss the route of the barrier, which got Cabinet approval last month.

Under the plan, the West Bank settlement of Maaleh Adumim, which lies five miles east of Jerusalem, would be on the Israeli side of the barrier, Israeli officials said. About 30,000 Israelis live in Maaleh Adumim, the largest Jewish settlement. "Does anyone even have the slightest doubt that Maaleh Adumim is an integral part of Israel?" said Israeli Vice Premier Ehud Olmert, who heads a ministerial committee on the Jerusalem barrier.

A senior Israeli official said the committee in planning 11 crossings to allow access from the West Bank. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said construction is to be completed by year's end and no major changes in the route are expected. A number of legal challenges filed by Palestinian villagers are pending in Israeli courts. The Palestinian refugee camp of Shuafat, which straddles the Jerusalem municipal boundary, will remain on the Israeli side of the barrier. It will be encircled by a separate fence, with a crossing into the city.

Bullying streets of Shuafat — sandwiched between two Jewish neighborhoods — were buzzing with speculation Monday about the planned fence. "Jerusalem is considered to be a barrier like the heart to the body," said Mohammed Omar, a 50-year-old teacher in Shuafat. "All their [residents'] activities are in Jerusalem."

According to the United Nations, 11,250 people live in the camp, a maze of narrow, dusty streets and densely packed gray concrete buildings. Israeli officials said the camp has been used as a launching point by Palestinian attackers, and the fence is needed for security.

In Bethlehem, the barrier will divide Rachel's Tomb, a Jewish shrine, from the rest of the city. Concrete slabs already have virtually cut off Bethlehem from Jerusalem.

You showed amazing leadership, motivation, and determination in putting together an INCREDIBLE regional conference! Thanks for all of your hard work! Keep in touch! Love, Meghan and Nicole
Ronan Tynan — the world’s most acclaimed Irish tenor — on St. Patrick’s Day. Virtuosi Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman, performing classical piano for four hands. Ladysmith Black Mambazo, the voice of South African music since Paul Simon’s Graceland. And they’re all here, at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

And Win a Free iPod mini

Buy a ticket for any of these three shows, mention this ad, and get in a drawing for an iPod Mini on March 21. We’ll notify the winner by e-mail.

Tickets: 574.631.2800 http://performingarts.nd.edu

GUEST ARTISTS

Ronan Tynan in Concert
THIS YEAR, SAINT PATRICK’S DAY AT NOTRE DAME WILL BE MORE IRISH THAN EVER
Thursday, March 17 at 8 pm
Tickets: $75 preferred seating, $50 general public, $40 faculty/staff, $37 seniors, $20 all students

Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman
Friday, March 18 at 8 pm
Tickets: $48, $38 faculty/staff, $36 seniors, $15 all students

Ladysmith Black Mambazo
Sunday, March 20 at 8 pm
Tickets: $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Natalie MacMaster
Friday, April 8 at 8 pm
Tickets: $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Alton
Friday, April 15 at 8 pm
Tickets: $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Emerson String Quartet
Saturday, April 16 at 8 pm
Tickets: $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

FILM

BROWNING CINEMA
Tickets $6, $5 faculty/staff, $4 seniors, $3 all students
Tickets go on sale each Monday before the screenings. For more information about these films, please visit http://performingarts.nd.edu.

Rosenstrasse (2004)
Sponsored by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies
Thursday, March 17 at 7 pm and 10 pm

King of Kings (1961)
Friday, March 18 at 7 pm

Trouble in Paradise (1932)
PAC CLASSIC 100
Saturday, March 19 at 3 pm

Barabbas (1962)
Saturday, March 19 at 7 pm

DANCE

The Sleeping Beauty
Presented by Southold Dance Theater
Decio Mainstage Theatre
Tickets: $25, $19 seniors, $12 all students
Friday, April 29 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 30 at 2 and 7:30 pm

MUSIC

Notre Dame Schola Musicae
Albano-Musique XXV
Wednesday, March 16 at 8 pm
Reyes Organ and Choral Hall
Free and open to the public; tickets required

The Notre Dame Glee Club
Saturday, March 19 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $6, $5 faculty/staff, $4 seniors, $3 all students

The Notre Dame Chamber Players
Thursday, March 31 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $10, $8 faculty/staff, $6 seniors, $3 all students
Jackson accuser told dean nothing happened

Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — The boy who says Michael Jackson molested him acknowledged under cross-examination Monday that he told an administrator at his school the pop star "didn't do anything to me."

The teenager was asked about conversations he had with Jeffrey Alpert, the dean at John Burroughs Middle School in Los Angeles, where the boy had a history of acting up in class. "I told Dean Alpert we didn't do anything to me," the boy said under questioning by Jackson attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. "I told him twice."

Prosecutors allege Jackson, 46, plied the boy, a cancer survivor, with alcohol and molested him at his Neverland Ranch in 2003. The pop star, who was threatened with arrest when he failed to show up in court on time Thursday, arrived on schedule Monday. Unlike last time, when a disheveled Jackson finally arrived in a coat, t-shirt and pajama bottom, he wore a smart red jacket with a black armband. His parents escorted him inside.

Mesereau, during his cross-examination of the boy, quoted Alpert as telling the youngster: "Look at me, look at me ... I can't help you unless you tell me the truth — did any of this happen?"

When asked when the conversation occurred, the boy said: "I believe it was after I came back from Neverland."

It was not clear in court why the dean asked the boy about Jackson. However, when a television documentary on Jackson aired in 2003, the boy was shown in it. Mesereau confronted the teenager with school records that showed nine teachers complained about the boy's disruptive behavior, events the boy acknowledged.

Of one teacher, he said: "I felt as if he didn't deserve respect as a teacher. I didn't respect him as a person." He complained on the witness stand about the teaching methods of virtually every teacher mentioned.

"When I would stand up to teachers the other students would congratulate me," he said. He added: "I was argumentative at times. I didn't like the way they taught me. I wasn't learning anything."

Later, in the day, Los Angeles attorney Thomas Flicker Forsyth said in an interview he was representing a potential witness who was part of the school administration at the time he had contact with the victim. He said his client met with prosecution and defense attorneys Saturday, and that he believed his client would be called as a witness.

Mesereau attempted to attack the heart of the conspiracy case by showing the so-called "rebuttal video," stopping it at points where the boy speaks and asking if he was telling the truth. In most instances the boy said he was.

The boy said he, his mother and brother did not discuss any plan to lie in the video, although he said at times his mother said things suggested to her by Jackson associate Dina Wisse.

Prosecutors allege that Jackson's associates had the boy's family make the video after the broadcast of the documentary, in which Jackson said he allowed the boy to sleep in his bed while he slept on the floor. The prosecution claims the rebuttal video was staged and scripted.

Mesereau also elicited testimony to amplify defense contentions the boy developed a grudge against Jackson and was troublesome at Neverland.

The boy acknowledged he felt Jackson abandoned him after his cancer went into remission. He said an STD given to the family was taken back by Jackson's staff for repairs and was never returned. Similarly, he said a computer was taken back for repairs and never returned.

Mesereau also cross-examined the accuser about similarities between a statement he testified he made about masturbation and an earlier statement the boy attributed to his grandmother.

On Thursday, the boy testified Thursday that Jackson told him if men do not masturbate, they might rape women. Mesereau noted the boy told sheriff's investigators in an interview that his grandmother had told him the same thing.

"Why did your story change between that interview and your testimony last Thursday?" Mesereau asked.

The boy denied changing his story. He said both his grandmother and Jackson had told him the same thing, but the context was different.

"She was telling me it was OK to do it, and Michael was saying you have to do it," the boy said.
'Monday Night Football' intro ruled not indecent

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sure, the steamy introduction to ABC's "Monday Night Football" was titillating, showing the bare back of "Desperate Housewives" actress Nicollette Sheridan as she jumped into the arms of football player Terrell Owens. But U.S. regulators ruled Monday the fifty clip didn't violate federal indecency standards. In a unanimous decision, the five-member Federal Communications Commission said the segment "simply is not graphic or explicit enough to be indecent under our standard."

A spokesman for ABC sports, Mark Mandel, said the company wouldn't comment.

The segment that aired last November showed Sheridan in a locker room wearing only a towel and provocatively asking the Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver to skip the game for her. She then dropped the towel and leaped into Owens' arms. Only the upper back of the "Desperate Housewives" star was exposed and no foul language was used — in fact, the scene was no raunchier than what's routinely seen on soap operas. But ABC said it received complaints from viewers who thought it was inappropriate.

While agreeing with the decision, Democratic Commissioner Michael Copps criticized ABC for airing the segment at a time — 9 p.m. EST — when many children were watching.

"There wasn't much self-discipline in this particular promotion," he said. "As stewards of the airwaves, broadcasters can and should do better."

Federal law bars nonsatellite radio stations and noncable television channels from airing certain references to sexual and excretory functions between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., when children are most likely being tuned in.

While the federal indecency statute has been on the books for many years, the FCC has considerably boosted enforcement in the last 18 months. The watershed event came in February 2004 when Janet Jackson's right breast was briefly exposed during the Super Bowl halftime show.

The FCC wound up proposing a $550,000 fine against CBS, which broadcast the Super Bowl. The network is appealing. After the Jackson incident, some networks began using a broadcast delay on live programs to catch any offensive material before it aired.

Congress is considering dramatically boosting fines for indecency. The House last month overwhelmingly passed a bill to raise the maximum fine from $32,500 to $500,000. A similar bill has been introduced in the Senate but has not had a hearing.

Stamos plays ladies man in ABC comedy

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Consider "Jake in Progress" the latest example of how things can come in threes.

After a preview last Sunday, the new John Stamos comedy arrives on its regular night, Thursday, with back-to-back episodes airing 8 p.m. EST. Its network, ABC, which already has enjoyed a Lazarus-like recovery with "Lost" and "Desperate Housewives," the season's most-talked-about hits, now could make nsen sen a snblar of its own, as the former Full House star existe a gift for adult romantic comedy while making sport of his image since teenhood as a heartthrob.

Playing a sleek PR agent who mostly handles celebrity clients, he is surrounded by a splendid supporting cast: Wendie Malick ("Just Shoot Me"), as Jake's disavow boss; Ian Gomez as his childhood friend, a schubly suburban dentist with the stable family life Jake thinks he wants; and, as a demented performance artist forever bounding Jake to either his publicist or his best friend, the hilarious Rick Hoffman.

"I know the character I wanted to play," says Stamos, thinking back to when the show first began to take shape. "It's a guy who can make everyone else seem like they have their act together — but he doesn't. His life is in shambles."

Well, maybe not in shambles. But Jake has his hang-ups — sweaty palms when he gets nervous; issues about age (he's observed his 32nd birthday the past three years); a grass-is-green fixaton, whether it's for the supermodel across the room who seems sexier than the girl he's with, or for the latest model cell phone in somebody else's hand that makes him instantly unhappy with the one he owns.
I hope everyone had an enjoyable break from the world of academics and politics in places more tolerable than South Bend. Although I didn’t make it to any of those warmer parts of the continent (not all Republicans are rich), I did thoroughly enjoy the events of the week before break. I did manage to fit a few political science midterms in an otherwise hectic week of political activity. And unfortunately, I’m going to have to go now with all due column on the Social Security policy debate gridlock.

In my current condition of political apathy I began working with the College Republicans and the local Republican leadership to develop just one of many grassroots responses to President Bush’s visit. The current policy debate is a uniquely fine example of an otherwise policy issue since the Vietnam War due to the significant impact it will have on younger voters. This being said, the local Republican leadership wanted to find a way to get younger Republicans involved in the grassroots effort to build up support for President Bush’s initiative to address the issue of the future of Social Security.

Before I go into detail about the local efforts of young conservative voters fighting for retirement security, I must take a minute to step back and analyze the tactics of the left. Following the lead of Howard Dean, who has been quoted saying, “Don’t propose, simply oppose, oppose, oppose!” the left has mobilized its own vast coalition of grassroots organizers. Instead of catering to the concerns of the young, they have utilized their far more successful tactic of whipping up older voters into a frenzy of fear.

They have begun a campaign of leaving automated phone messages in Republican offices in controlled Congressional districts making sure to stress how any Bush plan would involve benefit cuts and throwing away all of your money away into that mysterious stock market which is really just “waiting to crash at any moment.” Aside from ominous phone messages warning of Bush’s mischievous plan to throw all of your money away, they also mobilize older to demand new forces to turn out in force for town hall meetings and Social Security reform events. Most of the protesters and full-time anti-Bush enthusiasts that promised Bush’s visit were Americans too old to be affected by any changes to Social Security.

I was forwarded the Moveon.org e-mail sent to protesters of Bush’s visit. Conveniently enough, it gave them short talking points to tell the media about why they oppose Social Security reform keeping with Dean’s strategy. I heard no alternatives about what counterproposals they had to fix Social Security. Their protest seemed more like an “I hate Bush, too” support group than an intelligent expression of their concerns. I was forwarded that more than 300 Moveon.org e-mail addresses were made available to all readers. The free expression of an opinion is a sacred freedom. I do not see any reason this right is not consistent with the rights of the left.

The difference between them and us is that we have asked for alternative proposals and ideas. I’ll let you in on what the “evil” Republicans did in the week leading up to the president’s visit. We organized a College Republicans Social Security phone bank on March 1 in LaFortune. Rather than leaving automated messages with older voters, we did the best we could to let all those who would be affected by any proposals for reform. We did the unconventional and called younger voters. Statistically, this tactic is not worth it, banking on the fact that younger voters are among the least reliable of coalitions in American politics. This conclusion, of course, is outweighed by the moral imperative that we mobilize to defend a policy should be consulted. In our own little grassroots movement, we have over 100 Notre Dame students calling young voters in this district and ask them how they will vote regarding our generation that go beyond the sound bites taken from a few rabid Bush-bashing protesters.

In the long run, not all grassroots activity is created equally. The nucleus of a presidential visit provided us with a unique opportunity for political activity and discussion. Hopefully, our efforts will result in successful mobilization for the next generation to confront the issue. We’ll continue to try and counter the frenzied activity is created equally. The nucleus of a presidential visit provided us with a unique opportunity for political activity and discussion. Hopefully, our efforts will result in successful mobilization for the next generation to confront the issue. We’ll continue to try and counter the frenzied activity is created equally. The nucleus of a presidential visit provided us with a unique opportunity for political activity and discussion. Hopefully, our efforts will result in successful mobilization for the next generation to confront the issue. We’ll continue to try and counter the frenzied activity is created equally. 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The nucleus of a presidential visit provided us with a unique opportunity for political activity and discussion. Hopefully, our efforts will result in successful mobi...
Dear President Bush,

in your second inaugural address in January, you praised America’s speakers to the peoples of the world. All who live in tyranny and hopelessness know that the United States cannot ignore our oppressors. We will stand with you. When I first heard these words, I believed myself highly cynical. While the language of “freedom” has certainly been a part of your administration post-Sept. 11, I find our continued and even strengthened alliances with nations such as Pakistan, Colombia, Saudi Arabia and Israel to be quite hypocritical. Not to mention that I thought it was necessary and right to fight the enormous threats to our nation.

But in a broader context, Bush is trying to kill the vulnerable. Say no to Bush’s plan.

Asa Sandoval
March 14

Thirty years ago as a student at Notre Dame, I was deeply elevated young man, but the University’s respect for academic freedom and liberal exploration of all ideas, even those that didn’t conform to Catholic teaching, made this college a refuge where I was able to search for the strength to deal with my own personal struggles without any fear that the universe would condemn the single thing in my life I respected — my mind and its thirst for learning.

It’s an exaggeration to say that those early years at Notre Dame allowed me to survive through my painful decade of living a life I didn’t feel was right, free of the fear I couldn’t have the courage to act openly until about six years ago.

As a novelist and newspaper editor, I am appalled to read the attacks on Notre Dame’s tradition of liberal thought by conservative religious leaders and academics. It is a dedication to openness in the classroom that has earned Notre Dame the respect in academia that only the top universities in the nation share. But these days the heart of that openness is threatened by beliefs such as those of Father Richard Warner, who wrote in a Feb. 23 Viewpoint column that the Notre Dame Queen Film Festival and the performance of The Vagina Monologues are moving the University “more in the direction of promoting an ethic in Catholic teaching and the last serious indications that their presence on our campus is truly a search for truth in an academic environment.”

The guests who participated in the film festival are all men and women of courage committed to civil and reproductive rights. They may not follow all of the teachings of the Catholic Church, but they are involved in trying to interpret our lives on this earth in a quest for moral and compassionate terms. They do not deserve the implication that they are somehow dangerous influences, heretics or men and women who have no respect for the truth.

Paulie Price winning playwright Terence McNally, for instance, has worked his whole life to portray gay men in a way that liberates them from the limiting, cruel, and unrealistic dreams for love, compassion and sacrifice that the Church I knew as a young man had asked Catholics to sacrifice.

Five Emmer’s Obie-Award-winning play The Vagina Monologues may be witty and irreverent, but it is also compassionate, joyous and revealing. It gives voice to women’s feelings about sexuality that the Church, and certainly an academic institution like Notre Dame, should never condemn.

Film director and screenwriter Don Roos, Class of 1978, who has appeared at both Queer Film Festivals, is a driving force in independent film. Any university anywhere would be proud to count him among its most creative graduates. I certainly can’t imagine one that would try to censor his work or presence on campus. If Warner and others truly believe that everything Notre Dame sponsors and teaches must “bring the image of Jesus to perfection within us,” then they are advocating the University turn itself into a strictly religious school. Notre Dame would be the kind of place that offers no refuge to young and curious minds. Instead, it would lock students into doctrine. Some Notre Dame would become little different from Christian fundamentalist schools or even, God forbid, from the political world that try to turn the great religion of Islam into a dangerous and narrow-minded doctrine of censure and hate.

I urge Warner and other leaders on campus and in the Catholic world to study the issue about why it matters to allow a free and spirited debate of ideas and artistic expressions at Notre Dame. Otherwise, I fear that a generation of our nation’s best and noblest will be defiled.
**Ray Widescreen Edition**
**Universal**

**Ray**
*American R&B legend Ray Charles (Jamie Foxx) performs one of his signature songs in "Ray," the biographical drama detailing the singer's life.*

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN
Scene Critic

The most admirable quality of the film "Ray" is that it makes Ray Charles more available to recent generations — a group that witnessed the gifted musician at an early age.

To the latest generations, Charles was the man with the humorous cameo in "Blues Brothers." He starred in a flop Pepsi commercial which spared a famous tagline. There was also a clear connection made between him and Stevie Wonder, another musician whose music seemed inaccessible at times. Altogether, director Taylor Hackford's biopic — a work that took 15 years to finish and included Charles' collaboration on "In Living Color" — is a complete look at how the blind Georgia native rose to fame.

Hackford lays out his film as if he almost intentionally wants it to rest upon the shoulders of its star, in this case Jamie Foxx, who makes up for any flaws from the "In Living Color" and being criticized for making fun of the Backstreet Boys to becoming one of Hollywood's top male actors.

Foxx won the Oscar for Best Actor for his portrayal of Charles, and he deserves it. He also was nominated for his role in "Collateral." His character is delightfully easy to fall in love with, as we watch him overcome the odds to break into the business. He charms us with a huge grin at whatever night club or concert hall he may be playing.

By comparison, we hate Charles every time we see him struggle with drugs, particularly with heroin. This is one of the movie's main themes, and it reverberates so thoroughly throughout the film that it becomes a little burdensome. The story contrasts Charles' ascending fame with his declining character. It's a good idea, but the character is in such a rut towards the end of the film that the story must quickly jump to conclusions. The result is a two-and-a-half hour film with no real resolution.

The story and the acting, however, are great and make up for any flaws in the plot. Of course Foxx is impressive, but kudos as well to Curtis Armstrong for his portrayal of Atlantic Records executive Ahmet Ertegun, along with as Harry Lennix as Joe Adams, who served as Charles' concert MC and business confidante. Warren is also quite memorable as Ray's mother, depicted as a devoted woman who refuses to see her son succumb to his handicap.

In the extras in the "Ray" DVD are decent. There are 15 deleted scenes, the best ones being Ray singing with a group of Marines on a bus and Foxx ad-libbing a few lines with Lennix. The extras also have full-length versions of a couple of musical selections from the film, as well as a tribute to the deceased Charles. The main attraction, however, is a segment detailing how Foxx stepped into his role and has footage of Charles and Foxx working together before the former passed away. It's a fascinating clip in which viewers discover how diverse a performer Foxx has become.

Based on the film's box office receipts, there were quite a few people unable, or unwilling, to catch this film during its theatrical run. If you missed "Ray" in theaters, you can rest easy knowing that the DVD delivers and gives any Ray Charles fan enough fun to leave them satisfied.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu

'Darko' director's cut looks great, lacks extras

By JONATHAN RETARtha
Scene Critic

Since its release in 2001, "Donnie Darko," the tale of a boy, an alternate universe and a giant bunny rabbit, has become a cult classic. Although it is difficult to explain, it's an incredibly insightful film nonetheless that tackles problems with adolescence, God and everything in between.

For those that have seen it — once or a hundred times as is often the case — fans of "Donnie Darko" now have the opportunity to see the film in a drastically altered "Director's Cut" DVD. After making the rounds in movie houses in Los Angeles and New York over the summer, the Director's Cut is available now on DVD. It offers both a new experience of the film and a much-deserved new DVD treatment.

Director Richard Kelly is capitalizing on the newfound popularity by releasing the film the way he wanted it released, yet was unable to afford. The Director's Cut has 20 minutes of extra footage added and has many added songs from the 1980s by popular artists like INXS — artists Kelly wanted in the picture but didn't have the finances for during its initial production.

The additional footage is composed primarily of devices that add weight to the film, which can be interpreted in a different way by everyone who sees it. Significant additions include pages from "The Philosophy of Time Travel," a scene involving the novel "Watership Down" and a drastically altered end sequence.

While most of these scenes were included as extras in the original DVD, Kelly has taken the time to do much more than simply chop them in. New transitions featuring images of Donnie's eye make the scenes blend perfectly together, while also furthering the theme of "Deus Ex Machina" that pervades the film.

The picture and sound quality have been remastered and are far superior to the original DVD. Digital graphics and audio effects, such as the liquid portals and auditorium scenes, have all been improved.

The highlight of the original DVD was the entertaining commentary by Kelly and the cast. Because of this popularity, Kelly has added an all-new commentary to the Director's Cut, this time featuring himself and acclaimed cult director Kevin Smith, director of the "Jay and Silent Bob" films.

While the new scenes, commentary and exquisitely transfer are all reasons enough for any "Darko" fan to pick up the new discs, the extras are once again sadly lacking. Most of them are the same as the extras from the UK edition of the Director's Cut, released months ago due to the increased mainstream popularity in Great Britain. There is a featurette on the film's No. 1 fan, which borders on creepy and stalkish and several other vignettes, which mostly focus on how the film didn't succeed in the United States because of how "stupid" Americans are.

In addition to the poor extras, the fact that the Director's Cut offers a clearer picture to the meaning of the film will undoubtedly polarize die-hard fans — many of whom love the film primarily because of its ambiguity.

The new cut is definitely not an appropriate substitute for the original version of the film, but it offers a beautiful-looking and in-depth experience for those who are either uninterested in spending hours deciphering the meaning or those who have seen it so many times they welcome the visual improvements alone.

Contact Jonathan Retartha at jessertha@tdn.edu

Donnie (Jake Gylenhaal), left, tries to pay attention to a film while his friend Gretchen (Jena Malone) naps and Frank the Bunny, Donnie's guide, appears.
Talented cast adds heart to ‘Rwanda’

By BRIAN DOXTADER

Tired of the same old genre flicks? Then you need to see “Hotel Rwanda,” starring the unlikeliest of heroes, Paul Rusebasagina, a hotel manager who found himself changing an infant’s diaper while standing in the audience of a genocide.$#%$$

This film is one of those rare gems that never loses sight of either the grander scope of the conflict or the humanistic struggle of individuals. The real-life genocide, which occurred in 1994, is not the focus of “Hotel Rwanda,” but it forms the backdrop for the plot. Thanks to some very well-executed exposition, the audience is given a clear understanding of the conflict and the differences between the two sides. “Hotel Rwanda” avoids demonizing either side, instead focusing on human nature and the struggle to protect their family and the people trapped in their hotel, which becomes a haven for Rwandan refugees.

This gives face and voice to the suffering, which claimed an unthinkable 800,000 lives over 100 days. The plot then revolves around Rusebasagina’s political and personal maneuvering to try to protect his family and the occupants of his hotel. The film is anchored by Don Cheadle’s strikingly human performance. Cheadle has always been an impressive and under-appreciated actor, despite fine performances in films like “The Bucket List.” As his character, the real-life Rusebasagina, he starts out as a smooth-talking businessman before slowly transforming into a desperate crusader who risks his life for his family and the occupants of the hotel.

The character and performance is by turns charismatic, confident, fearful and desperate. Cheadle makes it all believable in a way that allows the audience to connect with his character. Both he and Sophie Okonedo, who plays his Tutsi wife Tatiana, garnered deserved Oscar nominations. Nick Nolte rounds out the cast — playing a good guy, for once — as a helpless, but sympathetic, United Nations hotel and Joaquin Phoenix as a cynical reporter.

It’s difficult for a film like “Hotel Rwanda” to avoid didacticism, but luckily it never becomes mired in excessive preaching. There is some over-dramatization of events and the presentation often has the subtitle of a brick through a window, but the sledgehammer of the film’s emotional gymnastics is effective nonetheless. Audiences may be horrified at the callous indifference of the United Nations, but Phoenix’s reporter, who provides much of the exposition, makes clear the delicate nature of the situation and the careless indifference of the First World.

The film’s refusal to euphemize the event and George’s wise decision to concentrate on individual characters truer than the genocide as a whole brings greater focus and emotional impact. His directing is at worst unobtrusive and at best incendiary, as he guides through the film with an authoritative documentary feel. Only at the most dramatic moments of the film do George’s filmic manipulations become truly apparent.

“Hotel Rwanda” is an excellent, if harrowing, film that should be seen, if only to understand what happened in Rwanda in 1994.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

Diesel’s talent fails to pacify average film

By MARK REMENDERFER

Hollywood seems to be getting stale. After a decade or so of raunchy comedies, some of us will have to gather from watching “The Pacifier,” a Disney attempt at a family-oriented, cute, family-oriented and utterly predictable, “The Pacifier” is good for some, but most would find themselves bored while watching it.

Diesel plays Shane Wolfe, a disgraced Navy SEAL, who is assigned the unfortunate task of protecting the Plummer family while trying to find a hidden gem. The family is under attack from the enemies of the deceased father, and only Diesel stands in the way. That is, if the family is at all in the game.

The family under watch features children of all ages, from adolescents to infants. The audience is treated to all the obvious humor and this “unwilling babysitter” genre of films. Diesel is forced to deal with the problems of a teenager one second, and the next finds himself changing an infant’s diaper. The plot is so predictable that some might even want to watch Diesel with open arms. They make life difficult for him at the beginning, but as the film progresses they warm up to him — nothing new here.

Like other films in this genre, Diesel tries to treat the problems he encounters in a similar way to how he was trained, i.e., in a military discipline fashion. Logically, that doesn’t work, and he begins to lighten up. Eventually, the kids grow to love him and vice versa.

The plot doesn’t need to be delved into too deeply, as it really isn’t that original. Movies like “Kindergarten Cop” have explored the comedy in this situation before, to better effect in most scenarios. Any movie that places a tough guy into a family role typically has many of the same moments, and it’s this similarity that makes “The Pacifier” no different.

Fans of the film will probably come from two main camps. The first consists of those looking for a film to watch on a light family fare, which is the second consists of people who watch the Disney channel in their free time. Both of these groups probably love this film. “The Pacifier” knows its core audience and doesn’t do much to appeal to all ages.

Hard-core Diesel fans may also get some laughs from this film. He does add some charisma to the role and does a decent job acting with children. But he’s still no Schwarzenegger.

Diesel has plenty of talent, but this movie is simply not his best effort. He was cast in the role, but it’s clear that he’s not comfortable in it. The film is not as funny as it could be, and Diesel’s performance is lacking. The film does have its moments, but overall it’s a disappointment.

Contact Mark Remenderfer at mremender@nd.edu

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The Observer
Tuesday, March 15, 2005
Heat blows out Bucks 110-71 as Wade scores 29

It was the largest victory margin of the season for Miami (49-16), which has won a league-best nine straight overall and 13 in a row at home. Phoenix and San Antonio are both 48-15. San Antonio routed New Orleans on Monday night, and Phoenix was idle.

The Heat aren’t just beating these teams these days — they’re turning games into routs. Miami has held leads of at least 17 points in each of its last eight games, and has won its last nine by an average of 17.6 points.

Wade scored 29 points on 10-of-12 shooting in just 26 minutes, Shaquille O’Neal added 21 points and the Heat led by as many as 40 points in their 110-71 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night — a win that moved Miami into a virtual tie with Phoenix and San Antonio for the league’s top overall record.

NBA

Wizards get first-ever sweep of Lakers

Associated Press

MIAMI — Securing the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs appears to be little more than a formality. Now, Dwyane Wade and the Miami Heat are focused on the best record in the NBA.

Miami led 21-19 late in the first quarter before running away with a 17-7 run over a 5:17 span. Wade missed 11 of Miami’s points during the burst, including a three-point play and a steal and basket late November to give the Wizards 114-108 in overtime.

Stopping the other team was a bit of a problem for one of the NBA’s best defensive teams.

Tayshaun Prince scored a career-high 31 points and the Pistons bounced back from the league’s lowest-scoring game in franchise history, beating the Atlanta Hawks 114-108 in overtime.

Rushed Wallace scored a season-best 28 points for the Pistons, who won nearly 52 percent from the field. The Hawks lost for the 15th time in 16 games, despite Harrington’s season-high 37 points.

Shooting is no longer a problem. The Pistonemen have made 88.8 points a game — second in the league to Dallas — and top 11 percent from the arc. Their 28.3 percent from the field would drop them to 20th.

"We haven’t made a free throw in seven games," Harrington said. "We worked on that. We摄影师的头重新定位。

"We’re making things happen," Prince said. "We shot the ball well. We played better defensively. We did more of the little things.

The Heat have held six of their last eight opponents to less than 40 percent from the field. Wade averaged 27.6 points while shooting 58.3 percent from the arc.

"We’re still one of the best teams in the league," Harrington said.

But the heat is on the Hawks to get healthy and find a way to win consistently.

They finished it without All-Star forward Antawn Jamison, who left in the first quarter with a knee injury that is looking worse every day.

The Hawks didn’t even get a chance to see Dwyane Wade and the Miami Heat led by as much as 20 points and 13 in a row at home. Phoenix and San Antonio are both 48-15. San Antonio routed New Orleans on Monday night, and Phoenix was idle.

The Heat aren’t just beating these teams these days — they’re turning games into routs. Miami has held leads of at least 17 points in each of its last eight games, and has won its last nine by an average of 17.6 points.

Wade scored 29 points on 10-of-12 shooting in just 26 minutes, Shaquille O’Neal added 21 points and the Heat led by as many as 40 points in their 110-71 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night — a win that moved Miami into a virtual tie with Phoenix and San Antonio for the league’s top overall record.

Heat on vacation, returned on probate

Davon Stoudamire led Portland with 20 points. Shaquille O’Neal scored 18, Travis Outlaw had 12 and Sebastian Telfair and Marcus Fizer added 11 each.

Joel Przybilla had 10 points and 15 rebounds for the Trail Blazers.

"Wizards 95, Lakers 83," The Observer

Larry Brown, who underwent related to a November hip operation. He missed six games for the Pistons 31-17, sinking 15 of 20 field goals in the final three games. The Pistons couldn’t t i p home the rebound.

"The Heat are in a rhythm," Harrington said.

Wade controlled the over- time. Chauncey Billups hit a crucial 3-pointer with 2:03 remaining to reclaim the shot made possible by a couple of offensive fouls on Harrington fouled out on the Hawks’ next possession, receiv- ing a standing ovation as he walked slowly to the bench.

Grizzlies 104, Trail Blazers 83

Lorenzen Wright had 19 points and nine rebounds for Memphis, which dropped an 80-66 decision to the Trail Blazers on Saturday in Portland.

Miller was 8-of-12 from the field, including 3-of-3 from three-point range, as he came a point of matching his season high in points.

The Grizzlies were never in trouble as they kept their third quarter have them a 21-point lead at 79-49. Memphis was up by 23 points six times in the final period, the first time since 94-71 at 6:27 on a 3-pointer by Miller.

Earl Watson added 16 points and seven assists for the Grizzlies. He played with a mouthpiece, which he kept in play in and out of a smash in the face from the back of an opponent’s head late in Saturday’s game in Portland.

Shane Battier had 14 points for Memphis, and Brian Skinner added 11.

Memphis Grizzlies vs. Portland Trail Blazers

12:00 pm Pacific Time, 3:00 pm Eastern Time

Grizzlies 104, Trail Blazers 83

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Tennessee fires Peterson

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Buzz Peterson was fired Monday as Tennessee's basketball coach after the Volunteers failed to make the NCAA tournament during his four years at the school.

The Vols finished 14-17 overall and 6-10 in the Southeastern Conference this season after losing to Kentucky in the second round of the league tournament. It was Peterson's second losing season in Knoxville, leaving him with a 61-59 record in his four years.

"Buzz has made many of the characteristics we have looked for in a coach, but we were found lacking in the area of wins and losses in a business that measures its success according to such parameters," athletic director Mike Hamilton said at a news conference Monday.

Hamilton informed Peterson of his decision Sunday evening. Peterson seemed somewhat surprised but handled the news in a "first-class" manner, Hamilton said.

Peterson did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

With the return of every starter from last year, Tennessee hoped to reach the NCAAs for the first time under Peterson this season.

Peterson, whose contract is worth $769,300 a year and runs through the 2009-10 season, was the fourth coach at Tennessee since Don DeVoe was fired in 1989.

Peterson, 41, was hired in April 2001 to replace Jerry Green, who was ousted after taking the Vols to the NCAA tournament four straight seasons. The Peterson hireout will run Tennessee nearly $31.4 million, and the university still owes Green a final payment of his buyout before January.

Initially, there was excitement around the prospect of "Buzzball" taking off under a coach embraced by the fans.

Peterson met with Hamilton and university president John Petrie Feb. 28, and Hamilton said then he would announce a decision on the coach after the season.

In the following weeks, Hamilton was contacted by Peterson supporters, including former star Tennessee athletes Peyton Manning and Todd Helton, Lady Vols coach Pat Summit, North Carolina coach Roy Williams and Peterson's college coach, Dean Smith.

Football coach Phillip Fulmer said he spoke with Peterson on Monday.

"Everyone in this profession knows how volatile it can be and Buzz certainly understood that," Fulmer said.

Hamilton declined to specify a timetable for making a hire, saying the search will take as long as needed to find the right coach.

Peterson came to Tennessee after one season at Tulsa, where he went 26-11 and won the NIT.

MLB

Prior sidelined due to right elbow pain

Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. — Cubs ace Mark Prior will be out indefinitely because of inflammation in his right elbow, the latest injury to one of Chicago's star pitchers.

Kerry Wood, slated to start on opening day, is sidelined with bursitis in his right shoulder.

Cubs trainer Mark O'Neal said Monday the 24-year-old Prior has some inflammation in the elbow joint and a little irritation to the ulnar nerve.

Prior missed the first two months of last season because of right Achilles tendonitis and stiffness in his right elbow.

Last July, he missed a start because of discomfort in the elbow.

But Prior and O'Neal both said the current injury is not related to last year's problem.

"It's different," Prior said.

"It's not the same injury," O'Neal said.

Prior made his Cactus League debut Thursday, when he threw three innings against the Seattle Mariners in Peoria. He said Monday that while doing some routine postseason exercises afterward, he felt discomfort in the elbow. Cubs general manager Jim Hendry said Prior saw elbow specialist Dr. Lewis Yocum last weekend and had a precautionary MRI on Sunday.

"There is no damage to the nerve," Hendry said. "The ligament remains exactly the same from the MRI last year." Prior was supposed to pitch Tuesday against Kansas City but will miss that start. O'Neal said that in addition to rest, Prior is taking anti-inflammatory medication and the Cubs would see how he responds to the rest and medication before determining when he will begin throwing again.

"I was going through some of my normal exercises after I pitched, and I told Mark, 'Something doesn't feel right back here, not necessarily unusual, but just different,'" Prior said. "As the day went on, it just got a little bit stiffer."

"I came in the next morning and told him, and that's when we decided to get everything checked out," he said.

Prior is scheduled to make his first start on April 5 at Arizona, the Cubs' second game of the season.

Wood played catch on flat ground on Monday and was hitting his right shoulder. He was not available for comment, but pitching coach Larry Rothschild said Wood felt fine, and if he feels well Tuesday morning he might play catch again.

Rothschild said it's possible Wood could throw off a mound on Wednesday. Wood took himself out of last Wednesday's start against Texas after complaining of tightness in the shoulder. The Cubs sent him back to Chicago the next day for an MRI. The MRI and a doctor's exam revealed bursitis and inflammation around the rotator-cuff muscles, the Cubs said.

Rothschild said he expects both pitchers to be ready to make their first start of the regular season.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

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**MLB**

**Commissioner Bud Selig watches a spring training game between the San Francisco Giants and the Chicago Cubs. Selig is willing to testify on steroid use before the House Government Reform Committee.**

Selig, Schilling, Canseco offer to testify

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball gave a congressional committee about 400 pages of documents on drug testing and said commissioner Bud Selig was willing to testify at Thursday's hearing on steroid use.

Lawyers for Jason Giambi, Frank Thomas and Rafael Palmeiro asked the committee to withdraw subpoenas for their clients, and lawyers for players and the commissioner's office continued to negotiate with committee staff Monday, trying to narrow the scope of questioning with baseball's chief operating officer, and Rob Manfred, the executive vice president in charge of labor relations, were in Washington to meet with the committee staff.

Just three days before the hearing, it remained unclear whether Mark McGuire, Giambi, Curt Schilling and other current and former stars would testify before the House Government Reform Committee.

Former AL MVP Jose Canseco and Schilling are the only players who have said they are willing to appear in Washington on Thursday. Selig, who initially offered a top aide as a substitute, reversed course Monday and offered to appear.

"I am proud of the progress baseball has made on the subject of steroids and performance-enhancing drugs and look forward to sharing this information with the committee," he said in a statement. "The players stepped up this past January for an even stricter drug policy beginning this season demonstrating that all of us in baseball are committed to reaching zero tolerance."

Sammy Sosa, Thomas and Palmeiro were subpoenaed last week along with Canseco, whose recent book alleged several top players used steroids. Union head Donald Fehr also was summoned along with Manfred, baseball executive vice president Sandy Alderson and San Diego general manager Kevin Towers.

Canseco has asked for immunity in order to speak more freely. The committee consulted the Justice Department but didn't expect to hear back until Tuesday evening, according to Canseco's lawyer, Robert Saunooke.

Saunooke said players were unsure whether the committee had the power to grant immunity from both federal and state prosecution.

**MLB**

**Browns release third No. 1 pick since 1999.**

Cleveland released defensive end Courtney Brown on Monday, yet another former first-round pick who failed to make it with the team.

Brown, the first overall pick in 2000, was due to receive a $2.5 million roster bonus Tuesday. With Brown out, the first three No. 1 picks that Cleveland took after it returned to the league in 1999 are gone.

He joins quarterback Tim Couch, the first overall pick in 1999, and defensive tackle Gerard Warren, No. 3 overall in 2001, as ex-Browns. Couch was released last June and Warren was traded to Denver on March 2 for a fourth-round draft pick.

The team also has given running back William Green, its first-round pick in 2002, permission to seek a trade.

Brown, who has been troubled by injuries throughout his career, could be back for less money.

**IN BRIEF**

Chaney returns to Temple bench for NIT

JALFORDA — Temple has been invited back to the postseason — and John Chaney is going along.

Chaney will be back coaching in the NIT after a three-week suspension for sending a seldom-used big man onto the floor to commit hard fouls that left Saint Joseph's senior John Bryant with a broken arm.

The 73-year-old Chaney first suspended himself for one game before the season extended the punishment to three games after the extent of Bryant's injury was discovered. The Hall of Fame coach then banned himself from the sideline for the Atlantic 10 tournament.

Temple athletic director Bill Bradshaw said the coach's return shouldn't be a surprise because the suspension only extended to the end of the A-10 tournament. He also said he had decided to discuss any conditions of Chaney's return.

The school announced Monday that Chaney would be on the bench when the Owls (16-13) play at Virginia Tech (15-13) in a first-round game Tuesday night.

**Illinois remains No. 1 for 15th straight week**

Illinois won the poll. Now it's a matter of winning the tournament.

The Illini were No. 1 for the 15th straight week Monday and unani­mous, too — in the Final Associated Press college basketball poll of the season.

Kansas was the last to do it, in 1996-97, and the Jayhawks didn't even make the Final Four. Kansas also reigned for the last 15 weeks of the season and was the last unani­mous No. 1 in the final Associated Press college basketball poll of the season.

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Baseball
continued from page 28

strike extended to five games. Matt Edwards homered a grand-slam in the bottom of the eighth to cut the USTA lead in half at 8-4, but the Irish pitchers shut down the threatening Irish offense in the ninth for a 9-4 win. Right-han­der Jess Stewart (1-1) took the loss.

Despite the opening three losses of spring break, Mainieri remained upbeat.

"I'm not discouraged. We just need to start playing a little bit better," he said. "It's early in the year, and I think our best days are ahead of us; there's no question about that. We're going to start pitching better."

After the first round loss, the better days began.

The Irish defeated Southwest Missouri State 6-4, snapping the five-game losing streak. Notre Dame used a sharp performance from right-hander Jeff Samardzija (2-0) and home runs from Edwards and Craig Cooper. Edwards' eighth-inning solo home run was his fourth round-tripper of the season.

Friday the Irish took the field against Oral Roberts for the right to play in the championshio game. The Irish wanted an early 4-1 lead. Thornton yielded five runs on eight hits, taking his second loss of the young season. Total third baseman Ross Brevozovksy started in left field and went 3-5 on the day, while centerfielder Alex Netley finished 3-4. Also in a new spot at DH, Steve Andrews smashed his second homer of the year.

"We're going to have to just see how each day goes; we'll put the lineup out there that we think has the best chance to be successful," Mainieri said.

In the consolation rematch between Southwest Missouri State and Notre Dame, the Irish won 12-11. With an 11-1 lead the Irish looked poised to sweep EMS in the journey, but the Bears fought back with a six-run fifth and four more runs in the final four innings. Andrews, back in left field, played an errorless game. He contributed on the offensive side as well with a 2-3 day and his third home run of the season. For the first time this season, Andrews' entire team played error-free baseball. Making his first career start at DH, Tony Langford sparked the Irish with a 3-4 day at the plate.

"I was really proud of Tony Langford. He waited his turn, and we put him in a game to pitch, and he did a really good job of hitting the batters. And we put him in another game to pitch he really challenged the hitters again. And we put him in to DH on the final day, and I thought he really sparked our team," Mainieri said.

Another jumpstart for the Irish, Manship hurled a firstinning shutout as he was once again limited to one inning—nearing his way back into the lineup after the elbow surgery.

"The first day he pitched, it was his first time in a college baseball game, and it was like Murphy's Law — everything that could go wrong did go wrong. It was nice that the second time he pitched he had a good inning, and I thought he threw the ball really well," Mainieri said.

Catcher Sean Gaston also connected for three hits. Despite the 6-7 record after a grueling 13 game stretch in Florida, Arizona and Texas, Mainieri takes an optimistic outlook from the first four weeks of the season.

"Nothing good comes out of losing. We wish our record was a lot better than it is right now, but this is not all that atypical of our program. A couple of years in my years here, we've gotten off to good starts, but most of the years this is pretty typical of where we'd be," Mainieri said.

"We play tough teams early in the year because we feel that's how you make your team better, even though the success early in the year may not be extraordinary."}

Irish pitcher Jeff Samardzija winds up against St. John's last April when the Irish split two games with the Red Storm.

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**Women's Lacrosse**

Spring break not friendly to Irish

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Last spring break, Notre Dame (1-4) had arguably its best week in program history, rattling off three victories — including road wins over No. 19 Cornell, No. 2 Duke and No. 16 James Madison — en route to a No. 2 overall ranking.

This year, the Irish had one of their worst.

After an 11-18 home loss March 3 to No. 3 Northwestern, dropped the Irish to 3-1 on the year. Notre Dame hit the road for its annual spring break trip down the East Coast. Losses to three unranked Cornell, Vanderbilt and James Madison sent the Irish home empty-handed.

“It certainly was not what we expected by any stretch of the imagination,” Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. “Cornell, Vanderbilt and James Madison are some teams that we beat last year, and I think that always plays into it, and Vanderbilt is a huge rivalry for us. We were very disappointed with the outcomes.”

While a number of factors contributed to the fruitless trip, an injury to starting midfielder Megan Murphy loomed particularly large.

“The results were the same, but each game was different,” Coyne said. “Murphy’s injury and the lack of her having her out of the starting lineup was a difficult adjustment.”

**Cornell, Notre Dame 8**

Finding itself trailing 6-2 at the half, Notre Dame was not able to answer the early Cornell onslaught as the Irish started off the trip on the wrong foot March 6 with an 11-8 defeat at the hands of the host Big Red.

Midfielder Kiki Orr paced the Irish attack, netting a pair of goals on an afternoon that saw Notre Dame muster a meager 16 shots on goal — the Big Red generated 24 shots, which was five more than Notre Dame.

The Big Red then scored seven consecutive goals and held on for the victory.

**James Madison, Notre Dame 15-10**

Sensing an Irish comeback, Cornell didn’t let go the whole game, outscoring the Irish in the second half, 10-6, to win by four goals with 44 seconds remaining. Morrison took a shot and the Irish with five points against the Commodores in Nashville, Tenn. With the win, the Big Red improved to 11-0 on the season.

**Vanderbilt, Notre Dame 20, Notre Dame 9 (OT)**

Although the March 6 loss to the Big Red stripped the Irish of their national ranking, last Wednesday’s loss to Vanderbilt may have been the most painful of the season.

Squandering a late-second-half lead only to fall back and see the score at 9-9 with just over five minutes left on the clock, the Irish were eventually beaten by an 0-9 overtime heartbreaker to the Commodores in Nashville, Tenn.

With Notre Dame leading by the slimmest of margins 8-7 and with 10:32 remaining in the game, the Commodores Meg Spies knocked home a free position shot before Ashley Paschall put Vanderbilt in front 9-8 four minutes later.

Refusing to give up, McKinney buried her second goal of the game — her fourth overall — less than two minutes later to even the score.

The see-saw battle would remain locked at 9-9 until Vanderbilt’s Jennifer Tapscott gave the Commodores a hard-fought win 2:22 into the sudden overtime period.

Once again, the Irish found themselves behind early as Vanderbilt tallied in five of the game’s first six goals to jump out to a quick 5-1 advantage after 20 minutes of play.

However, unlike the Cornell contest where the Irish were never able to get back in the game, Notre Dame responded.

Midfielder Brittany Fox scored the first of her three goals with just over 10 minutes remaining in the first half to kick a streak that saw the Irish net four of the final five goals of the second half, propelling them to a 10-6 victory.

“As the game went on, we got comfortable with each other,” Fox said. “Every time we got the ball, we were moving and not doing anything stupid, and we were getting goals on them.”

**James Madison, Notre Dame 15-10, Notre Dame 5**

After toppling the host Dukes 9-7 to conclude last season’s head-turning spring break trip, the Irish were unable to replicate the feat this year, falling to No. 15 James Madison 10-5 Sunday afternoon in Harrisonburg, Va. and stretching their losing streak to three games.

For a third consecutive spring break game, the Irish were slow out of the gates, allowing the Dukes to post the contest’s first three goals.

While goals by Orr and Fox brought Notre Dame back within a single tally midway through the first half, James Madison eventually pulled away with the contest, netting five consecutive scores, including four before half time to give the Irish a 3-2 advantage and effectively put the game out of reach.

The James Madison lead would grow to 10-3 until attack Mary McGrath and Shaffer found the back of the net just before 22:34 and 26:31 marks of the second half, respectively.

“We got control of the ball in the second half, nothing really happened in the first half,” James Madison coach Donna Vail said. “We put the Irish in a position where they were not able to move the ball effectively.”

In each game, I think the most common denominator is that we get down early,” Coyne said. “We make a good effort at coming back like we outscored Cornell in the second half and we took the lead against Vanderbilt, but you can’t get down by so many, so come back against good teams.”

Following the disappointing 0-3 road trip, the Irish have a much-needed nine-day rest before returning to action next Tuesday, when California visits for an afternoon tilt on Moose Krause Field.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

**Sizzleini Bellini Tuesdays**

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Coming into Saturday’s matchup against No. 10 North Carolina, Notre Dame had dropped nine straight games against top-10 opponents. Apparently, the Irish could use a player like Joey Kemp.

The freshman goaltender played like a veteran in his first career start, making 13 saves to lead the Irish to their first win since April 24, 2001, the Irish found themselves down by two goals with 4:52 remaining.

“At the time," Coyne said. "But the attack is not working and where can we go from here? I thought that was going to be Joey’s first start. We may have been the most painful since April 24.""}

“I think we played well enough to win,” Coyne said. “But the attack is not working.”

“Joey KMep said. "I was nervous before the game. I thought we were going to win and that was going to be Joey’s first start. We may have been the most painful..."
**ND WOMEN’S GOLF**

Irish get hot with 35-stroke win at St. Croix

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Things really heated up for the Notre Dame women’s golf team during spring break. The Irish headed south to the Virgin Islands and won the St. Croix Collegiate Classic by an impressive 35 strokes.

Notre Dame finished the tournament with a three-day total of 919. The Irish closed strong, shooting a 15-over par 303 in Sunday’s final round. The team recorded scores of 307 and 309 on Friday and Saturday, respectively. Xavier, the tournament’s host school, finished second with a score of 794.

Gaurh Debbie King expected her team would release energy from a disappointing 13th-place finish in February’s Central District Championship.

“We knew it was a semi-walk field,” King said. “We knew we were the favorites, so we had to set some personal goals. We were trying to shoot three or four over at each better each day. We came pretty close to that.”

One member of the Irish certainly fulfilled her goals on Sunday. Sophomore Stacy Brown finished with a 12-over par 228 for her first independent college tournament victory. Brown’s performance inspired and excised the rest of the Notre Dame team.

“She has had a few chances in the past, and she really did it this time, so it was really exciting,” junior co-captain Katie Brophy said. “Plus, we all saw Stacy so we were really proud of her.”

Finishing right behind Brown was her classmate Noriko Nakazaki. Nakazaki recorded a second place score of 229, high-lighted by a third round one-under par 71.

Freshman Jane Lee also contributed to the Notre Dame victory. On Saturday, Lee shot an Irish team-low 78, her first ever collegiate round under par. Her performance, combined with those of Brown and Nakazaki, under-scored the strides being made by the young members of the Irish.

“It’s definitely evident that coach has gotten really strong recruiting classes in the past years,” Brophy said. “They’re not only good golfers, but they are really good teammates and people. It’s really easy to be on a team with them.”

While the team was pleased with its victory, the Irish also saw room for improvement.

“A win is a win. We are definitely excited to take that. But as far as our overall performance, we know that we can definitely do better.”

Brophy said.

King stressed the team needs to play with more consistency and remain in a positive mental state. The coach hopes to build off this victory as Notre Dame’s postseason resume still needs a bit of padding.

The Irish are looking to secure a second straight trip to the NCAA Central Regional Championship, which will be held in Lubbock, Texas from May 5-7. The Big East conference does not have an automatic bid, so the team needs to earn at-large invitation. For this to happen, the Irish should finish around the top 40 in the rankings. Notre Dame currently sits on the bubble, with a ranking of 41 heading into the St. Croix Collegiate Classic.

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrennan@nd.edu

**SMC TENNIS**

Belles finish trip to Florida 3-4

By PATRICK MCCABE
Sports Writer

The defending MIAA champion Belles opened their season in Orlando and finished 3-4 against a grueling slate of six teams in six days. The Belles defeated King’s College 9-0, Rochester 1-0, and Ursinus 9-0.

But the team fell to Division II-level St. St. Cloud State 4-3, Wittenberg 3-6, Carnegie-Mellon 0-9 and Wheaton 0-9.

“We played some really difficult teams. But it was nice to be challenged and get some confidence,” junior co-captain Kristen Palombo said. “The team performed really well and really stepped up. Half of the players were on their first collegiate spring break, but still did a good job and raised the team’s expectations.”

Also scoring for the Belles was Miranda Mikulyuk was proud of how well the team performed.

“We played a few close matches that we wish we could have pulled out,” she said.

“Not bad with the billiard pool.”

The Belles had two matches with a chance to win.

“We played a few close matches that we wish we could have pulled out,” she said.

But the Belles performed really well and really stepped up. Half of the players were on their first collegiate spring break, but still did a good job and raised the team’s expectations. How can the Belles improve in future matches?

“We had some bad luck," Mikulyuk said. "One girl caught the stomach flu and another blew out her knee. Others suffered from severe blisters." she said.

Moreover, the Belles had to perform through seven competitions in six days, requiring multiple matches per day from the players.

Ultimately, the Belles had a productive week, acquiring confidence, fortitude and experience.

“While the teams we were supposed to and won a couple of points against premier competition,” Palombo said. “It was a really good start to the season, it was nice to play match points. We now know the things we need to work on to improve on for conference play. We don’t have a match this week, so we have lots of time to do some drills and clean up some mistakes.”

The Belles’ next challenge will be March 23 with a home contest against Olivet College.

Contact Patrick McCabe at pmccabe@nd.edu

**NCAA BASKETBALL**

15 and 16 seeds know role

Associated Press

Fairleigh Dickinson coach Tom Green was going over potential NCAA tournament matchups, daydreaming about his Knights playing Wake Forest, or Washington. Maybe even North Carolina.

Daydreaming? Sounds more like a nightmare. And Fed-exited FIVR wound up even worse than Green imagined, facing the biggest seed of them all, overall No. 1 Illinois on Thursday.

That’s life for the NCAA tournament’s little guys. Getting a bid gives small schools like Fairleigh Dickinson, Richmond and Coppin State publicly and national exposure they’d never get otherwise. But teams seeded 15th and 16th don’t get much of a chance to enjoy the limelight, usually playing one of the four No. 16 seeds from the first round in a blowout to one of college basketball’s powerhouses.

“I told our players earlier in the week — we’re going to have to upset somebody,” said Travis Ford, whose Michigan State Eastern Kentucky squad goes up against No. 2 seed Kentucky on Thursday.

“We’re going to be an underdog. I can guarantee you that.”

No 16 seed has ever beaten a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985 and only four No. 15s have upended a second seed. Richmond beat Syracuse 74-65 in 1997, Santa Clara upset Arizona 64-61 in 1993, Coppin State stunned South Carolina 78-65 in 1997 and Hampton surprised Iowa State in 2001.

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BENGAL BOUTS

Activities Night choice a wise one

By KATE GALEs
Sports Writer

Would it be the computer club? The philosophy club? The Brazil club?

Lucky for the men's boxing club, Nathan Loehmeyer stopped at their table during his first Activities Night.

"It was freshman year," he said. "I guess my friend and I were just walking around the Activities Night, where you have all the clubs set up. We kind of walked by the boxing stand, and he was like 'I bet I could kick your butt!' and I was like no way.

The friendly challenge turned into a commitment that would last Loehmeyer, a fighter in the 150-pound weight class as a junior and senior captain, through his time at Notre Dame.

"We both signed up and from there, it's grown into something I've enjoyed over four years," he said.

The Missouri native, who spent three years in O'Neill Hall before moving off-campus, had never boxed before.

"I ran track and played soccer in high school, so more of the not-so-archetypal contact sports," Loehmeyer said.

Initially, he got involved with Bengal Bouts to stay active after high school. The workouts are geared towards conditioning, and as a junior and senior captain, he works with novice boxers on technique.

"It's like a push-ups a day, 500 sit-ups, 750 jumping jacks, ideally," he said. "That's the work up. Then we basically break it down and teach them a new technique - a jab, parry, power-block, whatever... and finish up with more jumping jacks.

Loehmeyer estimates a two-hour practice being 70 percent physical conditioning, with the rest "teaching [boxers] what it takes to not get killed." This is especially important for first-time boxers, who are trained by the captains.

"All the novice boxers - people who have never boxed before - come in the fall, we start in the middle of October and we train for about six to eight weeks during the fall," he explained.

Having a leadership role changed Loehmeyer's time commitment to Bengal Bouts, but the senior finance major looks back with pride.

"It's just kind of fun," he said. "When you're a freshman, you look up there and you see the guys who are leading the show, and you're like oh, those guys are on top of things, they know exactly what's going on, they're not worried about taking a shot."

Captains are also responsible for much of the administrative work that goes into Bengal Bouts.

"You're chosen by the captains prior to you, so it was nice to step into that role," said Loehmeyer. "There's a lot of stuff that goes on behind the scenes."

Money from the Bout's ticket sales, programs, advertising and merchandise sales goes to the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh. The four finance majors were able to keep the financial side of the boxing club in order, and Loehmeyer will work for a consulting firm in Chicago next year.

Loehmeyer, nicknamed "The Raja Kitten," has advanced to the semifinals in the 150-pound weight class. Although plans are nice, he encourages his teammates to step into that role.

"I think it makes him probably do a little too much, but he had to try and do that with Quinn out there," Brey said. "You're able to lighten it up on two guys on the perimeter than three. They defended better than a week ago on the perimeter."

Bout coaches and players accomplished exactly what they had planned to do.

"Their players followed the game plan," Rutgers coach Gary Waters said. "The game plan was to defend and not let them get a lot of open looks from the outside. The last time we played them, they scored 42 points from the outside. We made a commitment this game to shut that down."

Chris Thomas led Notre Dame's guards with 17 points but did so on 6-of-17 shooting. Colin Falls shot 1-for-10 from the field and made 1-of-8 from the 3-point line. Quinn took only one shot and missed before leaving the game due to injury.

In all, the Irish guards shot 7-for-28 from the field for 20 total points. Rutgers guards scored 38 points.

Contact Pat Leonard at plleonard@nd.edu

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Men's Basketball

Rutgers upsets Irish in first round

Loss crushes Notre Dame's NCAA Tournament hopes

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

NEW YORK - Notre Dame needed one more conference win to solidify a spot in the NCAA tournament, and in the opening round of the Big East Tournament, the Irish couldn't get it.

Torin Francis scored a season-high 21 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, but No. 11 seed Rutgers shot 46 percent from the floor and responded at the right times as the Scarlet Knights defeated the No. 6 seed Irish 72-65 in Madison Square Garden Wednesday night.

Rutgers senior guard Ricky Shields led his team with 21 points on 9-for-18 shooting. The Scarlet Knights (10-18) also made 7-of-17 shots from 3-point range, a significant improvement from a 3-of-15 effort exactly a week before in the only previous meeting between the two teams.

In that game on March 2, Notre Dame beat Rutgers 66-56 at the Joyce Center. The win came after a ten-point loss three days earlier to UCLA. After falling at home to Pittsburgh in the final game of the regular season, the Irish (17-11) did not obtain a bye in the first round of the conference tournament and ended up paying the price.

We bought our way back and gave ourselves a chance to win it," Irish coach Mike Brey said following the Rutgers loss. "But we couldn't defend at some key times when we had the lead. You have to give Rutgers credit. They made big shots at key times."
**Men's Track**

5 earn All-American honors

By NATE DYER

The Notre Dame men's track team capped off a great indoor season last weekend, as five Irish athletes earned All-American status at the NCAA Indoor Championships. The Championships were held in Fayetteville, Arkansas at the University of Arkansas.

Decorated senior Irish hurdler Selim Nurudeen collected his first-ever All-American honor Friday, posting a time of 7.78 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles. That time was good enough for sixth overall.

In his third trip to an NCAA championship event, Nurudeen was able to cap a great senior indoor season that has seen him also take home the Big East Championship. Aside from competing in the 60-meter hurdles, Nurudeen also ran in the 200-meter dash, but did not advance to the finals after clocking in at a time of 21.91.

Sophomore Kurt Benninger continued his amazing indoor season by garnering two All-American honors. After winning his preliminary heat, Benninger posted a time of 4:02.24 in the one-mile final, earning fourth place overall and All-American status. This was his second trip to an NCAA meet. "Yesterday I just wanted to go out and race as best as I could to make it to the finals." - Kurt Benninger, Irish sophomore

"I just wanted to go out and race as best as I could to make it to the finals." - Kurt Benninger, Irish sophomore

The Championships were sponsored by Garnering two All-American honors.

**Women's Track**

Phone call comes late, but not too late

Madia finishes 12th in 3,000 meters at NCAAs

By Ryan Kiefer

Last Thursday, junior Stephanie Madia had not qualified to compete in the NCAA Indoor Championships. But a phone call later that night informed her of a late scratch and called for an early morning flight on Friday.

Having run the 20th best time at the 3,000-meter distance in the NCAA this season, Madia found herself one position out of the field of 19 runners, or exactly 1.6 seconds behind the next fastest runner. She was informed late Thursday, however, that there was a late scratch, opening a spot for her in the field. The junior boarded the first plane out Friday morning and was on the track Saturday morning in Fayetteville, Ark., earning a 12th-place finish, running a time of 9:36.67.

Irish coach Tim Connelly was pleased that Madia had the opportunity to run and was very impressed with her result. "She was the last runner in, so for her to beat anyone was an accomplishment. She didn't think she was running on the weekend, so she had a high mileage week with significant weight training. For her to run that well on tired legs was quite an accomplishment," Connelly said.

This weekend's performance comes as part of a mid-season resurgence for Madia, who ran extremely well in four events at the Big East Championships and ran a season best time of 9:22.50 at the Alex Wilson Invitational a week ago. "She showed she can compete with the best in the country — she just faded in the last 800, and that can be attributed to the intense training early in the week," Connelly said.

The only other athlete to represent the Irish women at the NCAA's was junior high jumper Stacey Cowan. Making her second NCAA appearance, Cowan struggled to a 19th-place finish, clearing 1.73 meters (5-7.75 feet), three inches short of her season best.

"In the technical events, you have to be in sync to succeed. Stacey for whatever reason seemed out of sync over the weekend," Connelly said.

Cowan will use her NCAA experience as she Buttresses her teammates for the first outdoor meet of the season, the Willie Williams Invitational, Friday and Saturday in Tucson, Ariz.

Contact Ryan Kiefer at kiefer@nd.edu

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Hockey
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Hockey continued from page 28

going to let his career end on such a down note, and he proved it Saturday by turning in a nearly-perfect perform­ance.

"That game Saturday was basically just like Morgan's entire career," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "He gave us an opportunity to win, and it was a great rebound from Friday for both him and the rest of the team.

Michigan's decisive goal came at the 2:03 mark of overtime when defensemen Eric Werner flipped a rebound of a David Mess shot over Cey. Cey, for­ward Cory McLean and Joe Zurenko — the three members of Notre Dame's senior class — failed to advance to Joe Louis Arena for the first time in their Irish careers.

"It was very difficult for our three seniors to realize they wouldn't be going to Detroit this year," Poulin said. "But I was very impressed with the way they finished their careers and know they'll be successful in the future." The loss Saturday capped off the worst season in Notre Dame's 38-year history, as the Irish finished the year with a record of 5-27-6.

"It's been the most difficult year that I've coached at Notre Dame," Poulin said. "You look at most of our games and they were either one-goal or two­goal losses, and usually during the course of the season you'll get a few breaks that will help you in those close games. "It really seemed like this year we just didn't get any of those breaks."

Michigan 20, Notre Dame 1

The Irish took an early 1-0 lead Friday, but that would be all the Notre Dame offense would muster in a 10-1 loss to the fourth-ranked Wolverines.

Michigan blew the game open in the second period, scoring seven goals and changing Cey. Irish freshman forward Evan Flankin scored the first goal of the game at the 15:38 mark of the first period as he pounced on a rebound left by Michigan goalie Al Montoya. Flankin stuffed the puck through Montoya's pads for his fifth goal of the season.

Michigan got goals from Eric Nystrom, Jeff Tabbellini, Michael Woodford, Milan Gajic (two), Brandon Rogers (two), Chad Kalokar (two) and Kevin Porter. Montoya made 14 saves.

"We had a difficult line change early in the last period and had to take a penalty," Poulin said. "Michigan scored on that power play and got on one of their typical rolls. (Berenson, the Michigan coach) said in his interview after the game that everything they were shooting was going in for them."

Michigan State 2, Notre Dame 1

Cey made 35 saves in his final game at the Joyce Center, but he and his fellow seniors fell short on Senior Night as the Spartans eked out a 2-1 victory over the Irish March 6.

Michigan State drew first blood in the game, with Jim Slater scoring on the power play at the 16:39 mark of the first period.

Notre Dame's Tim Wallace — who set a new Irish record by playing in his 115th consecutive game — tied the game with a power play goal of his own at 8:59 of the second period. Forward Mike Walsh took a hard shot that squirmed through Spartan goalie Dominic Vicari. As the puck lay in the crease, Wallace took advantage of the opportunity and poked the free puck home.

But the Spartans would score the game-winner just three minutes later, with Jim McKenzie flipping a rebound of a Colton Fretter shot over a sprawling Cey.

Michigan State 3, Notre Dame 2

After two periods it looked like Notre Dame's 15-game winless streak would come to an end, but Jim Slater had other ideas. The loss took a 2-0 lead into the third period March 5, but the talented Slater scored one goal and assisted on two others as Michigan State rallied for a 3-2 win over Notre Dame in East Lansing, Mich.

Chris Trick and Tim Wallace scored the two goals for Notre Dame, while Drew Miller, Mark Howe and Jim Slater tallied the Spartans' goals.

Vicari made 17 saves in the victory, while Brown made 26 stops in the losing effort.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

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MEN'S GOLF

Final round surge puts Irish in 2nd

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

A strong push in the final round secured a second place finish for the Irish in the last day of the General Jim Hackler Invitational.

The Irish moved into fourth place Sunday to put the team 11 strokes off the pace of tournament host Coastal Carolina. With a final team score of 891, the Irish more than cut that lead in half Monday to finish only five shots behind Coastal Carolina at 886.

"We're coming very close to becoming a very good team," Notre Dame head coach Jim Kublinski said. "We just have to keep gaining more confidence in ourselves and keep getting put into the fire of these high-quality tournaments."

Sophomore Shane Sigbee lead the Irish squad with a second place finish overall and an individual score of 215. In his first start this season, Sigbee came into the third round in a three way tie for first and fell only one stroke behind the leader. "Shane (Sigbee) was really the star for us, playing some super golf," Kublinski said after the second round Sunday.

Junior Mark Baldwin shot consistently to place 14th overall with a score of 225 after being in 28th place on Sunday. Freshman Greg Rodgers surged into a 22nd place finish after being locked at 33rd after the second round.

The Irish placed ahead of five teams ranked in the top 20 Golfweek/Sagarin squad.

According to Kublinski, the key to success in these tournaments has been the team's confidence against any competition.

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

The Irish will resume action April 2 when they participate in the Augusta State Invitational.

Contact Steve Coye at scoyer@nd.edu
Men

continued from page 28

in overtime, first-round disappointment to Pittsburgh and the disappointing loss to Rutgers at Madison Square Garden in the first round of the Big East Tournament Wednesday were the losses that hurt Notre Dame's case the most. Winning one of those three games more than likely would have gotten the Irish back to the Big East.

"We had opportunities. We had the Pittsburgh game here and Rutgers there. We had chances to nail it, and we didn't nail it," Brey said.

Tonight's game against the Crusaders is a surprising matchup for the Irish. Talk on Sunday night lead many to believe Marquette, Miami (Ohio) or Indiana would be a potential first-round game, since the NET likes to have contests that will draw fans to the games. Last year's first-round game for the Irish against Purdue at the Spectrum Center on St. Patrick's Day is a prime example.

The Irish saw their 16-game winning streak snapped Friday in the Patriot League championship game when they lost on their home court to Bucknell. After Christmas, Holy Cross took Boston College to overtime, only to see the Eagles win by a single point.

"This is a Big East team quite frankly. They are older, very well coached. It's a league game. It's that kind of challenge for us," Brey said Monday. "Maybe both teams are playing pissed off. They had the title game on their home court and were the regular season champion. Both teams can see that energy on the floor."

Last season the Irish struggled all year, so playing in the NET is a situation just like we were to the tournament.

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. on ESPN2. Students need to purchase a ticket for admittance into the game. Tickets for the general public went on sale this morning.

Note: Brey said Monday Chris Quinn is a game-time decision for tonight's game. Quinn bruised his clavicle in the game Wednesday night against Rutgers.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

ANNOUNCEMENT

2005 SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The Center for Applied Mathematics (CAM) is pleased to announce the Summer Fellowship competition for Undergraduate Students for the Summer of 2005. Each fellowship provides a stipend of at least $1000 per month for up to two months. The exact amount of stipend depends on availability of additional REU funds. Recipients will be designated as Undergraduate Summer Fellows of the Center for Applied Mathematics.

The Center's aim is to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration and research in applied mathematics. The Center also encourages the growing learning and use of applied mathematics. CAM fosters University-wide interaction and collaboration and provides support for applied mathematics students and researchers in a variety of disciplines spanning engineering, the physical and social sciences and business. The Center strongly encourages interdisciplinary research in applied mathematics through student fellowships, support for workshops, seminar series and faculty visitors in interdisciplinary research areas. The goal of these fellowships is to financially support a small number of highly qualified students who will be involved in interdisciplinary projects under the supervision of one or more faculty members.

To apply for these fellowships for the Summer of 2005, a student must submit a proposal to the Center by March 29, 2005.

The proposal must describe clearly and concisely in no more than one page the student's research topic, the expected contribution to the interdisciplinary research project, and its relevance to applied mathematics.

The proposal should also contain the following:

(i) A biographical sketch of the applicant.
(ii) A letter of recommendation from the student's faculty project advisor.
(iii) The time period for which support is sought, academic transcripts, and any other supporting documentation.

Final selection will be made by the Center's Executive Committee and will be announced in the middle of April.

Please submit proposals by March 29, 2005 to:

Center for Applied Mathematics
CAM Graduate Fellowships
Attn: Ms. Lisa Tranberg
260-262 Hurley Hall
Phone: 631-8660
Email: Tranberg.1@nd.edu

Leonard

continued from page 28

from a Rutgers big man and headed for the corner. Thomas stepped back, gathered himself and fired a mean­

less 3-pointer with four seconds to go.
Airball.
Thus goes Notre Dame's season, and thus has gone
Thomas' career. It is a start for a team with 24-points, 11-assist, 11­
steals in his first home game in an Irish uniform, a 95­
53 drubbing of New Hampshire on Nov. 16, 2001. It was
how ending in a game in which he scored as many points as he attempted shots (17) and in which he turned the ball over as often as he assisted on bas­
nets (5).
Thomas has taken Notre Dame to new levels and created
a new set of expectations for the program. He has scored over 2,000 points and dished more than 800 assists, and in 126 of his 131 games, the third player in
Division-I history to do so along with Sherman Douglas and Gary Payton.
Unfortunately, in his final two seasons as an Irish point

guard, Thomas' individual success was tied directly to the fate of the team as a whole. And in his junior and senior seasons, Thomas — who will go down as one of the most

Leonard in Notre Dame basketball his­
tory — missed the NCAA tourna­
ment. He entered as Mr. Indiana from Pike High School in Indianapolis, playing for
the Irish to a 22-11 overall record his freshman year almost un­
sparking No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament. A Thomas­
led Irish team matched up against the Sweet Sixteen his sophomore
year before losing to another No. 1 seed, this time Arizona. But on Wednesday, none of that happened.
"Losin' — it's never been ingrained with basketball, especially when you lose like this," Thomas said, visibly

with," Thomas said, visibly struggling with his team's
disappointing loss.
"Losin' — it's never been ingrained with basketball,especially when you lose like this," Thomas said, visibly

Leonard in Notre Dame basketball his­
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Three Notre Dame players have lived in California, including Courtney LaVere, Crystal Erwin and Taylor Gough. Those three were especially excited to return to their roots and play in front of family and friends.

"Fresno is in my backyard, even though it's three hours away from my house," LaVere said. "But it's definitely going to be good to have some home court advantage for our team. A lot of my family would be able to come and it will be good for us[49x952]" (Breona Gray from Nevada) and Taylor all on those[49x912] the West Coast.

"I think the game speaks for itself," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said.

Barbara Turner had 18 points, eight rebounds, five assists, three blocks and two steals in just 28 minutes to lead the Huskies, who won on to win the Big East Tournament championship game 67-51 over No. 9 Rutgers.

"Though we were really physically[49x982] and out[49x700] of action," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They completely dominated us on the block.

The Irish were dominated early and often by the Huskies, who came out with an intensity the Irish never really matched. Connecticut outscored the Irish 32-22 in the paint, and had 27 second-chance points to the Irish's six.

"We're a post-oriented team and we couldn't get anything going today," McGraw said. "They outrebounded us, they outscored us. They did everything they needed to do to win.

The game was fairly close for the majority of the first half, but with 11:41 to play and the Irish up 11-9, the Huskies erupted with a 26-6 run, powered by two 3- pointers. By the time the Big East bracket unfolded, contributing to Notre Dame's poor first-half shooting, as the Irish went 27-29 percent from the field.

The Irish, however, had an RPI of 6.

With 1:25 to play, Connecticut responded and the game was all but over as the Irish couldn't get a shot to fall.

The rest of the higher seeds[49x649] in the Tempe bracket unfolded[49x1053] for Notre Dame.

"It[49x90] for March 4 in Hartford, Conn.

"I was really pleased with the way she carried herself," McGraw said. "I told her after the game, she really set the tone for the game. She was running the floor, she was scoring points.

"Batteast, after struggling early, finished with 16 points and five rebounds to lead the Irish. Allen added 11 points off the bench.

Notes:

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvango@nd.edu

Women

continued from page 28

network, while No. 5[49x923] Arizona State (22-9) opposes No. 12 East Carolina (23-7) in the other matchup with the two winners meeting Monday for a chance at the Sweet 16 in Tempe, Ariz.

After initially relying at losing in the Tempe region, the Irish players admitted frustration with not earning a higher seed. Notre Dame had seven wins against Top-25 teams, went 13-3 in conference and had an RPI of 6.

"I guess the number this year was 23-7," Jacqueline Batteast said. "Maybe if we would have lost a couple more games, we would have gotten a higher seed .... This year we had only five losses and last year we had 11 losses and we were a five seed.

But Batteast was referring to Minnesota (24-7), Connecticut (23-27) and Texas (21-8) — all teams that earned No. 3 seeds despite worse records than the Irish. Ohio State and Duke, two teams that had similar records to Notre Dame and who both lost to the Irish earlier this season, gained No. 2 seeds, while 19-10 Penn State got a No. 4 seed as well.

"We thought we'd be around a three, that was our predicition," guard Megan Duffy said. "A four's fine, we're in good shape. We can't control the seed, we can only control how we play."

Led by senior guard Kristen Mann, the Gauchos won the Big West regular season and tournament titles and haven't lost since, except for a 54-53 game that faced Notre Dame just once before, an early November game in 97, which the Irish won.

"Santa Barbara will be a very, very tough game," McGraw said. "Kristen Mann is one of the best three-point shooters in the country, and she's up for a lot of the awards. Jackie Batteast is up for it. She's very talented.

The rest of the higher seeds in the Tempe bracket unfolded as follows: No. 1 North Carolina, No. 2 Baylor, No. 3 Minnesota, No. 6 Virginia, No. 7 Texas Christian and No. 8 Mississippi.

Contact Joe Hepler at jhepler@nd.edu

ENDWOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Huskies get revenge 67-54

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN

Sports Writer

HARTFORD, Conn. — A little more than a month after Notre Dame dominated Connecticut in the paint on route to a win, the Huskies returned the favor.

No. 13 Connecticut knocked off No. 10 Duke 62-58 in the Big East Tournament March 7, with a convincing 67-51 victory at the Hartford Civic Center in the semifinal game.

"I think the game speaks for itself," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said.

Barbara Turner had 18 points, eight rebounds, five assists, three blocks and two steals in just 28 minutes to lead the Huskies, who went on to win the Big East Tournament championship game 67-51 over No. 9 Rutgers.

"Though we were really physically and with us inside," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They completely dominated us on the block.

The Irish were dominated early and often by the Huskies, who came out with an intensity the Irish never really matched. Connecticut outscored the Irish 32-22 in the paint, and had 27 second-chance points to the Irish's six.

"We're a post-oriented team and we couldn't get anything going today," McGraw said. "They outrebounded us, they outscored us. They did everything they needed to do to win.

The game was fairly close for the majority of the first half, but with 11:41 to play and the Irish up 11-9, the Huskies erupted with a 26-6 run, powered by two 3-pointers. By the time the Big East bracket unfolded, contributing to Notre Dame's poor first-half shooting, as the Irish went 27-29 percent from the field.

The Irish, however, had an RPI of 6.

With 1:25 to play, Connecticut responded and the game was all but over as the Irish couldn't get a shot to fall.

The rest of the higher seeds in the Tempe bracket unfolded as follows: No. 1 North Carolina, No. 2 Baylor, No. 3 Minnesota, No. 6 Virginia, No. 7 Texas Christian and No. 8 Mississippi.

Contact Joe Hepler at jhepler@nd.edu

What if...
The Observer • TODAY

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SCOTT ADAMS

PEANUTS

CHARLES SCHULZ

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

The Observer • TODAY

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HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Stay under the umbrella.

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

STAY

LUTIG

Brookstone

SUNGUF

BROIT

KENRAT

ANSWERS:

TODAY

LITLG

Brookstone Umbrella, Inc.

YESTERDAY’S JUMBLE

Answers tomorrow.

Where the band ended up when their concert fizzled.

Answer: Where the band ended up when their concert fizzled.

JUMBLE

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Taylor Hanson, 22; Kirby Packard, 44; Billy Crudup, 46; James Jones, 72.

Happy Birthday! Working within a group will be the most beneficial for you this year. The support system you develop will encourage you and give you the confidence to step into the future把握住你的瞬间。这是今年你应任何人都能帮你实现梦想。最好的寒假礼物。今年你将发现自己处在有利位置。你将感到自己是主宰，你的判断将很有价值。你将有机会、有热情和有准备去实现你的目标。这将是一个非常积极的一年。你将获得成功。

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ND BASKETBALL

Mix of emotions on Selection Sunday

Irish return to NIT, host Holy Cross in first round tonight

By MATT LOZAR

For the second Selection Sunday in a row, Notre Dame was on the NCAA tournament bubble. And for the second year in a row, the Irish aren't going to the postseason tournament they were hoping for.

After not hearing its name called for the field of 65, Notre Dame (17-11) returns to the National Invitation Tournament (24-6) and hosts Holy Cross tonight at 7 p.m. "I was prepared for the NIT, and that's how I prepared the team," Brey said Sunday. "We probably made a heck of a run at that bracket, but it wasn't enough ... It would have been more of an unbelievably pleasant surprise if we got in."

After escaping from Providence with a 1-point win to see MEN/page 25

See Also
"Rutgers upset Irish in first round" page 22

Pittsburgh's Carl Krauser defends Chris Thomas on Senior Day March 5.

Loss in NYC unfortunate end

It was the worst thing that could have happened, but it was also the most appropriate.

The game was all but over. Down five with 31.9 seconds to go, Notre Dame's NCAA tournament hopes began ticking away with the remaining seconds. Jordan Cornette missed a jumper and the Irish fouled. Rutgers missed a free throw and the Irish got the ball back. Then, off a Russell Carter miss with time winding down, Chris Thomas moved in. Notre Dame's senior point guard hate in the air, ripped the rebound...

see LEONARD/page 25

No. 4 seed Irish off to California to face UC-Santa Barbara

By JOE HETTLER

When Notre Dame's name appeared as a No. 4 seed on Selection Sunday, the Irish players cheered — not for the seed itself, but for its location in Fresno, Calif.

Joe thought we would be playing in Atlanta, but four's not that far behind.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said from her house where team members and media watched the bracket's unveil-ing, "We're just happy to be playing in a nice, warm climate. We know we were going to be traveling somewhere, so it's kind of nice to go somewhere where the weather will be nice."

The Irish (26-5) draw No. 13 seed University of California Santa Barbara (21-8) in the first round on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. (EST) on the ESPN

see WOMEN/page 26

HOCKEY

Sweep at Michigan ends year

By JUSTIN SCHUYER

Morgan Cey gave Irish fans something to remember him by.

The senior goaltender gave a fine performance in his last game in a Notre Dame uniform, making 43 saves, but the offense wasn't there to back up his effort as the Irish fell 1-0 in overtime to Michigan in the second game of their best-of-three series against the Wolverines Saturday night in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Notre Dame lost game one of the series Friday by a score of 10-1, with Cey starting in net and having a less-than-memorable performance — allowing four goals on 19 shots before being pulled in favor of backup David Brown.

But the senior goalie wasn't

see HOCKEY/page 24

BASEBALL

Offense gets hot, pitching struggles

By TOM DORWART

The Irish offense found its groove over spring break — scoring 40 runs in six games. But the defense and pitching hit a rut.

"There were an awful lot of things that we struggled with during the week, but there were a lot of things we did well too," coach Paul Mainieri said. "We're still kind of finding our way."

On the Texas road trip, Notre Dame (6-7) finished 2-4 after surrendering 62 runs. The Irish headed into the spring break swing with a two-game losing streak.

The streak continued. At the Round Rock College Classic, the Irish fell to the eighth-ranked Aggies 13-5 after holding 1-0 and 4-2 leads.

Lefty Tom Thornton (1-2) took the loss after allowing seven earned runs through six innings of work.

The Irish then met the eleventh-ranked Rice Owls and trailed 4-0 in the third when the game was rained out. In the final game of The Classic, Notre Dame faced a solid Texas State squad. Sophomore right-hander Jeff Manship — back from Tommy John surgery — threw his first college pitch. He suffered the loss after allowing four first-inning runs. Texas State held on for the 10-5 win.

Notre Dame squared up against the hometown Texas San-Antonio Roadrunners in the opening game of the Irish Baseball Classic, and for the first time in the Paul Mainieri era, the Irish saw a losing

see BASEBALL/page 19

MLB

Chicago Cubs see Mark Prior is sidelined indefinitely due to right elbow inflammation.